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**Integrated Farming (IF):
Ensures Food Safety
& Security and
Offers Answers to
Current Major
Agro-Environmental
Challenges**

Tony Worth, EISA Chairman

**EP Hearing
Food Safety & Security
Brussels, 10 December 2008**



= European Initiative for Sustainable Development in Agriculture

Founded in 2001 as an alliance of National Associations
for the Promotion of Integrated Farming (IF),
with now associations from 6 EU MS as Full Members



Austria



France



Germany



Luxembourg



Sweden



UK

United in Diversity

+ 7 European/National Associations from the agricultural chain as
Associated Members:

ECPA, EFMA, IFAH-Europe, ELO, FEFAC, GOSZ & SAI Platform



Role & Objectives and Need for Support

**EISA and its members develop and promote
Integrated Farming (IF)
as mainstream concept to achieve
sustainable development in EU agriculture.**

**Crux: this can only be achieved
in co-operation with
decision-makers &
other stakeholders
in the agricultural chain!**

→ Your support is urgently needed!



National Members - Great Britain



LEAF - Linking Environment and Farming

Main Activities:

LEAF Audit – our Integrated Farming self assessment environmental framework for farmers, updated

LEAF Marque – 18% of fresh produce land in UK now certified. One major retailer on board, others interested. First cheese certified! More land certified overseas

Open Farm Sunday – 400 farms opened to welcome 150,000 visitors, 7,000 helped out on the day. Date for your diaries – **7th June 2009!**

Members win major national competitions for care for the environment and local food excellence

National political influence grows - House of Lords

Virtual Farm Walk and Green Box
– launched 2009



FARRE, the Forum for Environmentally Friendly Integrated Farming (Forum de l'Agriculture Raisonnée Respectueuse de l'Environnement), founded in 1993

- **Members:** 200 farmers in 58 departments
- **Main Activities:**

Best PPPs Practice - 40 farmers work in cooperation with manufacturers to demonstrate the responsible use of PPPs

Biodiversity - 50 farmers work with the French society for the protection of birds (LPO) to ensure biodiversity (habitats, hedges, fences, etc.)

Machinery - 20 farmers work with manufacturers to develop efficient, environmentally friendly machinery

Health & Safety - 15 farmers work with the Farmer's Health Union (MSA) to demonstrate that IF improves safety & lowers health costs

Cereal Farming - 10 specialised farmers explain all aspects of IF production & processing of cereals to the public.



FNL, the Association for the Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture (Fördergemeinschaft Nachhaltige Landwirtschaft e.V.) Berlin, founded in 1985

- **members:** 35 organisations and companies from the agricultural chain
- **key projects:** „Das ist unsere Landwirtschaft“ (This is our agriculture), broad information campaign, target group: general public



„Landwirtschaft zum Anfassen“ (In Touch with Agriculture), network of more than 400 demonstration farms

„ErlebnisBauernhof“ (EventFarm) a farm in the fair hall of International Green Week in Berlin each January

„Institut für Landwirtschaft und Umwelt“ (Institute for Agriculture and environment), scientific work, studies, conferences

„Berliner Gespräche“ (Berlin Talks) annual events for politicians and key players of the ag-business



