

Lessons learnt from the French and European experiences

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**Reducing the use
of pesticides
in tropical agriculture:**

**key challenges
and strategies**

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Agropolis International
Montpellier



An ambitious plan : Ecophyto



2009-2014

361

millions €

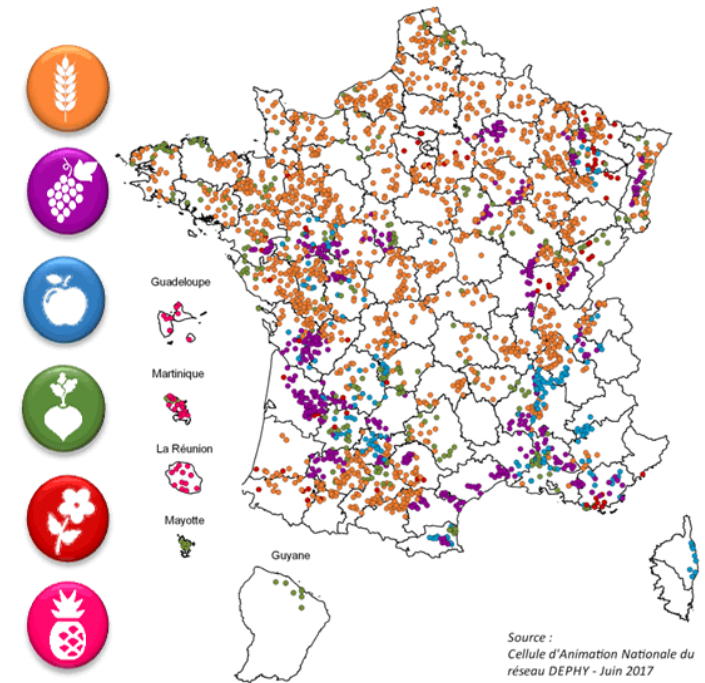
2008-2018

-50 %

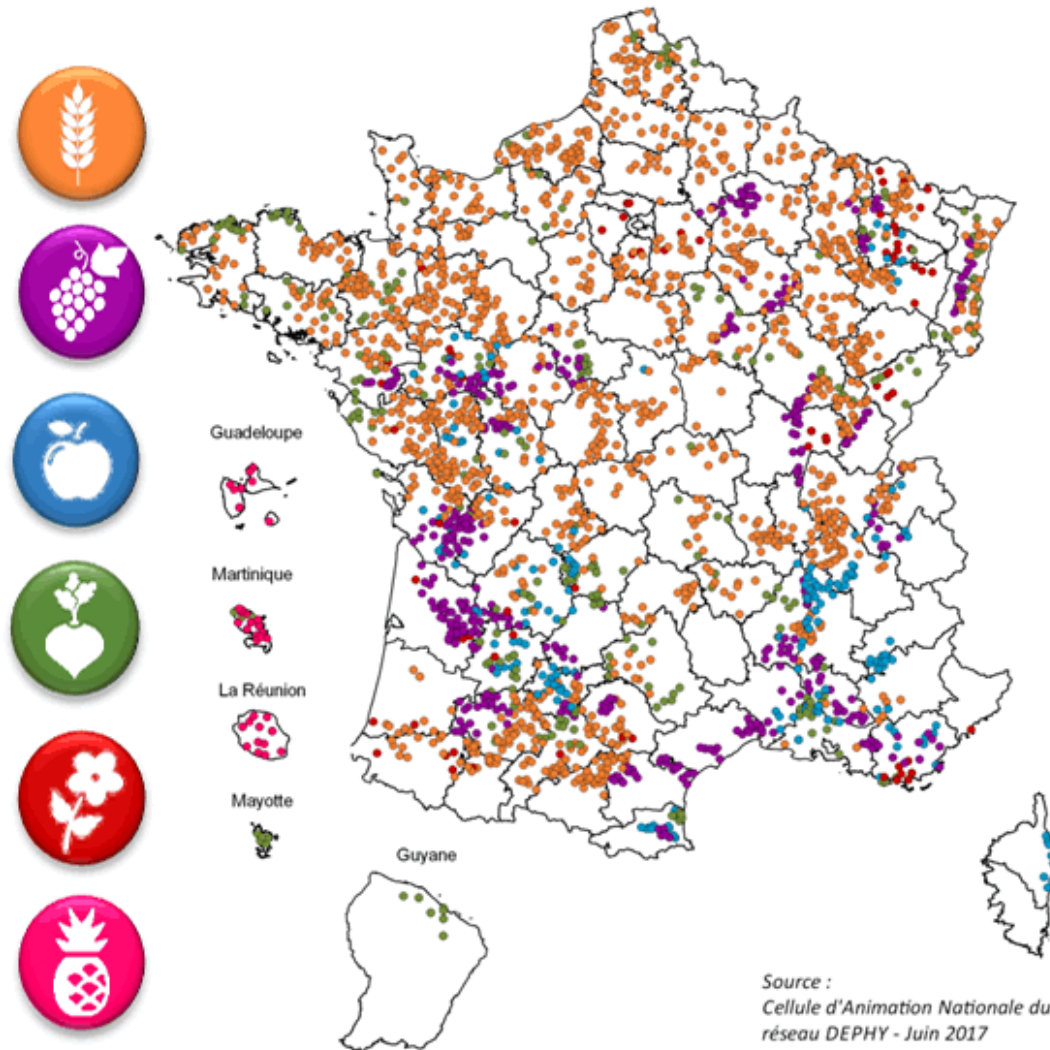
of pesticide use

3000

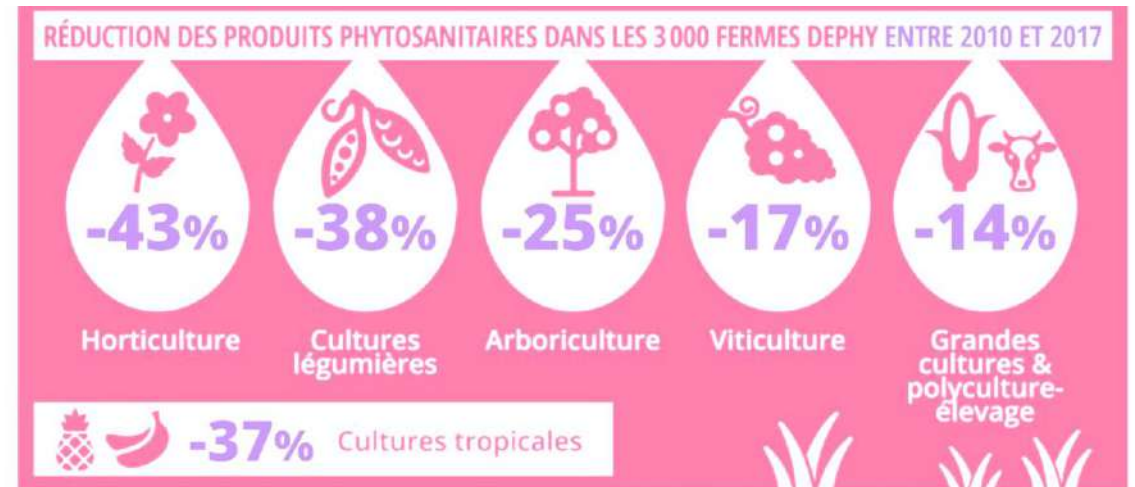
Reference
farms



Ecophyto : a success in reference farms

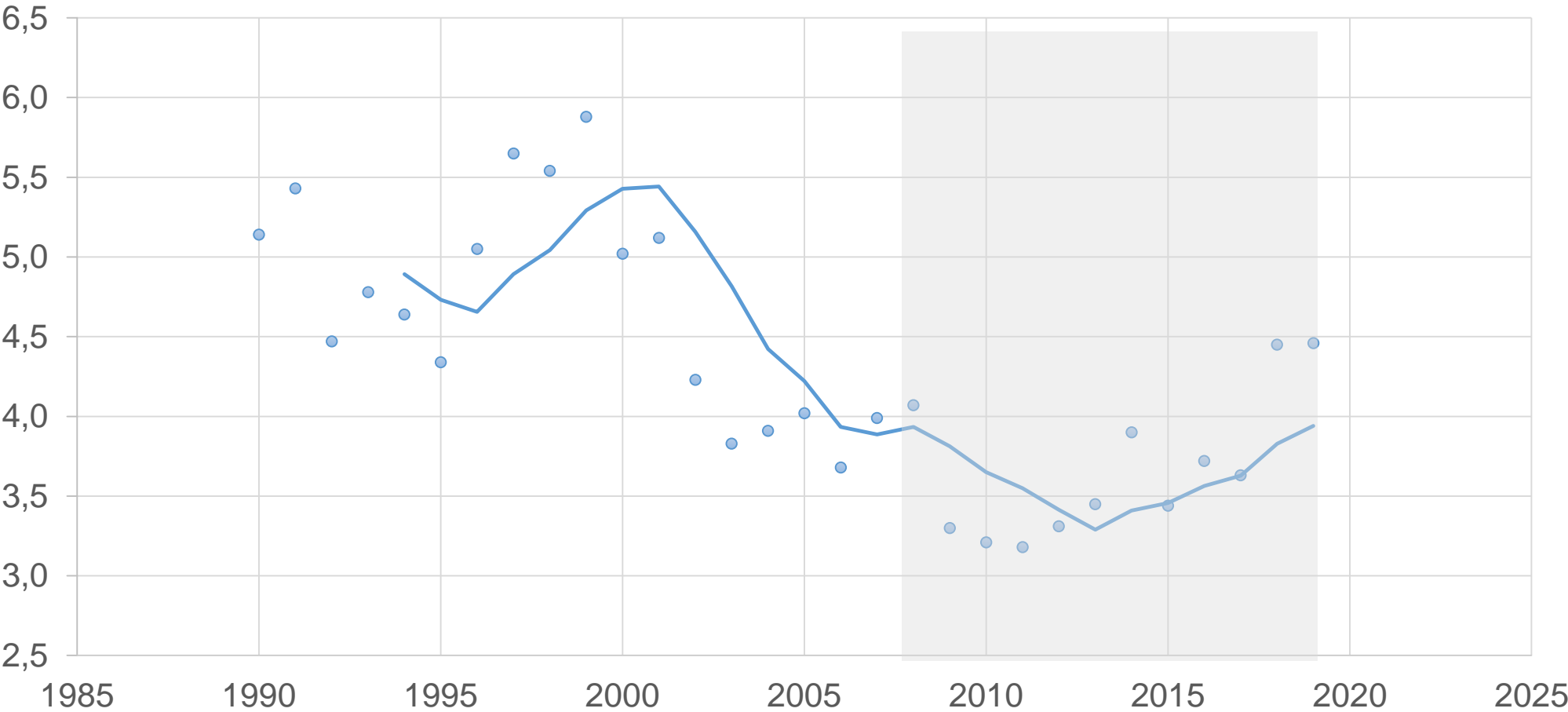


Source :
Cellule d'Animation Nationale du
réseau DEPHY - Juin 2017



A long term positive pathway of pesticide use

