



Conclusions CPVO Farm Saved Seed WG ***“Breeder’s perspective”***

B.Scholte

CPVO Enforcement Seminar – Hamburg – 25.05.11



Conclusions CPVO Farm Saved Seed WG *“Breeder’s perspective”*



1. Need for Genetic progress
2. Need for increased investments in R&D
3. Magnitude of the use on FSS in the EU
 - ESA survey 2004
 - Community Plant Variety Rights Office 2007
4. Outcome CPVO Working Group FSS
5. Conclusion

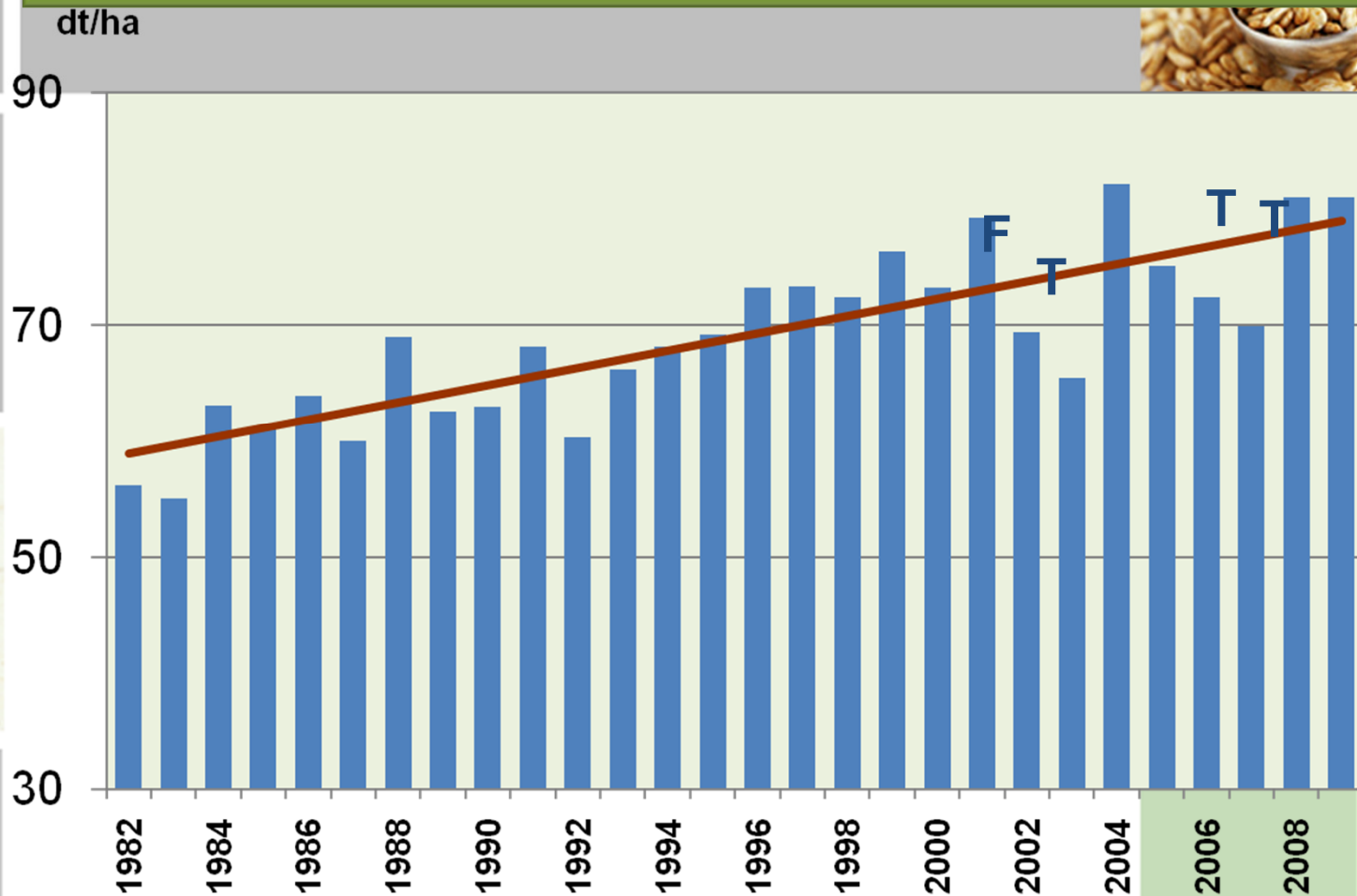
1. Need for genetic progress



- Developments
 - Growing world population
 - Need to feed the world
 - Climate change
 - Need for improved varieties
 - Drought resistance
 - Disease resistance
 - EU to remain competitive productive region



wheat yield in Germany (Source: BSL 2009)





1. Genetic progress



Wheat

- Europe
 - yield increase 100 kg per year
- USA
 - yield increase has come to a halt

Reasons

- difference in royalty income
- lack of investment



1. Genetic progress



Maize

- yield difference in tons per ha

| | 1990 | 2010 |
|--------|---------|---------|
| USA | 0 | + 1 ton |
| Europe | + 1 ton | 0 |



Reasons

- lack of investment
- lack of access to new technologies (GM)



2. Increased investments needed



Current investments in R&D ca. 15% of turnover
€ 1 bn = 1.000.000.000

Royalty Income:

- royalties on certified seed
- royalties on Farm Saved Seed



3. Data on the use of FSS



Winter wheat



| | Source | Nr countries | Winter wheat |
|-------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| Area | ESA, 2004 | 19 | 17.800.755 |
| % FSS | ESA, 2004 | | 54% |
| Area | CPVO, 2007 | 16 | 17.683.147 |
| % FSS | CPVO, 2007 | | 50% |

