

The GM-Free Regions' Network action on Feedstuff 2007-2008 Campaign

Answering to Europe's agriculture needs

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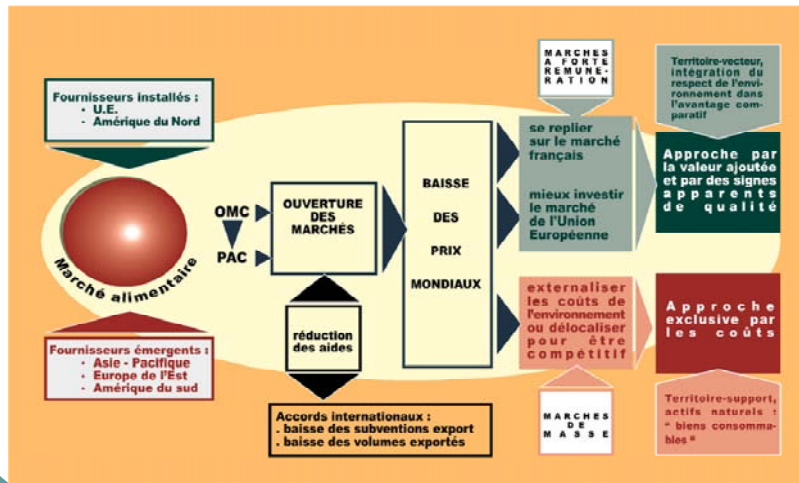
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Facts & Figures : SOY, a globalized commodity

- Europe is a major soy importer
 - 38 million MT – 38% of international soy trade.
- Americas (North & South) are the major producers.
 - US : 35%, Brazil : 30%, Argentina : 20% = 85%
 - India & South Africa <10%
 - Europe : Italia < 1%
- A major use in feedstuff.
 - Europe : 34MMT / 38MMT = 90%
- Soy is a major issue for Biotech firms : by-product, globalized market, price fixed in Chicago, industrialised production.
- Soy is required by all european agricultural systems and is a major issue for the future strategy of european farmers.

Replacing Soy in the globalization issue of European agriculture... from CAP to WTO



3 motivations, 1 common denominator : defend an agriculture deeply rooted in our regions

- **Type 1** – PDO–PGO regions – Toscana : maintaining rural networks, conserving a cultural heritage.
 - **Type 2** – Organic producing regions – Oberösterreich : maintaining mountain agriculture, conserving *Heimat*.
 - **Type 3** – Transforming agricultures – Bretagne : keeping in touch with the consumers' needs, finding new business, saving and creating jobs.
- **Face the globalization of food & feed markets,**
 - **Seek a better value and an economic capacity for farmers,**
 - **Authorise strategies.**

The basis of Bretagne's action on the feedstuff issue : getting a wider view of the real issues.



- European agricultures are in the world market; our economies are not globalization-proof.
 - **WTO, commercial exchanges.**
- What we experience now in Europe is not different from what is seen elsewhere in the world.
 - **Biotech impact all agricultures.**
- Globalization is not to be rejected *as such*; what we need is to gain control of the process.
 - **Find sustainable alternatives.**
- We strongly believe in Europe and in European Region's capacity to promote a counter-model.
 - **Can we imagine a co-development principle ?**

October 2005 : 11 regions go to Brazil...



- Regions from Fr, It, Gr, Es
- Visits to Paraná, Goiás, Brasília DF
- Working sessions with IMCOPA, COMIGO
- **5 letters of intentions** with:
 - State of Paraná,
 - Farmers' Unions from Paraná, Mato Grosso do Sul, Goiás,
 - Business Federation of Goiás
- Results:
 - **Opening of new markets in Europe**
 - **1st hand information on soy situation**
 - **Regular visits of co-operative soy businesses**

Dec 2007 : a new phase in the regions' action: The feedstuff conference - Facts



- **A 10 regions action group.**
 - Partnership with the CdR
 - Co-organisation with AREPO (at least)

- **Make supply & demand meet :**
 - Demand : 3 500 european businesses & Organisations
 - Offer : 100+ soy suppliers
 - Officials : European Commission, EuroParl, CoR...

- **What will be the success yardstick for this initiative ?**
 - **Understand what is done elsewhere.**
 - **Encourage common knowledge and experience.**
 - **Demonstrate there is a consistant market, relying on consumers choice, that has to be respected.**
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