Pesticides (kg/ha) - France

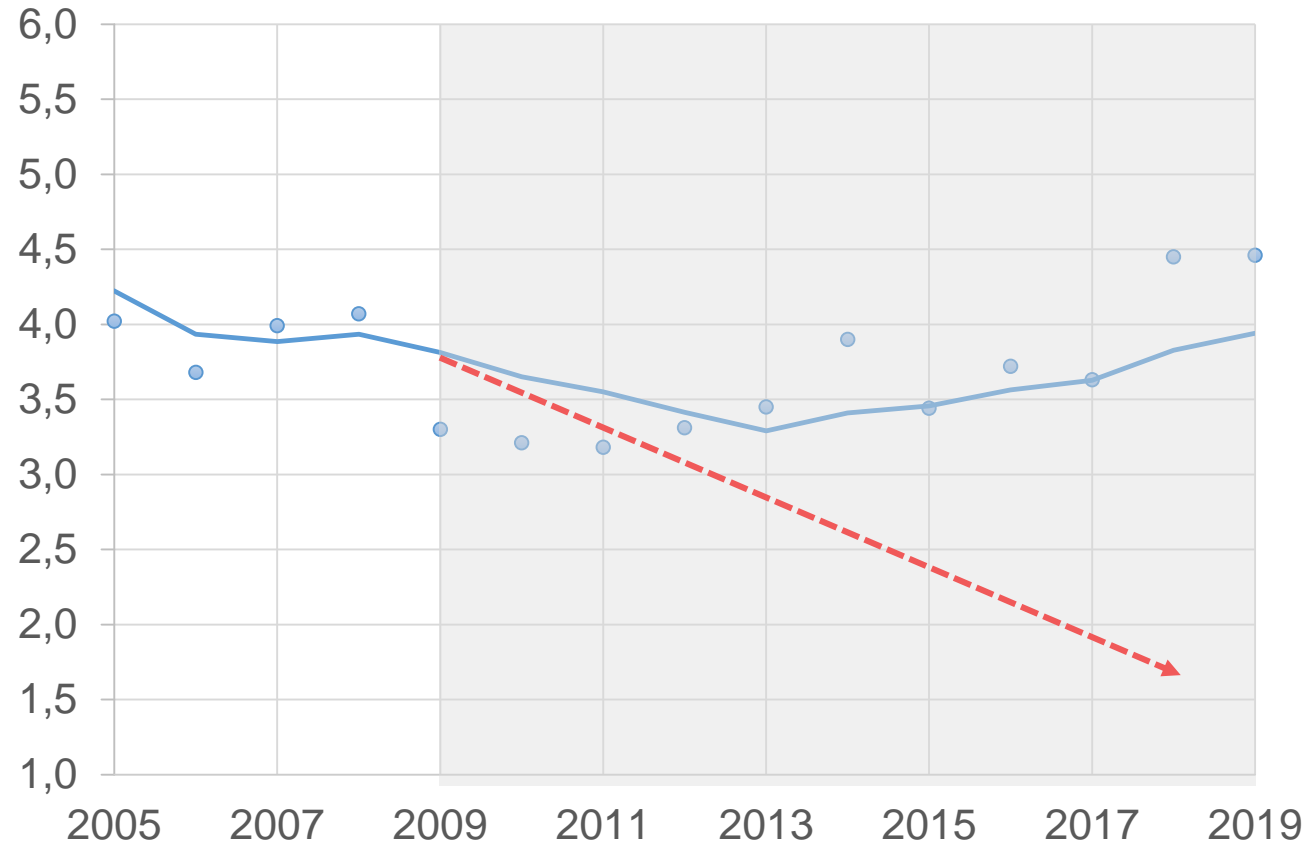


Source : FAOstat



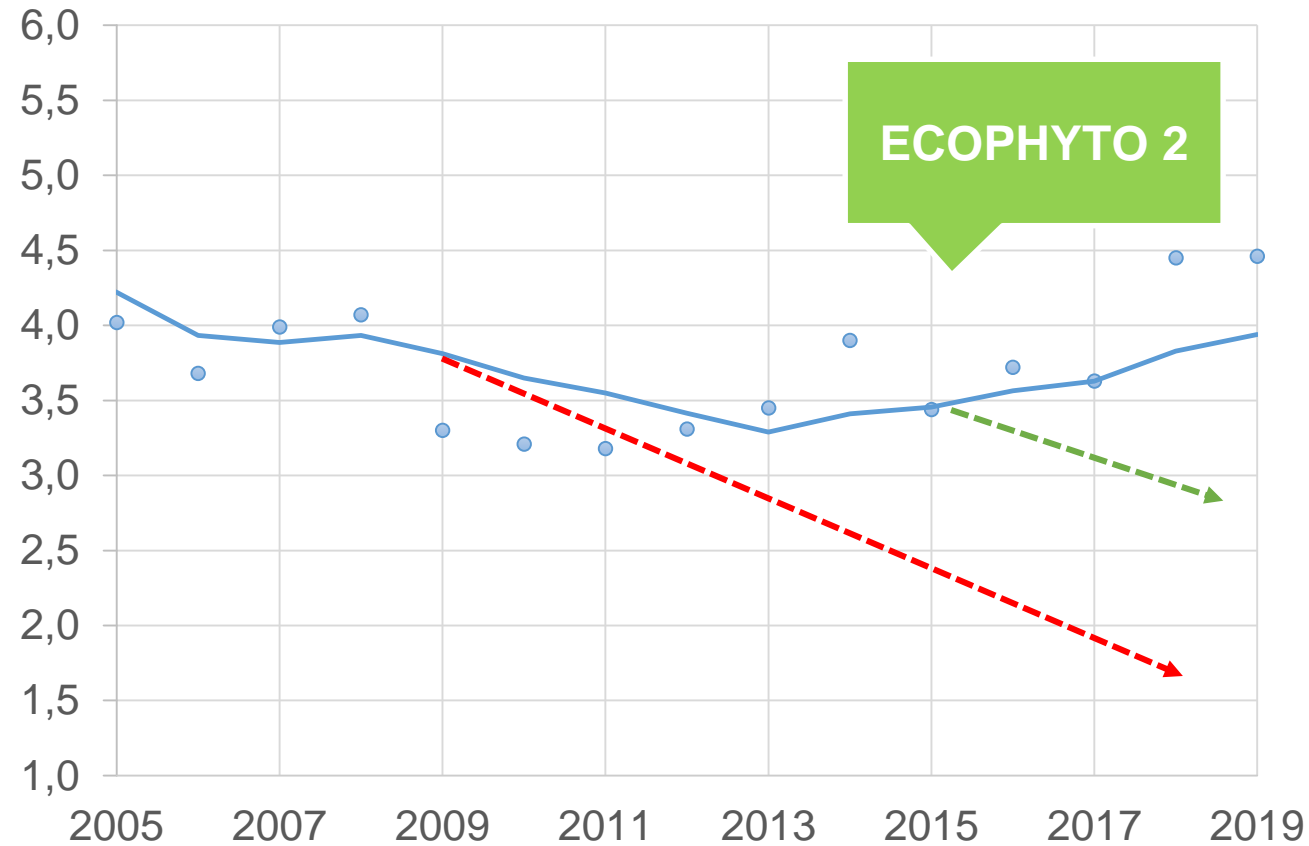
Ecophyto : a global failure

Pesticides (kg/ha) - France



Ecophyto : a global failure - Season 2

Pesticides (kg/ha) - France



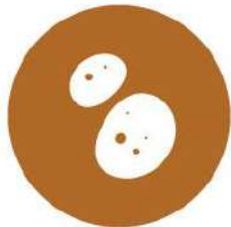
The choice of crops wiped out the gain in practices

The winners



Acreage
+ 96 %

NODU
3.8



Acreage
+ 12 %

NODU
18.1



Acreage
+ 8 %

NODU
4.3



Acreage
+ 7 %

NODU
3.8

2009 -> 2016

A quantitative explanation

The losers



Acreage
-3 %

NODU
0

Impact

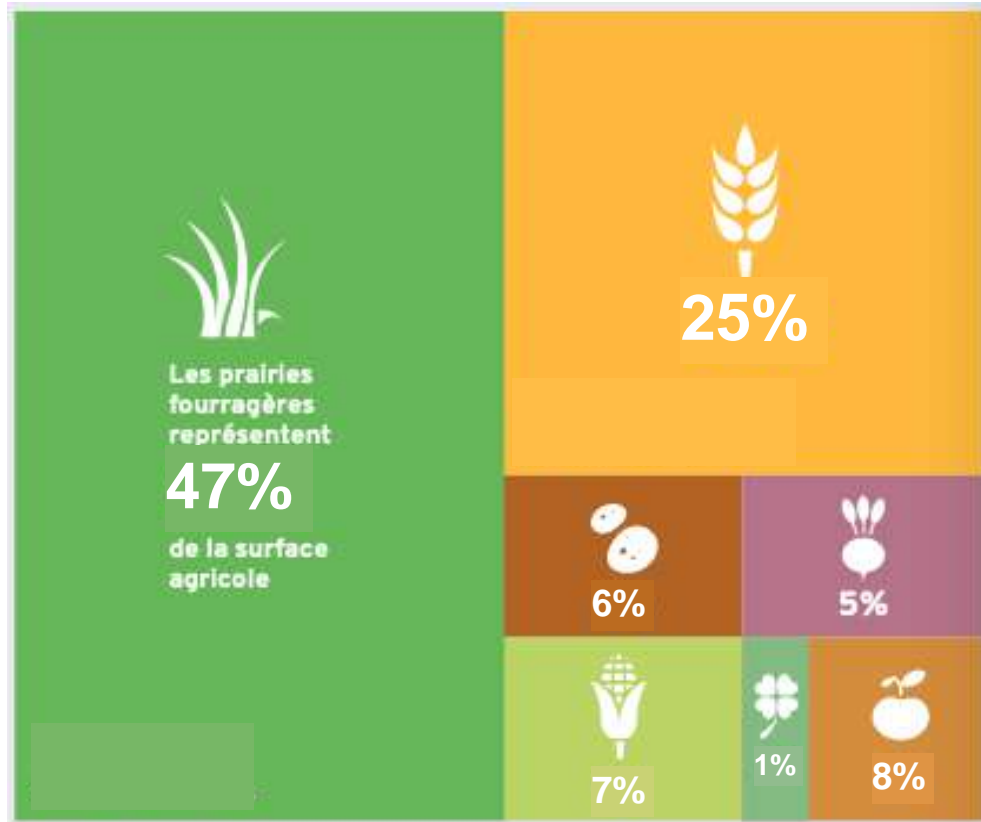


Acreage
-18 %

NODU
1.7

A stop over in Belgium

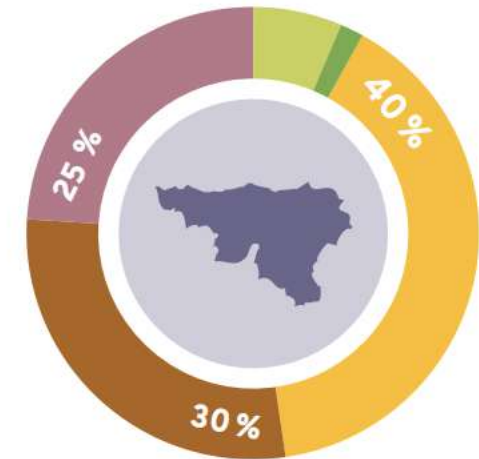
Potato + beets = 10 % acreage, 55 % pesticides ..



