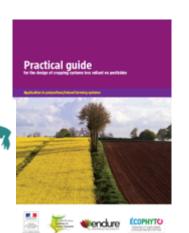


Co-designing low-pesticide input cropping systems with the STEPHY guide



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Joint technology Network for 'innovative cropping system'

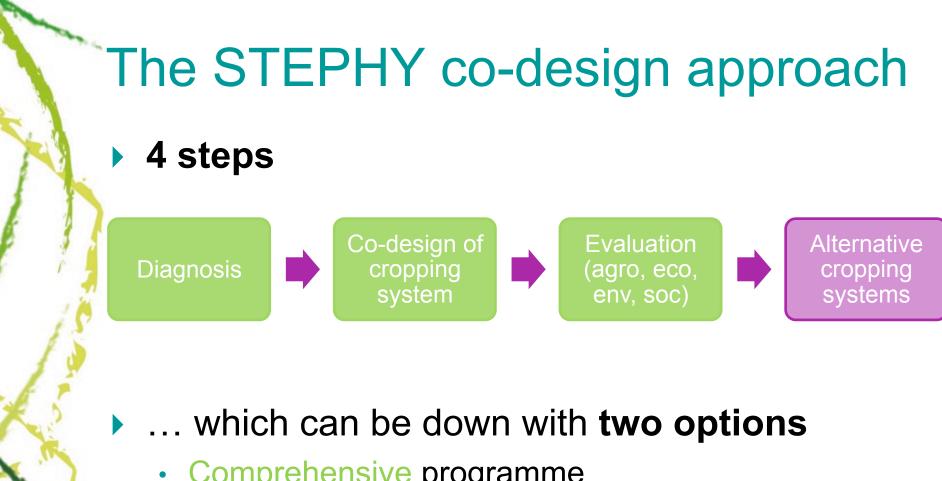
- ~100 agronomists
- Objectives
- Design and develop innovative cropping systems
- Create and develop a network of skills in polyculture, mixed farming & vegetables systems
- Innovative cropping system :
 - **Deal with societal issues** (water management, energy and gas emissions, biodiversity, ...) **and economic performances**
 - Results as much from the combinations of existing crops and techniques, than from the introduction of new crops and techniques

- What is it for ?
- Co-design cropping systems** less reliant on pesticides
- Evaluate the alternative cropping systems
- Train the co-designing for cropping systems
- For whom ?
- Advisers, farmers, R&D engineers, searchers, trainers, students, ...

- Not just a new technical guide !
- It is a system approach ...
- Aimed for significant reduction in pesticide use, for solving problem
- to broaden the options available for change in cropping systems
- Taking into account economical and environmental goals
- Best if used in a group discussion (more brains broaden the horizon)

- How to use it ? with ...
- groups of farmers
- mixed groups composed of farmers, advisers, searchers, ...
- groups of students
- binomial farmer and his adviser...





- Comprehensive programme
- Rapid programme









Understand the overall objectives of the farmer, assets and contraints

Identify the cs** of the farm and the problematics

Rotation 2

Crops: pea-wheat-rape-wheat

Priority tasks

Sowing, harvesting autumn crops Fertilisation, weeding

Fewer interventions in the fields because he does not live close Reduce the use of pesticides because of health

Farmer's priorities

Workforce

1 MWU for 73ha Mutual aid for harvesting and other operations => Frees some time

Equipment/material

Equipment available for mechanical weeding Shared equipment with Several farmers => problems of availability

Location of fields

Lives some distance from fields

ields located in 2 sites 15km apart

⇒desire to save time spent on travelling and observations

concerns and desire to reduce energy costs

Rotations Rotation 1

% on F: 70% % on F: 30%

Crops: rape-wheat-barley

plobahing/SCT/direct sowing

-wheat Most common planting method Most common planting method:

ploughing/SCT/direct sowing Rotation 3 Succession 4

% on F: % on F: Crops: Crops:

Most common planting method: Most common planting method: ploughing/SCT/direct sowing ploughing/SCT/direct sowing

Production system

UAL=73 ha: small area => mechanical weeding can be envisaged

Milieu (soil/climate)

Good potential: medium loam on plateau => No particular constraints in the milieu

Local issues

Situation where some fields border water source with N and pesticide issues Contracted for an AEM 'conversion to integrated agriculture'

Crop enemies

Principal problems: foxtall and grain yield in Cereals, animal pests in rape (aphids, shiny weevils)

Average pressure: septoria in wheat, sclerotinia in rape, bistort and bindweed in pea

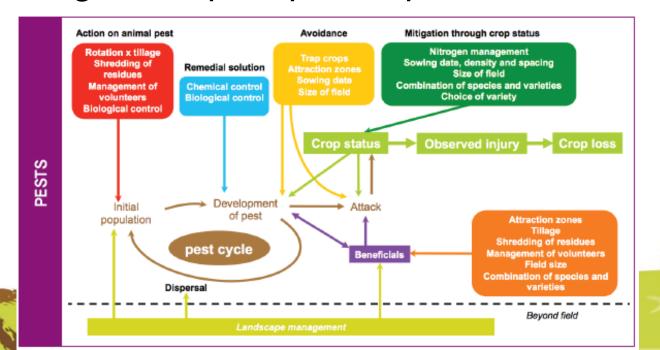
Technical-economic environment

Neighbouring livestock farms=> possible market Possibilities for selling flax privately Possible markets for peas



