



Exposing the power of corporate lobbying



**Corporate
Europe
Observatory**

About CEO

23 years of research and campaigning to expose and curb corporate power in EU decision-making, including on:

- ▶ Trade
- ▶ Climate
- ▶ Economy and finance
- ▶ Health
- ▶ Food and agriculture
- ▶ Digital and technology
- ▶ Transparency and accountability



Main actors:

- *Drivers:* Bayer-Monsanto, Corteva (Dow-Dupont), Syngenta, BASF..
- *Organisers:* Lobby associations: European Seed Association (ESA), International Seed Federation, Croplife, EuropaBio, NBT Platform,...
- *Voices:* Research institutes (VIB, Rothamsted) + lobbyplatforms: EU-SAGE, EPSO
- *Facilitators:* Lobby and PR firms

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- *Pressurers:* Govts USA, Canada, Argentina..

The ECJ ruling 25 July 2018



The communication strategy



PLANT
BREEDING BEGAN

**9,000
-
11,000**
YEARS AGO

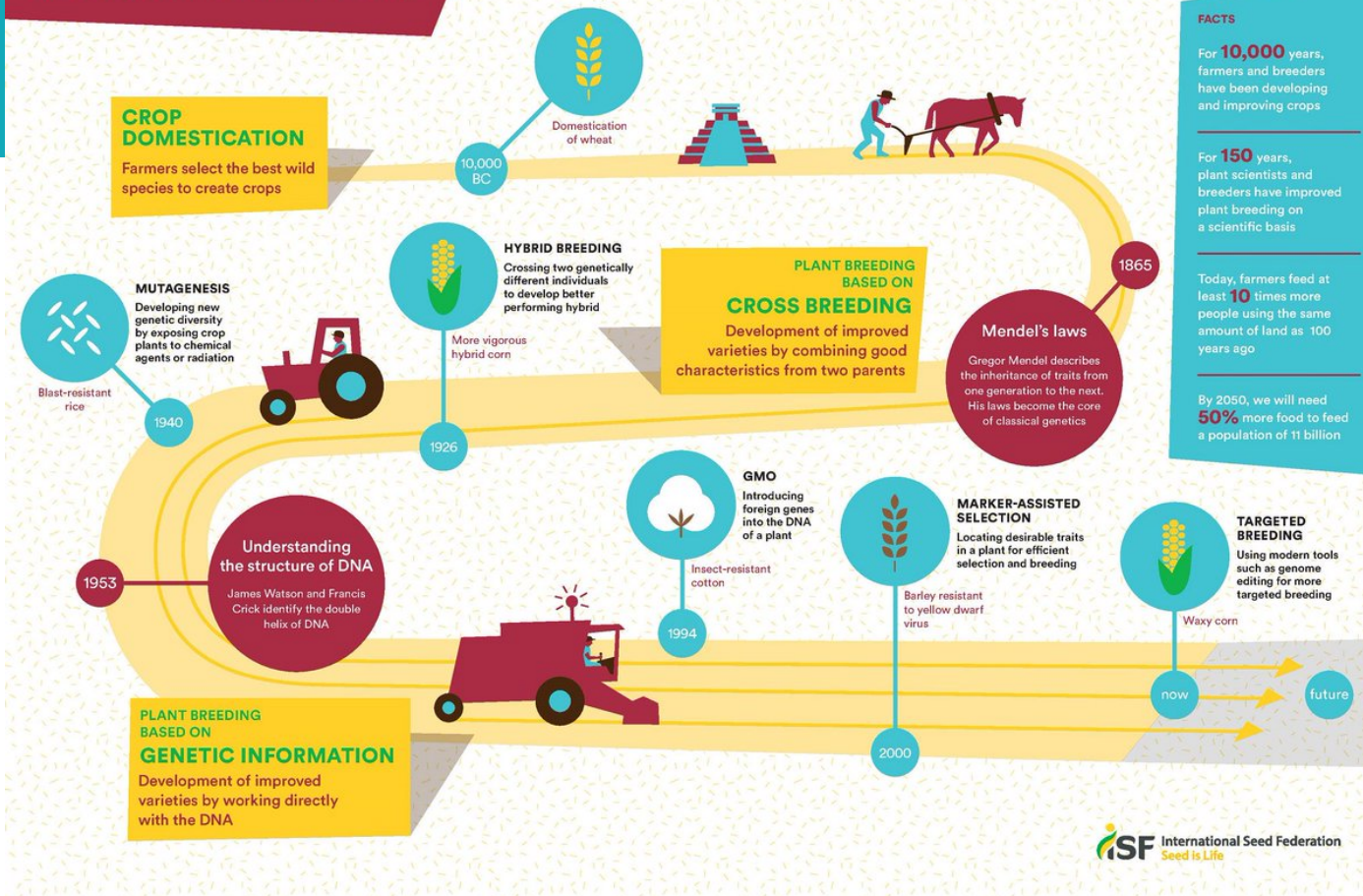
EMBRACING
THE POWER
OF NATURE

When farmers started
selecting seeds of favoured
plants to grow crops for
the coming season.

#EmbracingNature

www.plantbreeding.eu

MILESTONES IN PLANT BREEDING



FACTS

For **10,000** years, farmers and breeders have been developing and improving crops

For **150** years, plant scientists and breeders have improved plant breeding on a scientific basis

Today, farmers feed at least **10** times more people using the same amount of land as 100 years ago

By 2050, we will need **50%** more food to feed a population of 11 billion

Statement from “public research institutes”



Member State route

EPSO 2nd informal science – policy meeting on genome editing in Brussels, 24.1.2020

List of participants - confirmed in bold – by 23.1.2020

Participating countries:

Belgium

[REDACTED] Federal Ministry of Environment – apologies, [REDACTED] reporting back to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Federal Ministry of Environment - apologies

[REDACTED] VIB

Estonia

[REDACTED], Ministry of Environment – apologies, [REDACTED] providing information on [REDACTED] behalf

[REDACTED], Tallinn University of Technology – apologies

[REDACTED] Member Estonian commission for gene technology under the Min. of Env.

Finland

[REDACTED], Foreign Ministry

[REDACTED] LUKE & EPSO President

France

[REDACTED], Ministry for Agriculture and Food

[REDACTED], INRA

Germany

[REDACTED], Ministry for Education and Research, 726 Bioeconomy – apologies

[REDACTED], PTJ on behalf of C Böhm

[REDACTED], PTJ

[REDACTED], Ministry for Education and Research, 611 Ethics & Law in Life Sciences

[REDACTED], Ministry of Food and Agriculture, 222 – New Technologies - apologies

[REDACTED], Ministry of Food and Agriculture, 222 – New Technologies

[REDACTED], JKI

The Netherlands

[REDACTED], Ministry for Agriculture – apologies, exchanging with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WUR

Taskforce ReImagine Europa



What now?

- Member States reactions
- EP Farm to Fork opinion
- Roadmap, Impact assessment
- Proposal 2022?

Any questions?



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Lobby transparency: Corporate Europe Observatory is registered in the EU lobby transparency register under identification number 5353162366-85.