Community food systems

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France: Réseau Semences Paysannes
Awareness of local products
Participatory plant breeding (PPB)

- creation of diverse populations
- decentralization of selection
  - environmental heterogeneity
- dynamic management of diversity
  - traits of agricultural interest
- farmer choice and empowerment
Framework for a PPB project

On farm trials 2009-2010
Trials 2010-2011

- regional trial
- intermediate trial
- satellite trial
- research station

NYS: Value Added Grains Project

- Variety trials: performance in organic systems and desirable grain and baking characteristics including flavor and nutrition.
- Agronomic trials: seeding date, rate, nitrogen fertilization, optimized grain quality
- Infrastructure and markets: de-hulling and milling for growers or entrepreneurs, access to urban and regional markets
Research/Extension possibilities

- Focus on small-scale farms, market and community gardens
  - variety choices, management, marketing
  - particular species or variety characteristics for small spaces, appropriate equipment or techniques

- Rotations and intercropping for sustainable productivity:
  - high-value rotation crops to manage pests, pathogens, weeds, soil health and fertility, cover crops
  - season extension methods or value-added processing and storage for year-round income
  - economics of different products, seasonal workloads
Many thanks to all who contributed

Farmers from the Réseau Semences Paysannes, especially Florent Mercier, Jean-François Berthellot, and Patrick de Kochko

INRA le Moulon, Diversité, Evolution et Adaptation des Populations group: Isabelle Goldringer, Pierre Rivière, Mathieu Thomas, Nathalie Galic, Sophie Jouanne-Pin, INRA Rennes: Veronique Chable, Estelle Serpolay, Simon Giuliano

European project partners

Sorrells and Jannink lab groups at Cornell, OREI team: Elizabeth Dyck, June Russell, Frank Kutka, Steve Zwinger, Mike Davis and Greg Roth and CIMMYT collaborators

Funded by: European Commission, Région Ile de France, the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, USDA OREI and SARE
Thank You