



# Trends in the European Organic Markets – What is hot, what is new?

Presentation at Biofach Nuremberg  
17.02.2006

Dr. Toralf Richter

# Outline

- **T. Richter (FiBL):** The European organic market
- **S. Pfaff (FIS):** Conventional retailer market (DE, AT, CH)
- **T. Vaclavik (ORA):** Organic retailer market
- **G. Zimmermann (biovista):** Hot product groups (DE)
- **S. Garibay (FiBL):** European market for tropical organic products
- **Discussion**

# T. Richter: The European organic market

- **Market Data: Organic market Europe 2004**
- **Concerted Action EISFOM: How to implement EU wide retail data collection**
- **Product Snap Shot: European market for Fair Trade products**
- **Country Snap Shots: DE, CH, NL**



## T. Richter: The European organic market

# Organic food market Europe 2004 – Figures and data quality issues –



# Sources for methodological biases with regard to organic food sales data

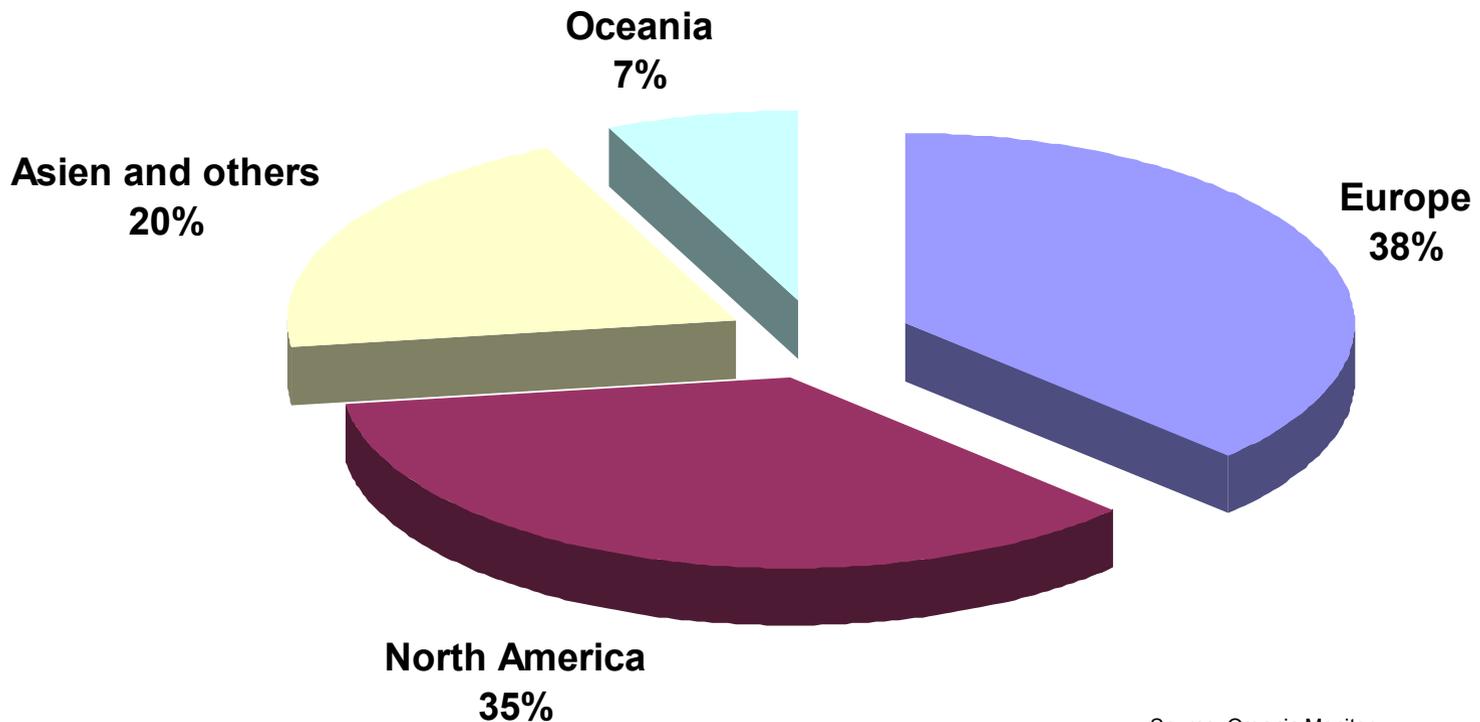
- Most existing retailer panels **just cover a part of the total market**
- Some actors **refuse the delivery of data** in general
- **Products without barcode** can not be covered by retailer panels
- Partly **wholesaler survey data are published as retail data**
- Some countries **publish retail value data based on expert consultations** at various levels in the organic sector
- Some countries include to the national retail sales, **data from sales via restaurants and public services**
- Other countries **add export data to the retail sales**
- Other countries publish the **data from multiple retailer** sector as national data for the whole organic sector and
- In some countries, the data collection **methods change from one year to the next**
- In most countries there is **not a clear and transparent method** description of data collection and estimation available (In many European countries **organic farm or sector associations are source** for published data of organic retail sales values.

# EISfOM – Policy Recommendations

1. Definition of a European wide set of most relevant consumer and retail indicators for the organic market as part of the further development of the EU Organic Action Plan. The decision to make a standard set of quality proofed data available to the public should be agreed by all EU member states.
2. National published data which are based on private sector estimations shouldn't be used as public figures without crosschecks from governmental (contracted) institutions (e.g. statistical offices, ministries of agriculture, experienced researchers, etc.) which have to prove the methodology, the data quality and plausibility.
3. Reported national consumption and retail data shouldn't be compared on a transnational level without any central (European) output harmonization.

