Quality close at hand
“Specialty crops and minor uses. Case study Belgian approach: private – public cooperation resulting in practical solutions “

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Outline of the presentation

• Introduction
• History
• Working principals
• Prioritisation and work flow
• Funding
• Results
• International cooperation
• Conclusions
Introduction

Who are Mechelen Auctions:

- growers coop founded in 1950
- + 2000 grower member
- PO (since 1996) within CMO – EU
- annual turnover: 2010 + 230 Meuro

Who is Luc Peeters:

- manager external relations and sustainability
- Former position CEO R & D center including
  - National responsibility for residu control and minor use working group
- Presently: Chairman WP Phyto COPA - COGECA
History

Need for practical solutions because:

- Growers demand for legal tools
- Growing concern on EU market: food safety
- Implementation of certified production schemes

  - since 1996 Fed Gov. Initiative
  - since 2002 industry payed technical secretariat (2 x 50% FTE)
Working principals

All stakeholders should take there responsibility:

- Growers: flag the current/existing problems
  - financial input: directly paying levies and taxes
  - provide technical secretariat/people
- PPP industry: accept legal responsibility and
  - provide financial support for R&D work
- MS official: guidance in legal framework
  - official decision making body
- Research: work on the real problems

Overall responsibility: provide legal solutions to growers
Prioritisation

4 technical working groups with representation of ALL stakeholders

- PPP industry
- Extension services and R and D
- Producer organisation / grower representation

- Technical WG: detect the problems based on input coming from practice
  Outcome = inventory = raw material: annually 4 docs of 25-30 pages

- National high priority list: define the problem prioritisation
  Outcome = Refined work load, budget allocation
BELGIAN NETWORK ON MINOR USES
4 technical working groups:

National Working Group on Minor Uses
- **Field Vegetables**

High Priority List
- **Field Vegetables**

National Working Group on Minor Uses
- **Protected Vegetables**

High Priority List
- **Protected Vegetables**

National Working Group on Minor Uses
- **Fruit**

High Priority List
- **Fruit**

National Working Group on Minor Uses
- **Ornamentals**

High Priority List
- **Ornamentals**

National High Priority List

Fund of the Raw Materials (Federal Government)
The National High Priority List is used for deciding the order of the Funding
Flow

- National technical WG: detect the problems based on input coming from practice
- National high priority list: define the problem and prioritise the workload
- Biology: how to solve the problem
  - are efficacy/selectivity data available
  - is extrapolation possible?
  - have trials to be performed: what kind of trials – budget –
- Residue studies: same procedure
- Complete dossier filed for evaluation and submitted by board of approval
- Negative decision: evaluation by TC what to do and how to proceed
- Positive decision = REGISTRATION and publication on official website FED GOV
Funding

• Official budget Fed Gov : levies and taxes
  funding field trials
  secretariat and coördination

• OP of the PO in the CMO :
  funding field trials
  technical secretariat ( making the dossiers) (2 x 50% FET)

• Direct PPP industry funding :
  funding field trials
  data transmission ( free access to existing data )

Make it as efficient as possible :

• Multiplication of budget by (inter)national cooperation
• New opportunities coming from zonal approach 1107/2009
# Overview results

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International cooperation

- First started between B and NI: fresh veggies
- Since 8 years: B, De, NI, UK, …
- "Close pocket" principal: no money transfer
- No duplication of work; work sharing;
- Extend to PROFEL: EU wide frozen industry
- Extend to flowers/ornamentals in 2011

2011: Administrative support by COPA-COGECA
Conclusions

Industry is taken the lead in tackling field – gap problems:

- Demands from market forced growers into taking the lead
- Put priority `s where they belong
- “Walk the walk“ is more problem solving then “talk the talk”
- Short term horizon needed

Near future:

1107/2009:
new opportunity with zonal approach and mutual recognition
If you have any suggestions for improvement of our system: we would like to hear them.

Enjoy the benefits of EU agriculture

Thank you for your attention
Contact

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