EISA's Organisational Structure

All Members

General Assembly
Main decisions:
Statutes - Budget - Membership

1 / year

Chairman,
Vice-Chairman,
Treasurer &
2 Members

Board
Preparation of the General Assembly

1 / year

Officially c. 10 people,
majority represents
Full Members; in
practice all EISA

**Executive
Committee**
Main operational body

2-3 / year

Experts

Ad hoc Working Groups on Specific Issues
e.g. on sustainability indicators

When required



The Concept of Integrated Farming

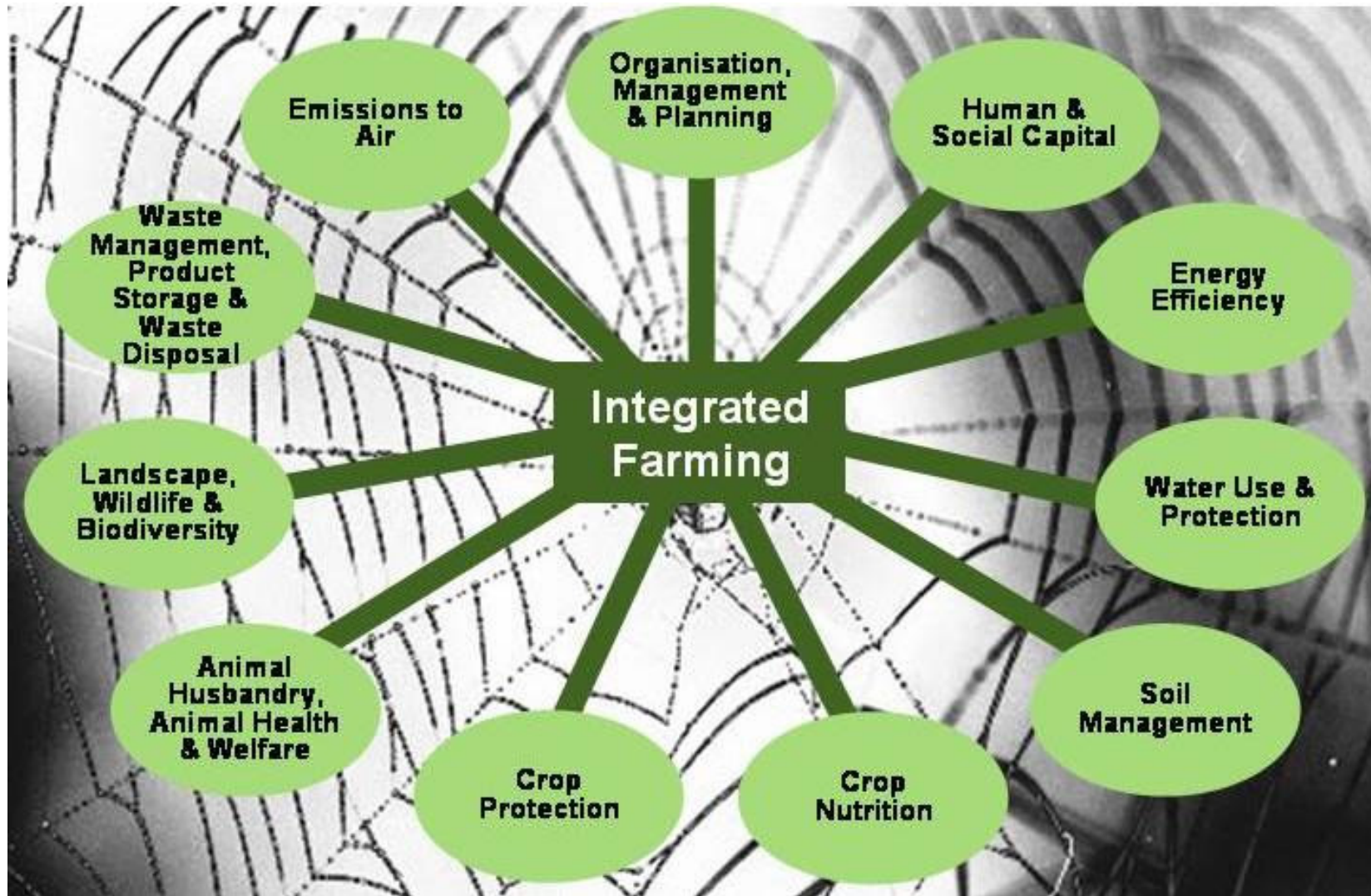
For EISA, **Integrated Farming**, is a main-stream solution to the changing demands faced by farmers &

ONE WAY to make Sustainable Agriculture work.

Integrated Farming should be:

- **economically** viable, **environmentally** responsible & **socially** acceptable;
- **holistic**;
- a **dynamic** process;
- a **planning** approach;
- applicable to **all farms throughout Europe**, i.e. main-stream;
- **voluntary**;
- **innovative** (taking account of latest developments among other in agricultural science, policy & practice);
- **efficient**;
- **traceable**, etc.

The Concept of Integrated Farming: A Holistic Approach





The Concept of Integrated Farming: Dynamic Process: Continuous Learning & Improvement

An illustration of the dynamic year-on-year progress of an integrated farming approach, using improvement opportunities identified by the appraisal and auditing of annual performance.



