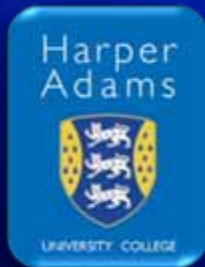


What Drives European Beef Production?



Bob Bansback
Visiting Professor
Harper Adams University College

EU Beef

- Only 19% of total EU meat market
- 13% of world beef consumption
- 2nd largest market after the US
- 7% of world imports
- Big variations in consumption levels by country
- Widely diverse production systems

Diversity of Beef Production Systems

Grasslands

23% dairy cows
34% suckler cows
33% sheep

Grasslands and maize

11% dairy cows
3% suckler cows

Forage crops and livestock

26% dairy cows
18% suckler cows

Mediterranean

17% suckler cows
48% sheep

Nordic

4% dairy cows

Crops

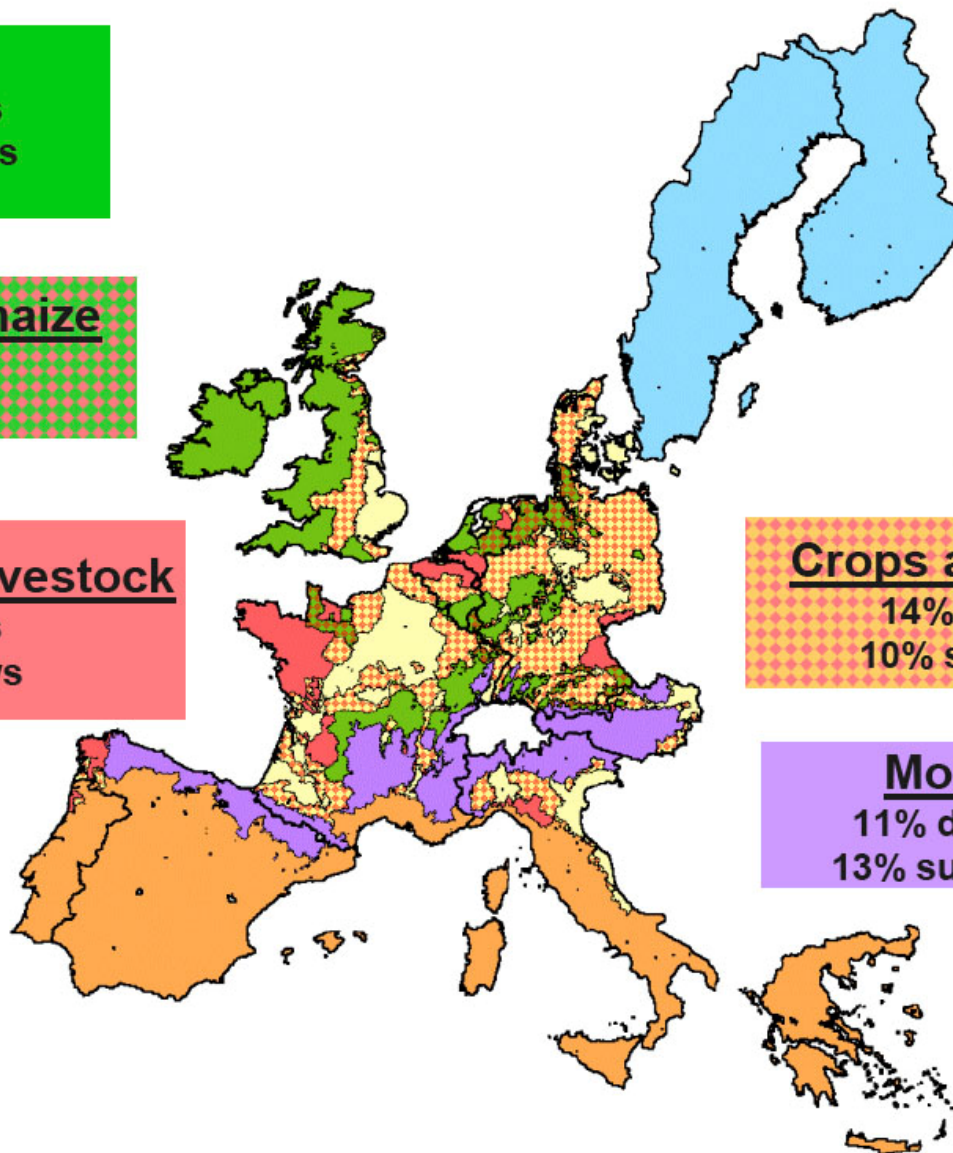
5% dairy cows
4% suckler cows

Crops and livestock

14% dairy cows
