

Biodiversity & choice under threat from proposed EU Seed and Plant Directive + report from Seed Field Labs

Ben Raskin – Head of Horticulture





Context

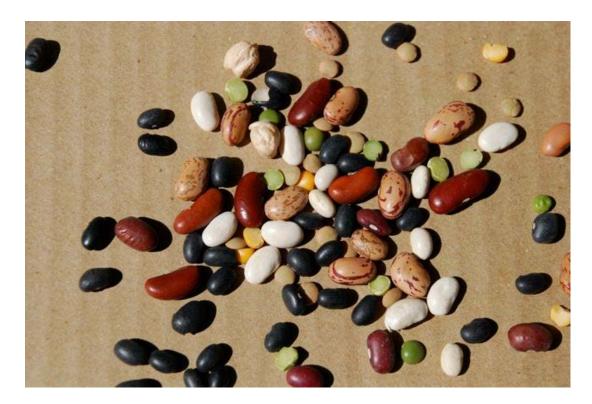
Climate change

- Rise of temperatures between 1.1°C and 6.4°C before the end of the 21st century
- Fertilisers polluting and shortages
- Noticeable crop failure increase Russian wheat crisis
- Uncertain weather and seasons
- Emergence of new crop pests in the UK





Global Seed Security



The answer lies in diversity



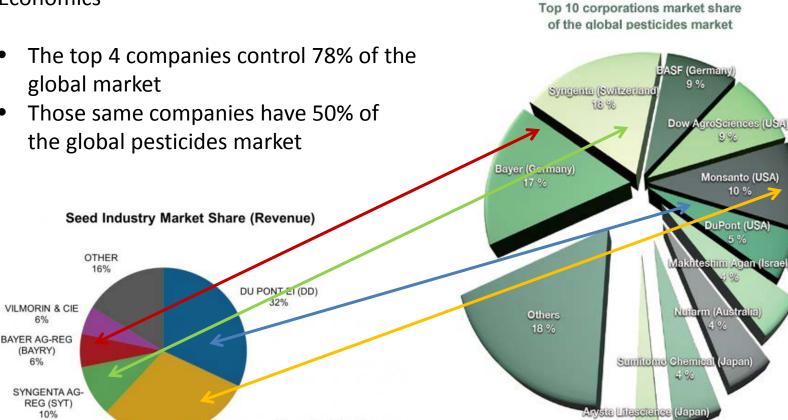


Global Seed Picture

Economics

۲

•



Companies in the other category each do not make up more than 5% of total revenue

MONSANTO CO

(MON)

30%

Source: Exploring the Global Food Supply Chain, 3D

2.9%

6%

6%





Global Seed Security

Current state of the seed production

- 50 years ago 99.5% open pollinated
- Shift from Open Pollinated to F1 Hybrid
- Over the last 100 years, 80% reduction agricultural biodiversity 2
- In EU alone 7,200 different seed companies (50,000 jobs)

2: FAO estimate





EU Seed Directive

new proposals

Why the commission want it

- Efficiency, 12 directives into 1 "Simpler Rules for Safer Food"
- Food safety concerns
- Increase exports
- Biodiversity?

What it does

- Increase from seed of some varieties to PRM of almost every variety
- Strict and expensive DUS/VCU testing to become registered
- Lots of other things that will take to long to go into





EU Seed Directive

Key Issues

- Biodiversity
- Innovation
- Choice





Why run them? How did they go? Where next?



Why run them?

- Trial OP vars currently not available as organic
- Assess if any had potential for organic systems
- Increase growers skills as seed selection and saving to increase genetic diversity and resilience





- How did they go?
- 22 growers received seeds
- 13 growers did the trials I think
- 8 grower sent in some results





Where next?

- Continuation of the trials though maybe not in the same format
- A couple of growers bulking up organic seed from one or two varieties
- Simple Seed Survey

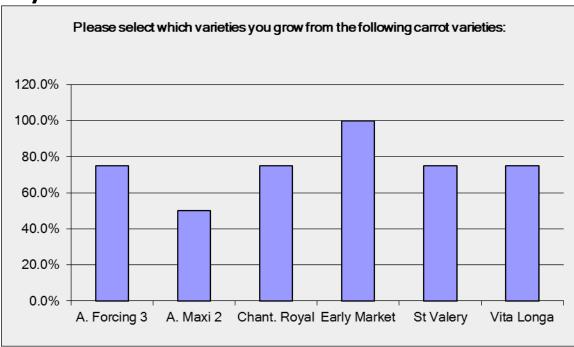




Seed Variety Info Collection

What proportion of growers were growing each

variety







Seed Variety Info Collection

Potential to add information about the seed supplier or breeder

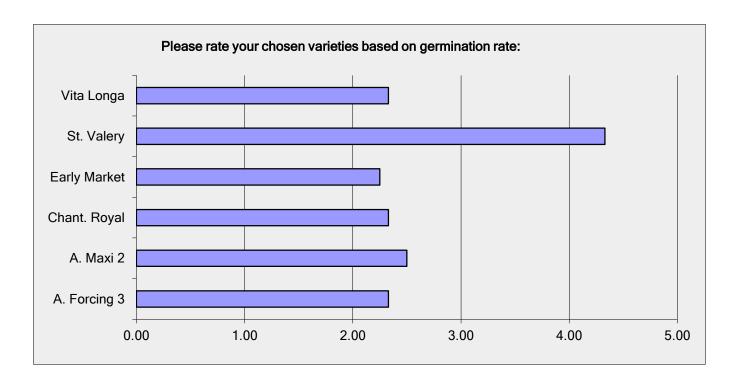
Seed Varieties

Please state the	e name of the seed supplier f	or each seed	variety you gi	ow:								
Seed supplier Answer Options		Bioselect	CN Seeds	Cotswold Seeds	Demeter (Stormy H∋ID	Edwin Tucker and	Elsoms	Moles	Rijk Zwaan	Tamar	Tozers	¥italis Enz Zaden
A. Foroing 3 A. Maxi 2 Chant. Royal Early Market St Valery Vita Longa		0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	2 2 1 2 1 1	0 0 1 0 1	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 1 0 1	0 0 0 0 0
Other (please specil	fy)											ansa
												sk
Number Resp	onse Date	Other (please specify)	Categories									
1	Jan 19, 2014 1:32 PM		s I think									





Seed Variety Info Collection Information about each variety,





Seeds – Diversity Matters



Thank you