# The European organic market in the global context

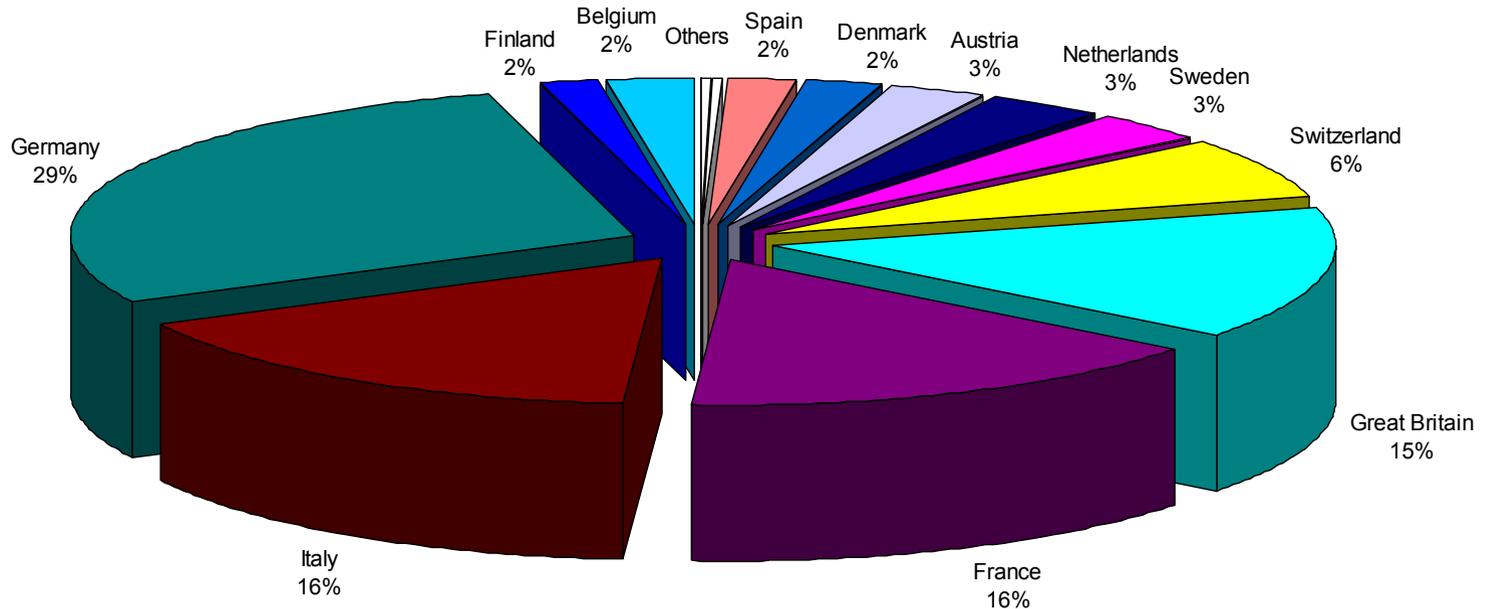
Composition of the organic market worldwide (2004)



