



"Towards a Protein Plan for Europe"

**CDG meeting on COP
Cereals, Oilseeds, Proteins**

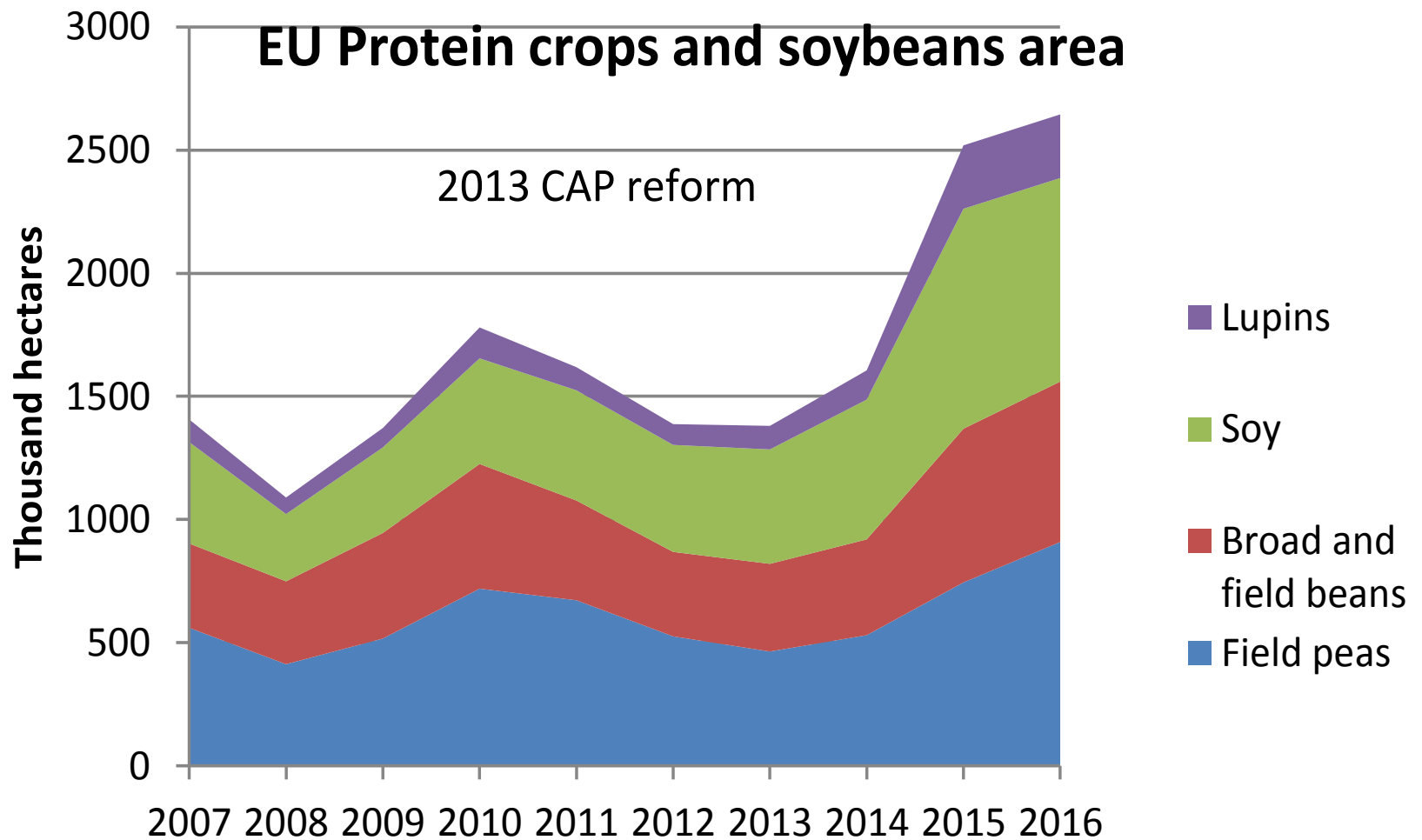
Brussels, 6th February 2018

Context

- Various **stakeholders** discussions on "plant proteins" (e.g. FEFAC Conference June 2017)
- **EP** request in context of Omnibus Negotiations and subsequent **Commission** Declaration: *"the Commission confirms its intention to review the supply and demand situation for plant proteins in the EU and to consider the possibility of developing a "European plant protein strategy" with a view to further encouraging the production of plant proteins in the EU in an economically and environmentally sound way."*
- **EP** own initiative report on plant proteins (MEP Denanot)
- **Council** discussions on EU Soya Declaration mid-2017

Economic and political realities

- **Substantial EU Protein Deficit**
- **Blair House Agreement**
- **Challenges in not market-related areas** (climatic conditions, varieties, agronomic expertise and technical assistance)
- **Dynamic increase of protein plant production** (including soya) through existing favourable political framework



EU Protein Deficit – the soya example

A relevant example: soya $\approx 1/3$ of total feed protein supply (15 million tonnes of crude protein)

Soya bean imports (duty-free): ≈ 14 million tonnes

Soya meal imports (duty-free): ≈ 19 million tonnes of meals i.e. equivalent to ≈ 28 million tonnes of soya beans

Total soya imports ≈ 42 million tonnes
(soya beans equivalent)

EU soya bean production: < 3 million tonnes

Soya: EU self-sufficiency $\approx 5\%$

Objectives

- Build upon **existing knowledge and national/regional experiences**
- Focus on more than market measures, in particular **research**, innovation and technical cooperation
- No focus on developing new policy measures (unless within the "future of food and farming" proposal)
- Publish a **Commission Report** by the end of 2018, which could trigger follow-up actions

Timelines

- 1. Q1+Q2-2018:** fact-finding phase, leading to "state-of-the art" on plant protein production in the EU
- 2. Q3-2018:** preparation of draft Commission report (based on outcome and analysis of fact-finding phase)
- 3. Q4-2018:** presentation and publication of Commission report "A Protein Plan for Europe" (including EU conference on plant proteins)

Main steps

- 1. Stakeholders survey (Q1-2018):** e-questionnaire about plant protein production (incl. questions on policy, research, markets) *see DRAFT questionnaire – CDG comments welcome*
- 2. Market study (Q1+Q2-2018):** quantify market demand for EU plant proteins (current and potential future) in different market segments
- 3. Bilateral meetings (Q1+Q2-2018):** to discuss current situation and future needs with Member States authorities and with stakeholders
- 4. Thematic workshops (Q2-2018):** experts to discuss current situation and future needs – four thematic workshops planned on research, agronomic practices, supply chain, market demand – first workshop on research on 24-25 April

Cooperation with Stakeholders

Stakeholders survey: further to comments on questionnaire, participation to upcoming e-survey highly welcome

Bilateral meetings: in addition to "multilateral" meetings (eg CDG), bilateral meetings with (interested) stakeholders always possible

Events participation: stakeholders experts welcome to attend Commission events like the four "thematic" expert workshops planned in Q2-2018

Comments: input from stakeholders always welcome at *agri-G4@ec.europa.eu*



Thank you for your attention!

**Arable Crops (incl. protein crops) data
available at:**

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/market-observatory/crops_en