Quantité totale de pesticides utilisée sur le territoire wallon

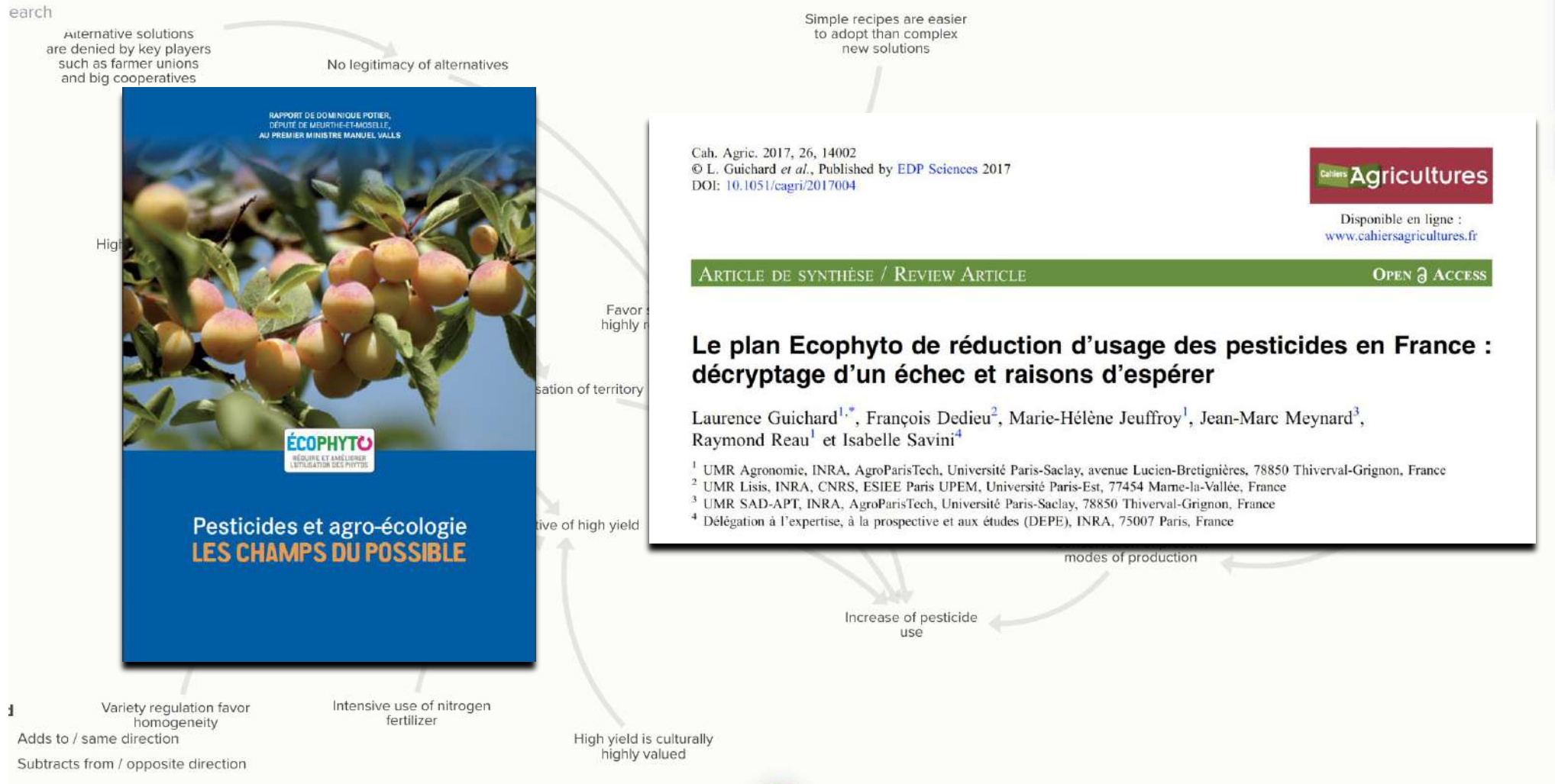


Les filières utilisant le plus de pesticides en quantité sur le territoire sont les **céréales**, les **potatoes** et les **betteraves**.

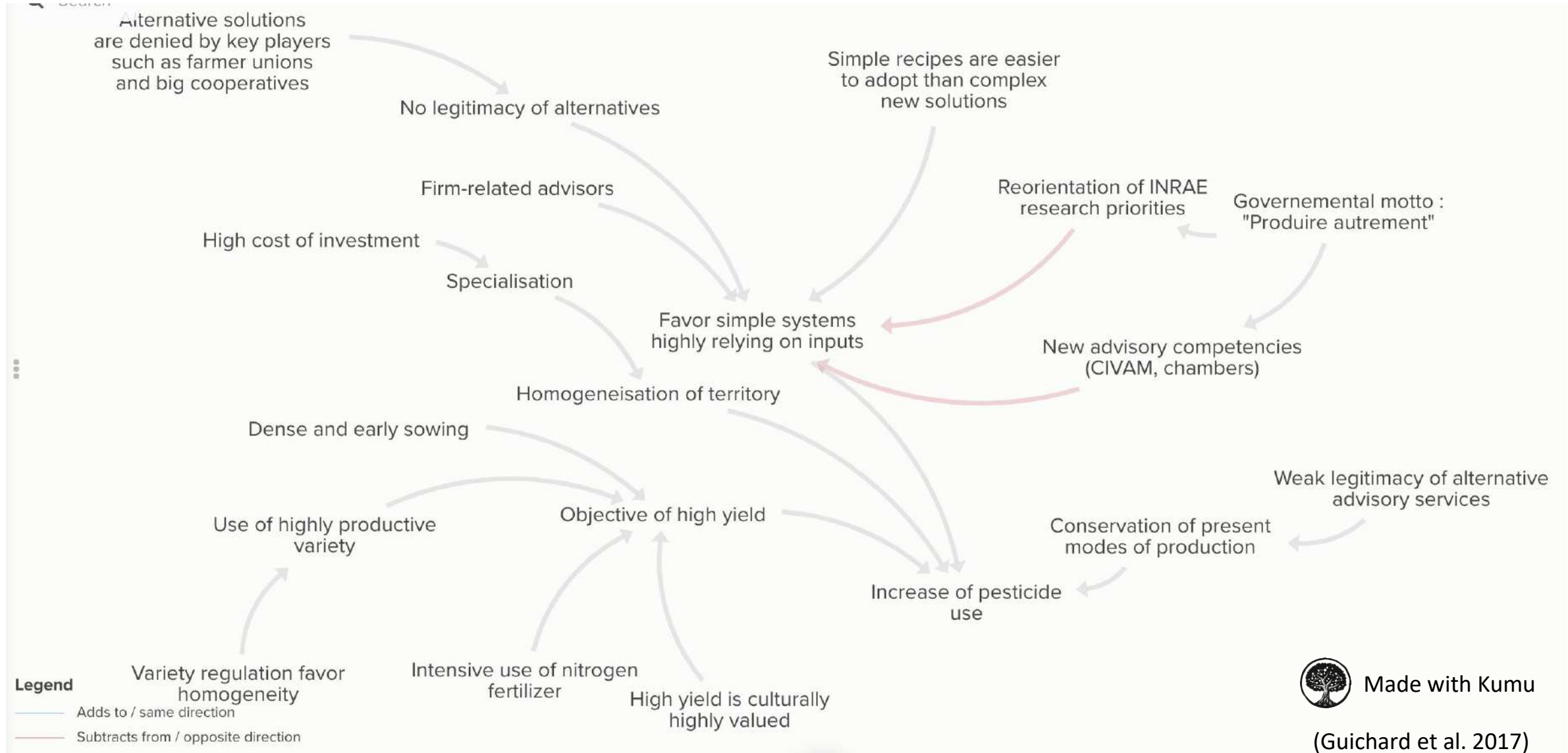


* Moyennes en agriculture conventionnelle pour les années 2011 à 2013, issues des données du Comité régional Phyto. L'utilisation de pesticides pour les autres cultures non reprises dans cette page est considérée comme négligeable à l'échelle régionale.