Integrated Farming:

- Whole Farm Management Plan
- Whole Farm Conservation Plan
- Soil Management Plan
- Nutrient Management Plan
- Herd Health Plan
- etc.



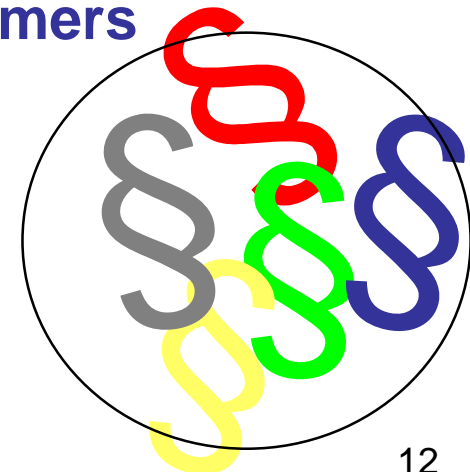


EISA's Main Tools/Achievements

IF Definition: European Framework

- **Baseline for the European definition:**
“European Good Agricultural Practice” (CC/GAEC)
- **Intention of the European definition:**
 - detailed description of farming processes
 - show where IF goes beyond CC/GAEC
 - holistic concept (11 chapters)
- **Tool for politicians/administrations & farmers**

but: for the time being
no auditing,
no certification



A holistic approach, covering 11 chapters on

- Organisation, Management and Planning
- Human and Social Capital
- Energy Efficiency
- Water Use and Protection
- Emissions to Air
- Soil Management
- Crop Nutrition
- Crop Protection
- Animal Husbandry and Animal Health
- Landscape, Wildlife and Biodiversity
- Waste Management, Product Storage and Waste Disposal



Looking at some details:

- item
- guideline for action
- explanation
- demonstration
- GAP column
- IF perspective

Chapter VI: Soil Management

Soil is the basis of all agricultural production, and the conservation and improvement of this valuable resource is an essential element of Integrated Farming. This allows produce to be grown on healthy and biologically active soil with a satisfactory level of organic matter, a good physical structure and sufficient fertility. A balanced crop rotation which is suitable for site and situation is of great importance; a soil management plan can help decision making.

IF and GAP key difference: Farmer awareness of soil indices through mapping and examination as basis for all cropping decisions.

Part VI.1: General considerations

Item	Guidelines	Additional-Explanation-and Suggested-Demonstration-Documentation	GAP	Integrated Farming Perspective		
				Must	Should	Consider
VI.1.1: Soil mapping (also see next page)	a) A map of the farm soils should be available with the main types of soil identified.	<p>Explanation: Soil characteristics interact with availability of soil elements and plant growth, and therefore are important for the suitability of soils for certain crops, for timing of cultivation, for good crop nutrition management and all other agronomic measures. Therefore precise information should be available on the soil types which are present on the farm.</p> <p>Demonstration-Documentation: A soil map that identifies the different soil types on the farm.</p>	NR		✓	

R = Measures included (NR = not included) in an EU legal text for general enforcement or regional enforcement through related national action plans.

