

What is the future perspectives for best practices of alternatives

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MEP Anneli Jäätteenmäki and the farming organizations of Finland, Sweden and Denmark (MTK, LRF and DAFC) breakfast seminar in the European Parliament 8th of November 2018

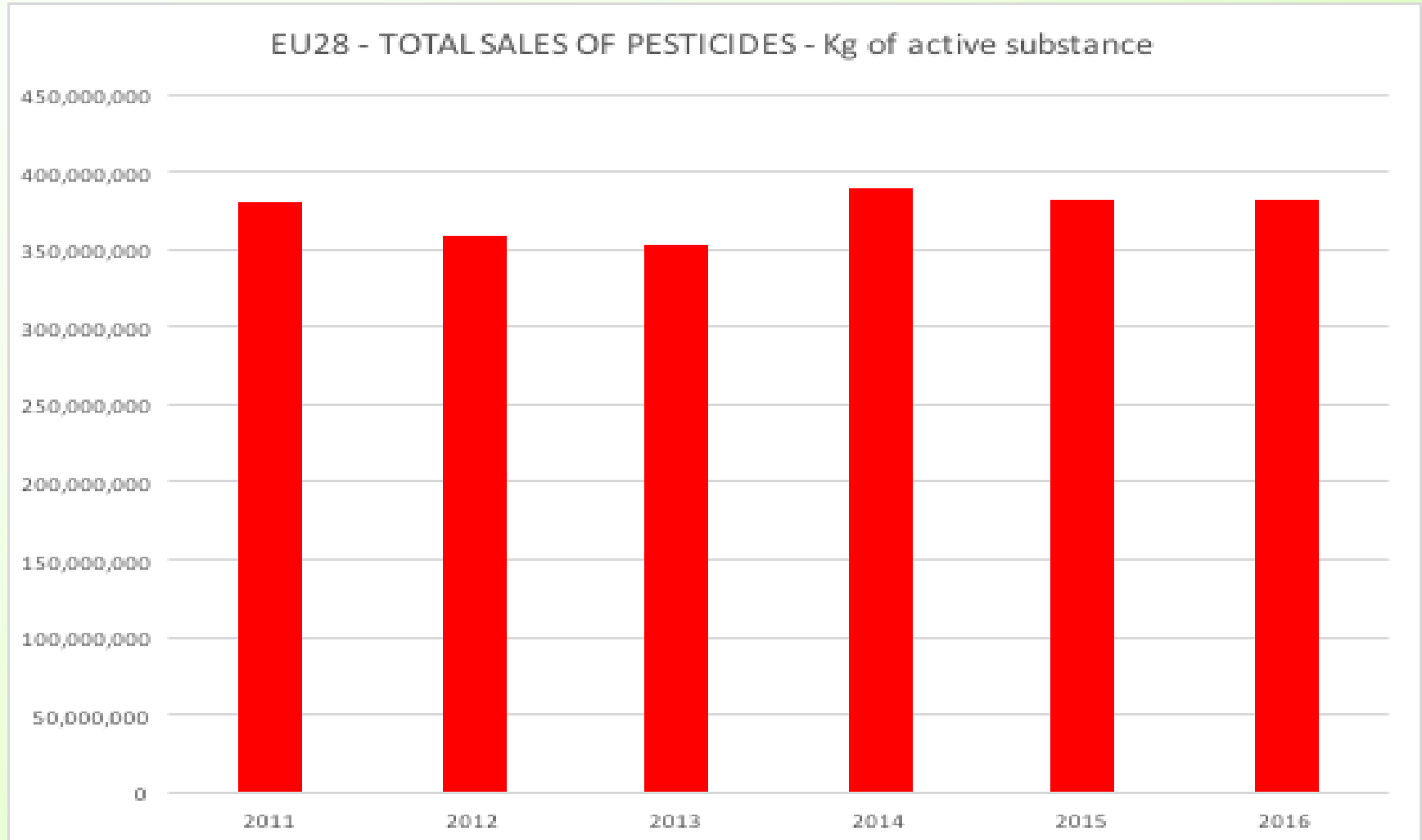
2. Who is PAN Europe



Pesticide
Action
Network
Europe

- PAN Europe is one of the 5 centers of PAN International
- Working to replace use of hazardous pesticides with ecologically sound alternatives
- Brussels based with 5 part time employees + 1 intern and a lot of volunteers who keep on inspiring us
- 38 not-for-profit members in 26 European countries:
Danish members: Det Oekologiske Raad + Danmarks Naturfredningsforening
Swedish member: Naturskydsforeningen
Finish Member: The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation

3. Pesticide Use in the EU



Source: Eurostat March 2018 extracts

4. Pest problems in Denmark according to fact finding report*

Point 80: An increasing problem controlling grass-weeds due to **higher concentration on winter crops** (with higher revenue) rather than having **better rotation with more spring crops which could facilitate more cultural control**. The Competent Authorities are aware of this issue, but to date they have not introduced any specific initiative to promote better rotations.

Point 81: SEGES stated that the control of Septoria on winter wheat is becoming more difficult due to the **declining efficacy of triazole fungicides**; that there are limited alternatives to chemical pesticides, but growing **more spring crops and sowing a mixture of varieties within the same field can help**.

* http://ec.europa.eu/food/audits-analysis/audit_reports/details.cfm?rep_id=3897

5. Pest problems in Sweden according to fact finding report**

Point 55 among other saying:

- The **lack of pesticides authorised for minor crops**, such as fruit and vegetable crops and less widely grown field crops such as beans, due to the small size of the Swedish market. This lack of pesticides acts as a disincentive to grow crops like beans which would be good in rotations
- The **lack of alternatives to cereal crops**, or poorer financial returns from these alternative crops (ex. the only large scale buyer of peas closed), leading to an over-reliance on cereals, and a **sub-optimal rotation** on some farms.

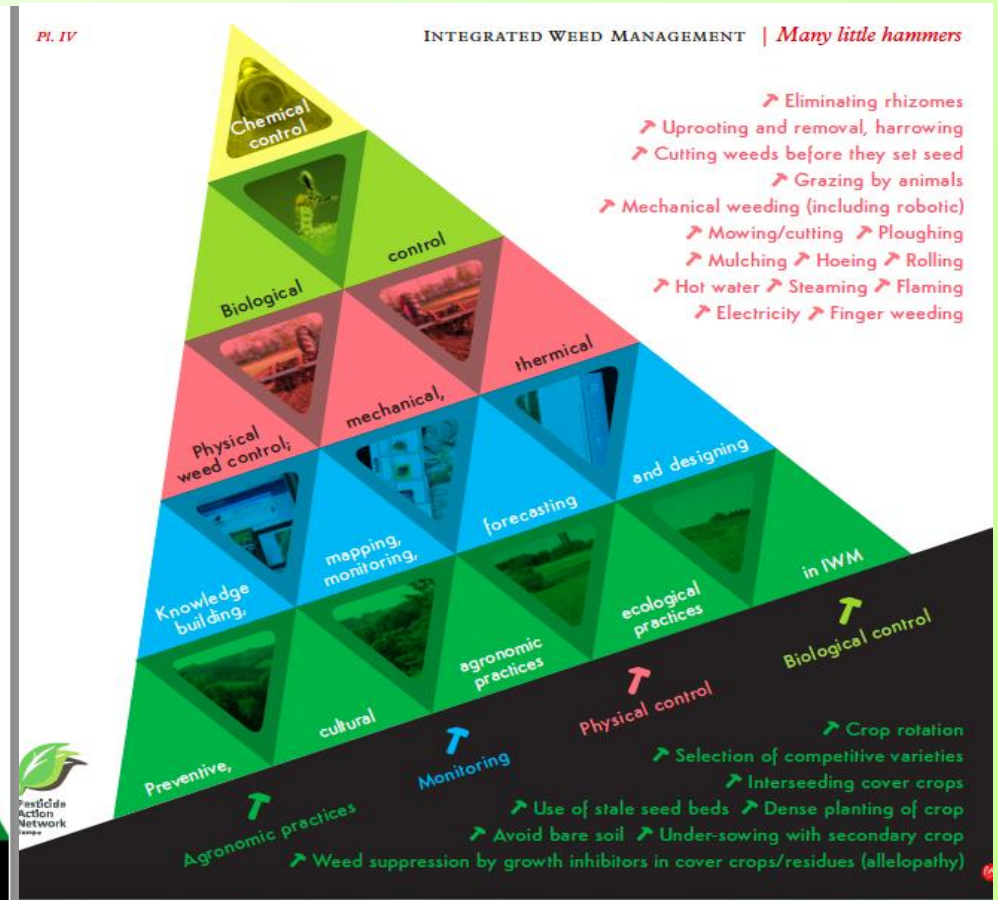
** http://ec.europa.eu/food/audits-analysis/audit_reports/details.cfm?rep_id=3909

