



# About myself

## Work

- Master of science in agronomy
- Agricultural consultant in Luxembourg since 2019
- Mainly fertilisation and crop protection

## Farm

- Dairy farm with 2 milking robots
- 120 milk cows + young stock
- 240 ha
  - 70 ha permanent grassland
  - 170 ha arable land

# Localisation

Luxembourg has a surface area of 2580 km<sup>2</sup>  
(corresponds to 1% of the surface of the UK)  
135.000 ha of agricultural land

**LUXEMBOURG**  
Where I work



Saarland is one of 16 german federal states  
has a surface area of 2570 km<sup>2</sup> (corresponds to 0,75% of the surface of Germany)  
78.000 ha of agricultural land

**SAARLAND**  
Where we farm



# Work as an agricultural consultant in Luxembourg

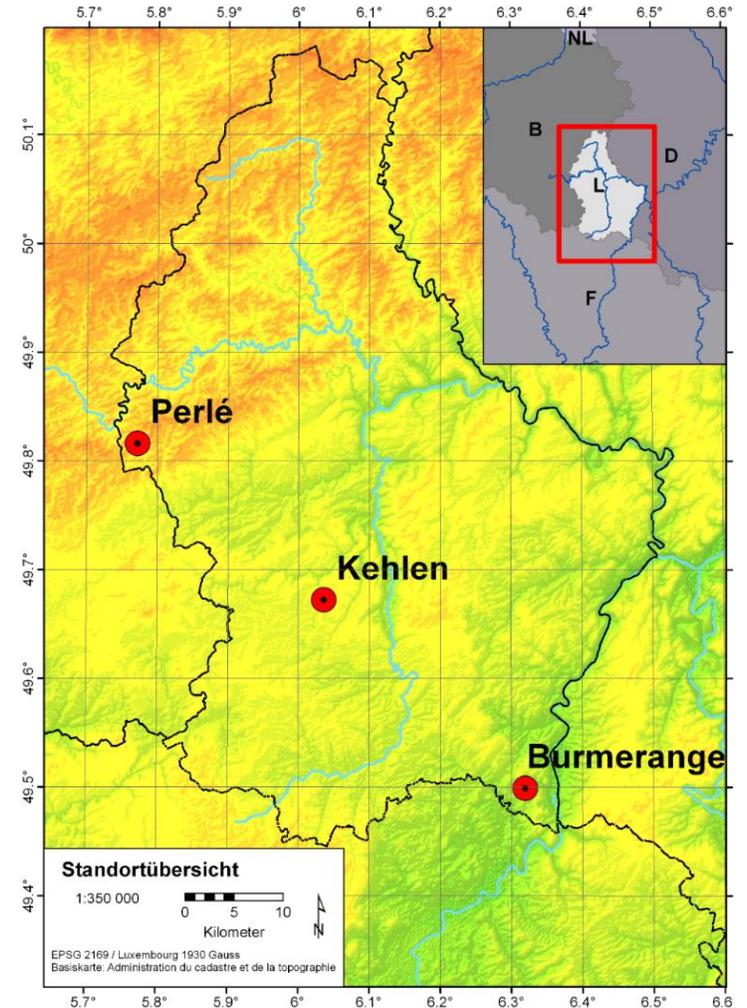
# Luxembourg vs. Saarland

- I work 3 to 4 days a week as agricultural consultant in Luxembourg (depending on season)
- The rest of the week I'm at the farm
- My main work areas are crop farming and feeding

