



Productivity: a cornerstone for the future of the EU agriculture

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Who are Copa and Cogeca?

Copa – European farmers

Bringing together 60 EU farmers' organisations

Cogeca – European agri-cooperatives

Bringing together 35 EU agricultural cooperative organisations

Who are Copa and Cogeca?

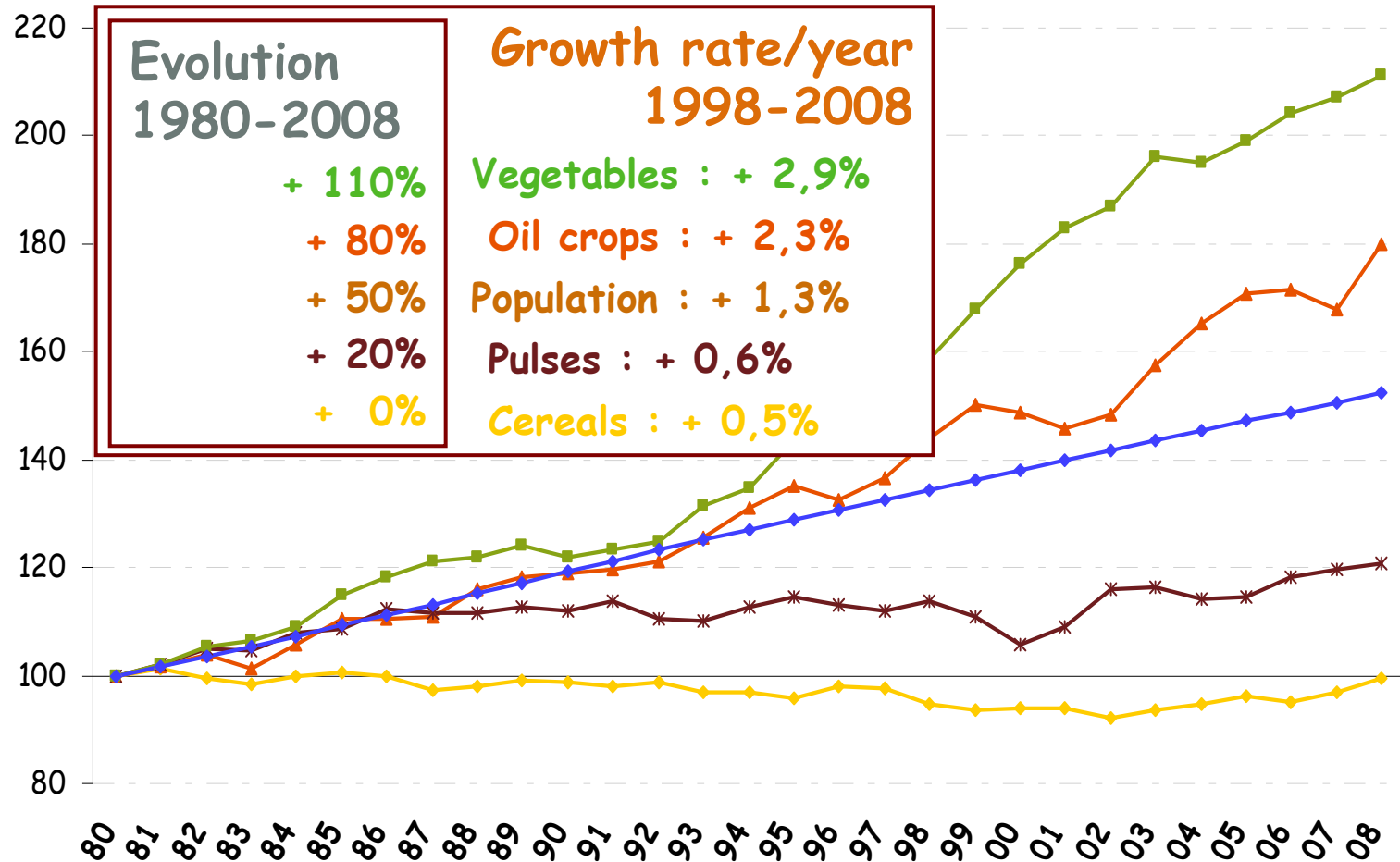
Two organisations...