10% suckler cows

Mountain

11% dairy cows
13% suckler cows



Distribution of areas
and animals per zone

Key Drivers

Policy – EU and International

Consumer Preferences

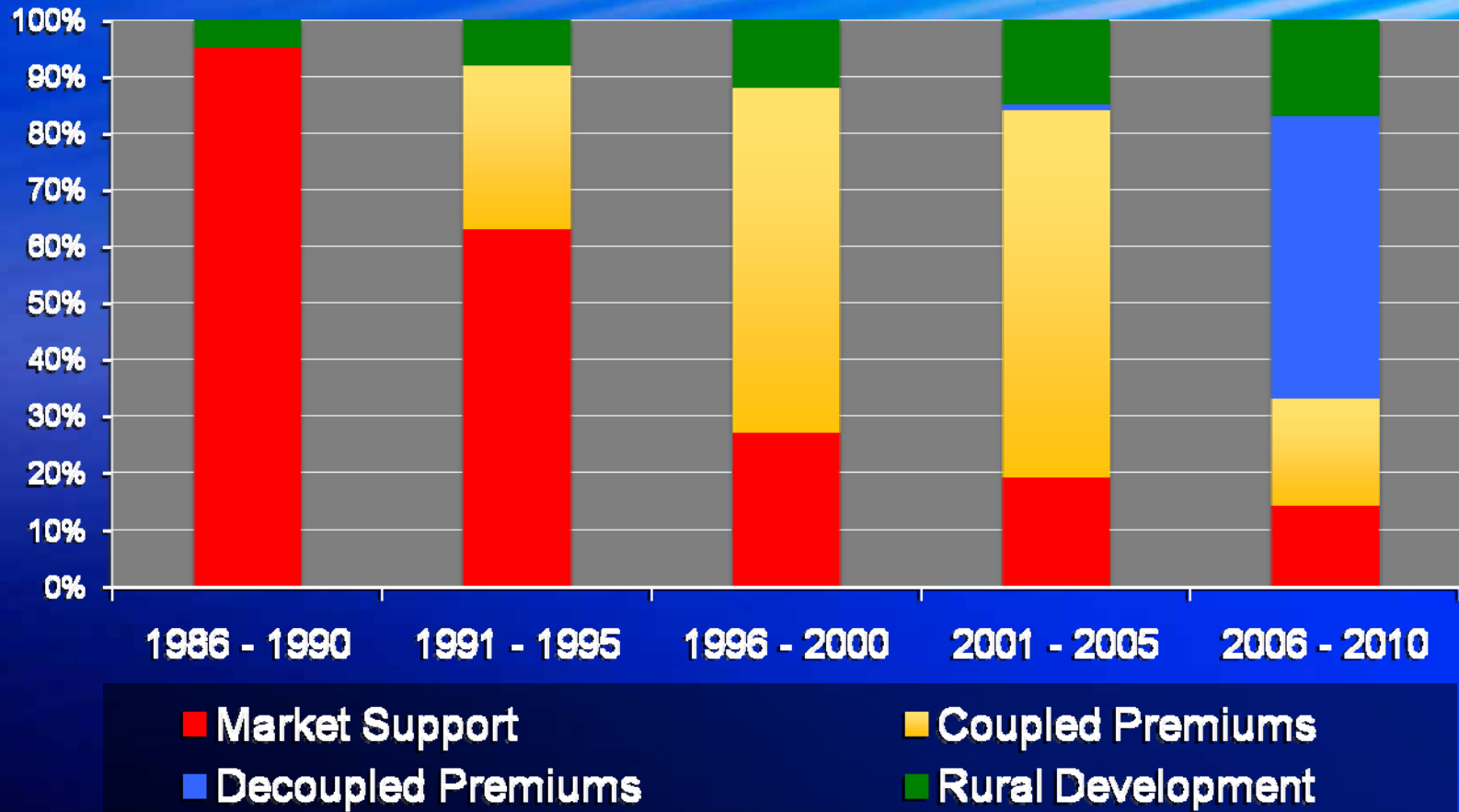
Structural Factors

Competitiveness

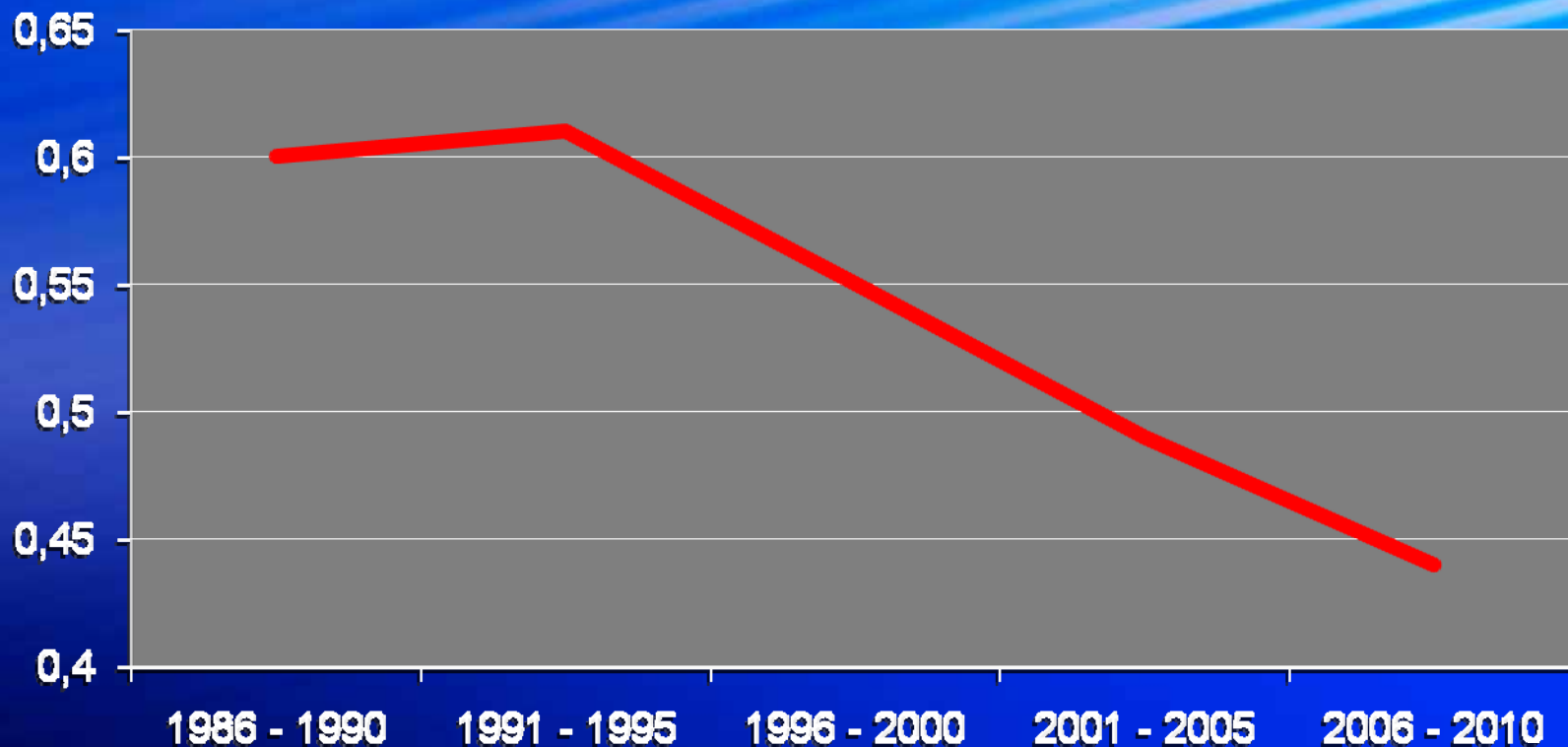
Production Costs

Environmental Issues

% EU Farm Support Measures (1986 – 2010)

