





Co-designing crop diversification strategies from plot to sociotechnical system to manage root-knot nematodes in Mediterranean market gardening systems

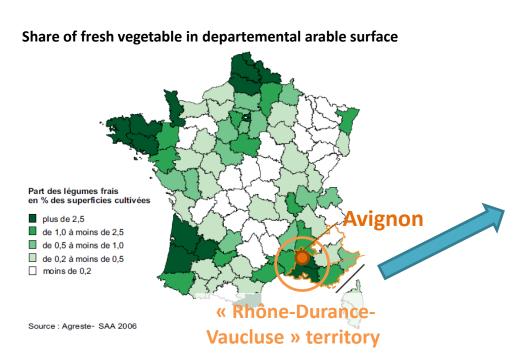
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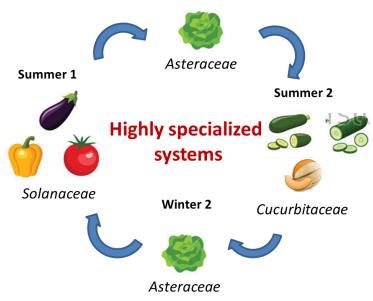
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Context

« Rhône-Durance-Vaucluse » territory : a specialized vegetable production bassin



~1/3 of French sheltered vegetable production involved mostly in long value chains



Winter 1

20 to 40% of national production of above fresh vegetables



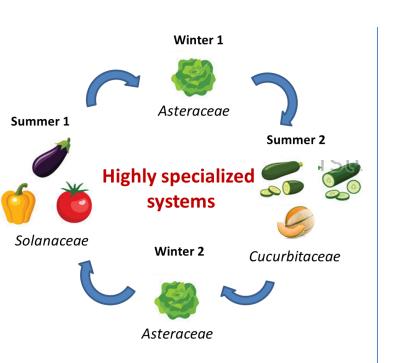
Soil-borne pest and diseases

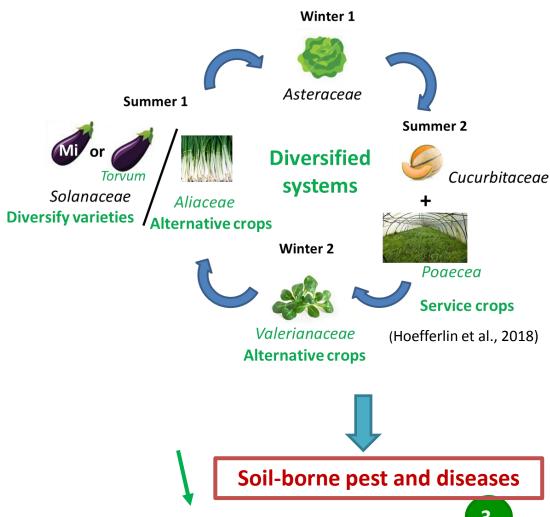
Ex: 40% farms with root-knot nematodes issues

(Djian-Caporalino, 2010)



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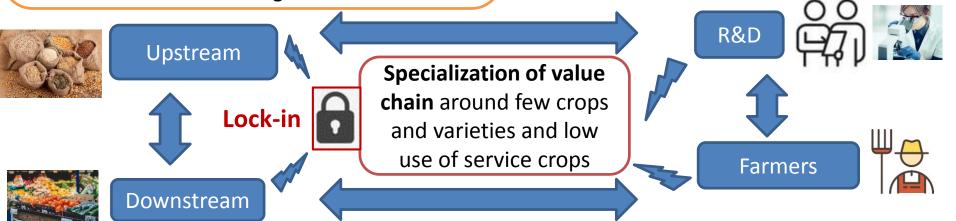


Sociotechnical lock-in around crop specialization in conventional sector (Geels, 2004)

Context: highly competitive, low market prices, small farming sector (low investments)

- Historical large investments in few vulnerable varieties of main crops and chemical fumigation
- Low investments in service crops and resistant commercial varieties
- Little diversity in development, production, distribution and knowledge diffusion

- Historical large investments in optimizing specialized cropping systems
- **Low investments** in **diversified systems** management



- Require big volumes of few varieties with standard quality (scale economy)
- Fitting low market prices
- Fitting consumers specialized demand

- No space and time for crop diversification
- Lack of knowledge on diversified crops with low willingness to pay for it
- Lack of equipments
- Fear of **collective action**

Co-designing strategies from plot to sociotechnical system

Co-designing "coupled innovations" is needed

(Meynard et al., 2017; 2018)

1- Farmers workshops (x2) (see Boulestreau et al., 2019)

- Farmers = 1st actors to involve (5-6 participants)
- 1- **Knowledge phase**: discussion on agroecological RKN management techniques and impediments encountered on farms (1h30)
- 2- Exploration of **farm-centered strategies** to manage agroecologically RKN (1h30)





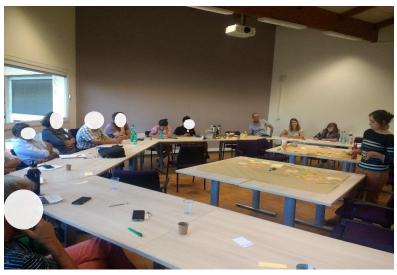
Representation of one of the farmer's farm

Co-designing strategies from plot to sociotechnical system

2- Sociotechnical system (STS) workshops (x2)

- Participative simulation (2h)
 - For sharing the lock-in analysis
 - For making stakeholders work together and be creative
- Explore STS level strategies to enable the agroecological management of the RKN (2h)

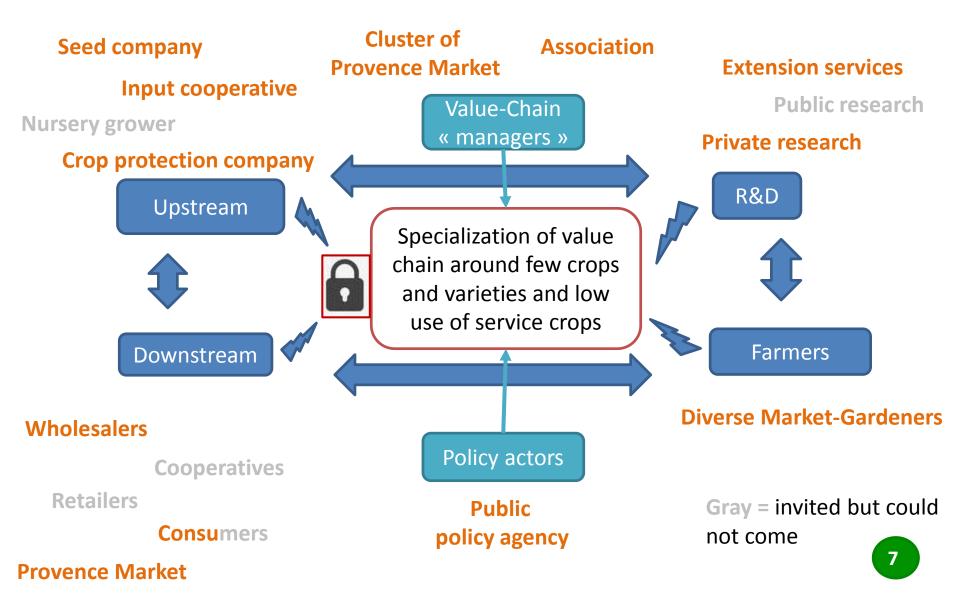




Strategy exploration debriefing

Participative simulation

Co-designing strategies – Which actor involved ?(Workshop 2)



Strategies concept designed with stakeholders

 Strategies based farm-level leeways within dominant sociotechnical regime (Wksp 1)



Using short value chain



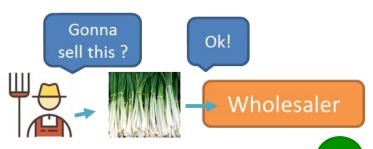
Valuing unused space

- Strategies at STS level (Wksp 2)
 - Between few actors within dominant sociotechnical regime





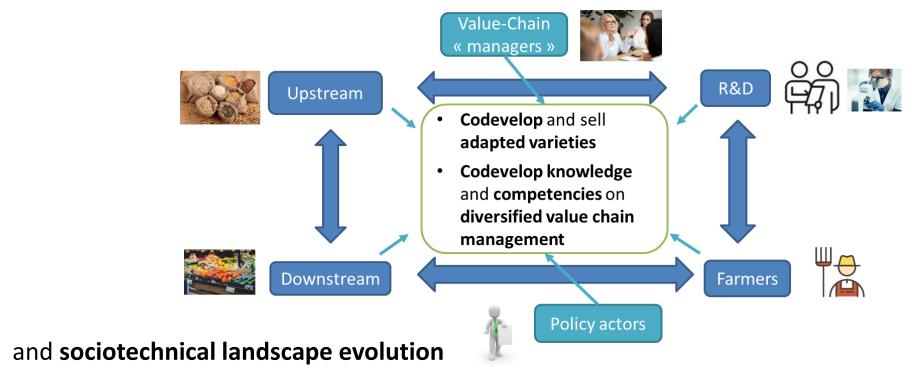
Pooling equipments



Opening new reference

Strategies concept designed with stakeholders

- Strategies at STS level (Wksp 2)
 - Between most actors for dominant sociotechnical regime transition





Discussion



Context

Strategies are mostly cooperation-based → how to foster it ?



Organic systems are not as locked as conventional from downstream and R&D: inspiration source?



From strategies' « Concepts » to « Projects » : precising and evaluing



Crop diversification need to be combined with other levers to implement agroecological soil management

Thanks for your attention!



Questions?

References

Poster

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Illustration

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