Facts and figures relative to the import of GM products

EU imports needed

The EU relies on imports of commodities to meet its needs of protein-rich ingredients.

- **13 million tons of soybeans** and
- **18 million tons of soybean meals**.

are imported annually to the EU from different origins. **USA, Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina** and **Canada** are key EU suppliers. These countries are also early adopters of the cultivation of GM technology.

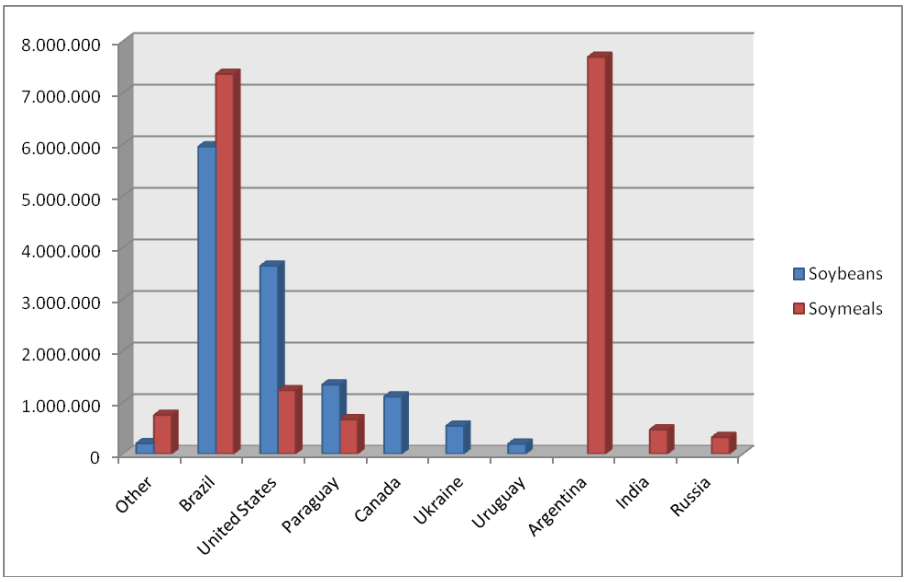
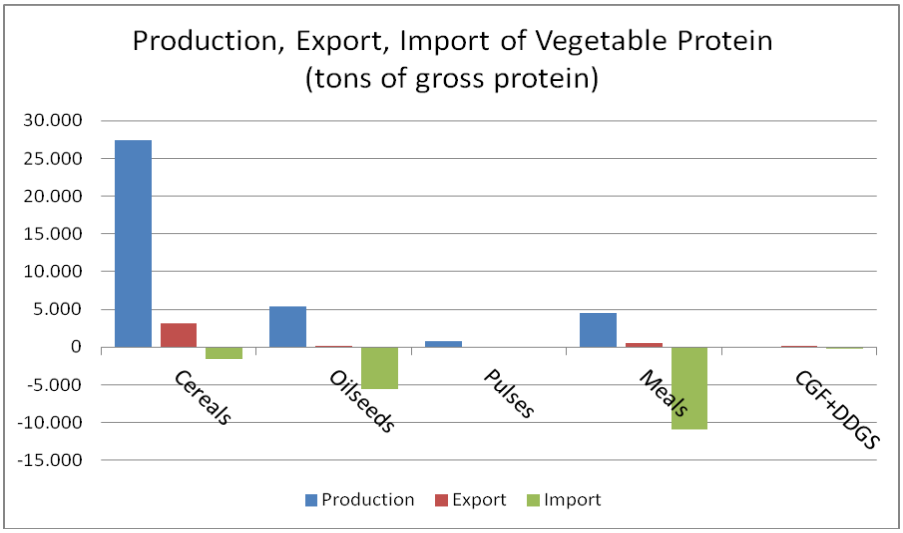


Figure 1: *main origins of EU soybean and soybean meal imports (source GTIS 2013/2014)*



EU protein balance

Europe cultivates important volumes of cereals, oilseeds, and also produces crops and processed feed materials that are source of proteins.

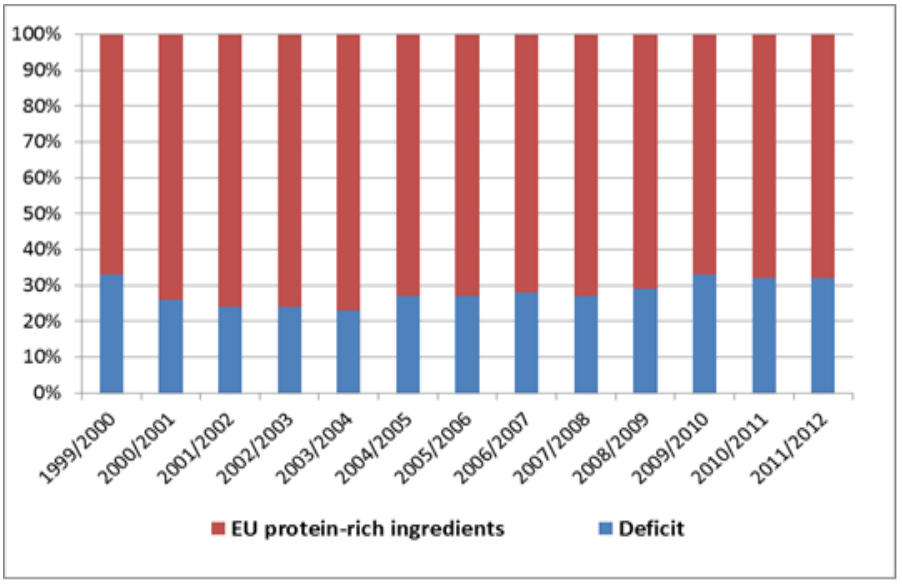
While the cereals surplus is exported to other markets, Europe needs to import vegetable protein to complement its own production and satisfy the needs of its animal production chain.