Step 2: Co-design of alternative cs

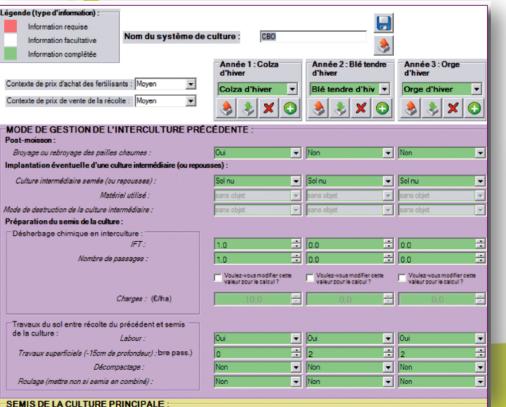
- Define the objectives of design ('rupture' level)
- Identify the available crop & techniques ... to broaden the horizons for changes
- Combine the rotation and cropping management plan per crop in an alternative cs



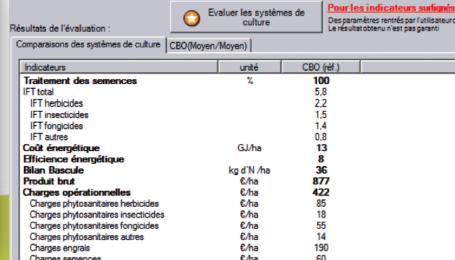


Step 3 : Evaluating alternative cropping systems

- → Evaluate cs
 - qualitative evaluation of results and performances
 - multicriteria and quantitative evaluation in the results and performances → STEPHY calculator



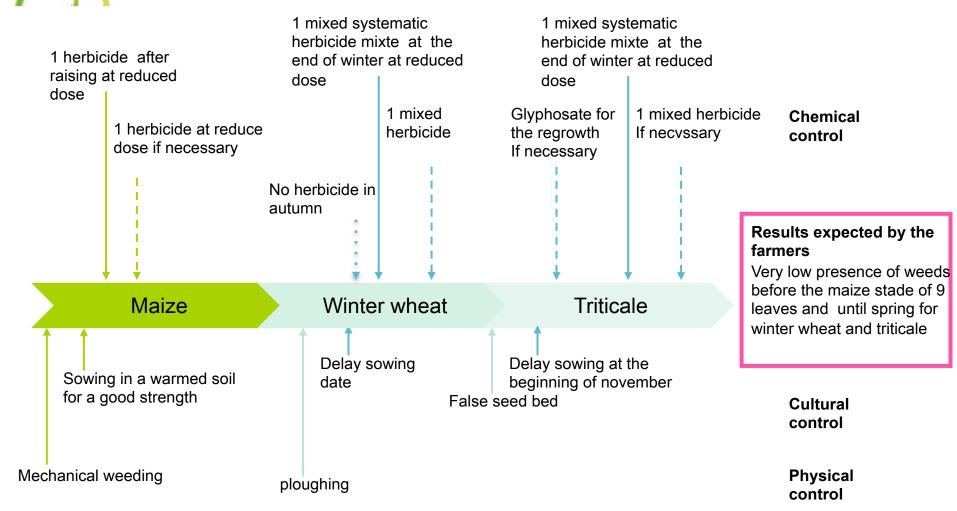
- Agronomic adn technical results
- ▶ Input pressure (TFI, N balance, ...)
- Environmental, economical and social performances (DM, energy efficiency, consumption, ...)



Step 4: Discussion of results

Introduce and discuss the alternative cs suggested

Example of co-design with farmers in mixed farming system On hydromorphic soil in Loire Atlantique (herbicide TFI = 1,2)



5 key roles in this co-design Operator of **Expert in** Leader of **Animator** local change knowledges **Expert in** exploratory knowledges Réseau Mixte Technologique Systèmes de Culture Innovants

Trainings with the STEPHY approach

- 1 200 advisers in France
- 300 farmers
- ▶ **300** students
- 80 trainers

- Next step after training:
 - → DARE a co-design activity or workshop !!

- ▶ a universal approach (tested and approved in polyculture, mixed farming systems but also in vegetables, tropical and perennial systems)
- The collective, a ressource ...
- a way for learning about techniques thanks to exchanges between people involved in the process
- No just a guide but ... mainly a posture that put the people in a 'de novo' approach (≠ 'step by step') and allow them radical changes for radical innovation

Resources

STEPHY pratical guide

www.endure-network.eu

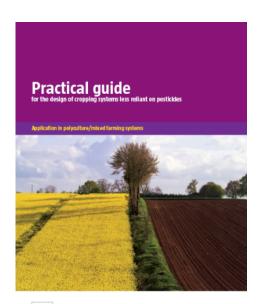


















Agro-PEPS http://agropeps.clermont.cemagref.fr/ collaborative website about technical informations and exchanges

Thank you for your attention!