Source: Organic Monitor

# The structure of the European organic market (I)

Total market volume: app. € 12.5 billion

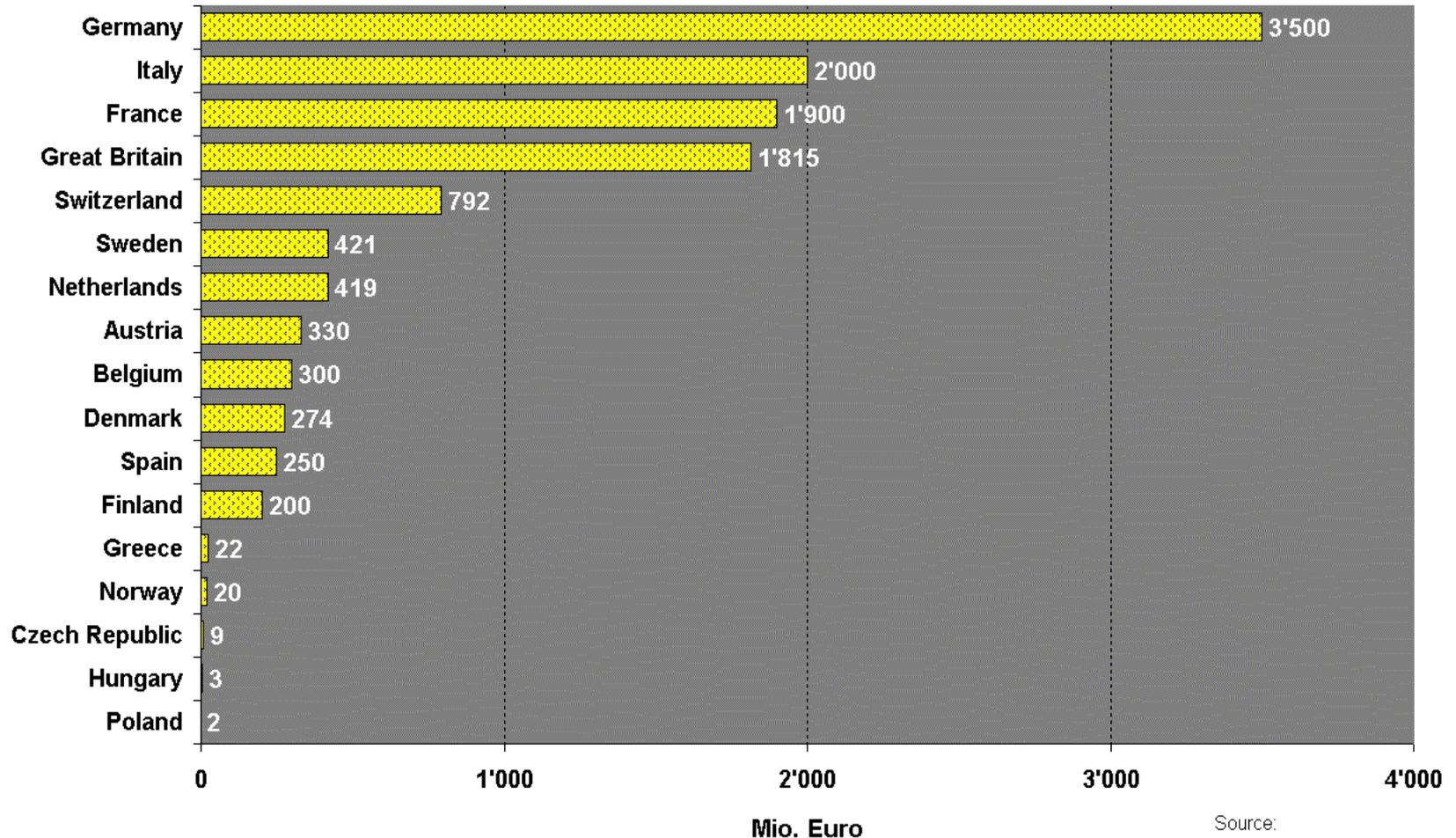


Compositon of the European Organic Market 2004

Source: FiBL

# The structure of the European organic market (II)

## Sales for Organic Food in European Countries (2004)

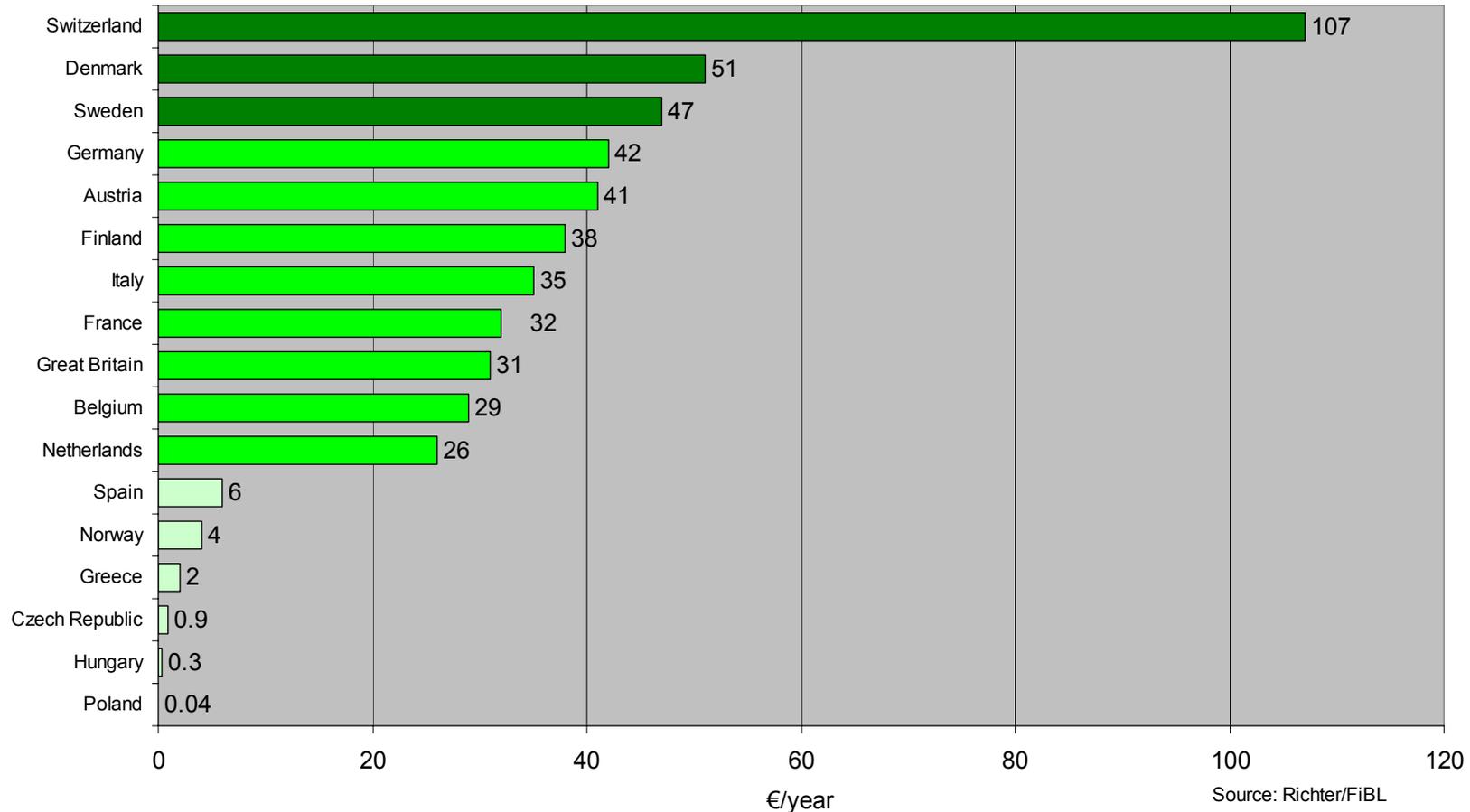


Source:

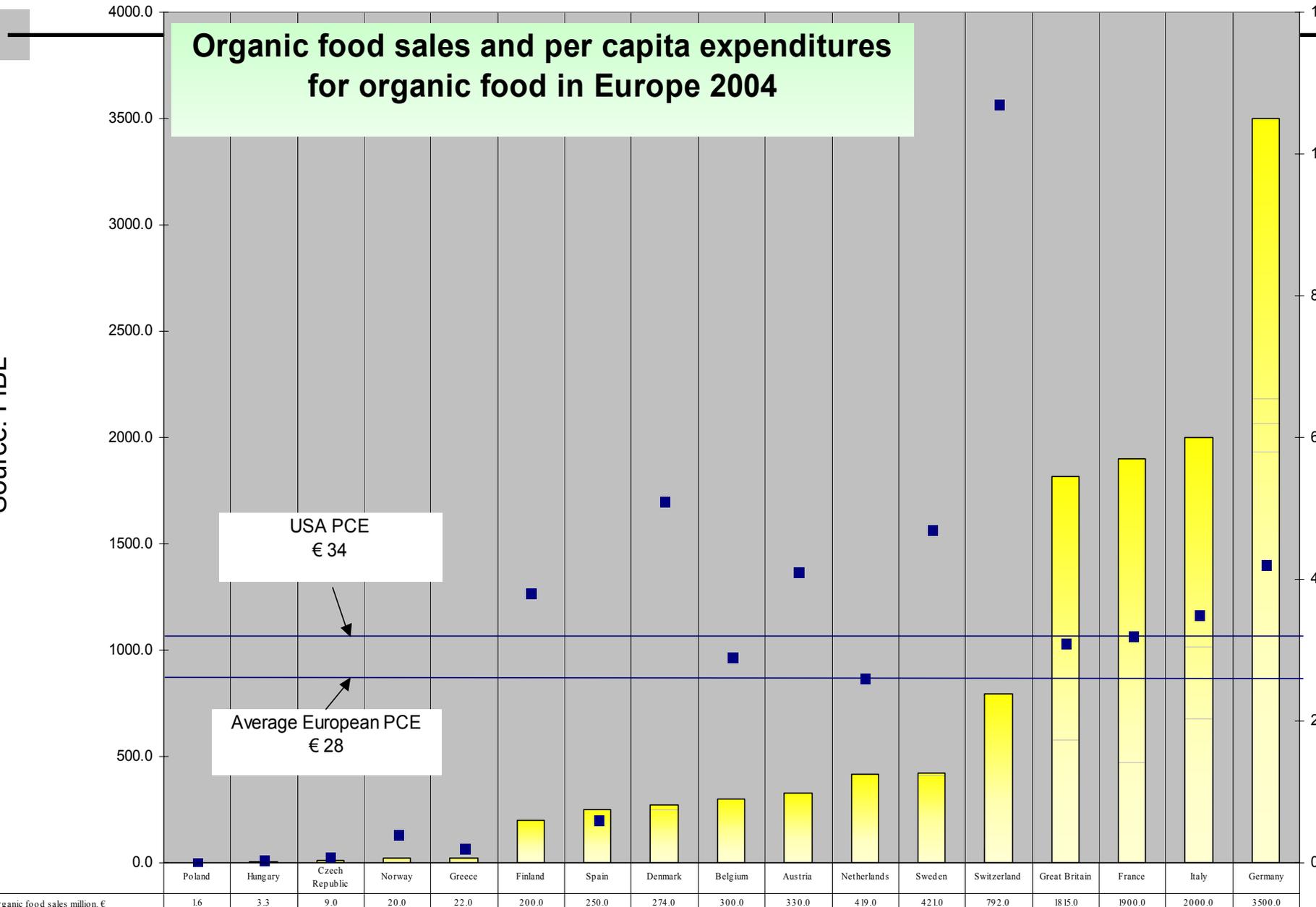
Source: FiBL

# The structure of the European organic market (III) - Per Capita Expenditures (PCE) of organic food -

Average Consumer Expenditure for Organic Food in European Countries (2003)