3. Data on the use of FSS



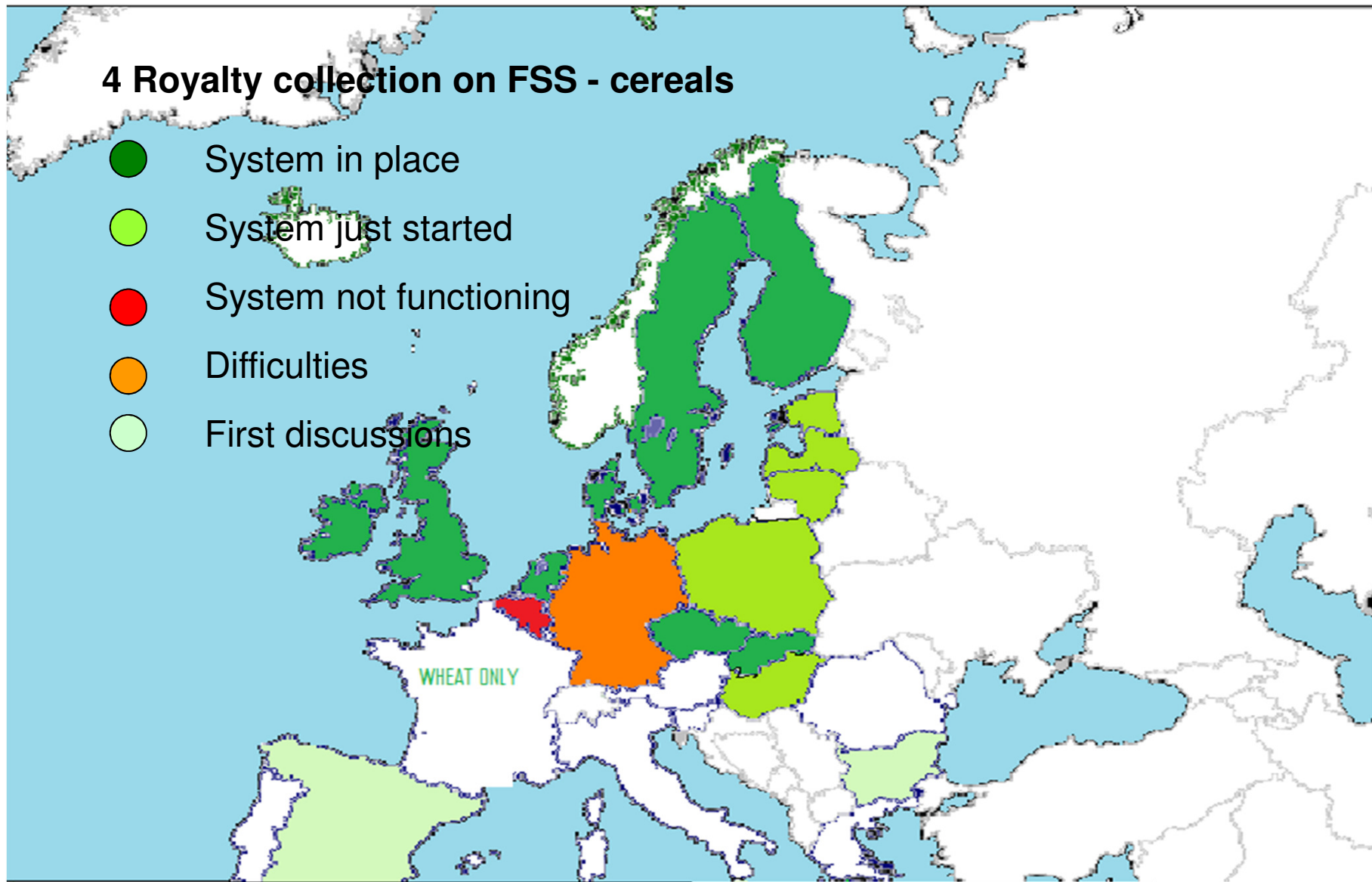
Potato - 2007



| | | Nr countries | Potato |
|-------|------------|--------------|-----------|
| Area | ESA, 2007 | 24 | 2.203.947 |
| % FSS | ESA, 2007 | | 63 |
| Area | CPVO, 2007 | 18 | 1.888.960 |
| % FSS | CPVO, 2007 | | 62 |