A systemic assesment of lock-ins

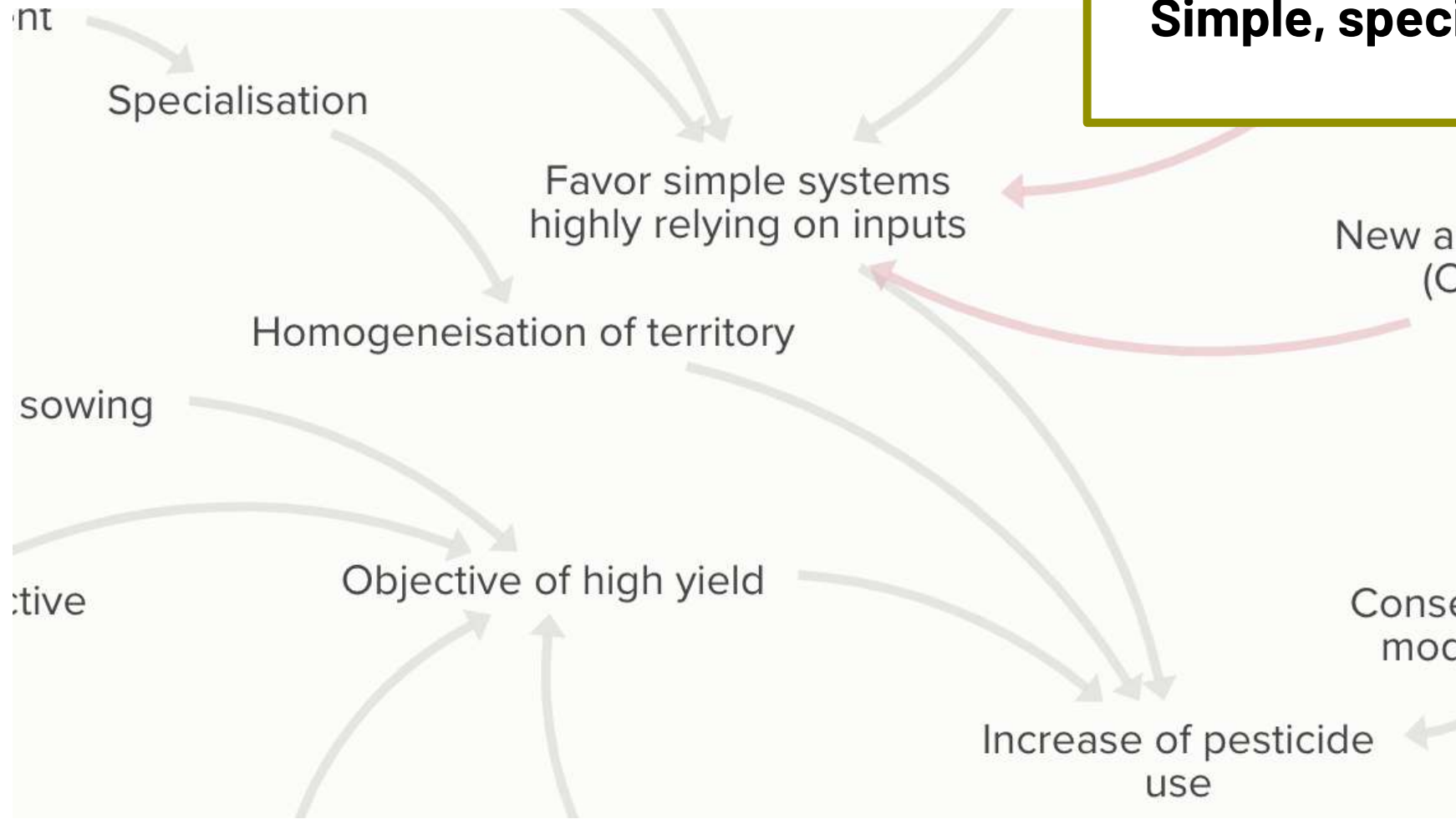


System is locked-in



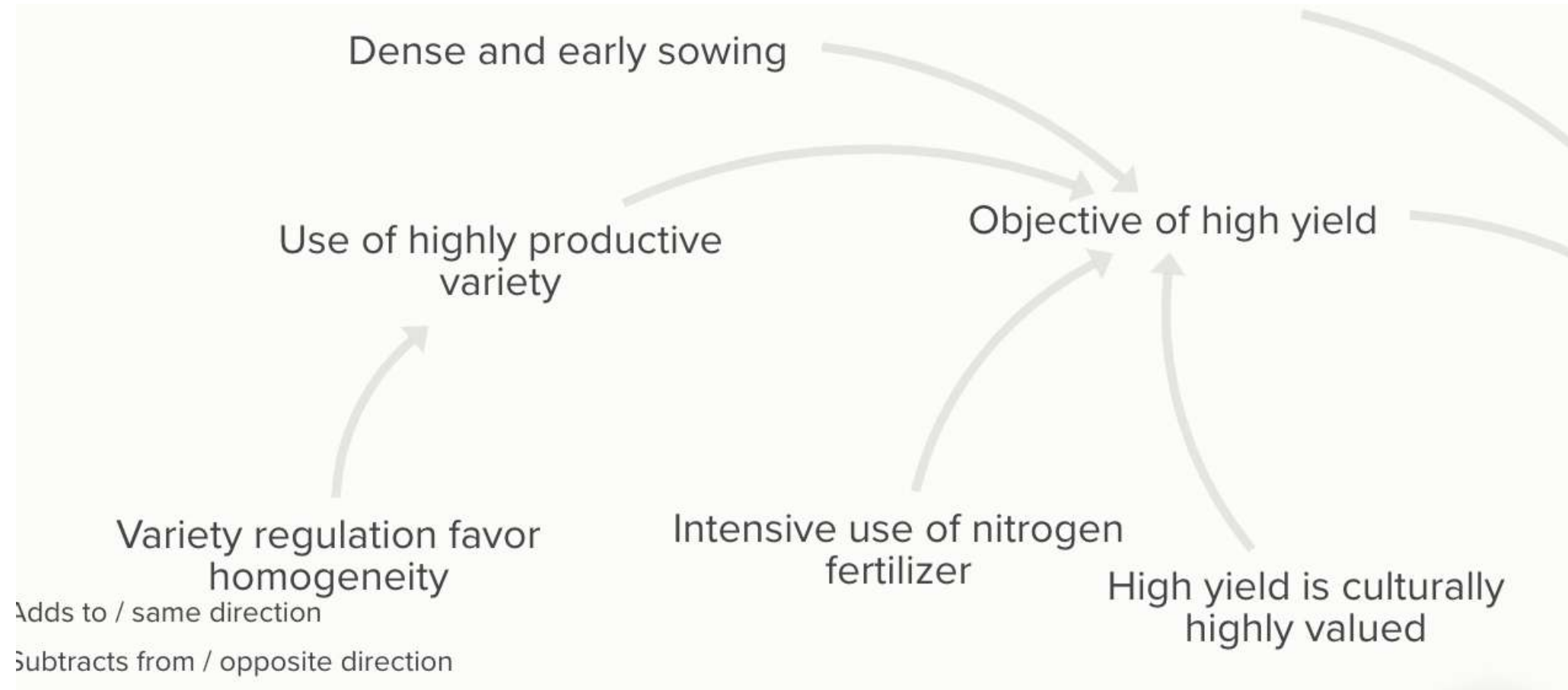
System is locked-in

The core of the system
Simple, specialized, productive



System is locked-in

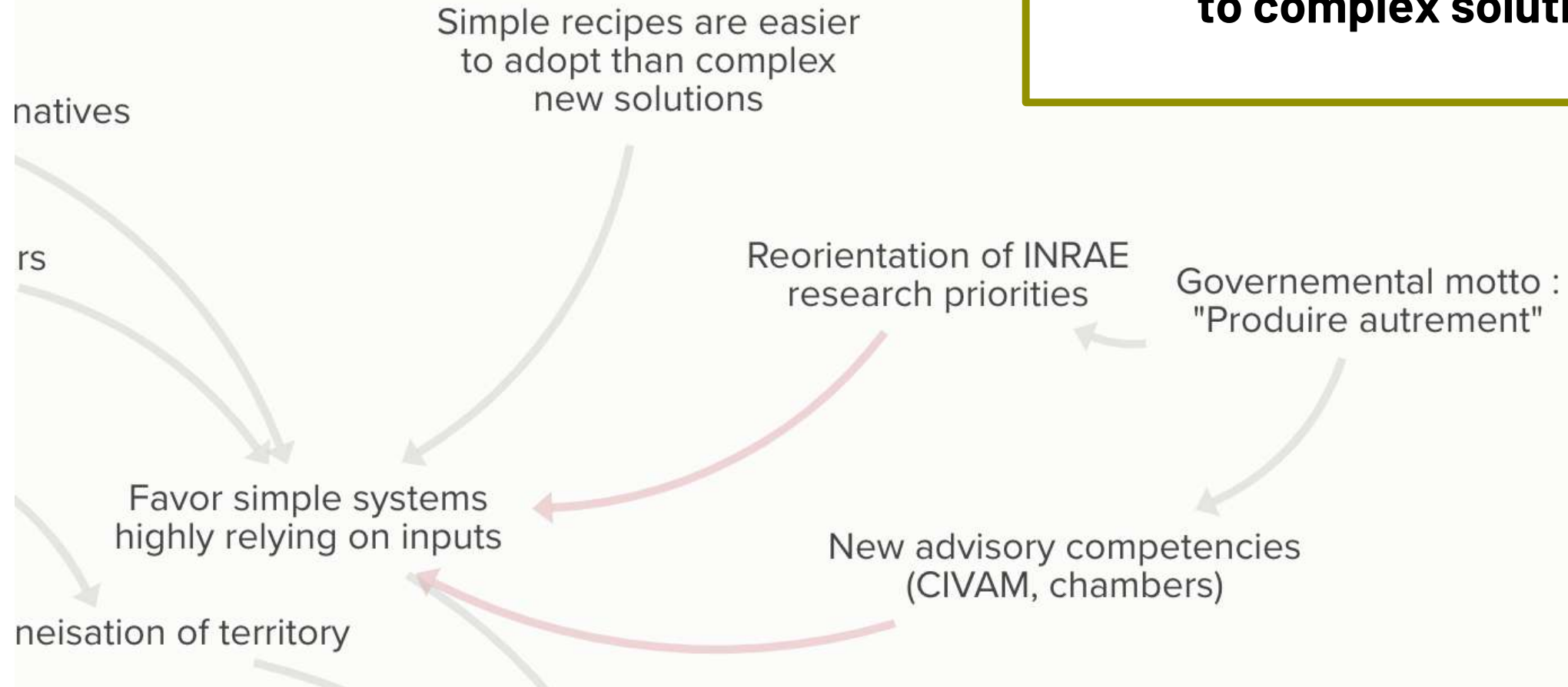
Yield, the single objective



System is locked-in

Research

From simple recipes to complex solutions



