



# IPM CONFERENCE 2024

*Holistic IPM: Reducing pesticide use*

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**BRUSSELS • MAY 14<sup>TH</sup>**

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## Genetics as factor in holistic IPM

Example late blight in Potato

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THIS PROJECT HAS RECEIVED FUNDING FROM  
THE EUROPEAN UNION' HORIZON 2020 RESEARCH  
AND INNOVATION PROGRAMME  
UNDER GRANT AGREEMENT N. 817617  
UNDER GRANT AGREEMENT N. 101000339



### *P. infestans* in potatoes

- Highly destructive
- Highly adaptive
- High fungicide input



### *P. infestans*, resistant variety

- Less destructive
- Highly adaptive
- Low fungicide input
- Manage resistency!!



## Holistic Integrated Pest management (IPM)

### The 5 pillars of holistic IPM

**Agricultural landscapes with diverse semi-natural habitats**  
*Hedgerows, flowers strips, beetle banks*

**Cropping systems designed to decrease pest/weed/disease pressure**  
*Crop rotation, cultivars, sowing dates, fertilisation, soil tillage...*

**Preferential use of non-chemical control options**  
*Biocontrol, mechanical weeding...*

**Optimised decision making to avoid unnecessary treatments**  
*DSSs*

**Increased efficiency of treatments**  
*Patch spraying, equipment*



Resistant variety



### Healthy crop

reduced pesticide use and impact, safer environment, enhanced biodiversity, avoidance of resistances, better pest control



## Pillars of holistic IPM in potato

Year round control strategies for both pathogens based on holistic IPM:

1. Crop diversity in space & time, farm level:
  - Crop rotation in time & space, strip cropping
  - Biodiversity strips, banker plants
2. Cultivar:
  - **Resistant cultivars available**
    - Potato: not used very much (yet)
3. Soil management:
  - Survival structures of the pathogen in the soil (oospores)
  - Clean seed
  - Volunteer control & removal of potato dumps
4. Monitoring & evaluation
  - Strategic: pathogen population monitoring (virulence to R genes, ai resistance)
  - Operational: DSS systems help optimize control strategy
5. **Direct control:**
  - Fungicides

