

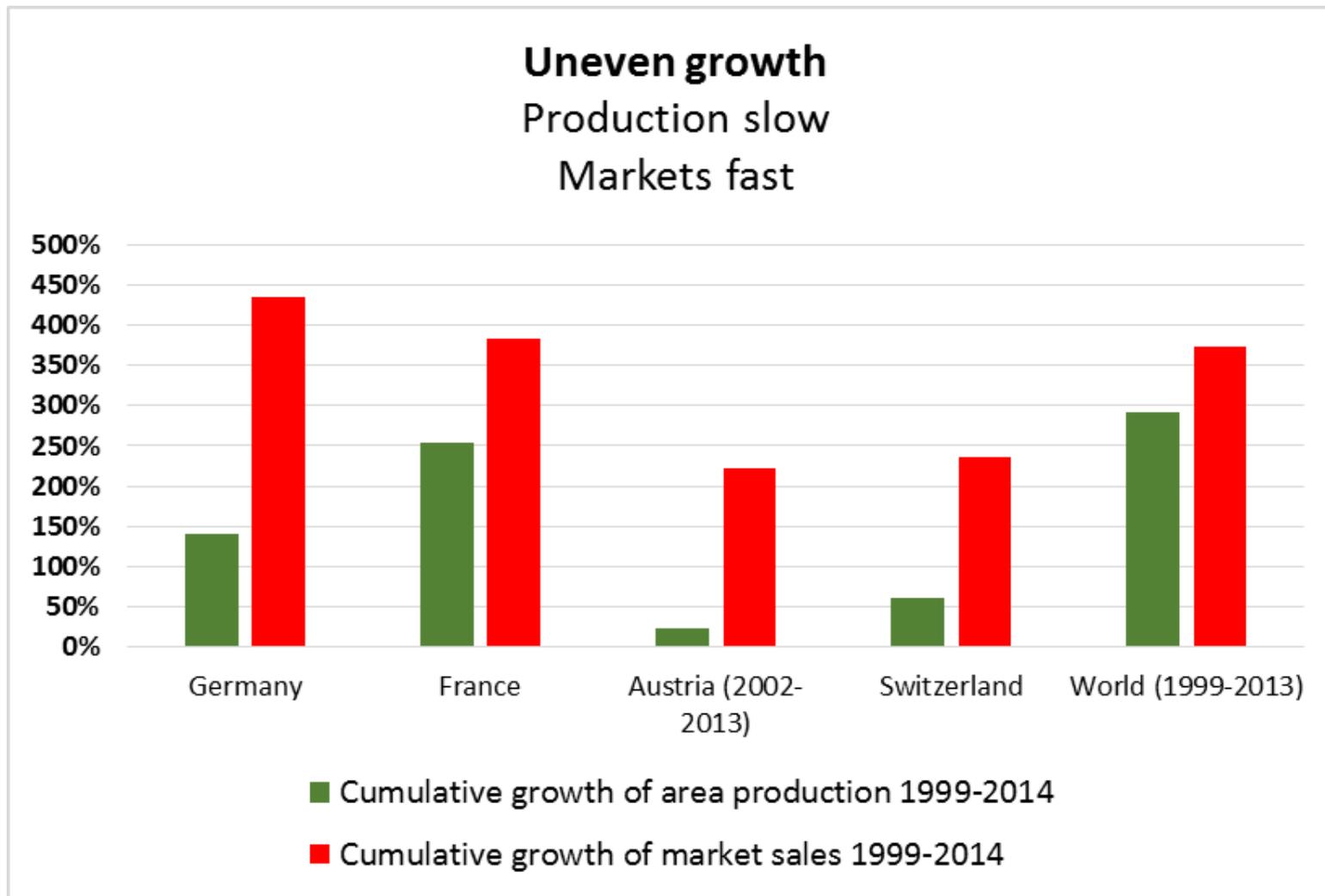


Market analysis and overview of the impact of changes to EU Organic legislation

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ABIM 2016

Organic sector: Domestic production cannot keep up with market growth



- › On-farm & in-field biodiversity.
- › Biological/physical soil properties.
- › C sequ. & GHG emissions.
- › Nitrogen & phosphorous efficiency.
- › Pesticides strongly reduced.
- › Internalisation of external costs.
- › Mixed farms.
- › Farm profitability.
- › Added value food chains.
- › Better use of natural, human & social capital.
- › Quality management in place.
- › Ethical standards.