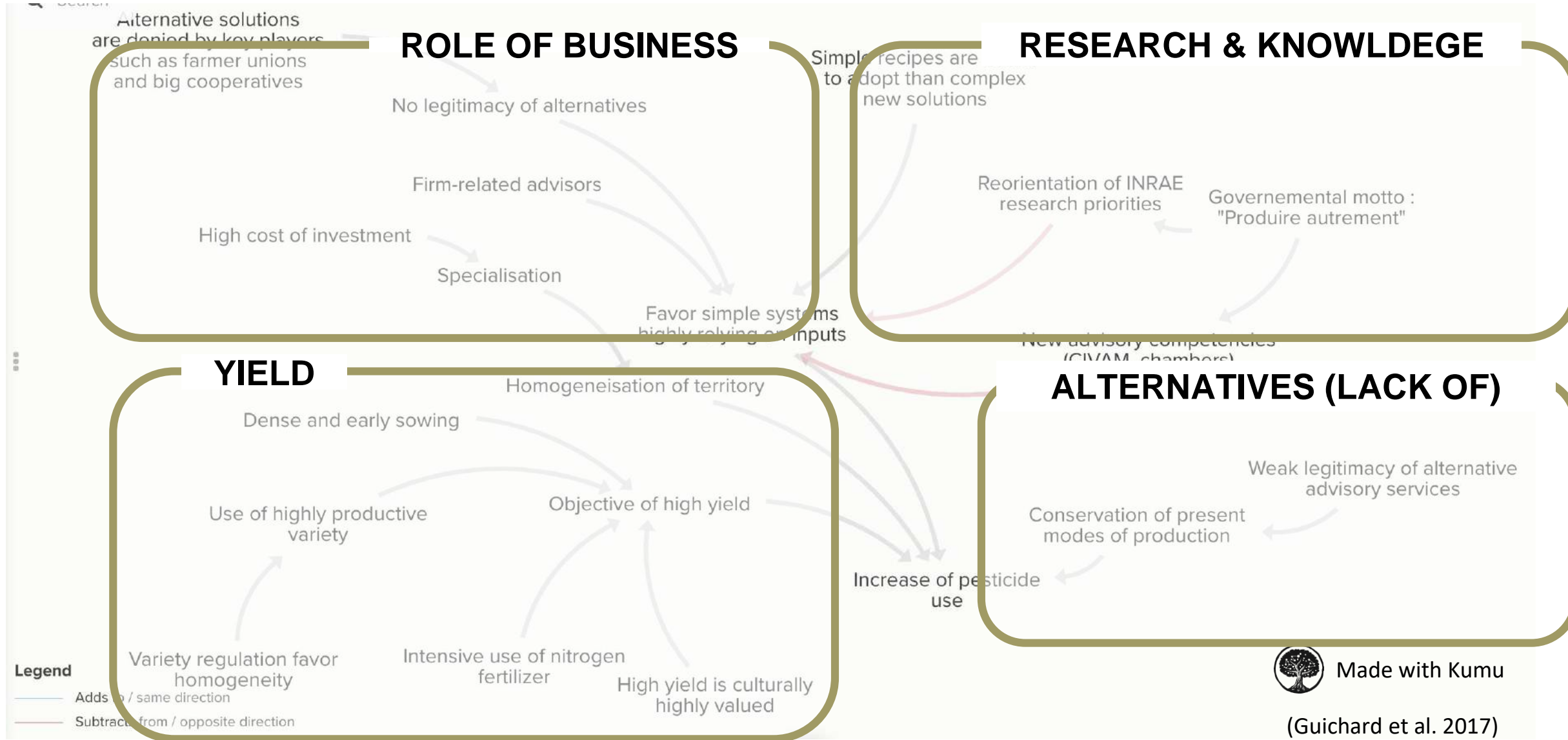
System is locked-in

Advisory

**Path dependency
and conflicts of interest**



System is locked-in



Made with Kumu

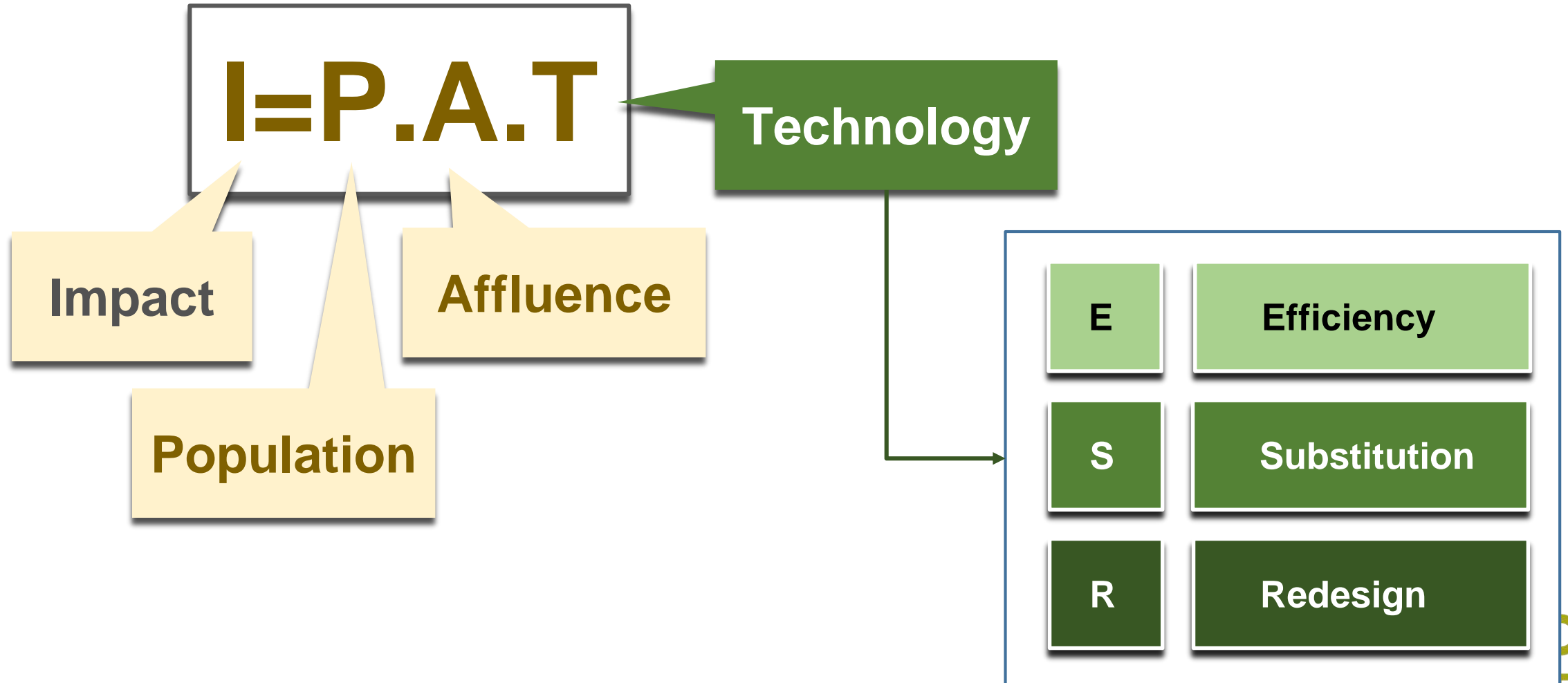
(Guichard et al. 2017)

Unlock the system ?

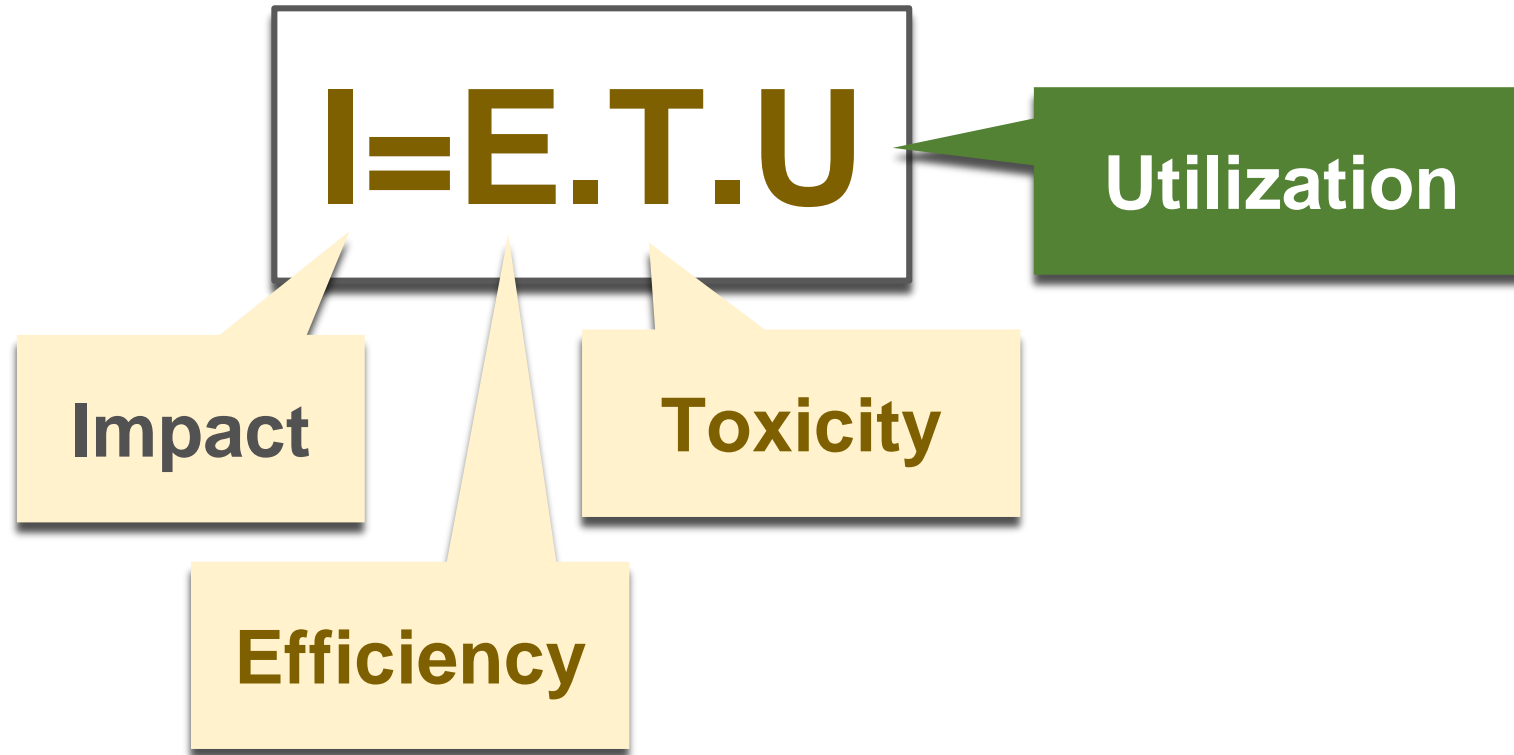


Photo by [Markus Winkler](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Modeling the impact and the technology transitions