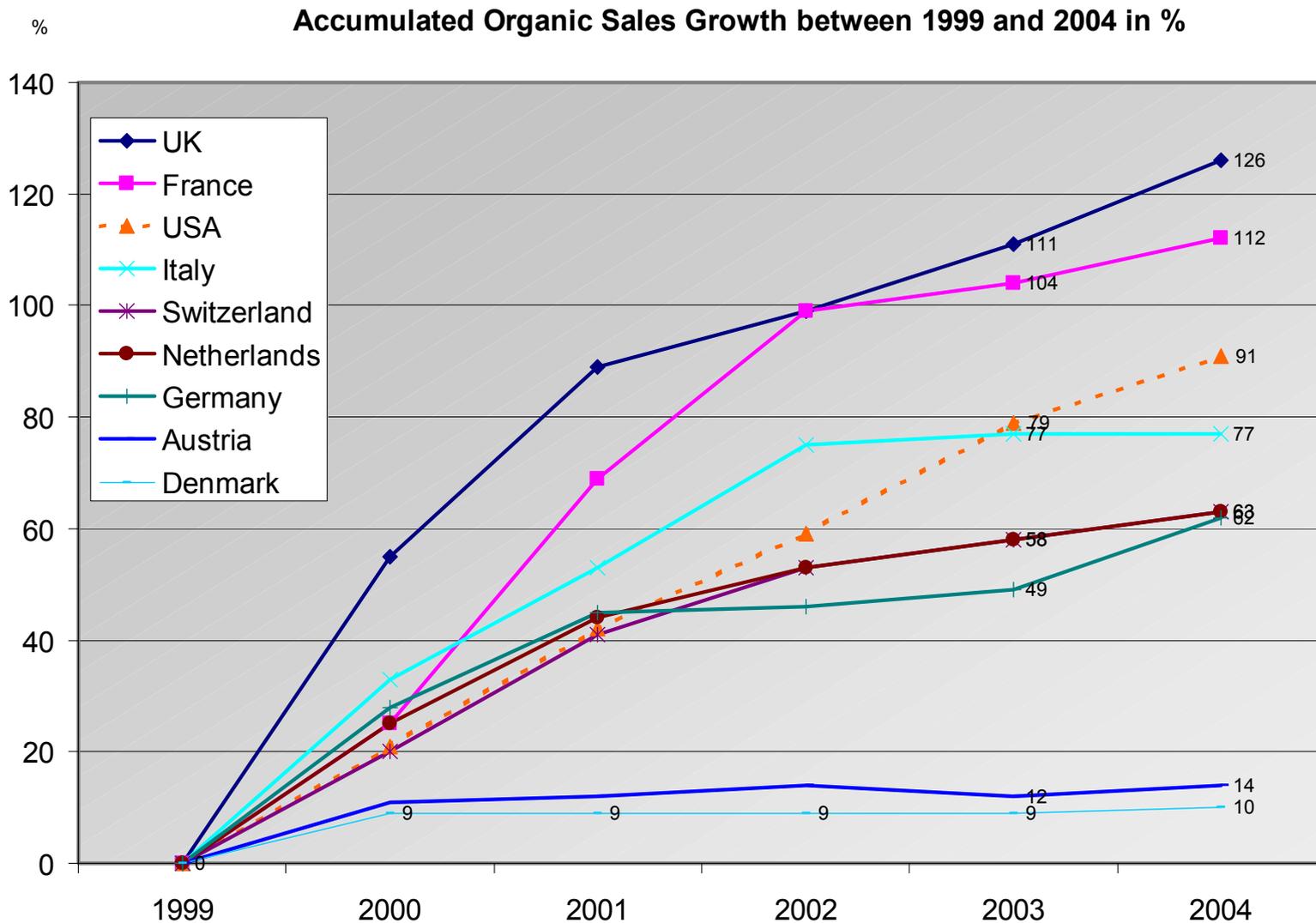


# The structure of the European organic market (IV)



# The structure of the European organic market (V)

## - Booming and sleeping markets -



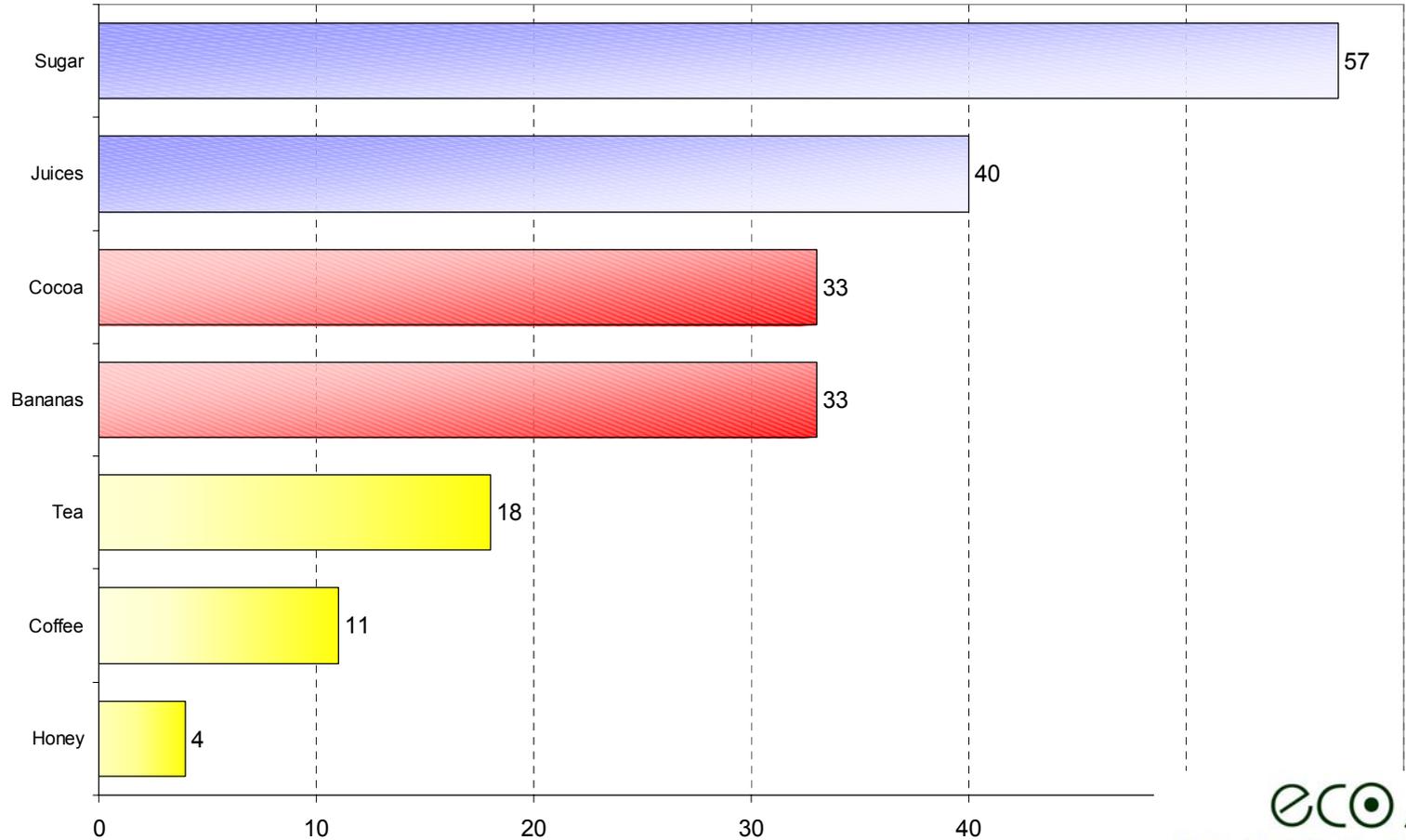
# T. Richter: Recent consumer and market research data



## Product Snap Shot: European market for Fair Trade products

# The booming market for Fairtrade products in Europe

Annual growth rate of sales with Fair Trade labeled food in Europe (2003)



Source: FiBL

# Sales volumes of labelled Fairtrade products in European countries

| Country        | 2002<br>(MT) | 2003<br>(MT) | Growth in<br>% | Market<br>State |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|
| United Kingdom | 15027.0      | 24211.8      | 62.1           | Mature          |
| Switzerland    | 18484.8      | 23336.4      | 26.2           |                 |
| Netherlands    | 5400.4       | 5997.7       | 11.1           | Growth          |
| Germany        | 4295.0       | 4216.8       | -1.8           |                 |
| France         | 2240.6       | 4058.9       | 81.2           |                 |
| Italy          | 659.6        | 3329.5       | 404.7          |                 |
| Belgium        | 2039.8       | 3137.1       | 53.8           |                 |
| Finland        | 2993.3       | 2684.3       | -10.3          | Emerging        |
| Austria        | 2346.3       | 2537.4       | 8.1            |                 |
| Denmark        | 1062.0       | 1404.0       | 32.2           |                 |
| Sweden         | 941.4        | 1157.0       | 22.9           |                 |
| Norway         | 432.0        | 673.7        | 56.0           |                 |
| Ireland        | 61.0         | 488.8        | 701.3          |                 |
| Luxembourg     | 288.7        | 278.5        | -3.5           |                 |
|                | <b>56272</b> | <b>77512</b> | <b>37.75</b>   |                 |