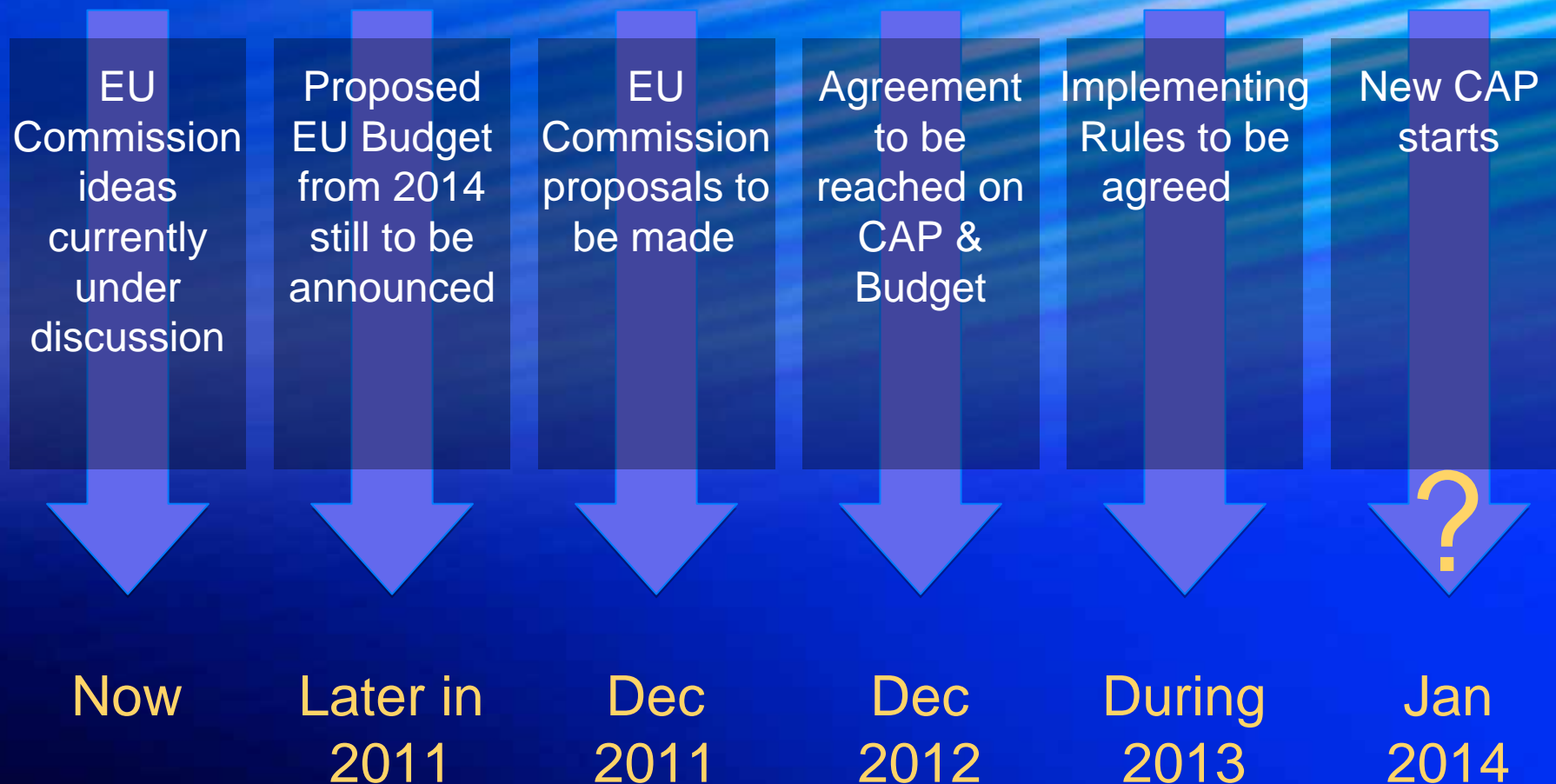


CAP Spending as % of EU GDP



EU support payments vital for most beef producers

Further Reform of CAP from 2014



Many Challenges for EU Decision-Making