- representing 30 million people working in agriculture
- as well as around 40,000 cooperatives
- with strong links to other European countries

Agriculture : World acreage evolution

1980 → 2008

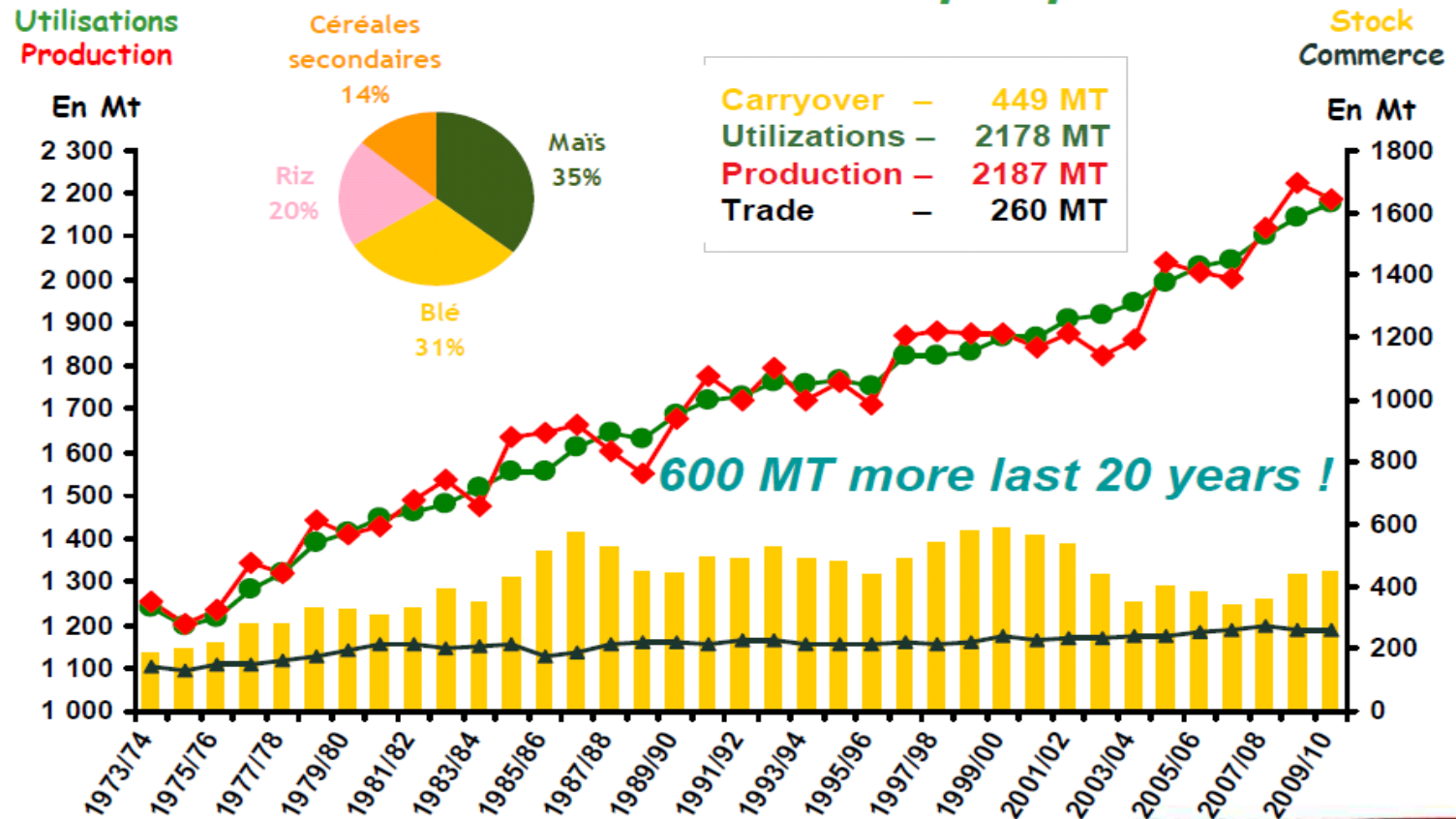
Base 100 in 1980



Source : FAO, January 2010

Which task for Agriculture ?