Modeling the impact of pesticides



Modeling the impact of pesticides

$$I = E.T.U$$

Utilization

Impact

Toxicity

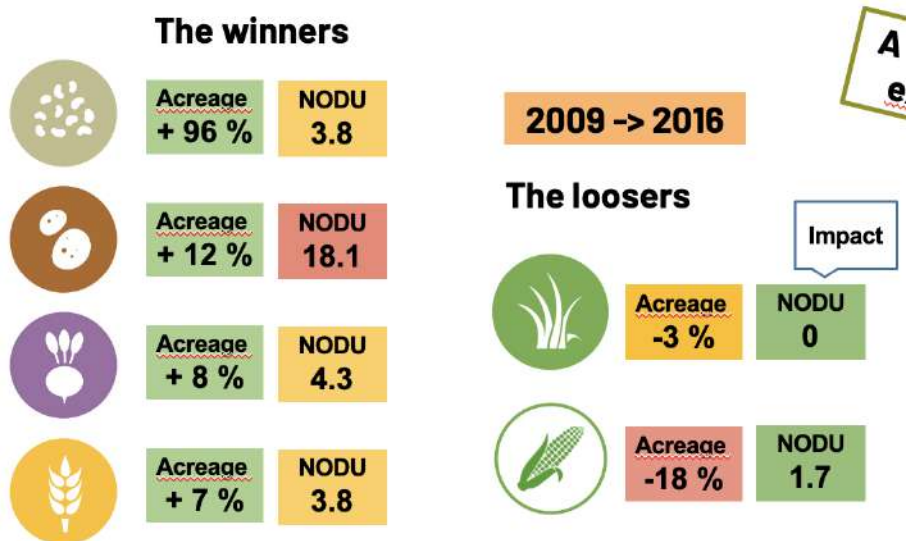
Efficiency

$$U = C.M$$

Choice of
production

Mode of
production

Modeling the impact of pesticides



$$U=C.M$$

Choice of production

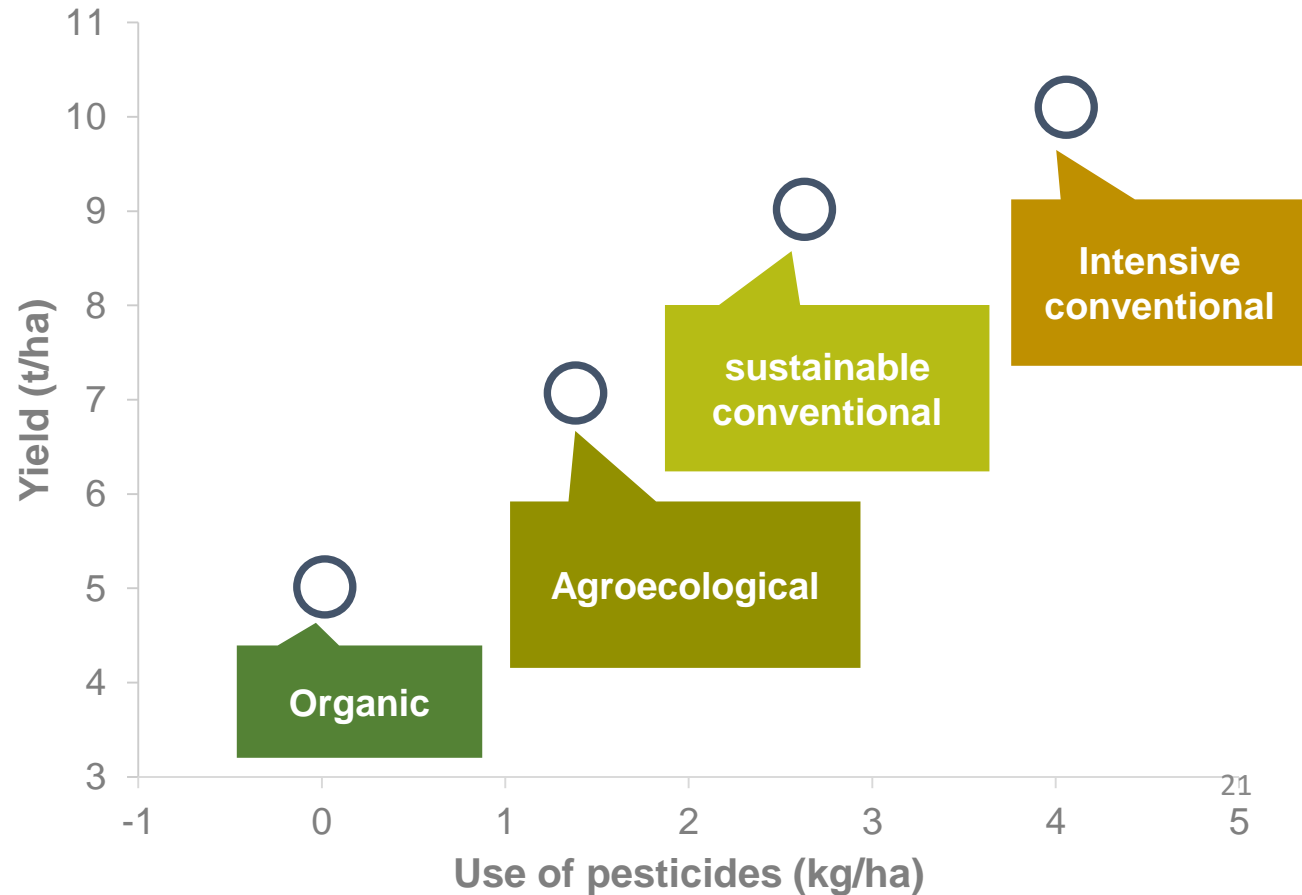
Method of production

Methods of cultivation of cereals - Belgium

Methods of production



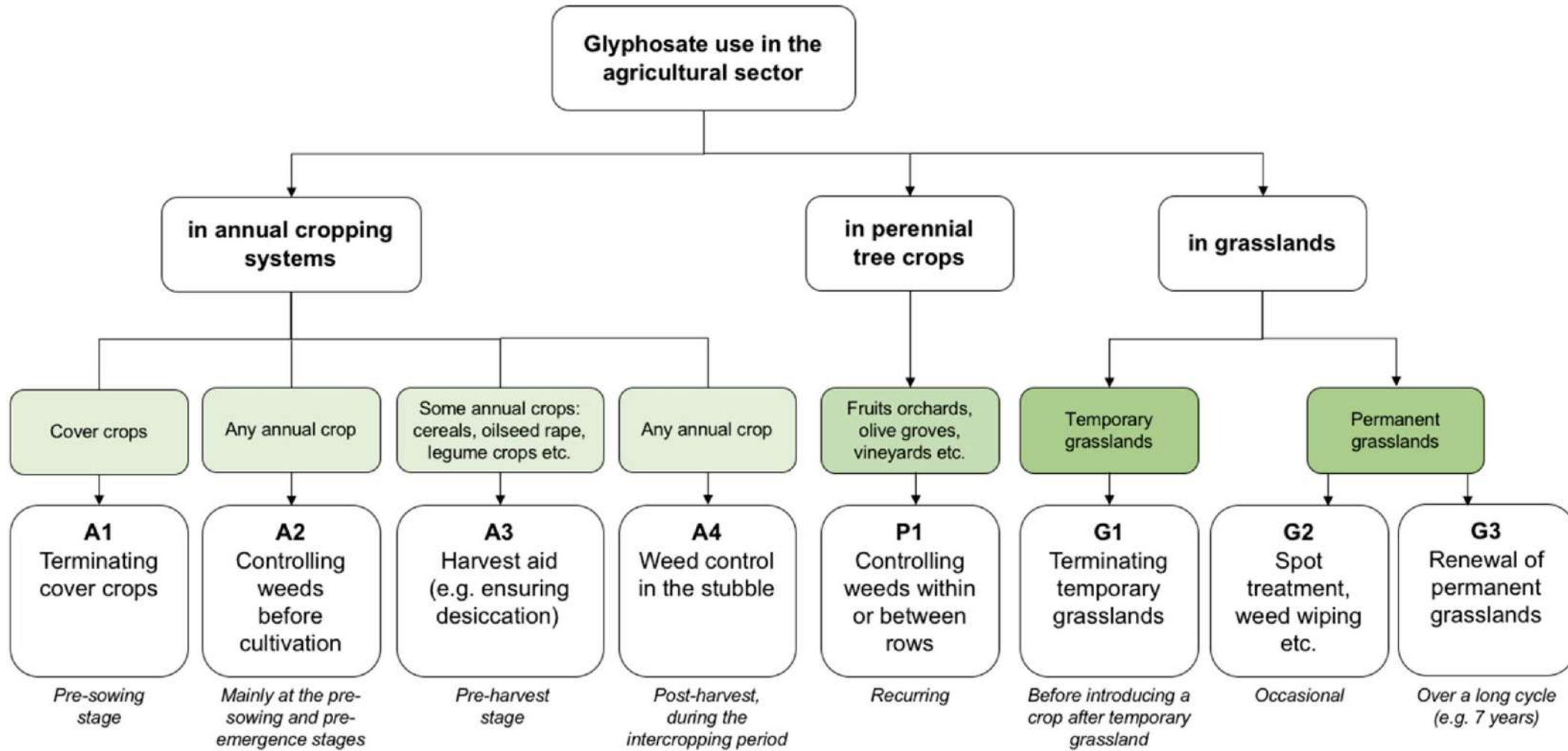
	Production	Engrais azotés			Produits.P.P.	
	Rendement moyen interannuel	N minéral	N organique	N total	Traitements	Quantité de s. s.
	t/ha	kg N/ha	kg N/ha	kg N/ha	nombre/an	kg/ha/an
Agriculture biologique	5	0	60	60	0	0
Agriculture écologiquement intensive	7	165	30	195	2	1,3
Agriculture conventionnelle raisonnée	9	175	20	195	4	2,6
Agriculture conventionnelle intensive	10	185	10	195	6	4,0