- › Yields and yield stability.
- › Agronomical backlog (research deficits).
- › Great variability among farmers (ecological, social and economic performance).
- › Best practice!?!

Literature to be found:

Niggli, U (2014) Sustainability of Organic Food Production: Challenges and Innovations. Proceedings of the Nutrition Society. doi:10.1017/S0029665114001438, 6 pages.

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- › Easy to measure & communicate sustainability strategy (consumers, citizens, farmers).
- › Societal prestige.
- › Niche & mainstream.

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- › Too conservative and slow in adoption technological innovation.
- › 435 different sustainability labels/claims.

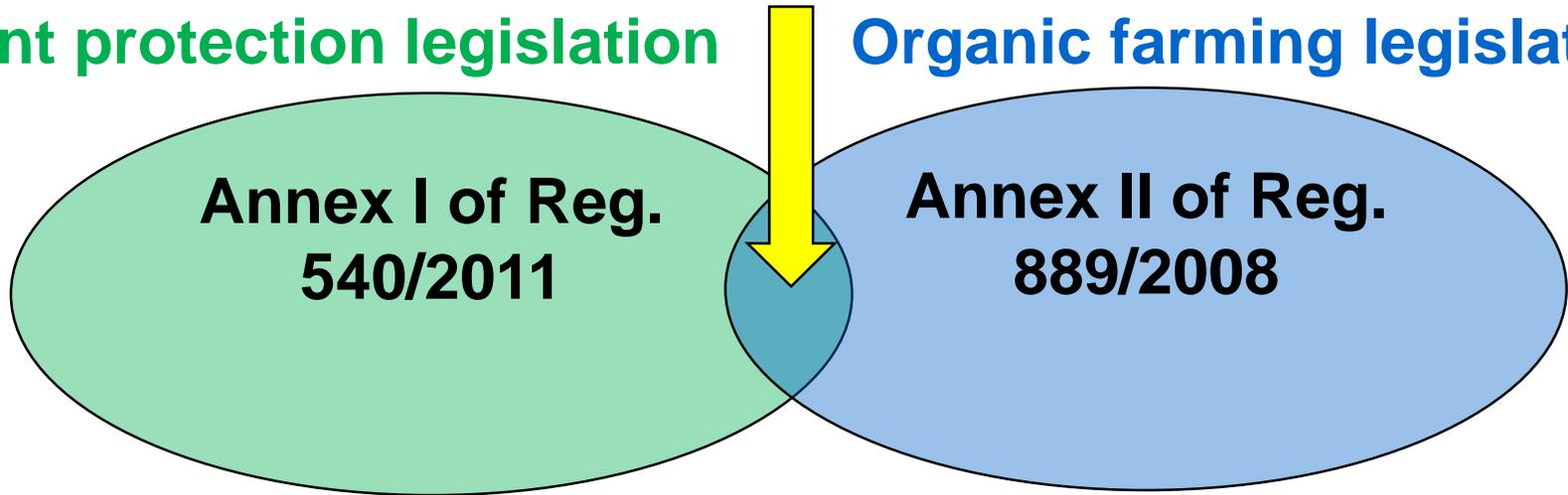
Hurdles to rapid adoption of novel technology and products

- Scepticism of farmers and consumers towards controversial technologies, e.g. GMO, CRISPR/Cas, RNAi, nanotechnology, ...
- Regulatory hurdles despite of positive attitude by organic stakeholders, e.g. botanicals, microbials,...

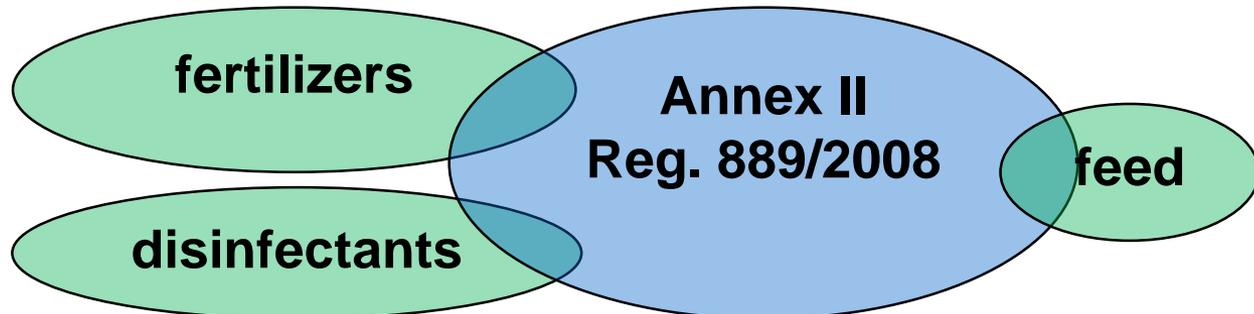
Which substances can be used in organic farming (EU level)?