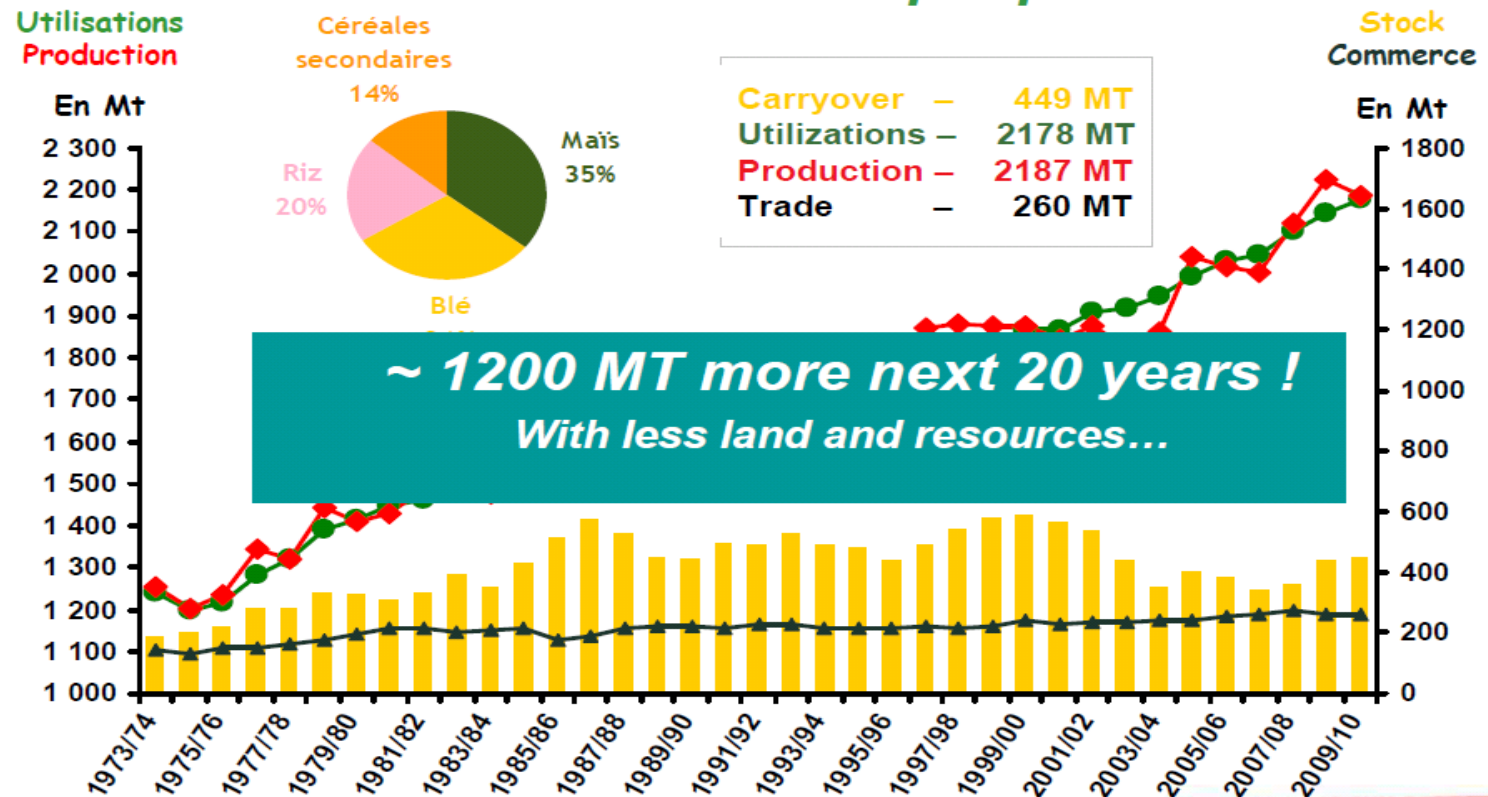
Cereals : 70% world food & feed ! 2010 : 6.8 Billion people



Source : WASDE Mai 2009

Which task for Agriculture ?