Source: FLO 2004

# Fairtrade & Organic in Switzerland – a beneficial merger

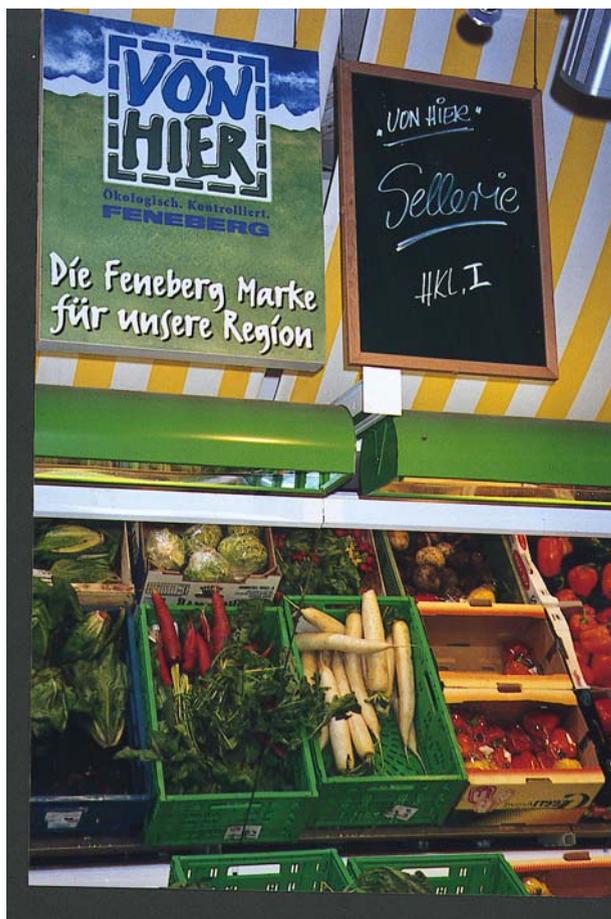
| Product   | Growth     | Market share | Organic market share |
|-----------|------------|--------------|----------------------|
|           | Fair Trade | Fair Trade   | Fair Trade           |
|           | 2004/2003  | 2004         | 2004                 |
| Sugar     | -4%        | 9%           | 92%                  |
| Cocoa     | 8%         | 1%           | 83%                  |
| Coffee    | -3%        | 6%           | 56%                  |
| Tea       | -4%        | 5%           | 40%                  |
| Rice      | 127%       | 6%           | 27%                  |
| Banana    | 68%        | 47%          | 19%                  |
| Iced tea  | 181%       | 0.3          | 17%                  |
| Mango     | -2%        | 3%           | 10%                  |
| Honey     | -10%       | 14%          | 2%                   |
| Pineapple | 71%        | 15%          | 0%                   |

# T. Richter: Recent consumer and market research data

## Country Snap Shots: Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands



# Country Snap Shots – Germany



# Germany – Organic Market

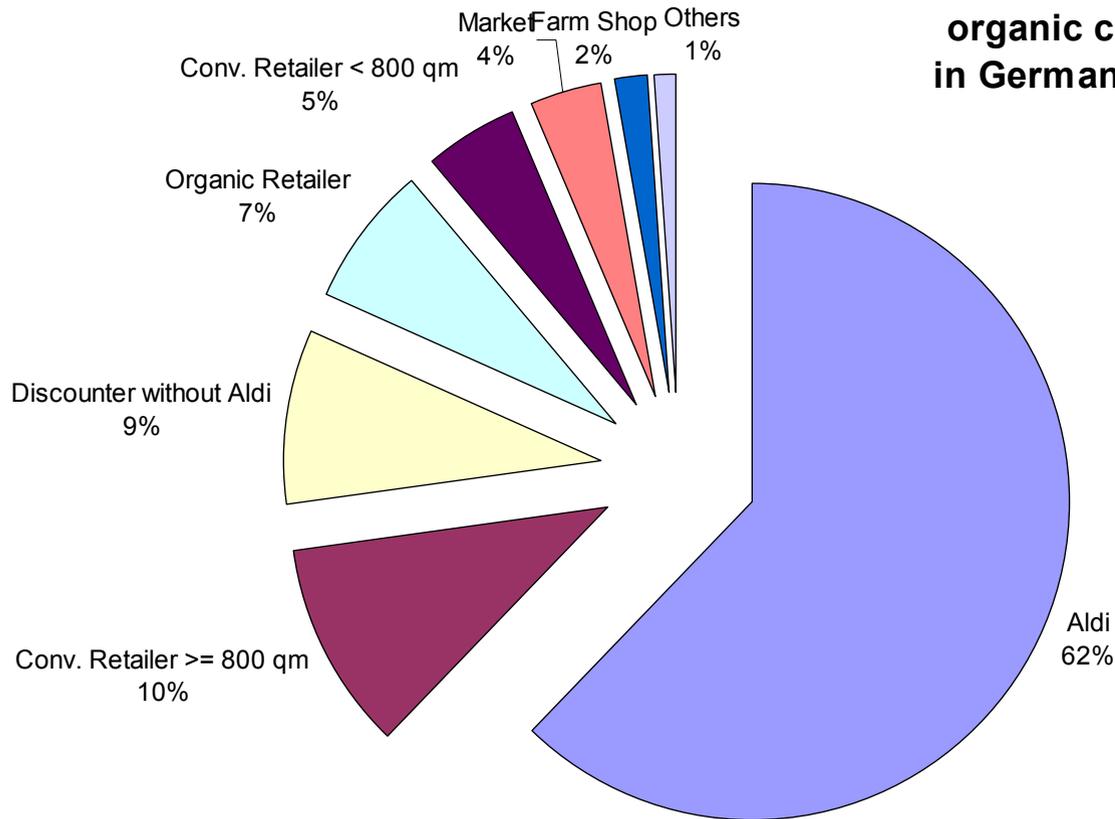


- Growing organic market; nearly € 4.0 billion organic sales (2005)
- Market share organic products (OP) by value: 2.5% (2005)
- Market growth last years app. 15 %
- Booming Factor 1: Discounter (Aldi, Plus, Lidl, Norma, Penny, ...)
- Booming Factor 2: Organic Supermarkets

