

Summary and conclusion Workshop 3

Structural and new outlets to secure sorghum production in Europe



2nd European Sorghum Congress 2018

LOTS OF ASSETS, LOTS OF USE, LOTS OF QUALITIES

Sorghum is a specie with high variability, offering varied opportunities of outlets



- The main one is feed, grain of forage
 - > Positive impacts are confirmed concerning feed quality, cost, and environmental footprint

Innovative products for food are other qualitative outlets for sorghum

> Gluten-free, iron rich.. and easy to transform into flour, food industry can make a wide range of products like beer, pasta, flour,...



Thanks to molecule of interests, sorghum is studied for new applications, for exemple colorants (but also bio-plastic...)

Surely all not explored



LACK OF MARKET ORGANIZATION, LACK OF RECOGNITION

- The lack of « local » availability is a limit for sorghum trading or use
- To secure the volumes, we identified two interesting kinds of initiatives :
 - > Optimization of collect in an fragmented production area : Management of a minor specie with a minimal loss of profitability. Sorghum outlets secures and is easier to sell. Farmers must be informed of agronomic and economic interests of sorghum to develop acreage.
 - > Local consumption with short circuits : individual farmer and animal producer can collaborate with an feed industrial, or an energy producer can organize his proximal sourcing based on contracts with farmers.
- Wrong ideas are still pending about sorghum, like tanins which is not an issue with European sorghum, limiting its use by feed industry, the first outlet. Begins to be heard by more communication.



OUR CONCLUSION



SORGHUM IS A PLANT OF OPPORTUNITY

Protein content, starch content, digestibility, gluten-free, low input & ecologic crop,... Sorghum is full of modern qualities

SORGHUM ACREAGE COULD INCREASE 5 TO 10% OF CEREAL TOTAL CONSUMPTION AT 2025

Demand does exist and complementarity with other crops is possible

SORGHUM IS WAITING FOR A STRONG SIGNAL FROM EU

To give a chance to sorghum as a well-adapted crop to industrial, farmers and environnemental demands



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