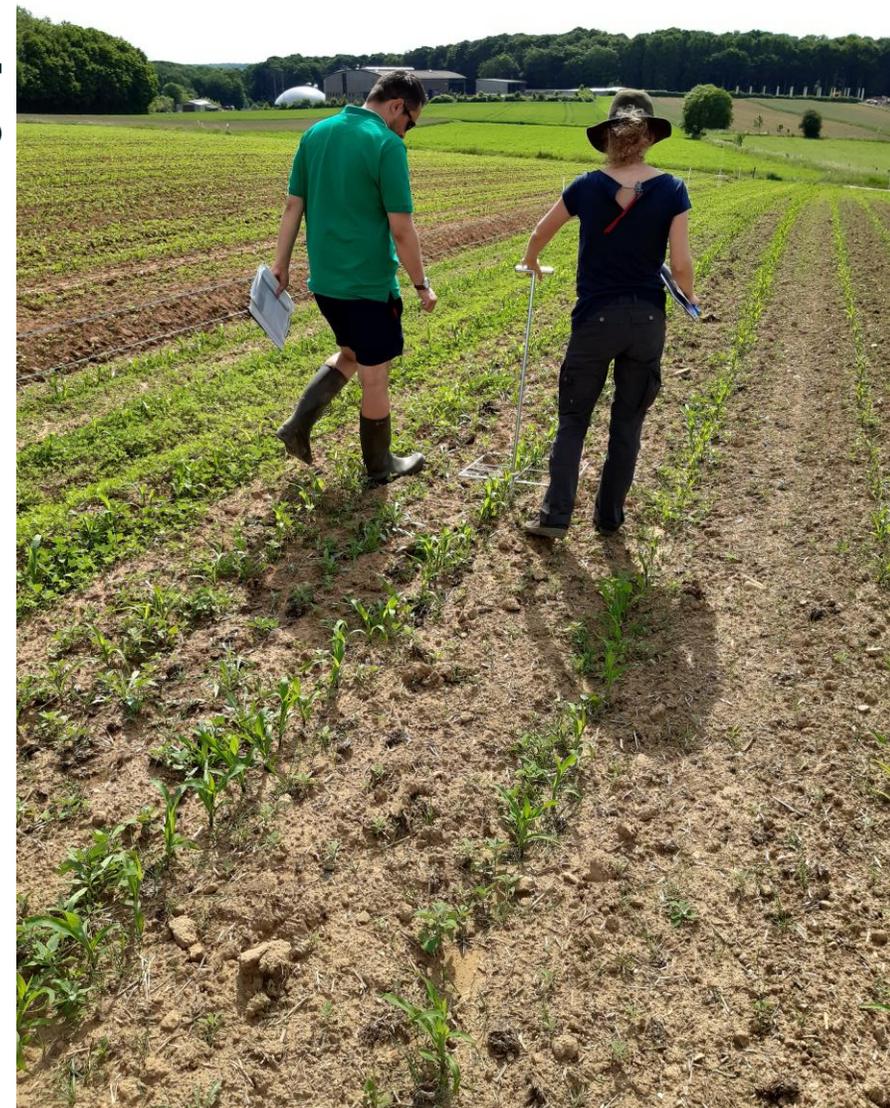


# Maize trials in Luxembourg

- ▶ From 2018 – 2022 we tested the use and efficiency of Glyphosate before planting
- ▶ 3 locations in the country
- ▶ Different forms of soil cultivation
  - Plough
  - Tine cultivator
  - Disc cultivator
- ▶ Herbicide programs were adapted to the weeds found in the field