# Germany – Organic Market



**Distribution structure of organic carrots in Germany 2005**



Source: ZMP/GfK\_Haushaltspanel

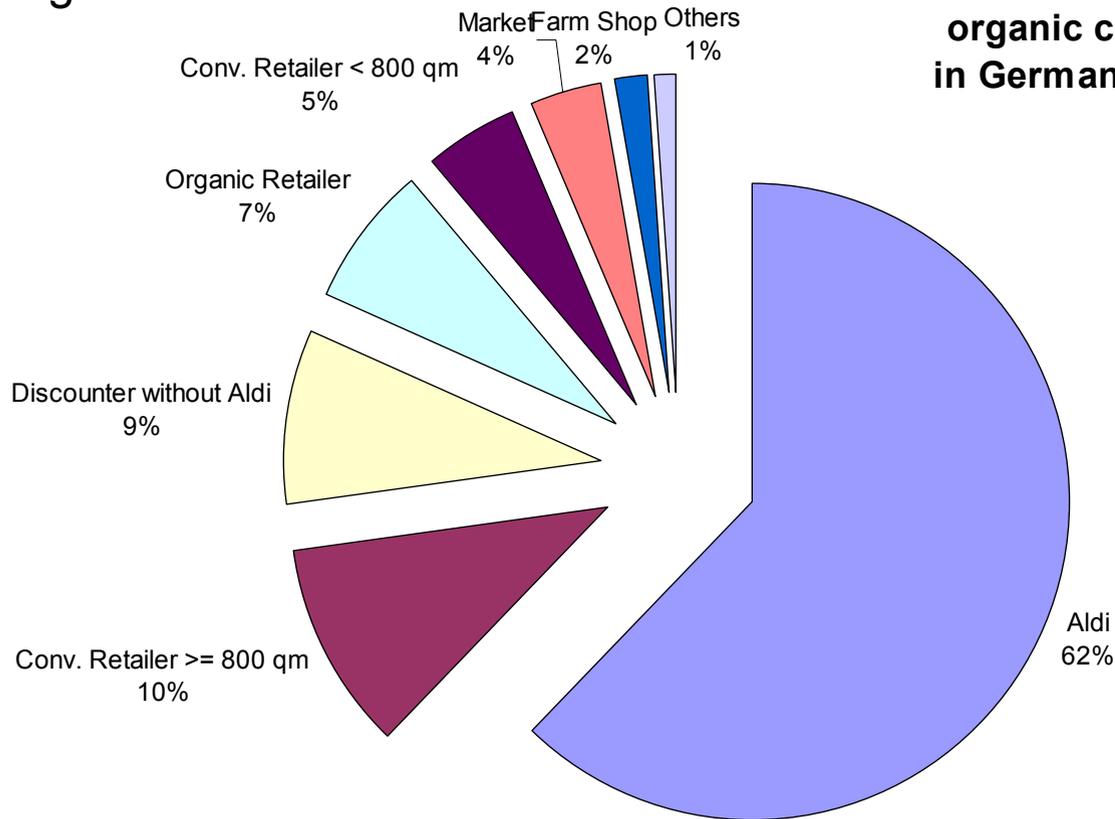
Booming Factor 1: Discounter (Aldi, Plus, Lidl, Norma, Penny, ...)

# Germany – Organic Market - Discounters



Aldi dominates the organic market for carrots (also for potatoes)

Distribution structure of organic carrots in Germany 2005



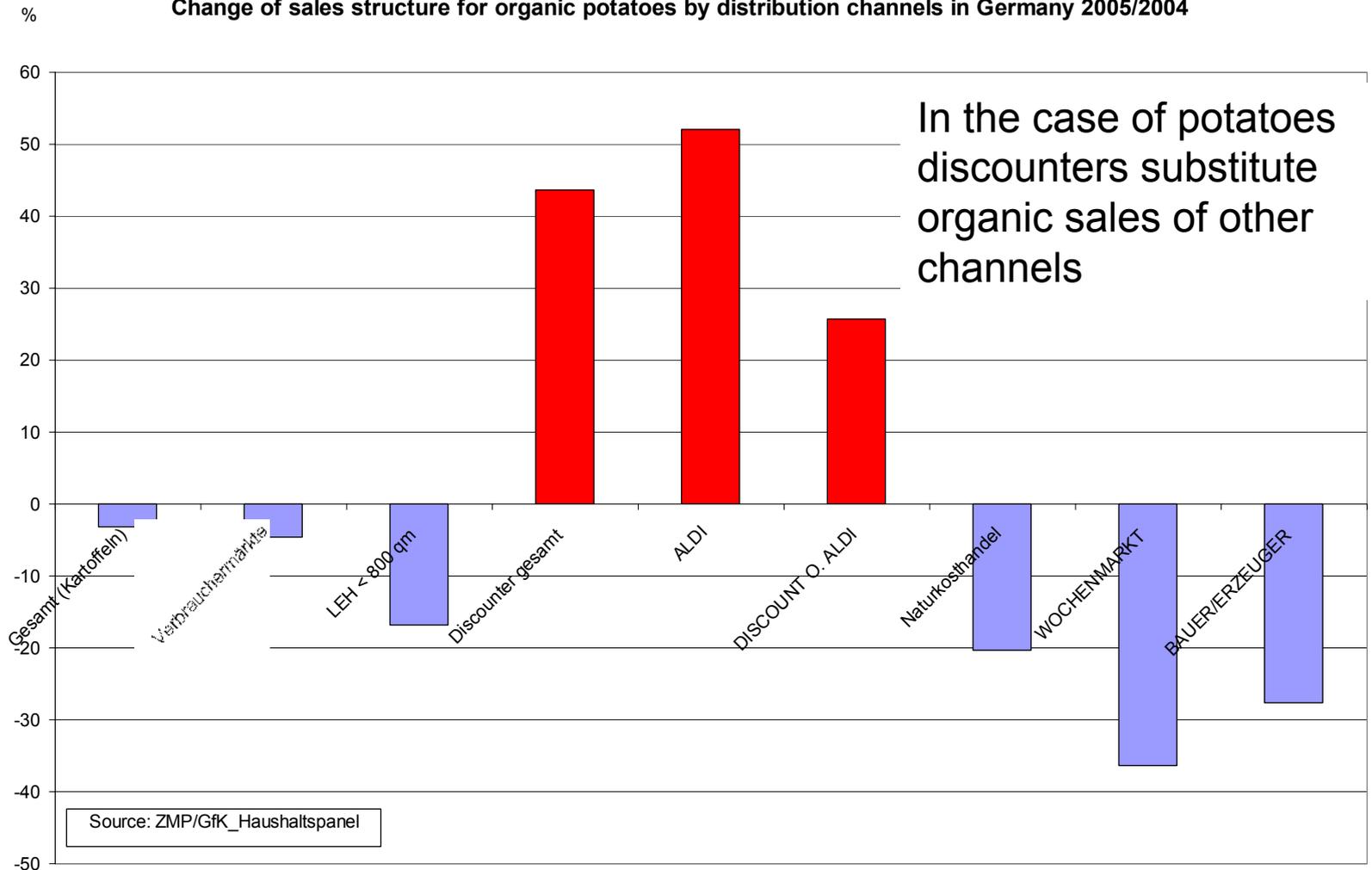
Source: ZMP/GfK\_Haushaltspanel

Booming Factor 1: Discounter (Aldi, Plus, Lidl, Norma, Penny, ...)

# Germany – Organic Market - Discounters



Change of sales structure for organic potatoes by distribution channels in Germany 2005/2004



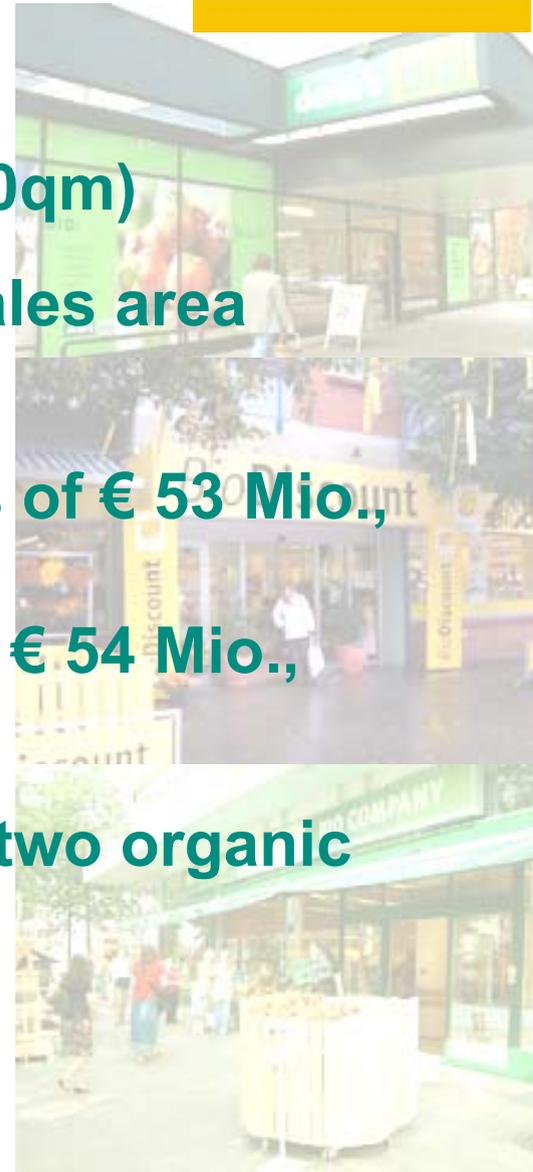
Booming Factor 1: Discounter (Aldi, Plus, Lidl, Norma, Penny, ...)

# Germany – Organic Market

## – Organic Supermarkets

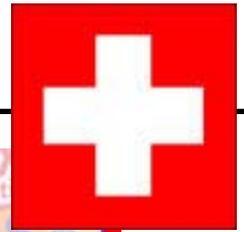


- 300 organic supermarkets (200 – 1'700qm)
- In 2005: new 60 outlets & 28'000qm sales area
- Biggest chains:
  - *Alnatura*, 21 outlets, 11'000qm, sales of € 53 Mio., 26% growth
  - *Basic*, 14 outlets, 10'000qm, sales of € 54 Mio., 38% growth
- Conventional retail chain 'Rewe' with two organic supermarkets 'Vierlinden'



Source: Kreuzer/Offeney - [www.bio-markt.info](http://www.bio-markt.info)

# Country Snap Shot –Switzerland



## ANREGEN

FINE FOOD

Indian Candy  
(Pazifischer Trockenlachs) ca. 80-90g



### Getrocknete Wildlachsstreifen Pazifischer Wildlachs

Dieser begehrte Lachs lebt in den Küstengewässern des Nordpazifiks. Er hat ein ausgeprägtes Wanderverhalten, daher ist sein Fleisch relativ mager und von feiner Struktur und dunkler Farbe. Die Ureinwohner Alaskas schätzen ihn seit jeher und pflegen eine uralte traditionelle Verarbeitungsweise. Die Lachsseiten werden von Hand mit grobem Meersalz eingerieben und luftgetrocknet. Anschließend werden sie in Streifen respektive so genannte Riemen geschnitten. "Indian Candy" werden diese Streifen genannt und gelten als wohlschmeckende kleine Zwischenverpflegung.

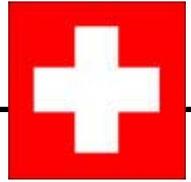


© 2006 Naturaplan - Lebensmittel aus besonders umwelt- und tierfreundlicher Produktion



## Budget SUPERSTARS

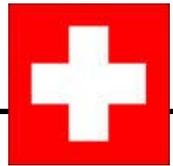
# Switzerland – Organic Market



- Furthermore European organic market leader with per capita consumption
- In 2005: Market stagnation in the conventional retailer market
  - Reason 1: strong emphasis on development of discount segments (Prix Garantie; M-Budget)
  - Reason 2: strong emphasis on conventional premium segments (Heidi; Fine-Food, Sélection)
  - Reason 3: Many consumers switch to cheaper alternatives of IP and products from animal friendly husbandry



# Switzerland – Organic Market



# Switzerland – Organic Market



Only organic retailers with growth tendencies

# Country Snap Shots – Netherlands





- Organic market share 2005: 2%
- Market stagnation of the organic market (2005); Organic retailer sector grew by 6%, conv. retailer sector lost by 6% with organic food
- Strong (price dumping) competition in the conventional retailer sector
- **Trial:** in 10 Dutch cities all organic food is offered to reduced prices in conv. retailer outlets  
from April 2006 (4 months; supported by the Dutch ag. Ministry with € 1 Mio.  
**Objective:** identification of the actual willingness to pay of consumers for organic food.

# Final Conclusions

---

- Different sales development of organic food in European countries
- Strong (price dumping) competition in the conventional retailer sector
- Price dumping in the conventional sector increases consumer awareness for cheaper quality products
- Discounter and organic retailer sector as well as Fair Trade products stimulate the organic market