**Agricultural landscapes with diverse semi-natural habitats**

**Cropping systems designed to decrease pest/weed/disease pressure**

**Preferential use of non-chemical control options**  
*Biocontrol, mechanical weeding...*

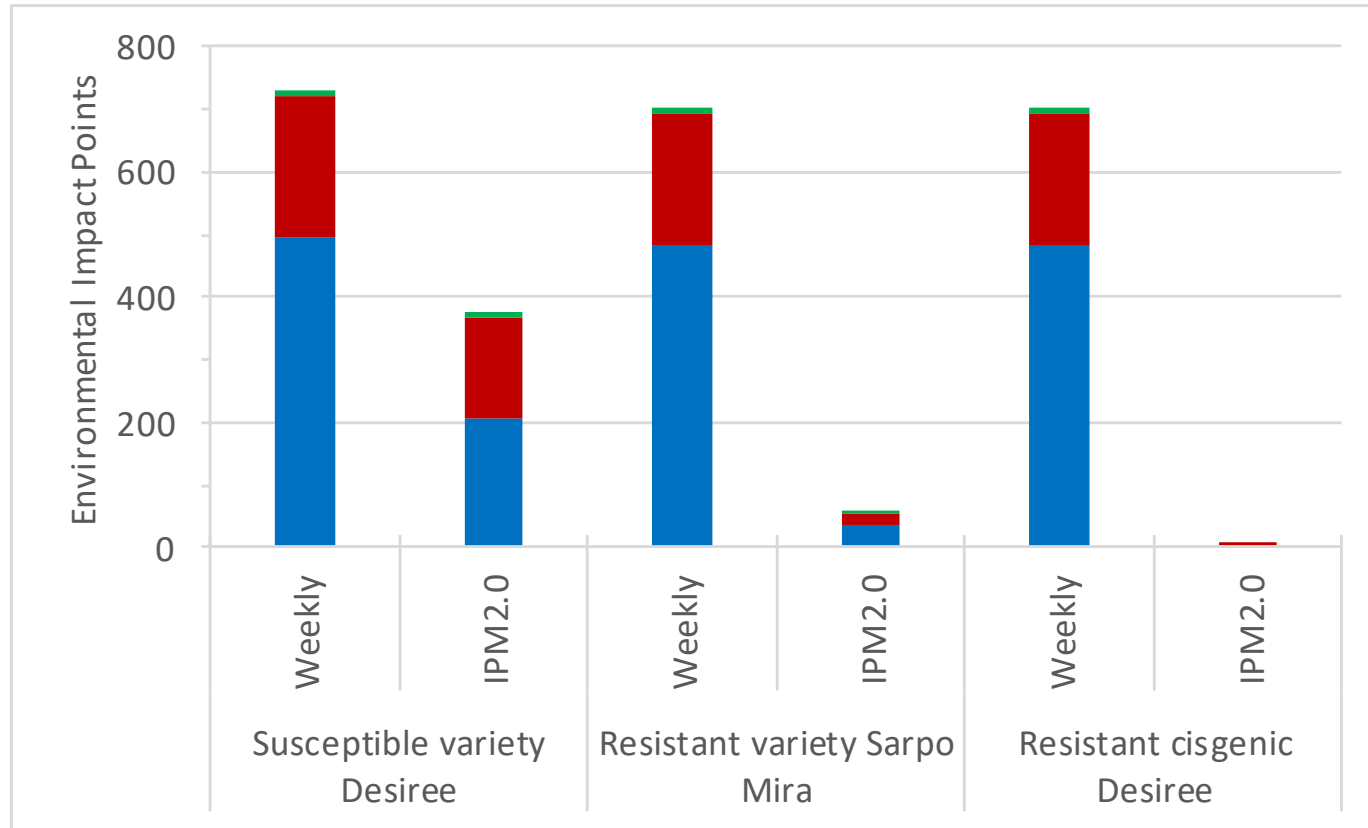
**Optimised decision making to avoid unnecessary treatments DSSs**



**Increased efficiency of treatments**  
*Patch spraying, equipment*



## Results of Holistic IPM for potato late blight (5 field trials IE & NL, 2013-2015)





# Genotype Frequency Chart

Source: Euroblight.net

Continent  
 Europe

Country  
 All countries selected

Host  
 All  
 N/A  Other  Potato  Tomato

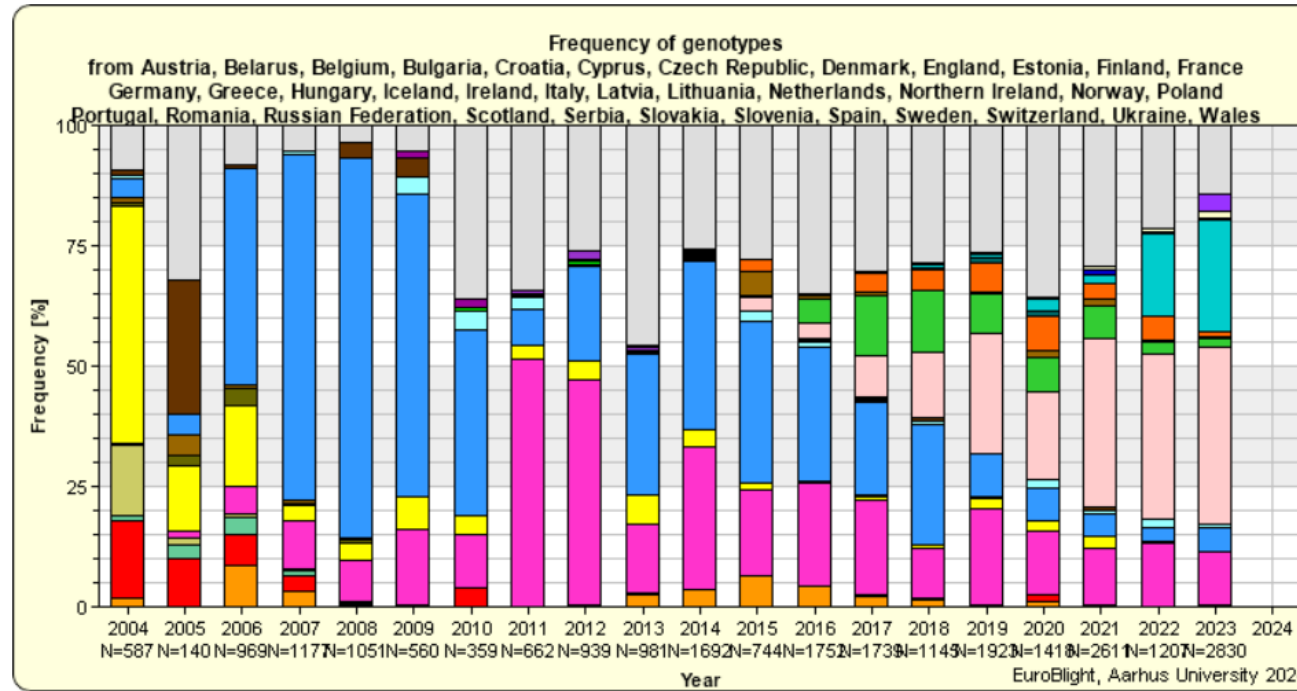
Show

Genotype legend ?

<span style="color: orange;">■</span> EU_1_A1	<span style="color: red;">■</span> EU_2_A1
<span style="color: green;">■</span> EU_3_A2	<span style="color: olive;">■</span> EU_5_A1
<span style="color: magenta;">■</span> EU_6_A1	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span> EU_8_A1
<span style="color: darkolivegreen;">■</span> EU_10_A2	<span style="color: brown;">■</span> EU_12_A1
<span style="color: blue;">■</span> EU_13_A2	<span style="color: gold;">■</span> EU_22_A2
<span style="color: cyan;">■</span> EU_23_A1	<span style="color: limegreen;">■</span> EU_33_A2
<span style="color: brown;">■</span> EU_34_A1	<span style="color: purple;">■</span> EU_35_A2
<span style="color: pink;">■</span> EU_36_A2	<span style="color: green;">■</span> EU_37_A2
<span style="color: black;">■</span> EU_38_A2	<span style="color: brown;">■</span> EU_39_A1
<span style="color: purple;">■</span> EU_40_A2	<span style="color: orange;">■</span> EU_41_A2
<span style="color: darkslategray;">■</span> EU_42_A2	<span style="color: cyan;">■</span> EU_43_A1
<span style="color: blue;">■</span> EU_44_A1	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span> EU_45_A1
<span style="color: purple;">■</span> EU_46_A1	<span style="color: brown;">■</span> SIB_1_A1
<span style="color: gray;">■</span> Other	