Cereals : 70% world food & feed ! 2030 : 9 Billion people ?



Source : WASDE Mai 2009

Cereal yield annual growth rate

%	1960-70	1970-80	1980-90	1990 2000	2000 2007
World	3,7	3,5	1,7	1,7	2,1
USA	2,9	5,1	<u>-1,4</u>	1,9	3,9
EU	4,0	2,3	2,6	1,6	<u>-0,3</u>
Ex-USSR	2,9	0,1	0,6	<u>-4,3</u>	3,9
China	6,4	4,9	3,3	2,1	2,2
India	2,3	2,8	3,8	2,7	1,1
Rest of the world	3,5	3,3	1,8	2,0	2,5

Source CIRAD - B. Daviron

The Reality of European Agriculture

- **In livestock sector:**

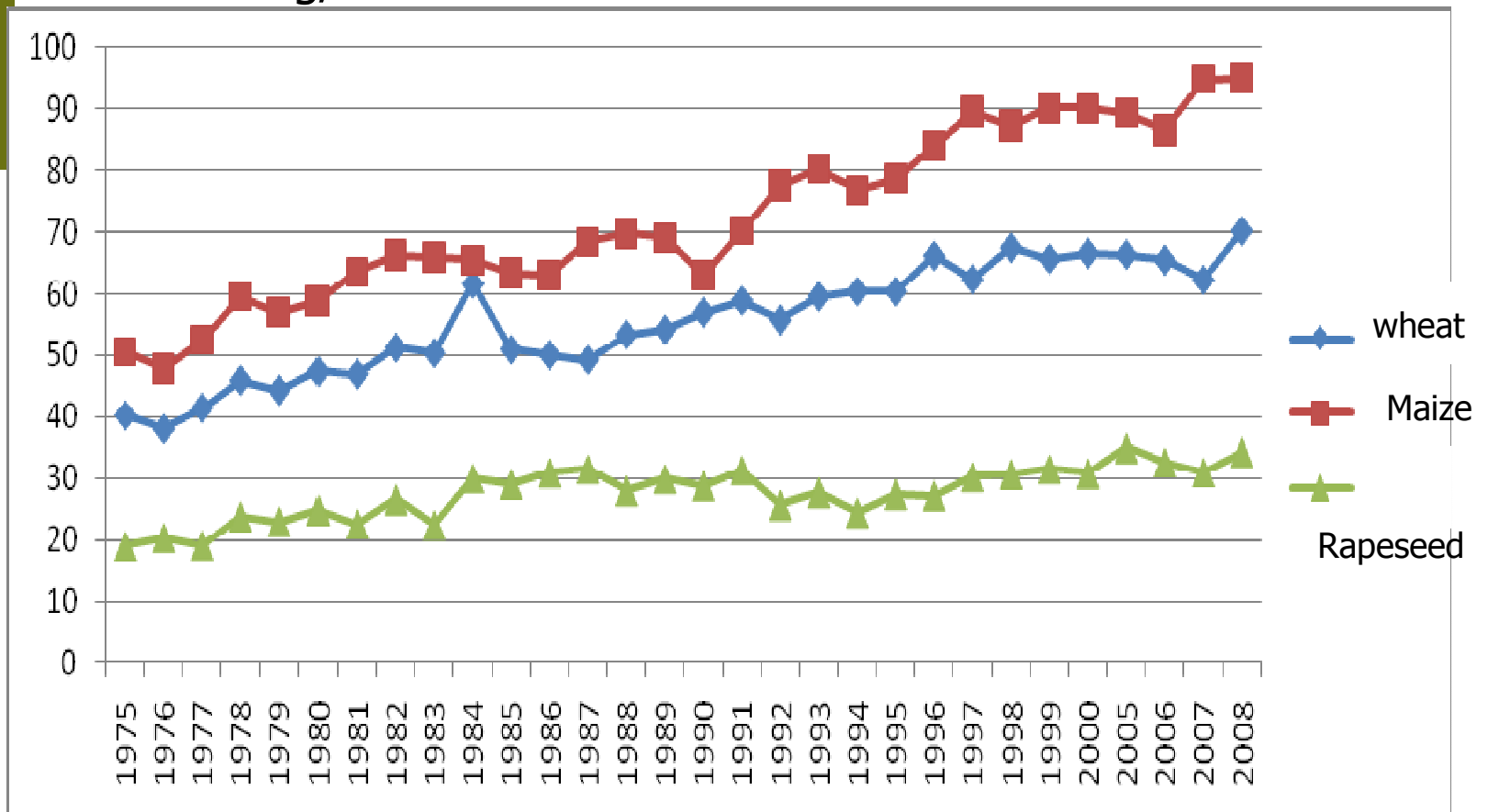
- EU imports 80% of vegetal proteins for its livestock sector;
- and 70% of the imports contains GM;
- 70% of beef meat is coming from dairy cows;
- Feedstuff represent 60% of operating cost of white meat