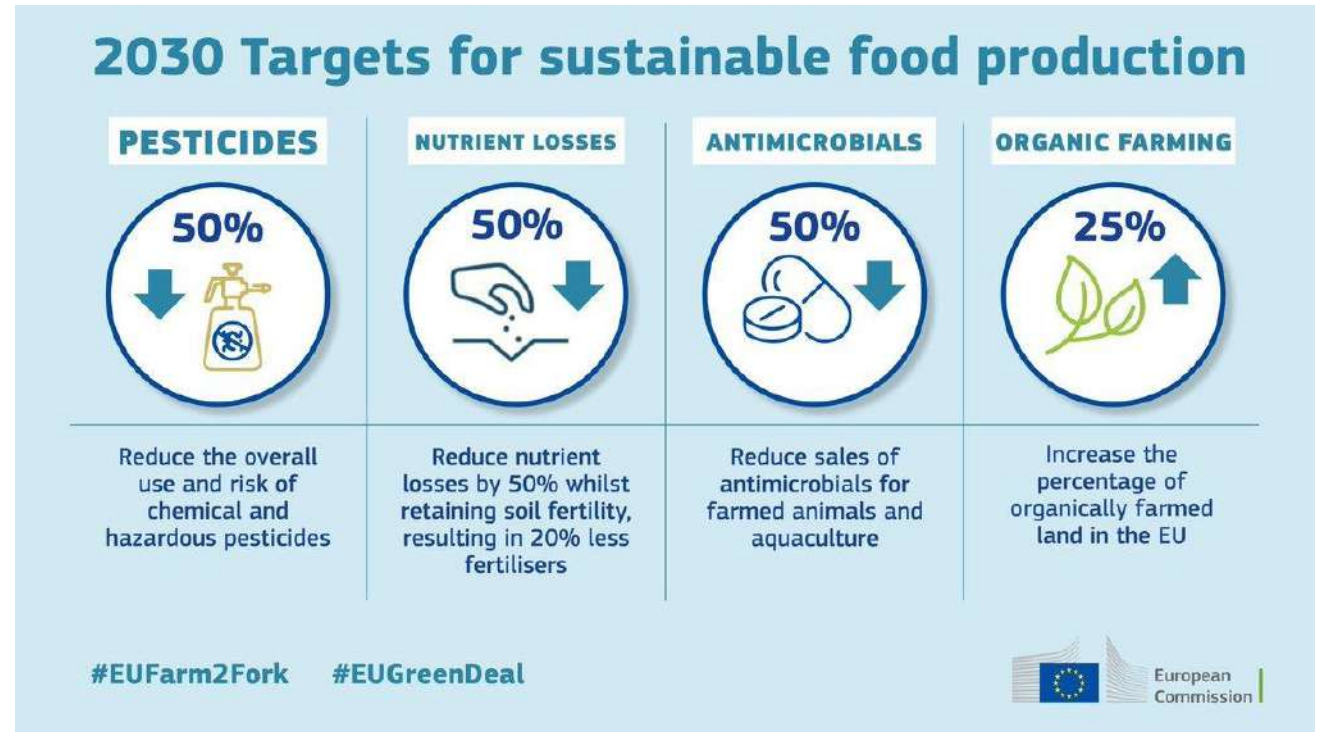
(Antier, Petel, and Baret 2017)

Glyphosate use

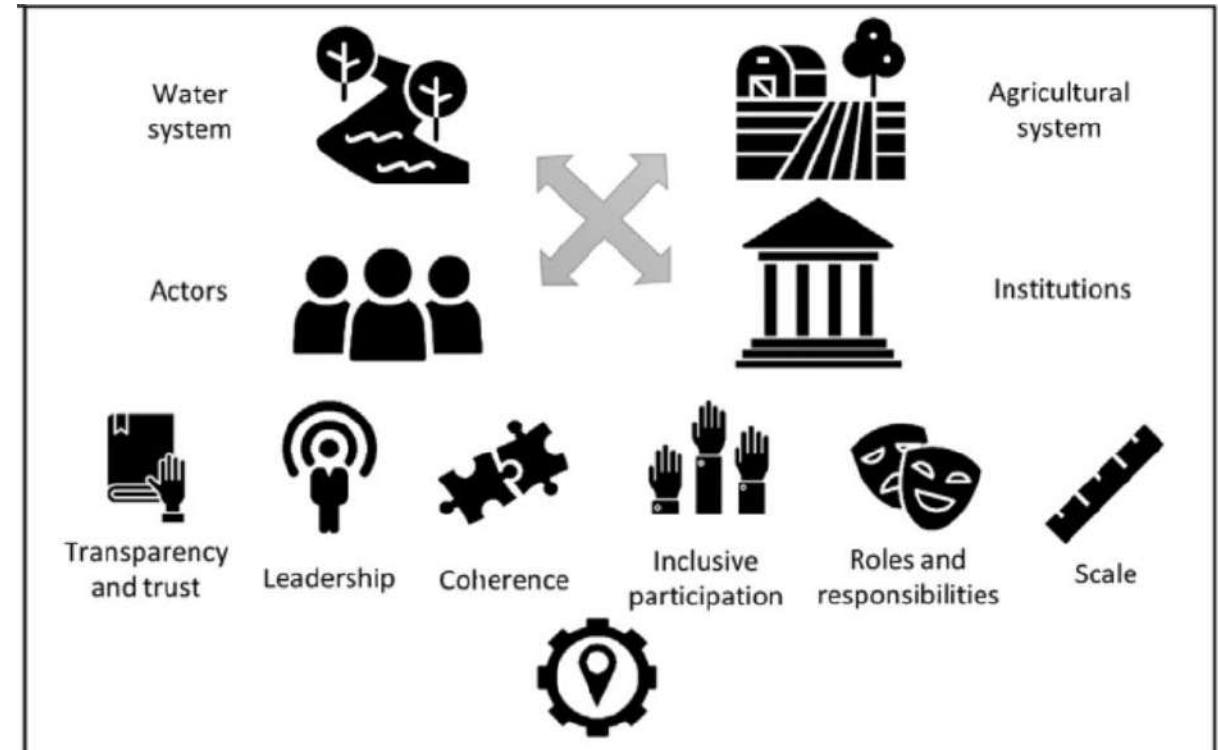
Utilization



Pesticide reduction is high in the agenda



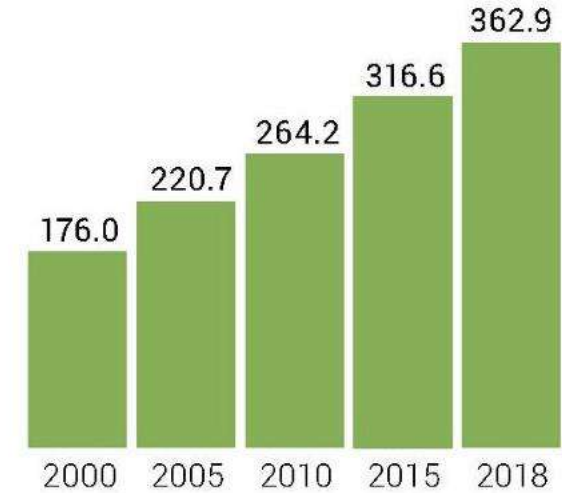
Some hope : Muenchen



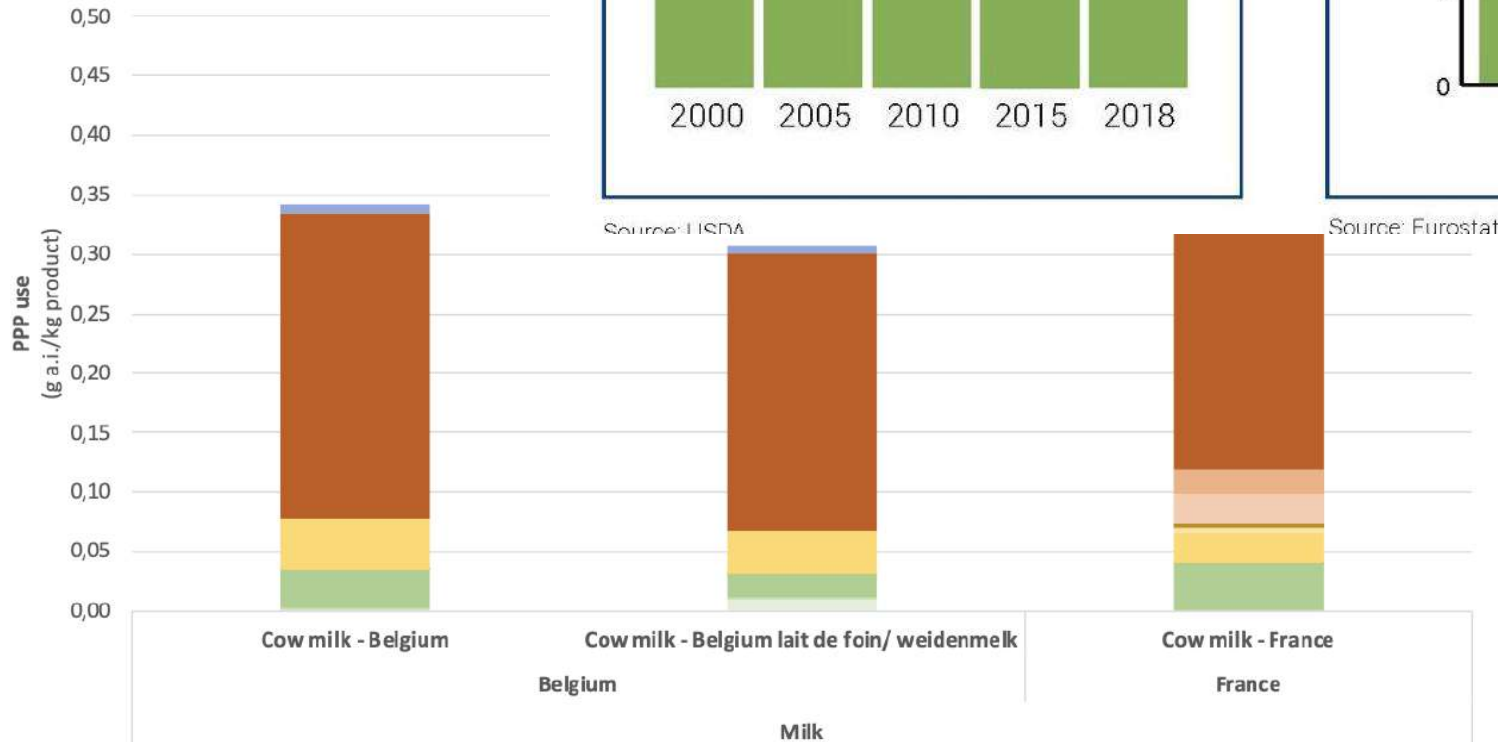
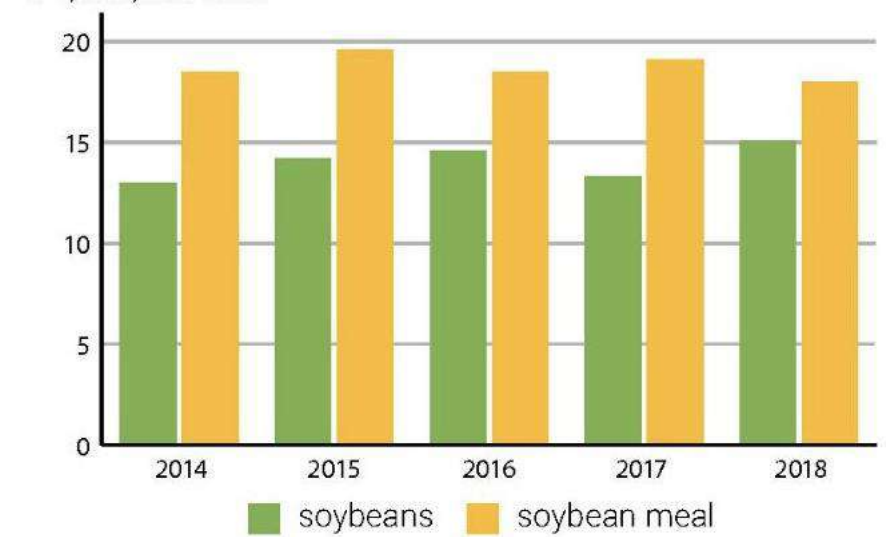
(Belmans et al. 2021)