Role of
European Parliament



27 EU
member States



Divergent Views on
the EU Budget

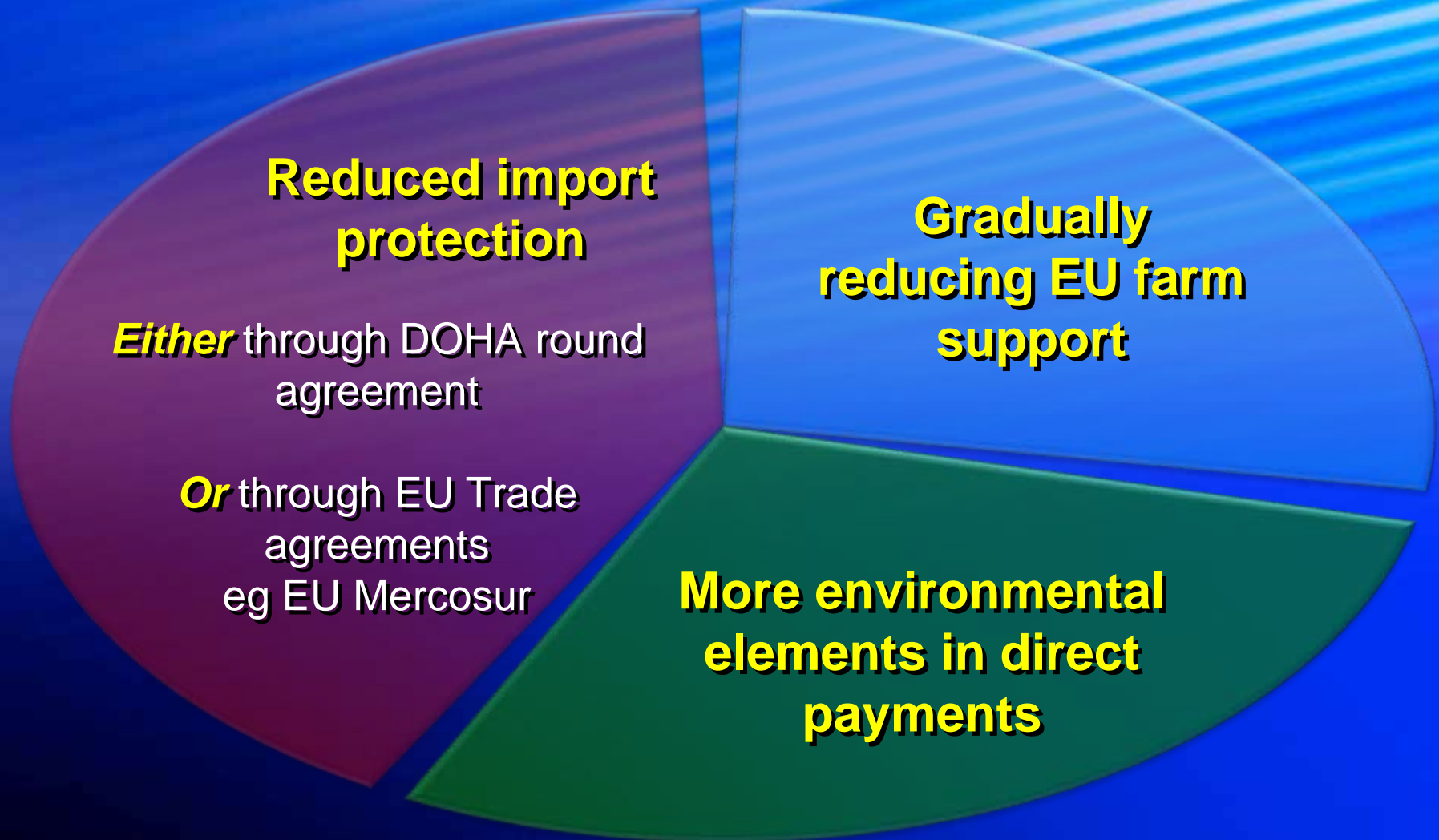


CAP to fund 'public goods'



