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# A new system to evaluate Organic Inputs in EU,

## How does it affect the grower ?

Marc Trapman  
Bio Fruit Advies  
Netherlands

Bio Fruit Advies  
Marc Trapman

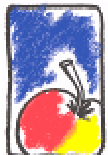




# Organic fruit growing as a case....

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- Organic fruit growing depends on availability inputs
- Organic fruit growers are “heavy users”
- Different problems regarding the availability of organic inputs in EU
- Some of the problems connected with the availability of Organic inputs could be solved by a new evaluation system



Organic orchards for commercial production look not like this:



But like this !



# Economic conditions

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- Open European market
- World market
- Strong demand for higher quality



# Ecological conditions

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- Perennial crop
- No crop rotation
- Complex ecological system
- Perennial and cumulative effects in nutrition, and pest and disease management



# Evolutionary pests...





# Organic apple key pests



Apple blossom weevil



Apple sawfly



Codling moth



Apple scab

# Organic inputs are vital

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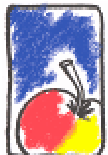
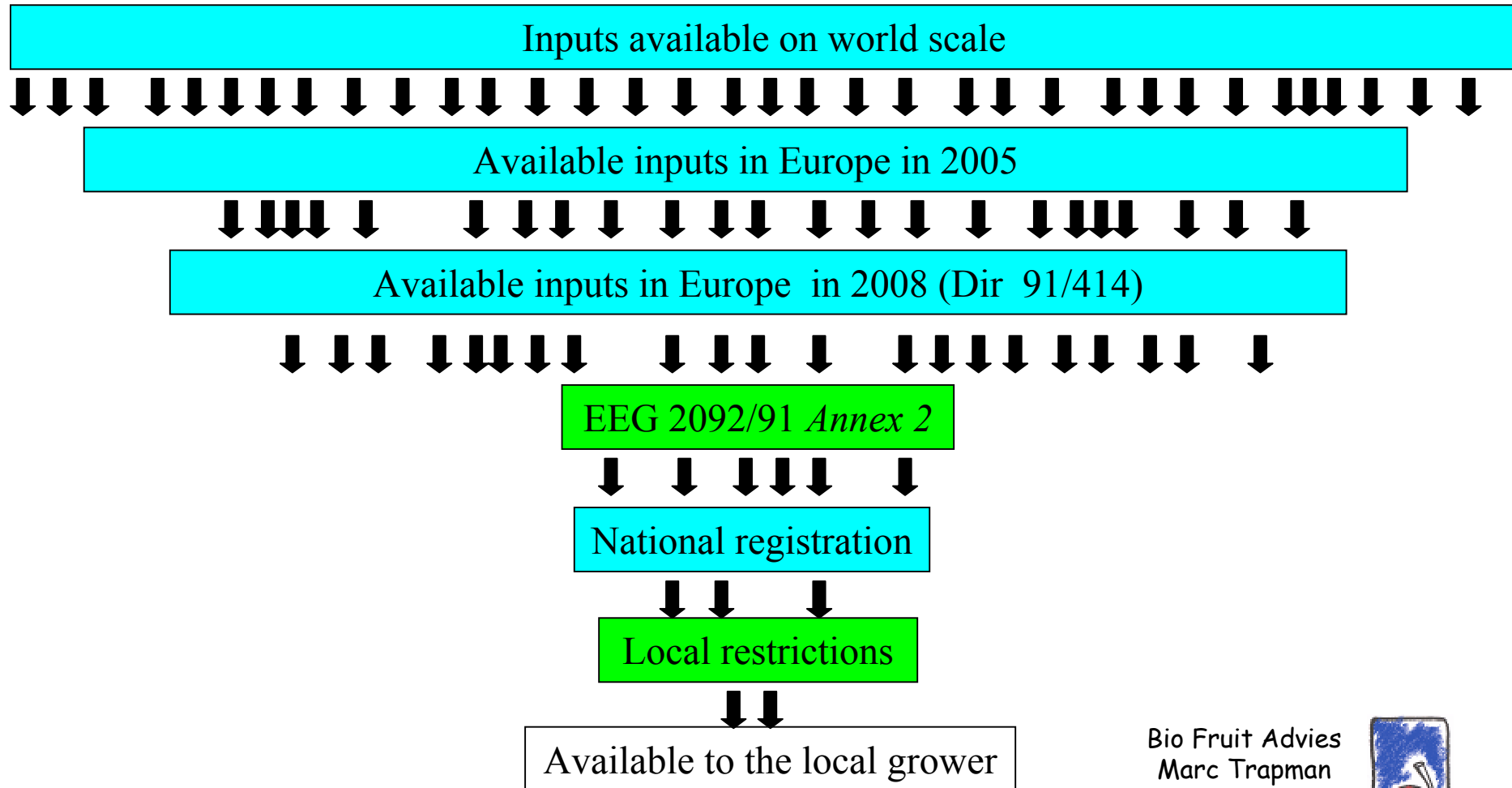
# Growers attitude towards Evaluation of Input materials:

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- Not the process but the outcome counts
- Growers expect a system based evaluation



# What inputs are available to the local grower ?

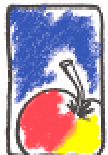


## Current situation in EU :

“All organic growers are equal but some are more equal then others...”

<i>Key pests</i>	<i>Annex 2</i>	<i>Germany Italy</i>	<i>Netherlands</i>	<i>Belgium</i>	<i>Denmark</i>
<i>Scab</i>	Copper	x		x	
	Lime sulfur	x	(x)		
	(sulfur)	x	x	x	x
<i>Blossom weevil</i>	Pyrethrum	x	(x)		
<i>Rosy apple aphid</i>	Neem	x	x		
<i>Apple sawfly</i>	Quassia	x			
<i>Codling moth</i>	Gran.virus	x	x	x	
	Pheromones	x	x		

x= use is legalized (x)= only temporary legalized



# Growers opinions on current evaluation process

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- Growers feel not represented
- **Slow** (registration of Ca-Hydroxide took 2 years)
- **Conservative**
- **Driven by politics**
- **Not on system but on a substance by substance base**



# Wishes from the praxis (1)

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Parallel to evaluation for annex 2,  
consideration of the possibilities and efforts for  
registration on EC level, and local legalization of  
use in member states.

.....not in this project



# Wishes from the praxis (2)

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“System approach” for crop needs and ecological effects of the cropping system.

Both needs and feasibility of organic growing and environmental effects are a system depended, not depending on single inputs.





# Examples of system effects (1):

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Commercial organic production of any crop is only possible if materials or methods are available to regulate the key pests and diseases and other problems in that crop.



# Examples of system effects (2):

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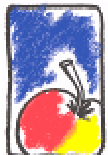
- Ban on use of copper leads to import from countries where copper is allowed.



# Examples of system effects (3):

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- In The Netherlands ban on use of copper on apple leads to substitution by repeated application of Lime sulfur.
- This obstructs the natural control of red spider and leads to heavy use of mineral oil.



# Examples of system effects (4):

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Large quantities of Calcium hydroxide are needed to control apple canker, but this substitutes treatments with copper.



# Examples of system effects (5):

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Spinosatd could replace several treatments with *Pyrethrum* and Rotenon in the control of apple blossom weevil, and other pests.



# Examples of system effects (6):

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- The exclusive use of granulose virus to control codling moth on OF for over 20 years has led to resistance and subsequent failure of codling moth control.
- Alternation with Spinosad could prevent further build up of resistance in Codling moth populations.



# Conclusions (1)

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## What can be solved:

- Possibly quicker
- More transparent, technical and objective evaluation that allows for development

## What can not be solved:

- Differences between countries due to lack of active policy for local registration of Organic Inputs



# Conclusions (2)

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What should be considered

System effects in:

- “domino” effects in the use of other PPP”
- substitution of PPP’s
- preventing resistance
- moving organic production to geographical areas where more Inputs are allowed





# Conclusion (3)

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A transparent,  
technical and system-based evaluation of input  
materials, aimed at further and equal  
development of organic agriculture in all EU  
member states would be highly welcome !