Soybean

Global soybean cultivation
x 1,000,000 tons

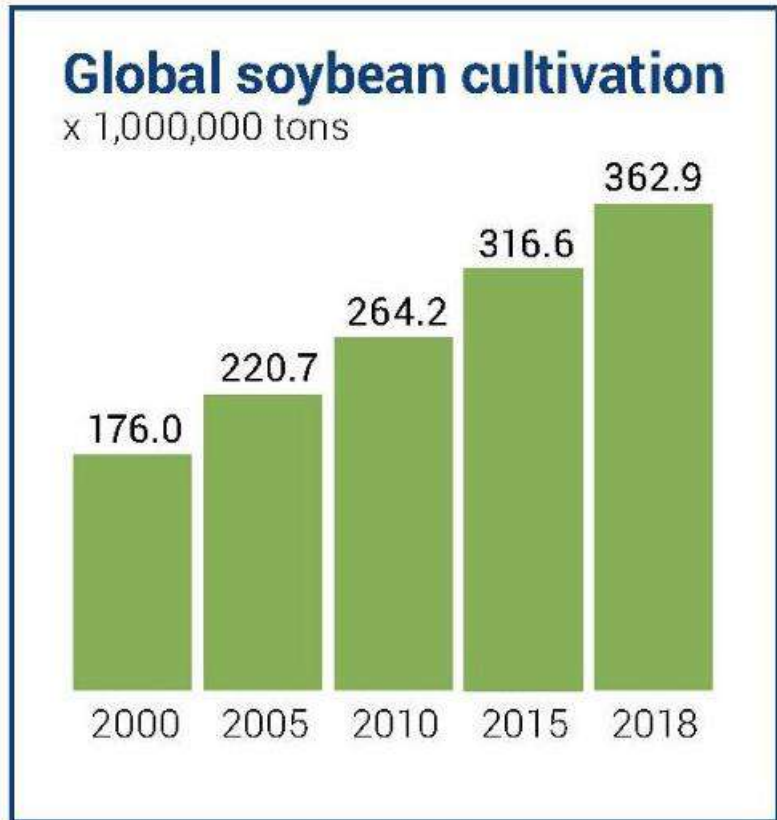


EU imports of soybeans and soybean meal
x 1,000,000 tons

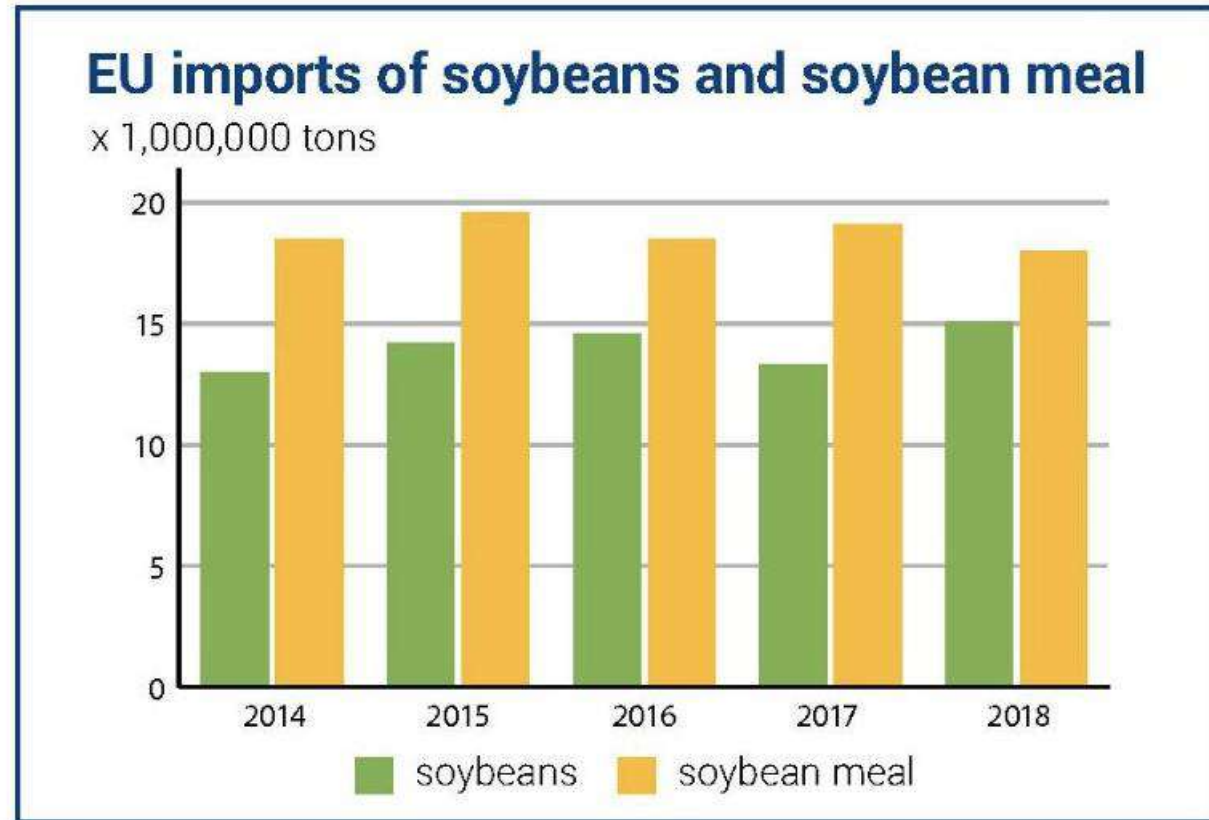


- Grazed grass
- Grass silage/hay
- Maize silage
- Other forage
- Cereals - Wheat
- Cereals - Barley
- Cereals - Maize
- Rapeseed meal
- Sunflower meal
- Soybean meal
- Olea-/proteaginous
- Sugarbeet

A major concern : soybean importation

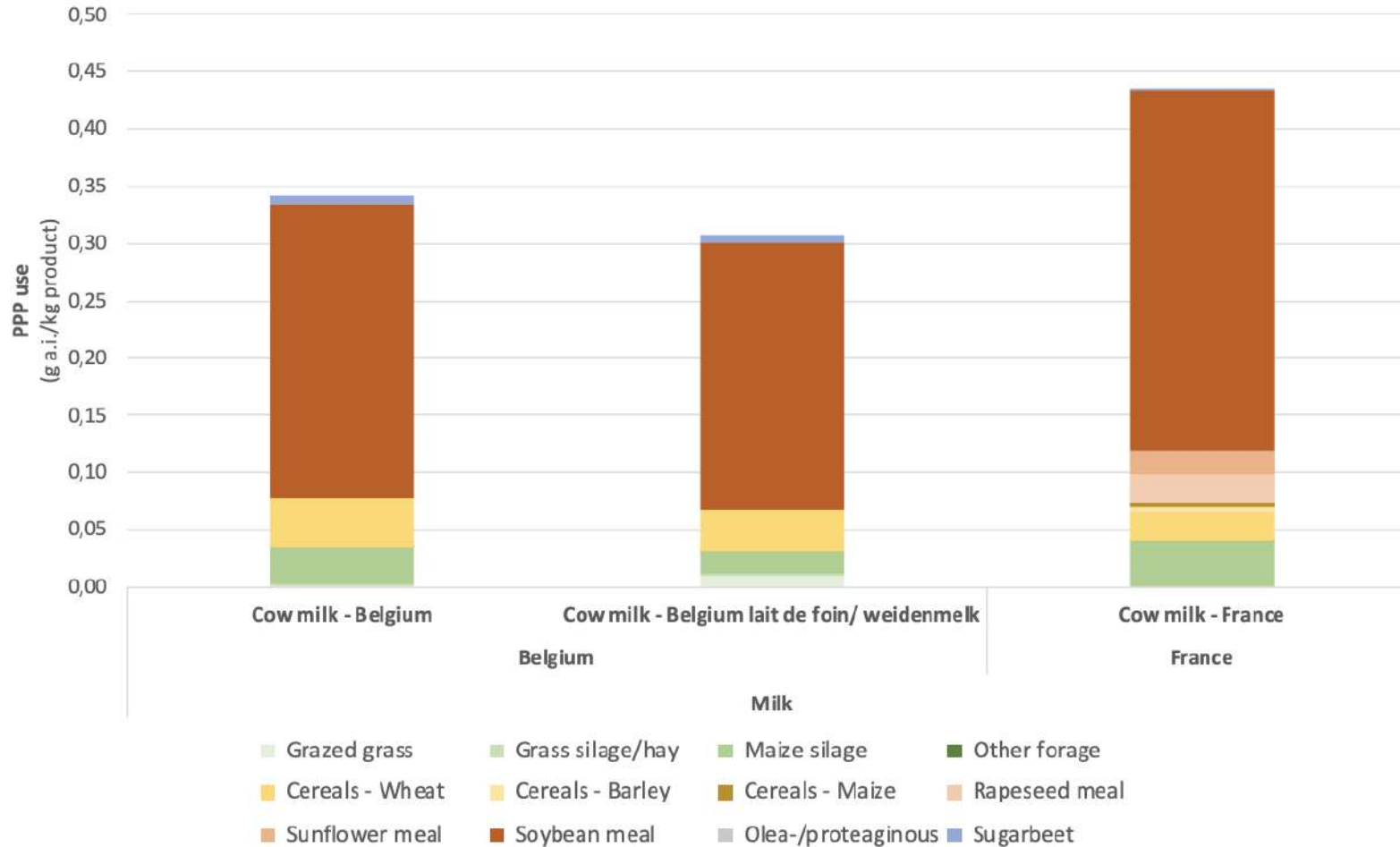


Source: USDA



Source: Eurostat

A major concern : soybean importation



0.20 to 0.30 g of soybean related pesticide active ingredient in one liter of European milk

Figure 20. Total pesticides use (g a.i./kg edible product) associated with non-organic milk in different countries.

Some conclusions



- Change the metrics (yield is has been)
- Build short term and long term
- Unfocus from fields, practices and farmers
- A systemic approach of lock-ins
- Coordinate action with different communities of actors
- Transparency of pesticide content of final product

Some conclusions



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