Plant protection legislation

Organic farming legislation



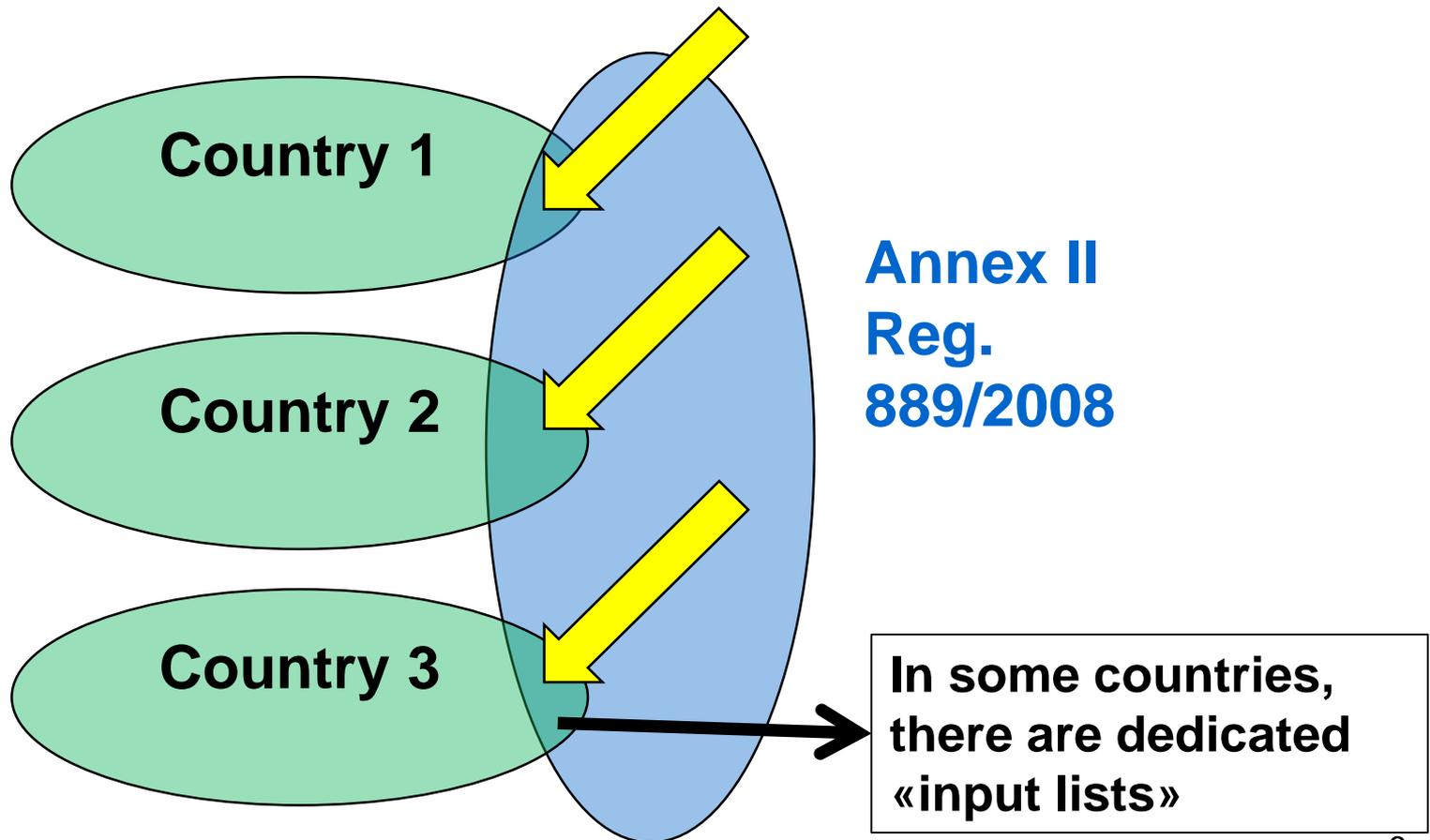
For other product groups, the same principle applies:



Which plant protection products can be used in organic farming (MS level)?

