Expert group greening 13/10/2015 :
Crop diversification in France
Crop diversification

Implementation in France

1) French regulatory choices
2) Application procedure
3) Automatic administrative control
4) On the spot checks
5) Equivalent practices
Crop diversification

French regulatory choices:

- Period of diversification: between the 15th of July and the 15th of September ⇒ traditional growing period and period of OTSC

- One distinct seed mixture = one single crop, two seed mixtures are distinct if the species included in these two seed mixtures differ from each other (no common specie between the two mixtures)

Exemple: one mixture of wheat and pea and one mixture of pea and oats ⇒ count as one mixture = count as one single crop
Crop diversification

Application procedure:

- The farmer indicates the specific crop within each of his agricultural parcels
- On the basis of a pre-established crop list
- Each crop falls into one category of agricultural area: permanent crop (PC), permanent grassland and permanent pasture (PP) or arable land (AL)
Crop diversification

- **Exemple**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of crop</th>
<th>Name of crop</th>
<th>Category of agricultural area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cereals</td>
<td>Winter wheat</td>
<td>Arable land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent grassland and permanent pasture</td>
<td>Grassland (6 years and more)</td>
<td>Permanent grassland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arboriculture and vineyard</td>
<td>Orchard</td>
<td>Permanent crop</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Crop diversification

Automatic administrative controls: on the basis of a matching-table

- Each crop falls into a category of area, for the purpose of establishing a possible exemption:
  - grasses or other herbaceous forages,
  - permanent grassland and permanent pasture,
  - crops under water (rice in France),
  - legumeous,
  - land lying fallow.
Crop diversification

- In 2015, pure legumineous ⇒ two options are assessed by french authorities: this crop can be counted either as legumineous or as grasses or other herbaceous forages. The best option for farmer is then selected.
Crop diversification

- Each crop is classified in one of the four groups pursuant to article 44.4 of reg.1307/2013:
  - 1 botanical genera = 1 crop
  - 1 specie in the case of Brassicaceae, Solanaceae, and Cucurbitaceae = 1 crop
  - Land lying fallow
  - Grasses or other herbaceous forages
- + Distinction between winter crop and spring crop
- + 1 distinct seed mixture = 1 crop
- Exemple (1 color = 1 crop)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name (and code) of crop</th>
<th>Category of agricultural area</th>
<th>Category for exemption</th>
<th>Category of crop For DC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blé tendre d'hiver (BTH) / soft winter wheat</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>/</td>
<td><em>Triticum hiver</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blé tendre de printemps (BTP) / soft spring wheat</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>/</td>
<td><em>Triticum printemps</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blé dur de printemps (AVP) / spring Durum</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>/</td>
<td><em>Triticum printemps</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maïs doux (MID) / sweet corn</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>/</td>
<td><em>Zea</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maïs (MIS) / corn</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>/</td>
<td><em>Zea</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mélange de légumineuses déshydratées (entre elles) (MLD) pure dried-legumineous mixture</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>leguminous</td>
<td>Mixture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mélange de légumineuses prépondérantes au semis et de graminées fourragères de 5 ans ou moins (MLG) mixture of legumineous and grasses ; leg. Being in majority in the seed mixture</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>Grasses or other herbaceous forages</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jachère de 5 ans ou moins (J5M) Land lying fallow in a rotation</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>Land lying fallow</td>
<td>Land lying fallow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pomme de terre de consommation (PTC) potato</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>/</td>
<td><em>Solanum tuberosum</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aubergine (AUB) / Eggplant</td>
<td>TA</td>
<td>/</td>
<td><em>Solanum melongena</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie en rotation longue (6 ans ou plus) (PRL) Grassland (out of a rotation for 6 years or more)</td>
<td>PP</td>
<td>Grasses or other herbaceous forages</td>
<td>/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Crop diversification

On the basis of the matching-table, an algorithm checks automatically the respect of the crop diversification criterion:

1) Determination of a possible exemption (and of which kind of exemption),

2) For non-exempted farms:
   - Determination of the number of crops,
   - Calculation of the share of each crop,
   - Determination of the respect (or not) of the CD criterion.
Crop diversification

OTSC:

- 100% of the demands to be controlled by remote sensing check. Four pictures are taken at different vegetation stages in order to allow unambiguous identification of the crop.
Crop diversification

Equivalent practice:

- For farms where more than 75% of the arable land is used for the production of corn

Obligations:

- Ecological focus area and permanent grassland are verified in order to respect the general rules of greening (except EFA areas with catch crops, or green cover)

- Equivalent practice instead of crop diversification: a green cover (chosen inside a list of authorised species) is sowed on all the arable land on the later 15 days after the corn harvest.
Crop diversification

- This cover has to rise and remains in place until the next 1st of February (or later, if required in Nitrate directive).

- All claims are controlled (both administratively and on the field) by an authorised certification authority, between the 15th of November and the 1st of February.

- The paying agency performs the administrative controls and OTSC as per legal requirements (reg 809/2014).
Crop diversification

Any questions?