- **In crops sector:**

- 60% of cereals are dedicated to feedstuff;
- The area of cereals and oilseeds is contracting by 1.5 millions ha since 2006;
- The competitiveness of European agriculture is based on the creativity of the breeding sector;

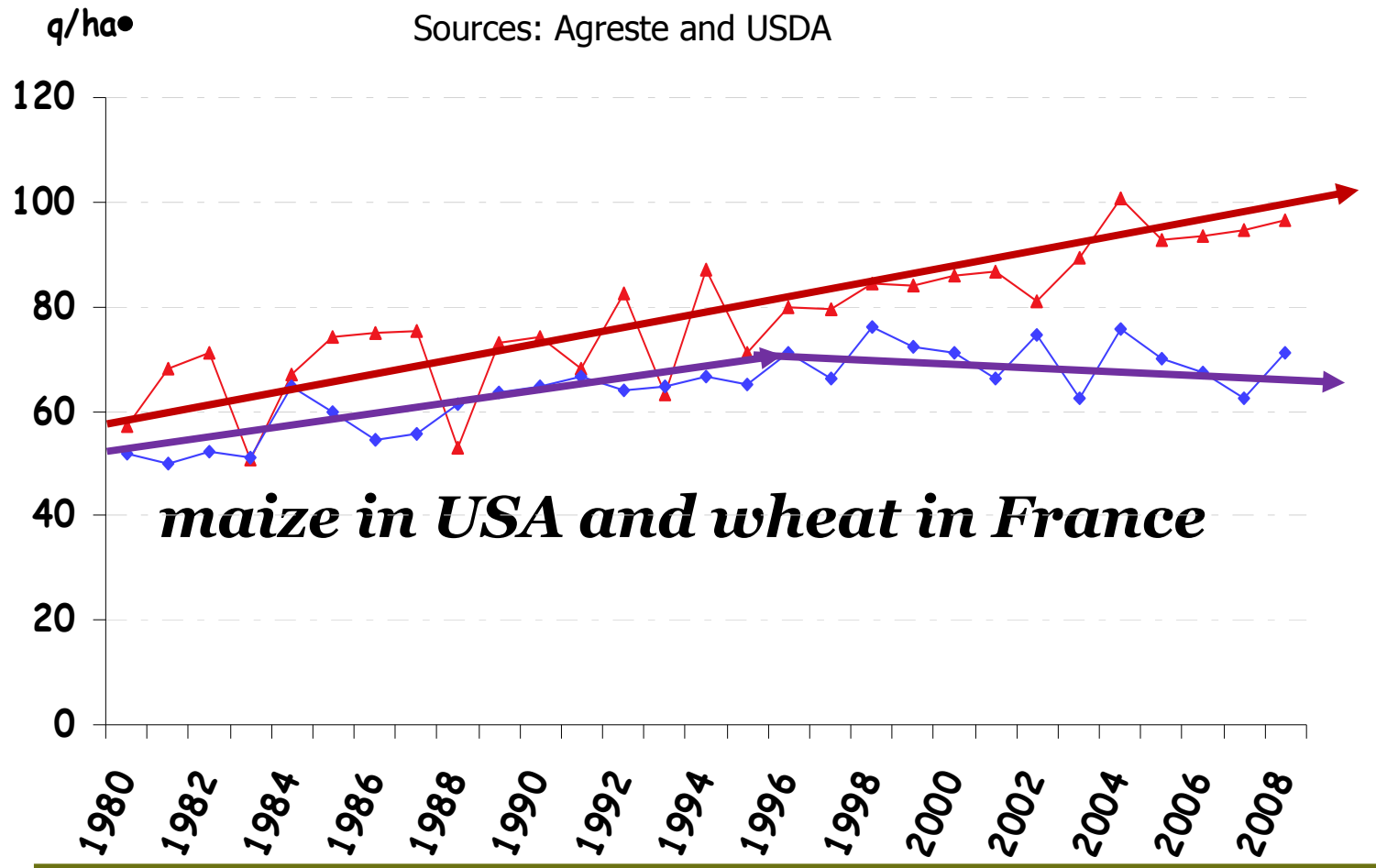
A low increase in productivity by ha

Yield: 100 kg/ha

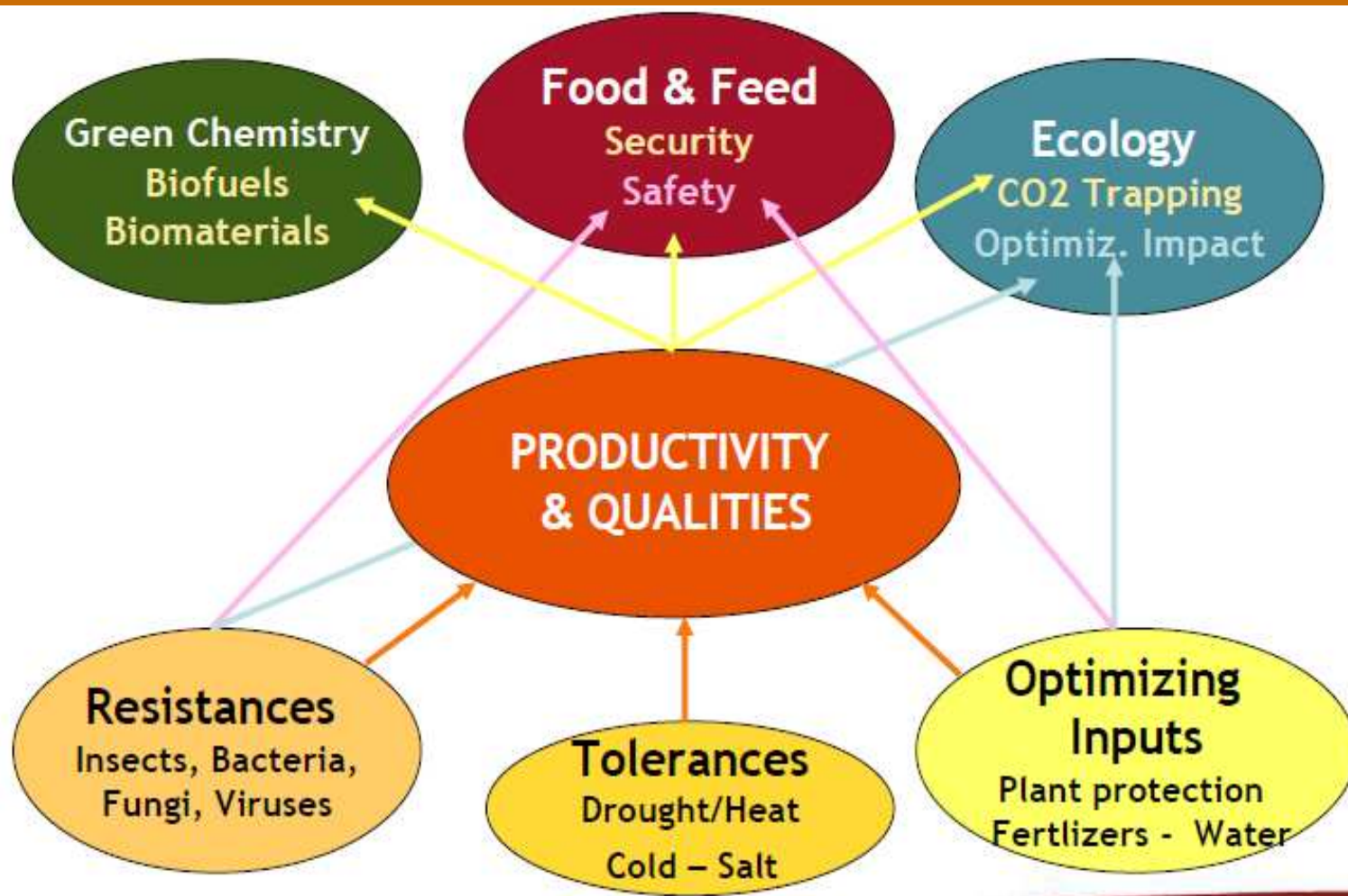


For
UE 15

The gap of productivity is growing



A Challenge for the future : Producing more and Better



COPA-COGECA and GM technology

- **The coexistence** of the various type of agriculture is our priority: organic – conventional and GM;
- European Farmer's point of view is based on **2 guidelines:**
 - **Freedom of choice** for consumers and **farmers**;