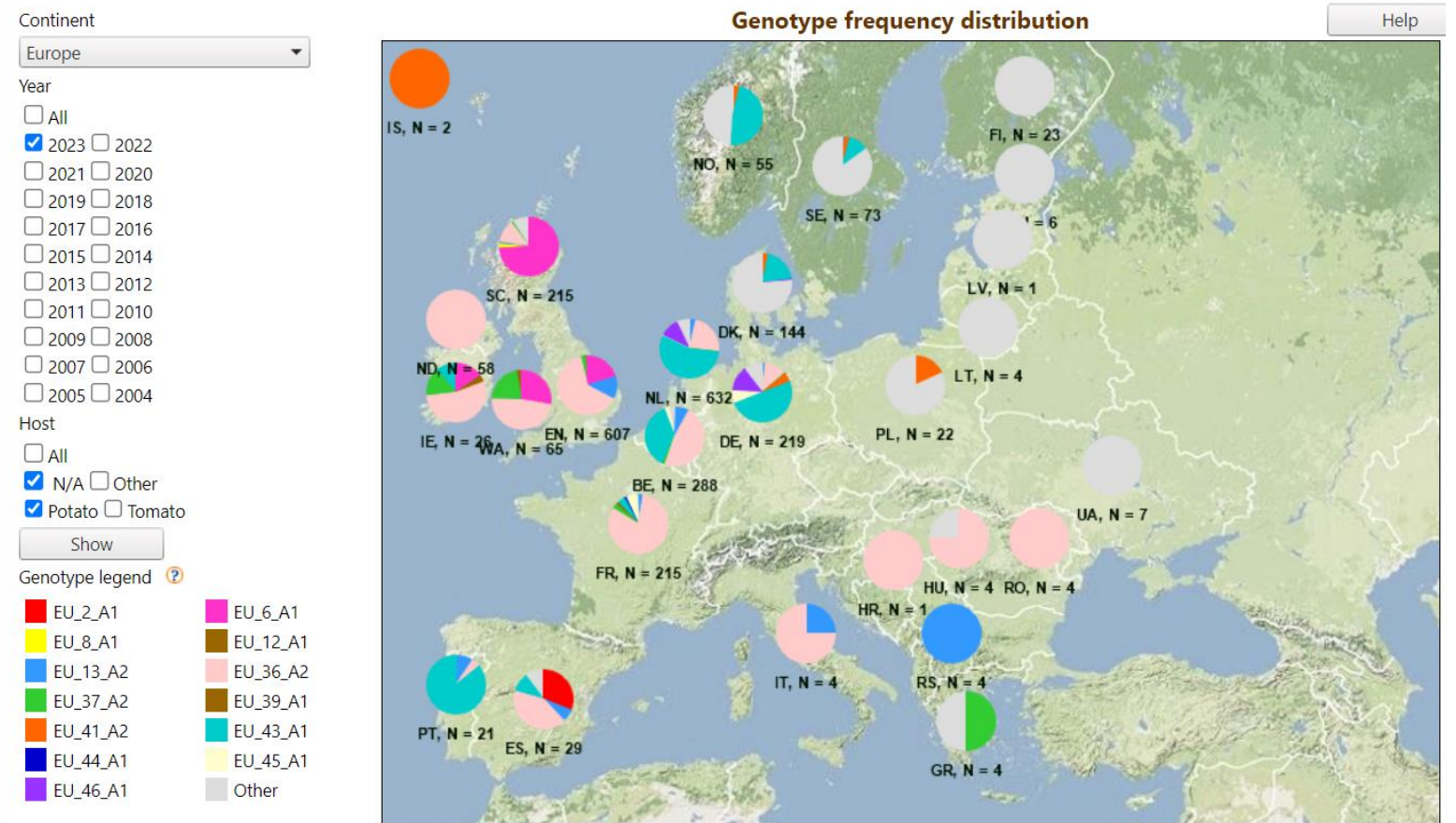
Genotype frequency distribution

Help





# Genotype Frequency Map



Source: Euroblight.net



## Pathogens change & adapt

Mechanism: mutation followed by selection

- Resistance to active ingredient
  - At least for 2 chemical a.i. groups
- Virulence to individual resistance genes
  - X out of 8 already broken
- Fungicides alone not durable!
- Resistant cultivars alone not durable!
- **We really need a holistic, fully integrated approach:**
  - Sanitary measures (no primary sources of infection)
  - Resistant cultivars (delay of first infection)
  - IPM based Decision Support Systems
  - Fungicides (low input, targeted strategy)
  - Resistance genes protect active ingredients
  - Active ingredients protect resistance genes

MOLECULAR PLANT PATHOLOGY (2008) 9(3), 385–402

DOI: 10.1111/j.1364-3703.2007.00465.x

Review

Plant diseases that changed the world

### ***Phytophthora infestans*: the plant (and *R* gene) destroyer**

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#### SUMMARY

*Phytophthora infestans* remains a problem to production agriculture. Historically there have been many controversies concerning its biology and pathogenicity, some of which remain today. Advances in molecular biology and genomics promise to reveal fascinating insight into its pathogenicity and biology. However, the plasticity of its genome as revealed in population diversity and in the abundance of putative effectors means that this oomycete remains a formidable foe.

