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#### Marian Blom

### Project leader

Organic regulation
Research coordination
Plant production

Work in organic since 2002

MSc Organic Agriculture at WUR 2006



### Basic data

The organic sector in NL (2014)

#### **Farming**

More than 1,600 organic farms 3.0 % of agricultural land is farmed organically +/-60,000 hectares

#### **Processing & Trade**

Almost 2,000 companies
Strong position on international market
Est. 1 billion €/year export

#### Consumption

+/- 1 billion €/year 2,5 % of total Dutch consumption

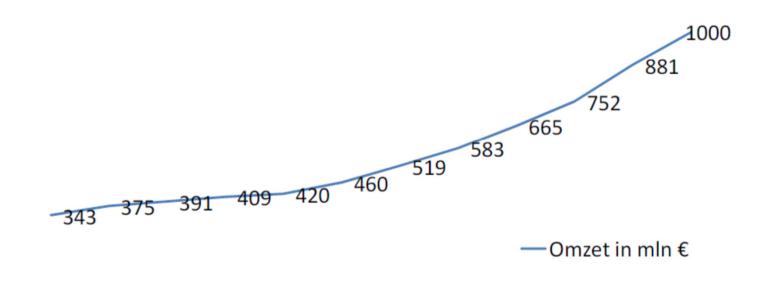
Large division between product groups:

Potatoes, vegetables, fruit: 3,9% (2013)

Eggs: more than 12 % Butter& cheese 1,4 %



## Organic turnover development NL 2001 - 2012

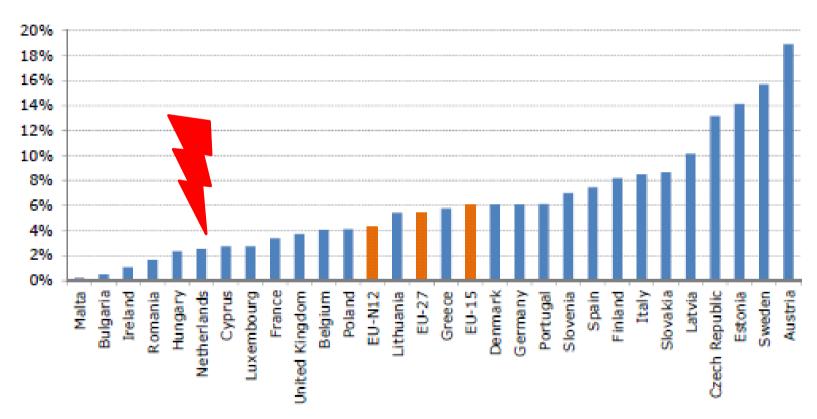


Basiert auf Bio- und Nachhaltigkeitsmonitore 2001-2012

2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012



Graph 4. Share of the organic area in the UAA in the EU Member States, 2011



Bron: Facts and figures on organic agriculture in the European Union, DG Agriculture and Rural Development



Bionext – umbrella organization for the

organic sector NL

#### Situated in Zeist, next to Utrecht





- \* Foundation (not for profit)
- \* Advocacy, communication, coordination, PR, lobby, education, services
- \* Focus: working on EU level but always for Dutch organic sector



Works for the organised organic production chain



Biohuis = 1.000 organic farmers



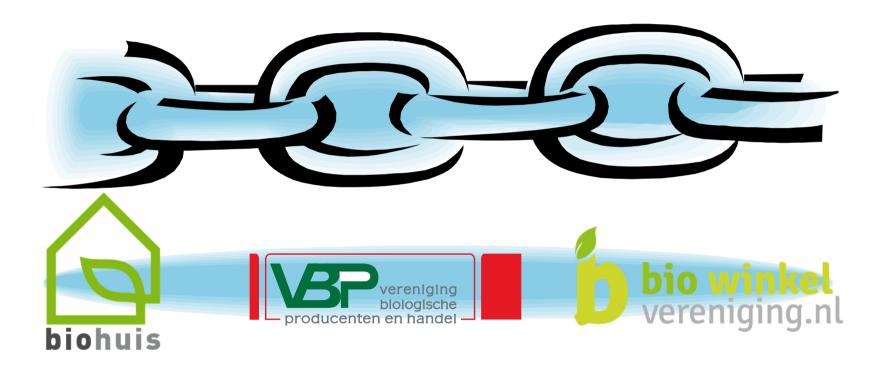
VBP = 100 organic processing and trade companies, representing 70% of turnover in organic



Biowinkelvereniging = 100 organic shops

+ 20.000 consumers (through consumer campaigns)





20-3-2014

### **Bionext organization**

- ➤ Exists since 2011 out of a merger of 4 organisations and projects.
- ➤ 15 people, 9 fte + freelancers
- ➤ Turnover +/- 1,2 million €/year
- ➤ Contributions from founding organizations + project income.



- ➤ 10% growth of organic per year, in area and turnover.
- ➤ Improve the quality of the organic products that are sold
- ➤ Improve cooperation between organic and conventional sector.



### **Ambitious**



Verification + Impact: EKO license & EKO label

**Sustainability Standard** 

Technical Commission

Certification + Output: EU organic logo

**EU** regulation

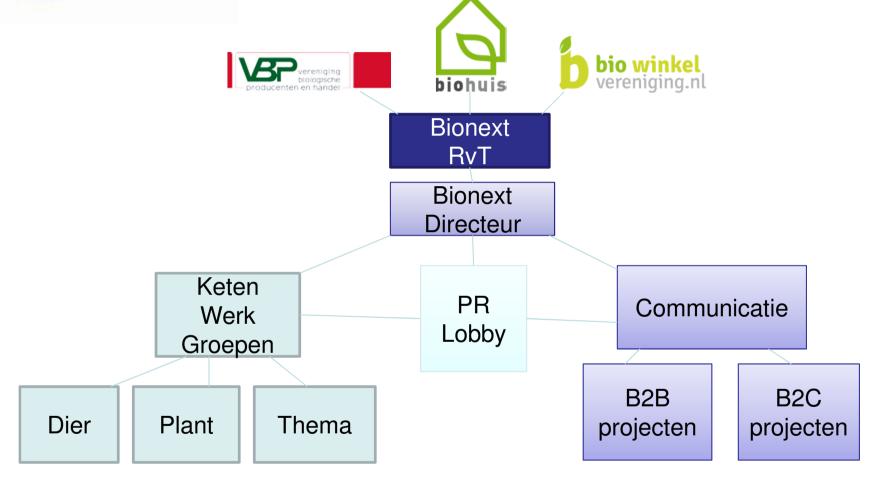
Skal

Institutional





### Bionext Organisatie Bionext





## Production chain groups

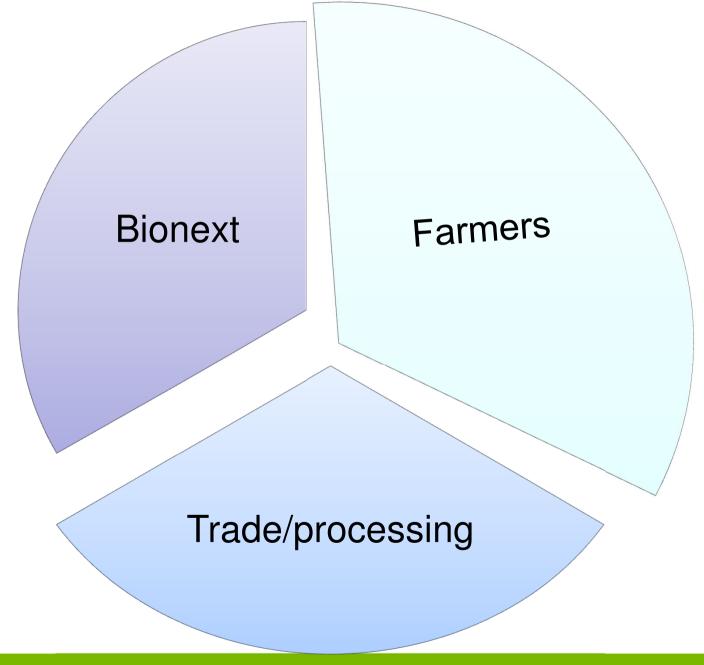
#### > General work

- Regulatory issues position making
- > Knowledge development in organic/ priorities
- > Communication coordination in case of crises

### > Sector specific activities

➤ F.e. production chain projects on sustainable soy chain, marketing biodiversity





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Researchers

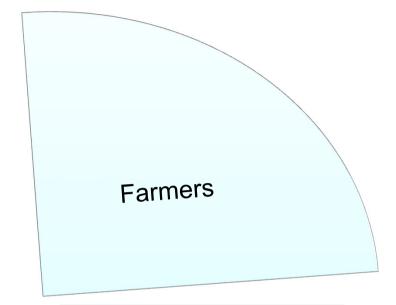
Farmers

Bionext

Trade/processing



Researchers



Ad visors Bionext

Trade/processing

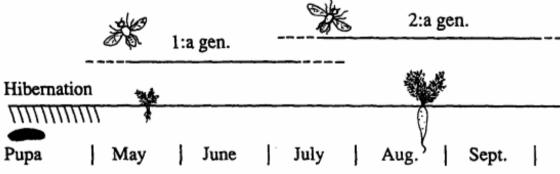


# Farm networks with researchers: onion oil against *psila rosae*











### Exchange of information

- Biokennis: www.biokennis.org
- Joint projects
- Bio-beurs and Biovelddag
- Bio-Academy

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- > Include newcomers
- > Information flow
- ➤ Private financing
- > Cooperation within the production chain



### Improvement

- Increase moments for exchanges
- Funding based on participation of both researchers and advisory services

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