New challenge of climate change

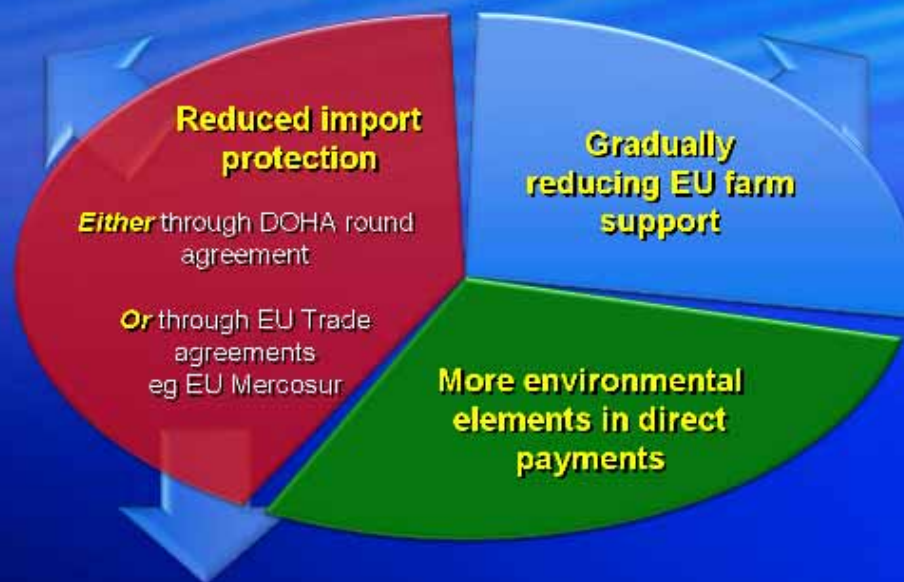
Likely Key Features of Policy Factors to 2020



Resulting by 2020 in:

More imports but
retailers/food service insisting
on higher standards

Lower cattle numbers
but productivity
increases



No significant decline in
EU beef consumption

Factors Influencing Consumer Buying Decisions (UK)

Taste / Quality

76%

Buying safe food

72%

Price

55%

Healthy eating

50%

Protecting the
environment

29%

Source: Which?

Consumer Attitudes to CAP

What should be the Priorities?

Healthy and safe food

59%

Food at reasonable prices

49%

Adequate living
standards for farmers

41%

Protecting the
environment

41%

Securing supplies for
EU Consumers

25%

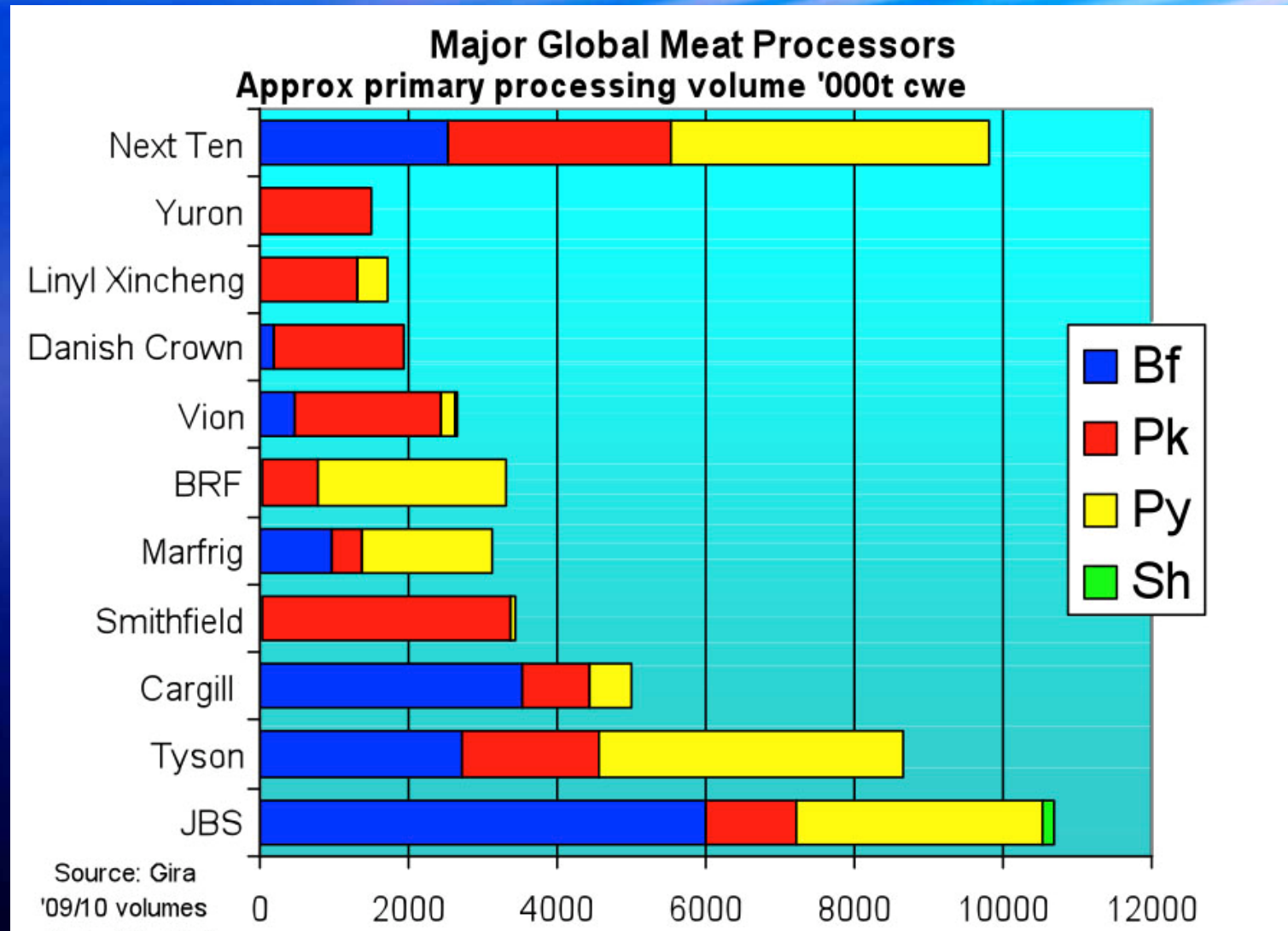
Source: Which?

