

Low Yield Legislation

The system that regulates pesticides is flawed.

The process of regulation has been politicised, it is increasingly dismissive of science and innovation, and it overlooks the merits of risk-management, and the fact that farmers need access to the right tools to put a safe and secure supply of food on our tables.

A RECENT STUDY CALLED

*"Cumulative impact of hazard-based legislation on crop protection products in Europe"*¹

estimated that due to this hazard-based legislation,

75 OF **400**
IMPORTANT SUBSTANCES

currently available to farmers might be withdrawn from the market.

The report underlines the benefits of pesticides and shows how important it is that EU farmers have access to the tools they need not only to stay competitive, but to help feed a growing global population set to reach almost **10 billion by 2050**.

WITHOUT PESTICIDES

EU farmers might lose up to

85
%

of their yields for certain crops.

THE STUDY'S FOCUS

7 key staple crops²

24 specialty crops²

Researchers analysed the situation in

9 COUNTRIES IN THE EU

REPRESENTING

62% of EU crop value of the staple crops²

and extrapolated effects to the EU level.

The potential impact of hazard-based legislation on:

YIELD

Staple crops² would face a decrease in yields of **10-40%**.

Specialty crops² will be highly effected and could lose up to **85%** of their yields.

*This situation is especially prevalent in the **Mediterranean countries** where Farmers' toolbox is already extremely limited.*

THE RESULT:

Less options for Farmers to protect their crops means a greater risk of the development of resistance.

EUROPEAN ECONOMY

Without the 75 substances, a smaller local crop supply will affect EU value chains in the form of higher costs and fewer jobs.

THE RESULT:

The viability of the staple and specialty crops analysed will be at risk, including the jobs that go with them.

IN FACT, AN ESTIMATED

540,000 JOBS will be at medium or high-risk of being lost.

TRADE



The EU will become dependent on imports for more than **20%** of its staple crops such as wheat, barley, potatoes and sugar beets while the EU would need to import **4 million tons of grapes from 3rd countries**.

THE RESULT:

EU Farmers ultimately become less competitive on a global scale as producers in other countries are not held back by such restrictions.

OUR ENVIRONMENT



Today, the cultivation of seven staple crops in the EU results in **83 million tons of CO₂ emissions**.

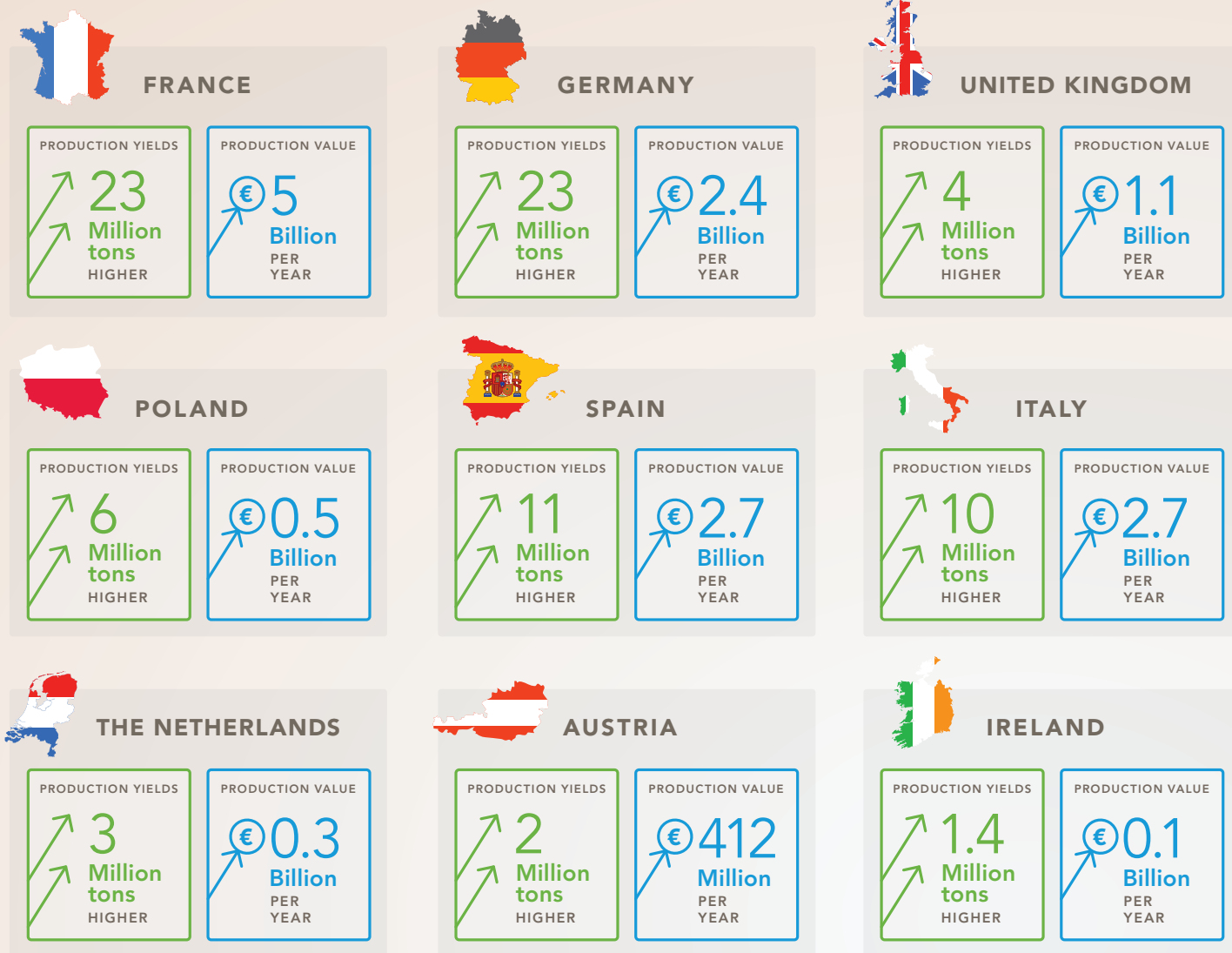
THE RESULT:

Without the 75 substances, the overall carbon footprint will rise by **47%**.

¹ Steward Redqueen. Cumulative impact of hazard-based legislation on crop protection products in Europe. Final report. 21 July 2016. http://www.stewardredqueen.com/uploads/nieuws/cumulative_impact_of_hazard_based_legislation_on_crop_protection_products_in_europe.pdf

² **Staple crops include:** wheat, barley, maize, oilseed rape, potatoes, sugar beet and grapes. **Specialty crops include:** durum wheat, carrots, apples, beans, hops, onions, brassica, mushrooms, rice, tomatoes (open-air and greenhouse produces), pears, peaches/nectarines, soy, hazelnut, olives, tulip bulbs, apple trees, bell peppers, black currants, citrus fruits, cherries, sunflowers and peas for selected countries.

Country-specific highlights if the farmers' toolbox is preserved:



Country-specific highlights if the farmers' toolbox is depleted:

