

Focus Group 'Production of protein crops under climate change'

Berlin, Germany 20-21 November 2024



LegumES and LegumeNet

Elisabeth Berlinghof ZALF, Germany

ocus Group 'Production of protein crops under climate change' 1st meeting | Berlin, Germany | 20 November 2024

Leibniz-Zentrum für Agrarlandschaftsforschung (ZALF) e. V.



Integrating grain legumes into (food) value chains and assess agro-economic impacts

Main takeaways from LeguNet and LegumeES

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legumES LeguNet

Datum: 20.11.24

What topics and challenges are adressed in the project(s)?

Lack of value chains for grain legumes in food and feed

 Lack of pre-processing structures, bundling, "Lock-in-effect", Price hurdle, gastronomic knowledge

Early summer drought and other weather extremes

 Challenges with established crops; Lack of on-farm knowledge for "new" crops (e.g. chickpea)

Economic competitiveness

Assessment of crop rotations across Europe in pilot studies





How are the impacts of climate change on protein crop production directly or indirectly addressed in the project(s)?



- Sustainable transition towards a higher share of (regional) plant protein in the diet
 - Aligning agriculture and food sector, collaboration
- Support farmers to grow climate adapted grain legume crops for food and feed
 - Knowledge exchange and on-farm trials in pilot studies ("chickpea network")
 - On-station trials on drought effects and management practices



Which protein crops do the project(s) focus on and why were these crops selected?



Aligning ZALF research, market and farmers' interests:

- Soy bean (heat tolerance, no pests/diseases, high market value and interest)
- Pea (most grown, existing processing industry, winter pea a novel adaption to CC)
- Lupins (important in the area, challenges in marketing, high protein, alkaloids)
- Chickpea (farmer's interest, market only for imports, heat/drought tolerant, many challenges and synergies with sister project)
- Common beans (known food legume from imports, no agronomic experience)
- Grass pea (most heat and drought tolerance, and tolerating moisture, no markets yet)



Thank you for your attention.





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EU CAP Network Focus Group 'Production of protein crops under climate change'

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All information on the Focus Group is available on the webpage: https://eu-cap-network.ec.europa.eu/focus-group-production-protein-crops-under-climatechange