Europe's Largest Grocery Retailers



Largest World Meat Companies

– By Volume



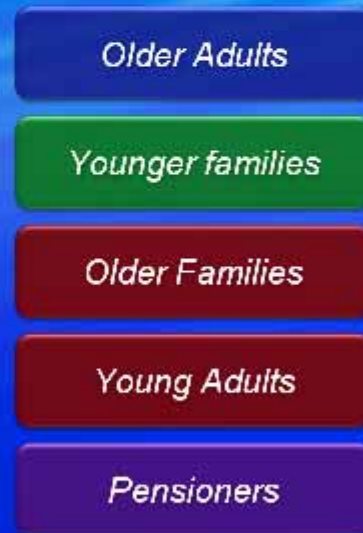
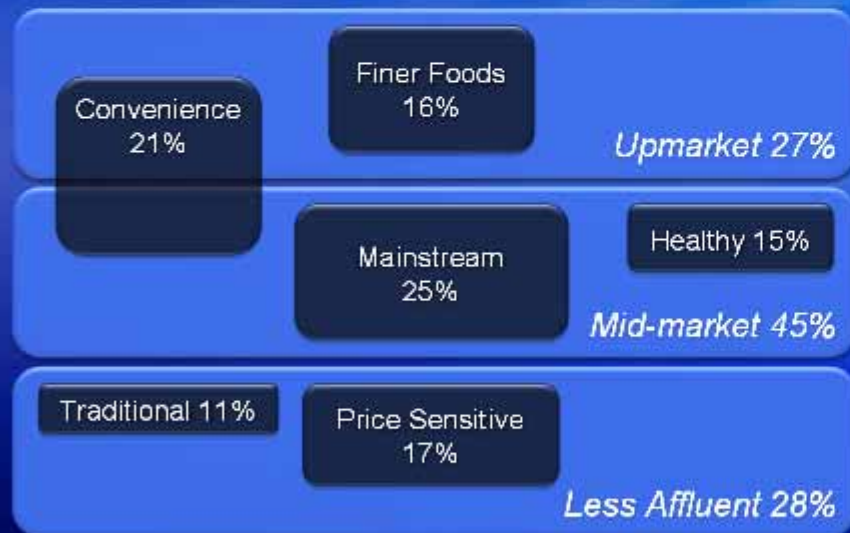
Increasing Power of Retailers and Food Service Operators resulting in:

More
concentration
among
companies

Wider role for
key
processors

More
necessity for
integrated
supply chains

Leading to greater diversity of products on sale:



*Shopping
Habits*

*Geographical
area*

*Social
Group*

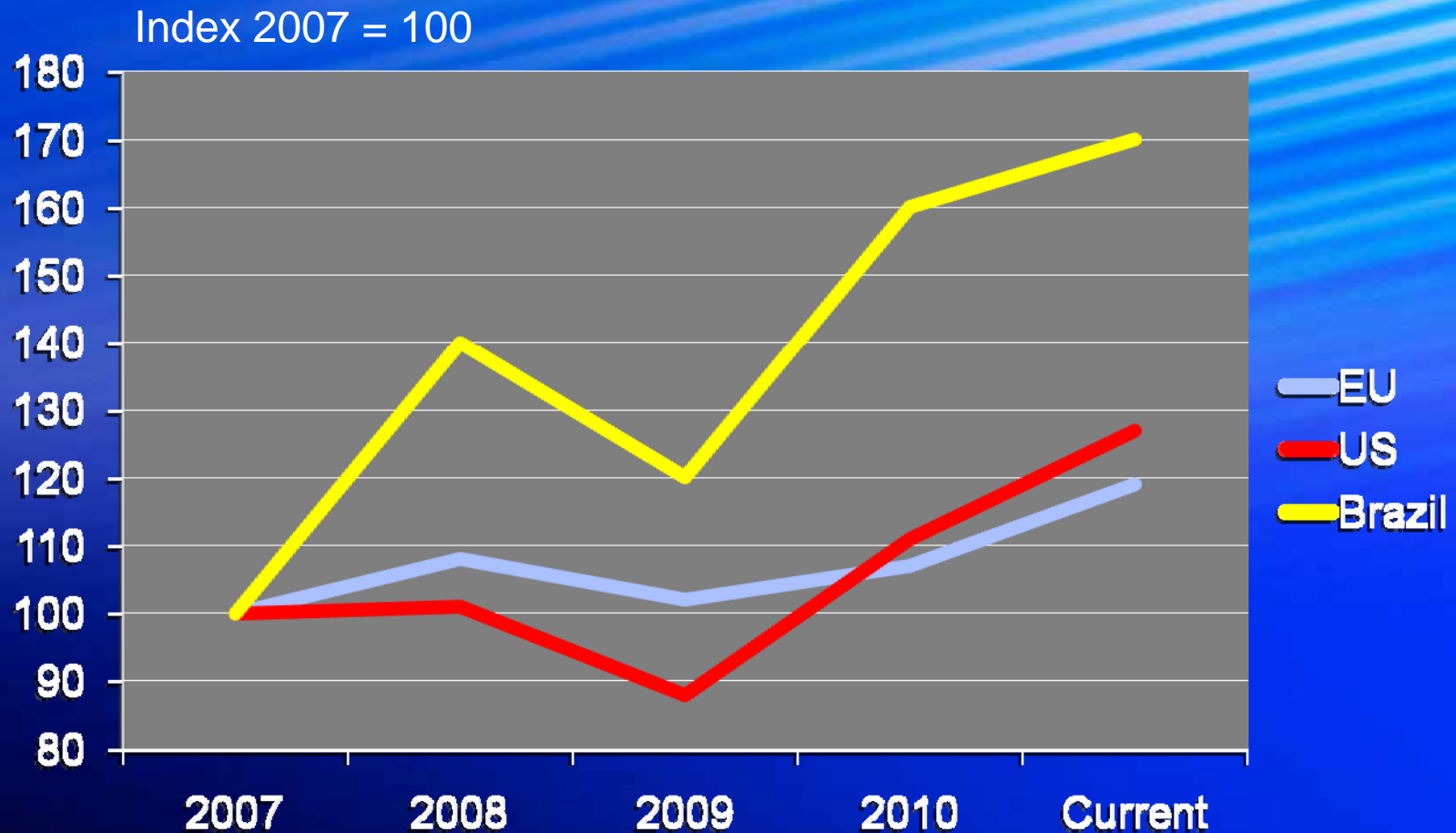
EU Beef Processors leading concerns:

- Livestock Quality and Cost
- Capacity Utilisation
- Labour Productivity and Cost
- Currency Risk and Payment Security



Competitiveness increasingly driven by exchange rates

Average price movements for cattle over past 4 years



Key conclusions:

- Gradual reduction in EU farm support
- Competitive threats
- Consumers becoming more demanding
- Greater concentration amongst processors and retailers
- Bigger need for supply chain involvement
- Environmental issues posing challenges to consumption and production