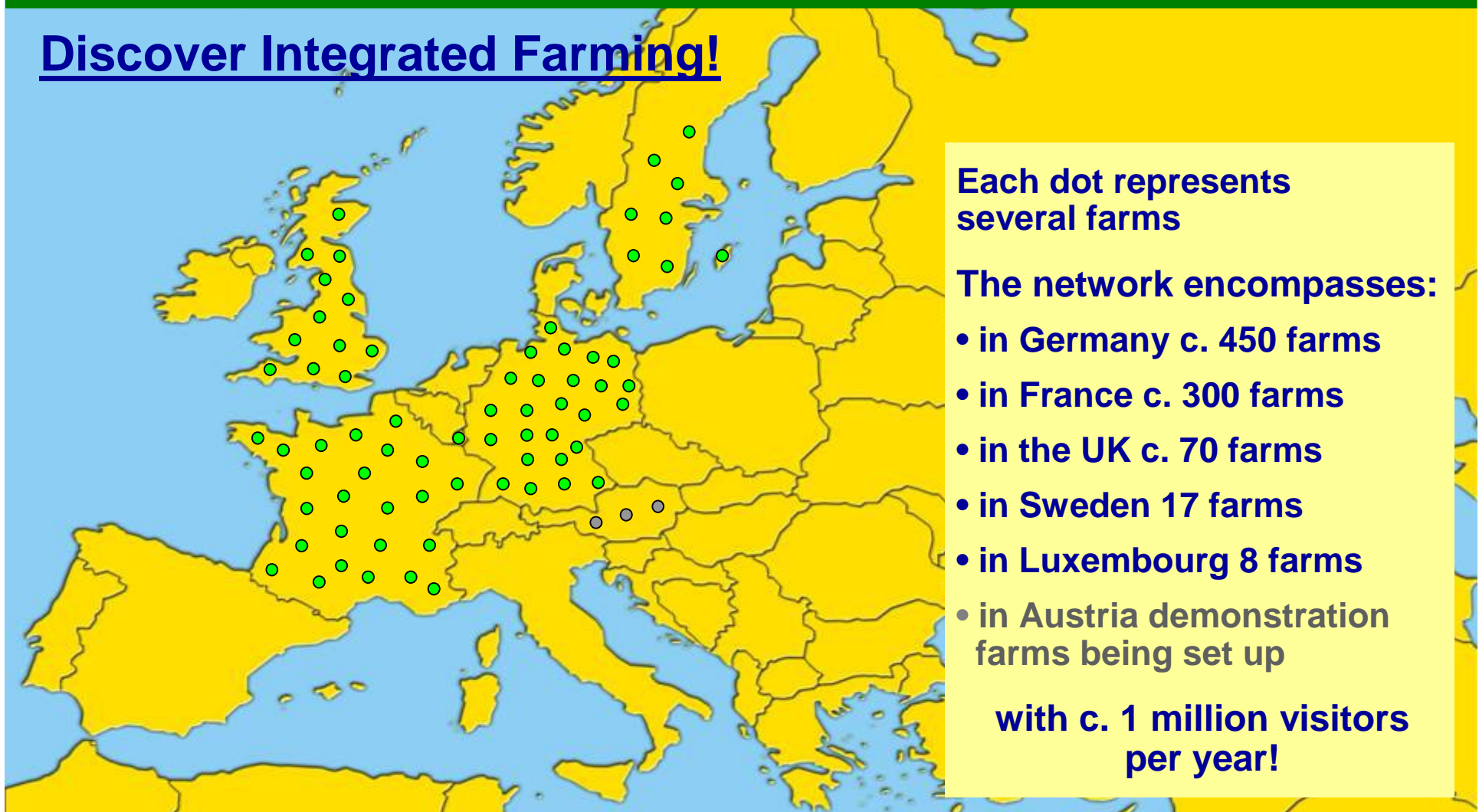
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EISA's Main Tools/Achievements

Network of Demonstration Farms: your are welcome!

Discover Integrated Farming!



Annual Farmers Exchange

Demonstration of IF in theory & practice to other farmers and stakeholders
last years: Germany, UK, Luxembourg, France, Sweden; 2009: Austria



Current Societal Challenges - IF Solutions

- Food safety (+ high quality)
- Food security (sufficient affordable supply)
- Market orientation
- Climate Change
- Water scarcity (regional)
- Energy security
- Traceability
- Bio-diversity
- Rural development
- IF = production quality (product quality = inherent)
- IF efficiencies (yields, ...) (details see next presentation)
- Innovative, flexible, ...
- Limitation of GHG emissions:
 - * IF efficiencies (CO₂, nutrients),
 - * Optimal use of fertilisers, etc.
- IF efficiencies (water)
- IF efficiencies (energy, waste)
- Proper documentation
- Hedges, ...
- Personal engagement of Integrated Farmers



What do EISA and its Members need!

- **Politicians & civil servants to become aware of the advantages/opportunities of IF**
- **Direct support (temporarily) for Integrated Farmers going beyond CC/GAEC!**
- **Support to EISA/its members to spread the concept of IF all over the EU!**
- **Incorporation of IF approach in future CAP!**
- **.....**