5. Pest problems in Sweden according to fact finding report**

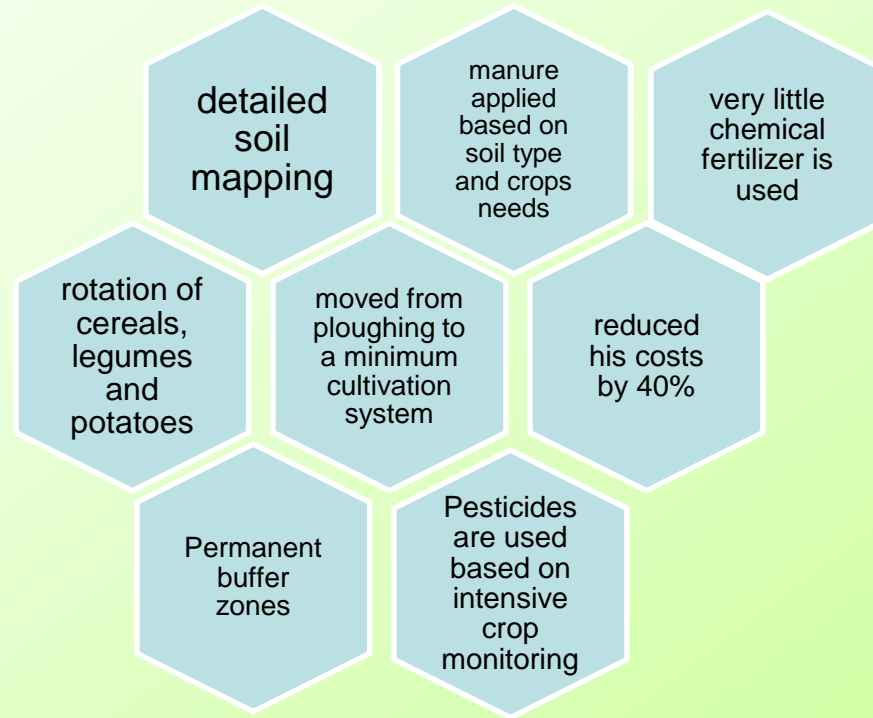
Point 55 among other saying:

- Difficulties in developing, and gaining widespread adoption of, alternative control methods and techniques in field crops. This was attributed to a **lack of research into finding alternative controls**, resulting in a situation where there are very limited alternatives to pesticides in some cases. Secondly and more critically, there are **insufficient applied research and dedicated advisory services to show farmers in a practical way**, that some of the alternative control techniques that are available, could be incorporated into their farming practices to a greater extent, thereby reducing their dependence on chemical pesticides.

6. The way forward is clear: the Northern zone (also) needs to reconsider its farming model



7. Swedish demonstration farm explained in fact finding mission shows the way forward:



8. Next step is to get the EU framework right allowing the transition to happen:

- Pesticide package from 2009 needs serious implementation
- CAP reform: Crop rotation in the CAP, but pesticide use reductions needs to become indicator
- Horizon2020: first priority 'towards pesticide free agriculture as proposed by INRA