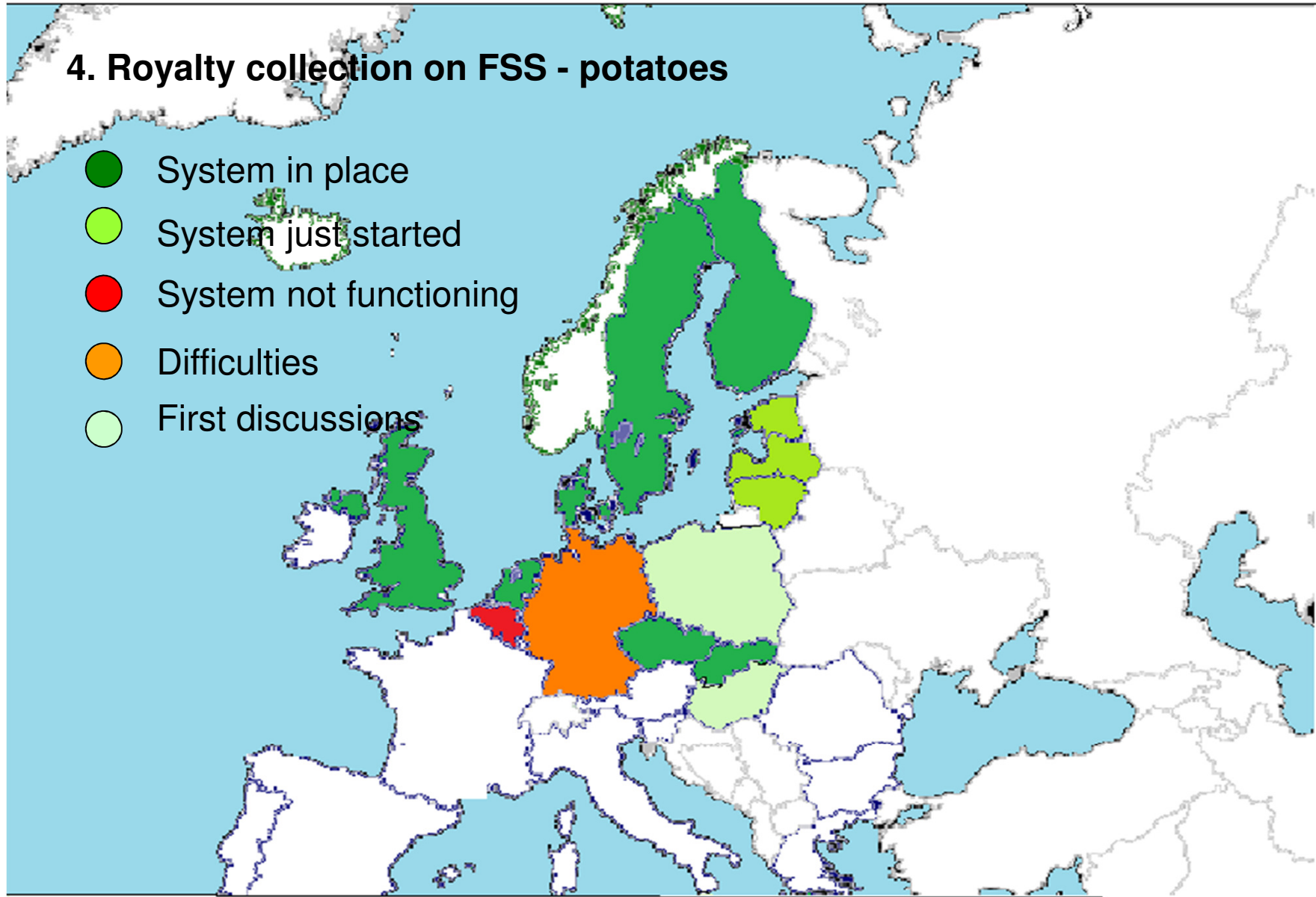
4 Royalty collection on FSS - cereals

- System in place
- System just started
- System not functioning
- Difficulties
- First discussions



4. Royalty collection on FSS - potatoes

- System in place
- System just started
- System not functioning
- Difficulties
- First discussions





3. Data on the use of FSS



- At present
 - Still 12 EU Member States without royalty collection system for FSS for cereals
 - For potatoes 14!





4. CPVO Working Group FSS



Composition CPVO WG FSS :

- Farmers (COPA)
- Breeders
- Seed processors
- Members CPVO Adm. Council
- DG SANCO
- DG AGRI
- DG Trade





4. CPVO Working Group FSS



Conclusions:

- Initiative legislator needed to restore balance





4. CPVO Working Group FSS

Conclusions (continued):

- Farmers obliged to provide info on the use of FSS (yes/no), without the need for evidence
- Respect effective national collection systems in place (f.e. Czech Republic, UK)
- Single Farm Payment Scheme to be used in case no national systems in place



4. CPVO Working Group FSS



Conclusions (continued):

- **Small Farmers**
 - No technical arguments to exempt any group from royalty payment
 - the notion of small farmers maintained on political reasons
 - definition Small Farmer to be based on area instead of harvested product
- **Own holding**
 - definition not to be extended





5. Conclusion



Farmers have a choice:

- Certified seed of improved (protected) varieties
 - FSS subject to royalty payment
- Certified seed of older (non protected) varieties
 - FSS without restrictions



| Crop | Country | PBR | | Total |
|----------|---------|-----|-----|-------|
| | | Yes | No | |
| Wheat | UK | 125 | 39 | 164 |
| | DK | 35 | 6 | 41 |
| | IT | 68 | 120 | 188 |
| Potatoes | UK | 84 | 61 | 145 |

5. Conclusion (continued)

Progress in farming depends on improved genetics

- Improved genetics result from high R&D investment
- R&D investments need a fair return
- Return on investment depends on supportive regulatory framework in
 - R&D support
 - Effective protection and enforcement of IPRs
 - Royalty collection on FSS in all EU Member States

-





Thank you for your attention.

Bert Scholte

Technical Director

ESA European Seed Association
Rue du Luxembourg 23/15
1000 Brussels, BELGIUM
Tel. +32/2/7432860
www.euroseeds.org

