

O.01 - Global challenges: what the near future holds for world agriculture and what it means for research on crop protection

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During the last decades there were a few megatrends that dominated world agricultural development. Productivity rise per hectare, per man hour, per animal and, unexpectedly, also per kilogramme of external input were visible worldwide with the exception of sub-Saharan Africa. The nature of agriculture is changing from skill to a more industrial nature. Primary production is becoming more and more a part of food systems including processing, distribution, logistics and retail. Chains are more and more common. More objectives than just production count. These megatrends are found everywhere and require appropriate policy and research agendas. Agriculture is back to become a priority in the world after many years of neglect. That creates chances and opportunities. More and more crop protection may be seen as an important component in that broad spectrum of research and interventions.