Scholar identified 13 400 articles, with 4450 since 2002—and this search did not find all of the contributions. There are many books (e.g. Dowley *et al.*, 1995; Ingram and Williams, 1991; Lucas *et al.*, 1991), thousands of research articles and thousands of popular reports, and many historical treatments (e.g. Turner, 2005). The ‘romance’ occurs because many, many scientists have had high hopes that their investigations would lead to control of this dangerous pathogen. The ‘controversies’ (some continuing to today) develop from differences in method/interpretation—aided by ego. The vast literature creates a special challenge in writing a short overview of this organism and mandates that it be highly selective.

	2021	2022	2023
EU36 .ber1		NH	NH, FL, Fr
EU43 .R2		NB	NB, FL, Fr
EU43 .R2.blb2			NB
Other .R8		Fr	Fr, FL





## Example change spraying strategies over years

voorbeeld blokkenschema zoals tot en met 2023 gebruikt werd

T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7	T8	T9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14
●	●	●	●	▲	▲	▲	■	■	★	★	★	★	★

van blok bespuiting naar afwisselen

From block spraying to alternating

voorbeeldschema waarbij producten worden afgewisseld

T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7	T8	T9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14
●	★	●	▲	★	▲	★	▲	■	★	■	★	■	★

naast afwisselen óók combineren

Change & combinations of fungicides

voorbeeldschema afwisselen én combineren producten

T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7	T8	T9	T10	T11	T12	T13	T14
●	★	●	▲	★	▲	★	▲	■	★	■	★	■	★
△	□	△	☆	□	☆	□	☆	○	□	○	□	○	□

Symbols correspond with a product in the next table

**Figuur 1:** Ieder symbool correspondeert met een product naar keuze uit figuur 2.



Fungicide adaptation

Mode of action  
Product name

FRAC-groepcode	Groep 11	Groep 21	Groep 27	Groep 28	Groep 29	Groep 40	Groep 43	Groep 45	Groep 49	Groep P 07
Werkingsmechanisme	Qol	Qil	c.a.-oxamine	carbamates	--	CAA	benzamides	QoSI	OSBPI	Phosphonates
Middelnaam										
Amphore Flex	C	M		cymoxanil			mandipropamid			
Azuleo	C		cyazofamide							
Banjo	F				fluazinam					
Banjo Forte	F	D			fluazinam	dimethomorf				
Canvas	A		amisulbrom							
Carial Star <sup>1</sup>	M					mandipropamid				
Curzate Partner	C		cymoxanil							
Cymbal	C		cymoxanil							
Edipro	P			propamocarb						
Enervin SC	A							ametoctradin		
Evitto	A		amisulbrom							
Exacto	F				fluazinam					
Fluzam	F				fluazinam					
Gachinko	A		amisulbrom							
Gadarock	F	K			fluazinam					kaliumpfosfonaten
Grecale	C	F		cymoxanil	fluazinam					
Infito	P	F			propamocarb		fluopicolide			



## Conclusions

- Current crop protection strategy in potatoes not durable:
  - Strategies based on fungicides alone not durable (pathogens adapt)
  - Strategies based on host resistance alone not durable (pathogens adapt)
- Fully integrated approach to pest & disease control urgently needed
  - Genetic component in IPM extremely valuable (but need protection)
    - Number of –R-genes limited, fungus highly adaptive
    - For many pests no resistant varieties available yet
    - Role of modern breeding technology?
  - Active ingredients (fungicides) needed to protect the host resistance genes and v.v.
- Fully integrated approach, incl sanitation, host resistance and low input fungicides most durable option for future
  - Significant reduction of pesticide input possible
- Complex issue for farmers, good extension service is crucial
- Support & acceptance in the value chain necessary



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**THANK YOU!**

*Harm Brinks & Geert Kessel  
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