Denmarks experience with EFA: short rotation coppice and catch crops
Agenda

- Danish EFA-model
- Management of EFA in the Aid application
- Statistic
- Management of EFA Short rotation coppice
- Management of EFA Catch crops
### Danish EFA-model

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EFA-Type</th>
<th>Only weighting factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buffer strips along watercourses</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAEC landscape features (ponds and tombs and other relics of the past)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land laying fallow</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short rotation coppice</strong></td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Catch crops (mixtures + undersowing grass)</strong></td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Payment goal: 90% of all farmers receive direct area payments (incl. greening) at 15 December 2015, at the latest
Management of EFA in the aid application 2015

- Geo-Spatial aid application: map=declared area

Buffer strip

Field 1 – cereals with catch crops

Field 2
Permanent grass

GAEC landscape feature
Management of EFA in the aid application 2015

- Automatic calculation of farmers EFA-obligation
• Short rotation coppice
  – declared app. 4,000 ha (1,200 ha incl. weighting factors)

• EFA-catch crops (incl. undersowing grass)
  – Declared app. 1,3 Mio. ha (390,000 ha incl. weighting factor) - flexibility
Management of EFA Short rotation coppice

• No plant protection products allowed

• Species that can be reharvested (Alder, Willow, Poplar etc.)

• The maximum harvest cycle is 10 years

• Tree density: min. 8,000 plants per ha (except poplar: 2,000 plants per ha)

• Control: check spraying log, non-eligible trees, tree density etc.
Management of EFA Catch crops

- Undersowing grass
  - Grass incl *leguminosae* like Clover and alfalfa

- Mixture of two or more crops
  - Cereals
  - Grass
  - Cichorium ("chicory")
  - Species of *Brassiaciae*
  - Phacelia tanacetifolia ("purple tansy")

For instance:

\[ \text{[image of cereals]} + \text{[image of grass]} = \text{mixture} \]

\[ \text{[image of chicory]} + \text{[image of purple tansy]} = \text{mixture} \]
Management of EFA Catch crops

• Undersowing grass
  – Establishment: 31 May, at the latest
  – Destruction: only after 20 October

• Mixture of two or more crops
  – Establishment: 1 August, at the latest
  – However mixtures with *Brassicacea*, purple tansy, rye, mountain rye or spring barley can be established 20. August, at the latest
  – Destruction: only after 20 October
Management of EFA-catch crops in aid application

• Problem: farmers had to decide location of catch crops in the spring

• Solution: checkbox!

14. september 2015
On-The-Spot Checks (OTSC)

- 6 % control of EFA-catch crops

- Only inspections
  - Inspection period 15/9-20/10 (27/10 in 2015)

- How to control a mixture?
  - Min. 1 plant per m² of each species
On-The-Spot-Checks

• How to control a sufficient cover of catch crops to fulfil the purpose to effecticely take up residual nitrogen?

• Even distributed and well established on the area:
  – Min. 40 % ground cover in October

• New control method: linear correlation between sowing dates and min. plant cover:
  – 20 % ground cover 15/9-20/9
  – 25 % ground cover 21/9 – 25/9
  – 30 % ground cover 26/9 – 1/10
  – 35 % ground cover 2/10 – 6/10
  – 40 % ground cover 7/10 -

• 10 % quality assurance

• Are we doing to much?
Challenges/Farming concerns

• Delayed harvest due to exceptional weather circumstances
  – problem: harvest after EFA-catch crops establishment date (20.08)
  – solution: postpone 2 week establishment + 1 week destruction

• Tyranny of dates – flexibility
  – Farmers demand flexibility. For instance establish catch crops 8 days after harvest, but difficult to control without increased control cost.

• Mixtures – much criticized by farmers