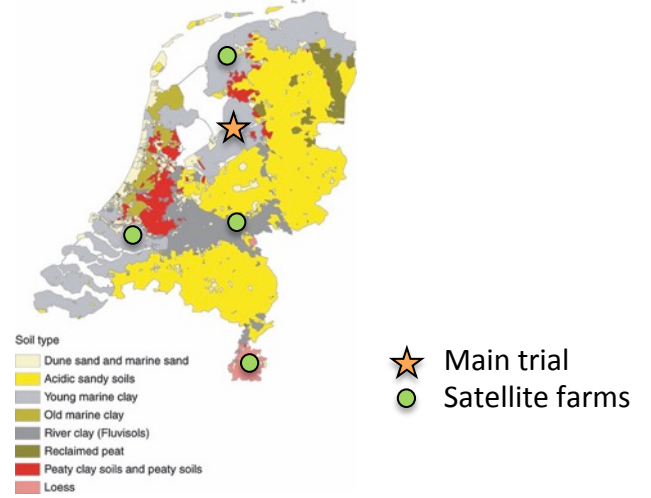




Coordinator(s) : *Edwin Nuijten & Boki Luske*
Institute : *Louis Bolk Institute*
Location : *Kraggenburg, the Netherlands*
Climate : *Atlantic*
Soil: *young marine clay*
Practice: *Organic*
Date of sowing: *march 2018*



The MAP context:

Dutch farmers hardly make use of mixed cropping systems, due to high crop risks (lodging, unsynchronized ripening), problems with selling the product and being unfamiliar with mixed cropping systems. Therefore the main activities of our MAP will be:

- *Try several new combinations of mixed crops in a trial*
- *Demonstrate known best crop mixes at several satellite farms*

2. Stakeholders involved in the project

Main actors involved :

*Farmers
 Suppliers of animal feed
 Researchers*

Farmers :

*Farmers with experience mixed cropping systems (organic)
 Farmers without experience, that are willing to try mixed cropping systems (organic and conventional)
 Farmers without experience, that want to learn the project (organic and conventional)*

Other stakeholders :

*Interested in the project on the background when there are more results:
 Farmer organisations
 Environmental organisations
 Policy makers*

*Co-designing of the MAP was done with researchers, suppliers of animal feed and farmers
 Satellite farms introduced themselves and proposed a crop mixture to the researchers*

3. The crops mixtures in the MAP

- Wheat- field bean: can we find mixtures with more synchronized ripening?*
- Wheat-lupine: are new lines of white lupine suitable for this crop mixture?*
- Wheat-clover: demonstration at several satellite farms for further adoption of this cropping system*

*Compare crop mixture with mono crops
 Measure yields, feed value and effect on soil pathogens and diseases*

Crop mixture: wheat-white clover, an example ready for practice demonstrated at satellite farms



March: sowing wheat on rows which enables undeepest harrowing

April/May: sowing white clover

August: combining of wheat at 20 cm height

Sept: white clover starts blooming and is grazed by sheep

October: Soil is plowed. Extra manure is often not necessary)

4. Next steps: Finalizing design of the trial field and satellite farms, sowing, field measurements, organizing field meetings