Figure 2: *production, export and import of vegetable protein, 2012/2013, in tons of gross protein*

The EU protein deficit

The EU needs to fill the over **30% protein deficit** which fluctuated over the last ten years between 25% and 35%.

Figure 3*: evolution of EU protein-rich ingredients deficit (source: Prolea)*



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Alternatives to imports

The increase in **rapeseed** production of the last ten years, has allowed to nearly double the availability of rapeseed meal which reached 13 million tonnes in 2013.

Other **protein crops** (peas, field beans, lupines etc) are currently grown on 2% of arable land in the EU, whereas they used to represent 4,7% of the arable land in the early 60s. Since the withdrawal of dedicated support in 1992 through the CAP reform, EU farmers have lost interest in protein crops.

Even a regain in interest for **soybean production** could be noted in some EU countries, without however fundamentally offering any outlook for solving the deficit problem in protein-rich crops.

(x 1000 t)	TOTAL	AT	FR	IT	HU	RO
2013	1 171	83	110	690	82	151
2012	819	104	104	433	62	90
2011	1.213	78	121	766	91	130
2010	1.000	70	132	600	76	97
2009	911	73	110	551	72	80

Table 1: *Main EU countries producing soybeans (source: Oil World)*

Consumption of soybean meals in EU Member States

In order to understand the relevance of soybeans and soybean meals for the different EU countries, it is the apparent consumption that needs to be examined, which takes into account soybean meal local production and net imports of soybean meals. The table below shows an average of soybean meal consumption. It is estimated that 75%[1] of these volumes are GMOs.

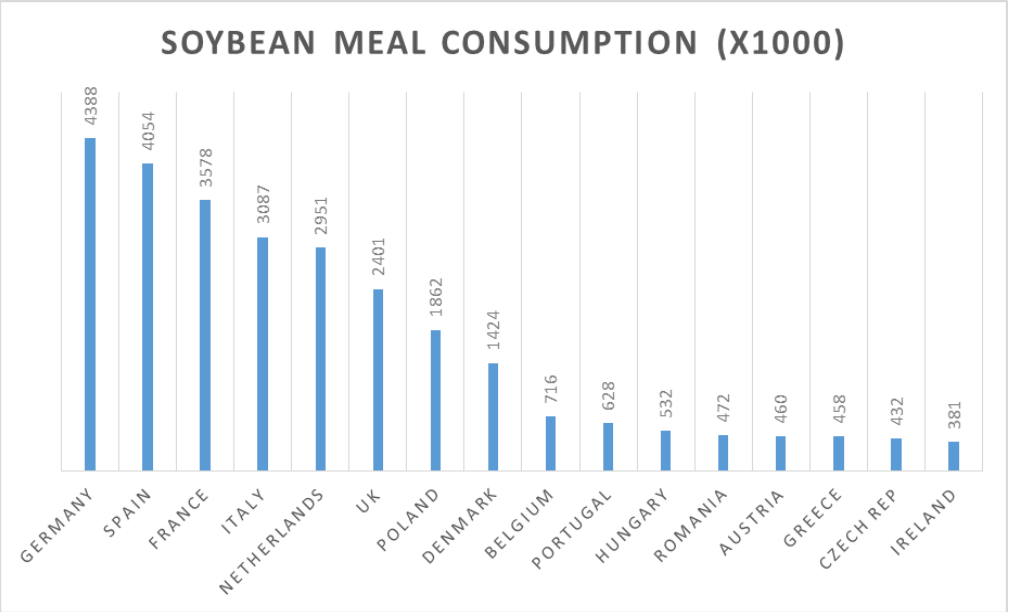

Figure 4: *the consumption of soybean meal throughout Europe in 1000 tons and calculated on a 3 years average (2011, 2012 and 2013)*

Global expansion of GM cultivation

With the expansion of areas cultivated with GM crops **around the world**, the risk of finding GM crops in conventional supplies to the EU above the 0,9% labelling threshold, is therefore intensifying.

Figure 5*: GM adoption rate in main producing countries (2012)*

	Soybeans	Rapeseed	Maize
USA	93%	97%	88%
Brazil	89%		
Canada		98%	94%
Argentina	99%		94%
Australia		7%	

In **Europe**, 48 GM events are currently authorized for food and feed uses into the EU, while 59 authorizations are still pending. 17 GM events are awaiting a formal authorisation by the EU Commission, some of which for more than 18 months. In comparison, only 1 GM event is authorized for cultivation (Bt insect resistant maize MON 810) and it is planted on around 143.016 ha in five EU Member States, 92% of which grown in Spain[2].

[1] Proceedings of a workshop on "market for non-genetically modified identity preserved crops and derived products" organised by the Commission Joint Research Center http://ftp.jrc.es/EURdoc/JRC76117.pdf

[2] ISAAA Global Status of Commercialized Biotech/GM Crops, 2014 https://www.isaaa.org/resources/publications/briefs/49/executivesummary/default.asp