National PPP register

EU Organic farming legislation



What is listed on Annex II of Reg. 889/2008?

A) generic listing -> no explicit product listing required

- › Basic substances (if they are food and if they are of plant/animal origin)
- › Pheromones (if used in traps/dispensers)
- › Plant oils (except for use as herbicides)
- › Micro-organisms (except GMOs)
- › **Macrobials**

B) individual listing -> active substance listing required

- › All other substances must be listed individually

The list comprises mainly substances of plant, animal, microbial or mineral origin.

How are new substances authorised?

- 1. Precondition: The substance must be authorised (e.g. as PPP) at EU level.**
- 2. EU member state submits «organic dossier»**
- 3. EU Commission may ask EGTOP* for advice**
- 4. Member state delegates (RCOP**) discuss the request and finally decide**
- 5. Amendment of Reg. 889/2008**

Note: Companies cannot submit dossiers

***EGTOP = Expert Group for Technical Advice on Organic Production**

****RCOP = Regulatory Committee on Organic Production**

Which substances have recently been authorised?

Evaluated by EGTOP 2011, authorised 2014

- › Laminarin
- › Kaolin
- › Sheep fat

Evaluated by EGTOP 2014, authorised 2016

- › (Phosphonates: rejected)
- › (Piperonyl butoxide: rejected)
- › Kieselgur
- › Carbon dioxide
- › Basic substances of plant/animal origin (if food)
- › Plus some new uses of existing substances

Lessons learned from past experience

Laminarin is a famous case which was authorised very slowly. Why was this so?

- **Pesticide legislation**: There were no precedents for the evaluation of elictors made from algae.
- **Organic legislation**: At that time, the inclusion of new substances was not foreseen at all. This changed with the adoption of a new organic legislation in 2007.
- **Organic evaluation**: Member states were uncertain about the compliance with organic principles. This changed with the establishment of EGTOP in 2010.

What can a company do to accelerate authorisation for organic farming?

- **Share information regarding new products with research and advisory community, initiate e.g. demonstration trials. This may be done before the registration process is completed.**
- **Identify supportive stakeholders at an early stage.**
- **Members states will apply for inclusion if urged by organic sector (i.e. product answers to a need of farmers).**
- **Prepare preliminary information package in line with dossier template of EGTOP. See [\(\[http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/eu-policy/expert-advice/documents/dossier-templates_en\]\(http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/eu-policy/expert-advice/documents/dossier-templates_en\)\)](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/organic/eu-policy/expert-advice/documents/dossier-templates_en)**

Authorization at EU level (OF)

Fast track after PPP authorization:

- **Basic substances (if they are food and if they are of plant/animal origin), Pheromones (if used in traps/dispensers), Plant oils (except for use as herbicides), Micro-organisms (except GMOs), and Macrobiales need no specific listing in Annex II 889/2008.**

Additional authorization needed:

- **All other substances.**
- **Process takes 2-3 years; acceleration possible.**
- **Contact organic sector at early stage and develop roadmap before PPP registration is completed**

Authorization at MS level

- **Approval of products as PPP at MS level**
- **Approval of products for organic farming at MS level in line with EU regulations on OF: Implementation varies between countries.**

Example DE/AT/CH/NL: «family of input lists»

- Lists for each country (DE, AT, NL, CH)
- Special lists for food processing and for private gardening
- Special lists for private label organizations



Organic Inputs Evaluation Network

- › Since 2009, the input evaluation teams in Switzerland, Germany Netherlands, and Austria form a network.

Objectives:

- › Facilitate access of farmers to state-of-the-art inputs for organic farming at EU and MS level.
- › Provide harmonized evaluation criteria and ensure availability of high quality inputs.
- › Support policy makers in evaluation processes.
- › See: www.organicinputs.org

organicinputs
●●● evaluation network