



Mutual recognition : vision and expectations of the farmers

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Paris ; 29 april 2010

Outline of the presentation

- **Introduction**
- **Summary of the specialty crops conference**
- **Expectations of primary production towards mutual recognition**
- **Tools to achieve these expectations**
- **Conclusions**



Introduction



Introduction COPA-COGECA

Who are COPA and COGECA

Two organisations based in Brussels

COPA : Representing 60 national organisations representing farmers – growers – planters – bee keepers -etc

**COGECA : representing cooperative associations
38 national member organisations**

**Representations coming from 27 EU – MS and Iceland,
Norway, Switzerland and Turkey**

Expectations of the farmers :
based on conclusions minor use
conference : Brussels - 4 november 2009



Minor Use conference Brussels 4 november 2009

Organised by 8 Brussels based food chain associations

Celcaa – COCERAL – Freshfel - ECPA-
AREFLH – ESA - OITFL- COPA-COGECA

Goals of the conference :

- bringing industry and public sector around the table to discuss minor use approach post revision 91/414
- Inform decision makers on the importance of specialty crops
- learn from case studies within EU as well in the USA
- secure sustainable production of high value crops within EU





Summary of the specialty crops conference

Minor Use workshop Brussels 4 november 2009

Main topics to look after:

1. Protection of specialty crops and uses
2. Greater coordination
3. Improved cooperation
4. Minor use fund



Topic 1 :

Protection of specialty crops and minor uses

Minor use authorisations are needed to ensure :

- 1. the protection of high value crops
specialty crops is a better wording rather than minor crops**
- 2. Specialty crops contribute to the availability of high quality
and affordable food for all consumers (action against
obesity)**
- 3. Preserve the biodiversity also inside agriculture**

Topic 2 : Greater coordination

Greater coordination mean benefits for all stakeholders:

- 1. - need for EU working groups and coordination units.
- more coordination within zones and between zones**
- 2. avoid double work in data production, data gathering and assessment of data**
- 3. thanks to DG SANCO for support in the past and promise for re-start in the (near) future**

Topic 3 : Towards improved cooperation

Brussels conference was first step to establish

- 1. Broader cooperation between all players – private and public : extend existing models of work sharing**
- 2. Including wider cooperation with third countries e.g. global minor use summit 2**
- 3. Learn from existing good examples how to deal with topics as mutual recognition, specialty crops data management, etc.**
- 4. Installation of a transnational platform including dedicated secretariat would be a very efficient tool;
(zonal – intrazonal – EU wide)**

Topic 4 : Minor use fund

- 1. USA – IR-4 programme was presented**
- 2. EU should come up with similar approach**
- 3. Present timetable for proposal and discussion on EU minor use fund is far to long
Private sector is not very happy with final timing by 2015 or later**
- 4. New and fresh resources are needed : but re-allocation of CAP money is not an option**



Expectations of the farmers towards mutual recognition

Expectations of the farmers towards mutual recognition

- 1. PPP tool box must be available for all crops at all time**
- 2. Integration with IPM where possible ; but not excluding PPP on that basis**
- 3. Resistance management should remain possible : need for availability of multiple PPP in multiple mode of action**
- 4. Cost reduction by sharing work load**
- 5. Install minor use fund asap : look for additional resources (not coming from CAP)**
- 6. PPP industry and authorities should provide farmers with solutions to ensure plant health at farm level**



Tools to achieve these expectations

TOOLS TO ACHIEVE THESE EXPECTATIONS

- 1. Creation of electronic platform for data exchange**
- 2. Dedicated secretariat to coordinate : re-activate EC coordination secretariat**
- 3. Crop grouping protocols to facilitate :**
 - work load reduction**
 - safe guarding food safety**
 - keep PPP tool box available to growers**
- 4. International coordination with IR-4 like programs : including data sharing, crop grouping , world wide mutual recognition**
- 5. Coordination between EU legislation to avoid double work for public sector and double burden for farmers**



Conclusions

CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Farmers and farmers representations have big great expectations in order that new legislation will solve existing problems**
- 2. Specialty crops are very much needed in diet diversification towards public health**
- 3. Therefore more attention/ resources should be allocated in solving problems of primary production**
- 4. Great expectations towards minor use fund but present timetable looks very disappointing and funding should not come from CAP resources**



Specialty crops are needing a special approach

Minor use should be the major concern



THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION