

Keynote

Young Farmers' Perspective

Iris Bouwers – CEJA Vice President



A farmer's view on the EU agricultural policy and embracing new technologies

Farmer

- Young farmer from the Netherlands
- Mixed arable crops and fattening pigs
- Family farm



CEJA

Vice President of CEJA

Represents around 2 million young farmers

Aims:

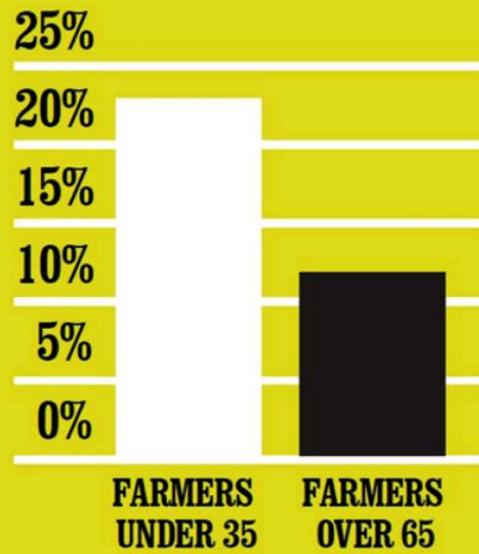
Generational renewal

Challenges facing young farmers

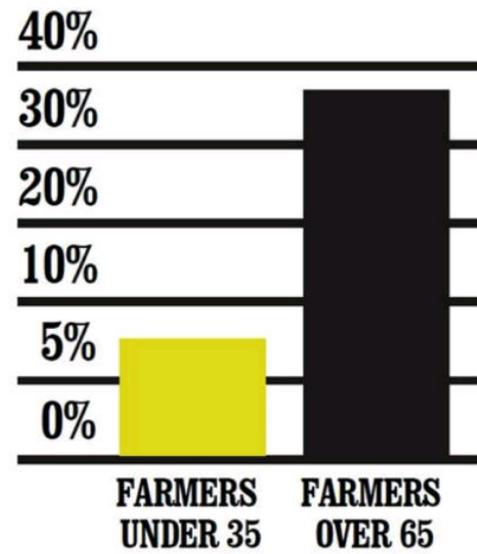
Networking platform



1979



TODAY



Main challenges for young farmers

- Access to land
- Access to credit
- Access to knowledge



CEJA-DeLaval Report

September 2017



Fair income level

A fair income level is the first, most important factor for the development of an economically sustainable farm.

Access to land

Access to land is the most significant barrier for young people wanting to enter or remain in the agricultural sector.

Simplification

Harmonised and simplified legislation among Member States that is valid in the long term creates trust and encourages farmers to invest and remain in the sector.

Other challenges:

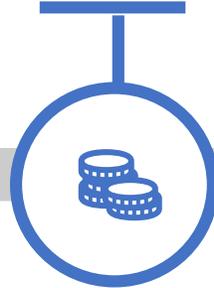
Fair competition
from global markets



Measures
facilitating
opportunities to
invest



Access to **credit**



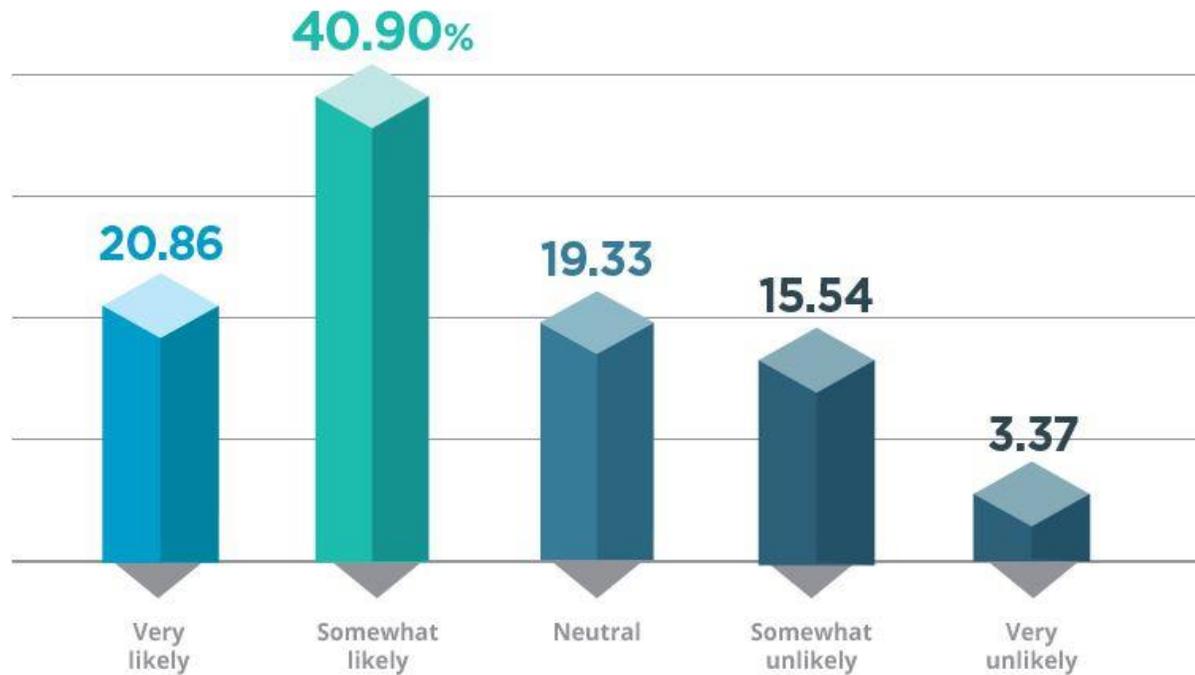
A **better position**
for farmers in the **food**
supply chain



Access to **technology**



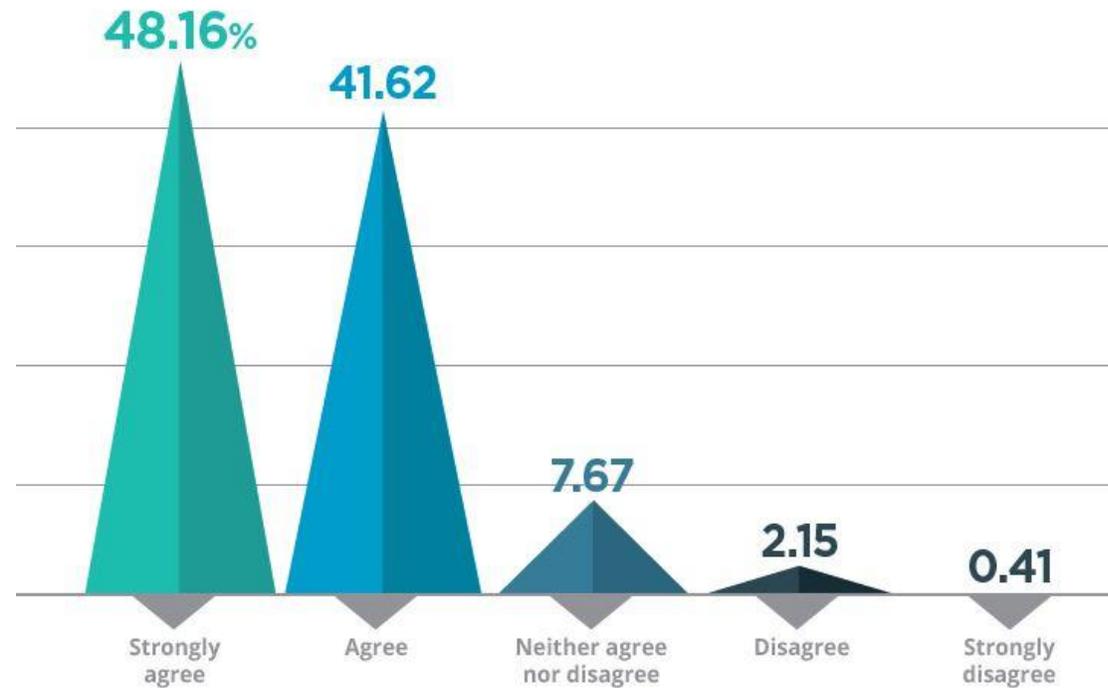
Is your future as a young farmer viable?



European farming today involves many demands and pressures, both professionally and personally for farmers.

As a young farmer, do you feel responsible for ensuring a sustainable agricultural sector?

European young farmers are faced with the challenges of producing more with less, while also being custodians of the countryside.



FUTURE OF FOOD AND FARMING



Need to attract new entrants into the sector

- Generational renewal priority in CAP plans
- Consistency between EU and national action (taxation, inheritance system, etc)
- Support to the first installation
- Explore ways to facilitate exit *and* intergenerational cooperation



Addressing consumer concerns

Farmers have to anticipate and adapt to consumer demand and societal concerns

- Modernise organic rules and make geographical indications more attractive
- Support sustainable use of pesticides
- Addressing critical health issues (antimicrobial resistance or AMR)
- Support campaigns to promote healthy practices and consumption of fruits and vegetables
- Address food waste



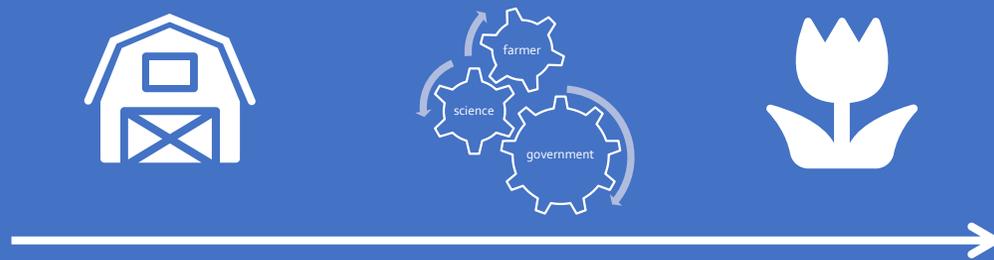
Research & Innovation

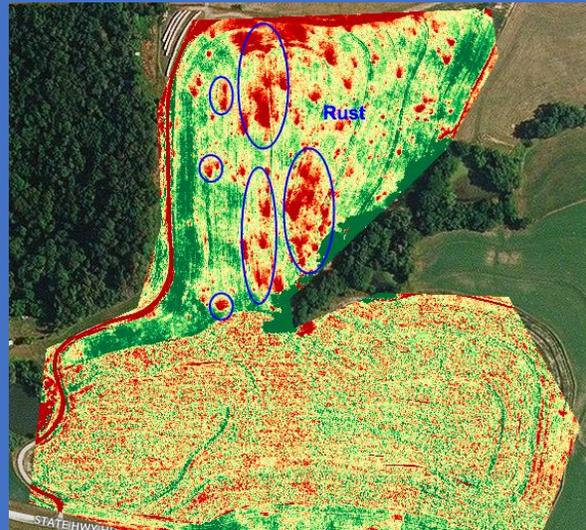
- ❑ Farmers must be more involved in research and development
- ❑ Multi-stakeholder approach to innovation
- ❑ Positive example: Unfair Trading Practices



Digital and precision farming

- ❑ Participatory approaches – farmer's involvement in new tools
- ❑ Make new tools available for small scale farmers as well







Thank you!



Get in touch!

Facebook: CEJA Young Farmers

Twitter: @_CEJA_

Instagram: ceja_youngfarmers

LinkedIn: CEJA Young Farmers

Website: www.ceja.eu

Email: allusers@ceja.eu