 - **Liability** of the european scheme ;
- Separation between **risk assessment** and **risk management** is the cornerstone of the European legislation;
- **Labeling** should be based on the testing control;

Precaution principle !!!



Ex: view of spanish farmers on GM crops

- **Better income:** more than 15%;
- **Decrease in pesticide use** and impact on environment. In Spain cut by 26 to 36% for insecticide;
- The GM could also open an opportunity to shift from conventional tillage to **more simplify tillage.**
- More knowledge is necessary concerning **saving carbon emission ?**
 - less input needed;
 - less fuel use due to a more simplified tillage;
 - carbon sequestration capacity of the soil ?

But GM is not the only one tool



ESA

“Plants for the Future”

copa*cogeca
european farmers european agri-cooperatives

European Technology
Platform

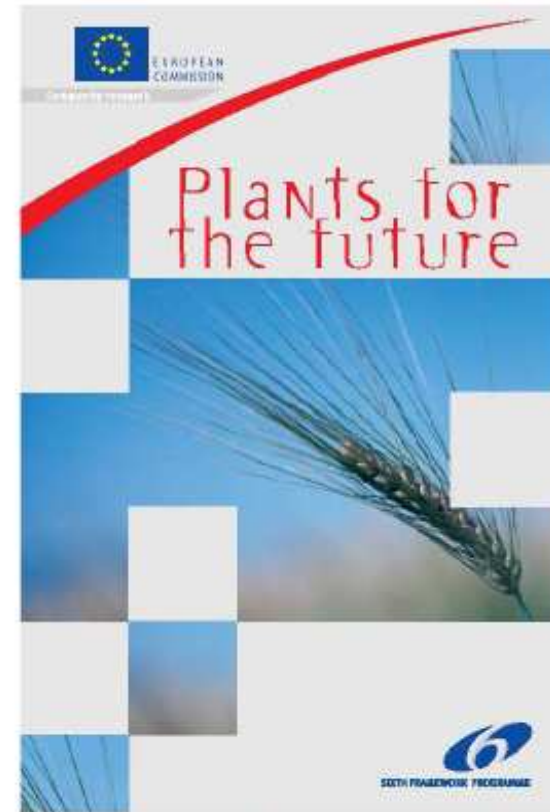
« Plants for the
Future ».

2025

*A European vision
for genomics and
plant biotechnologies*

SRA 2007

www.plantetp.org



Key elements for the future

- **Food security** is back on the top of the agenda of EU policy-makers;
- **The mainstream for farmers** in relation with new breeding techniques in the future:
 - Competitiveness;
 - Choice of consumers;
 - Environmental regulation trend .
- The impact of **climate change** on various strategies to fight against new pests, viruses or invasive species;



Thank you!

www.copa-cogeca.eu