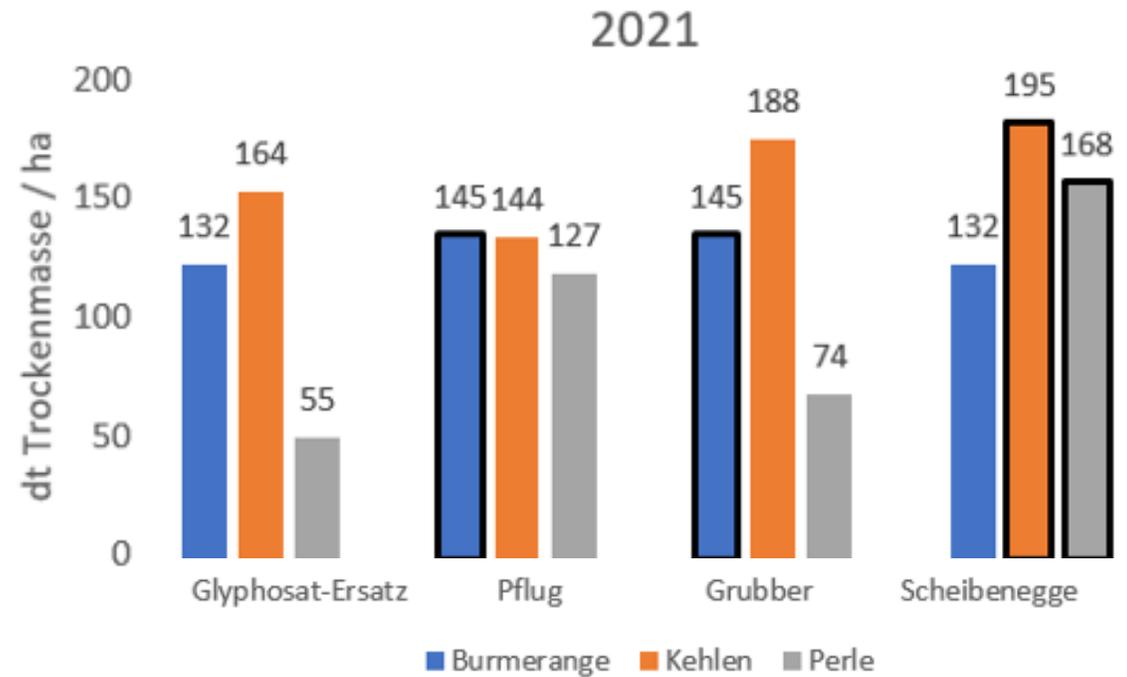
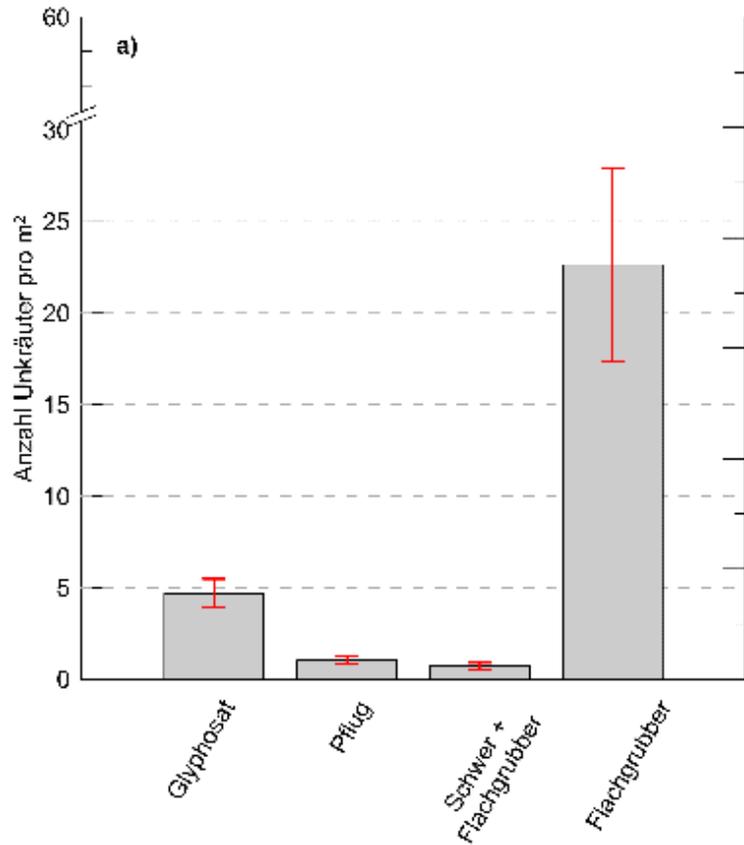
# Maize trials in Luxembourg





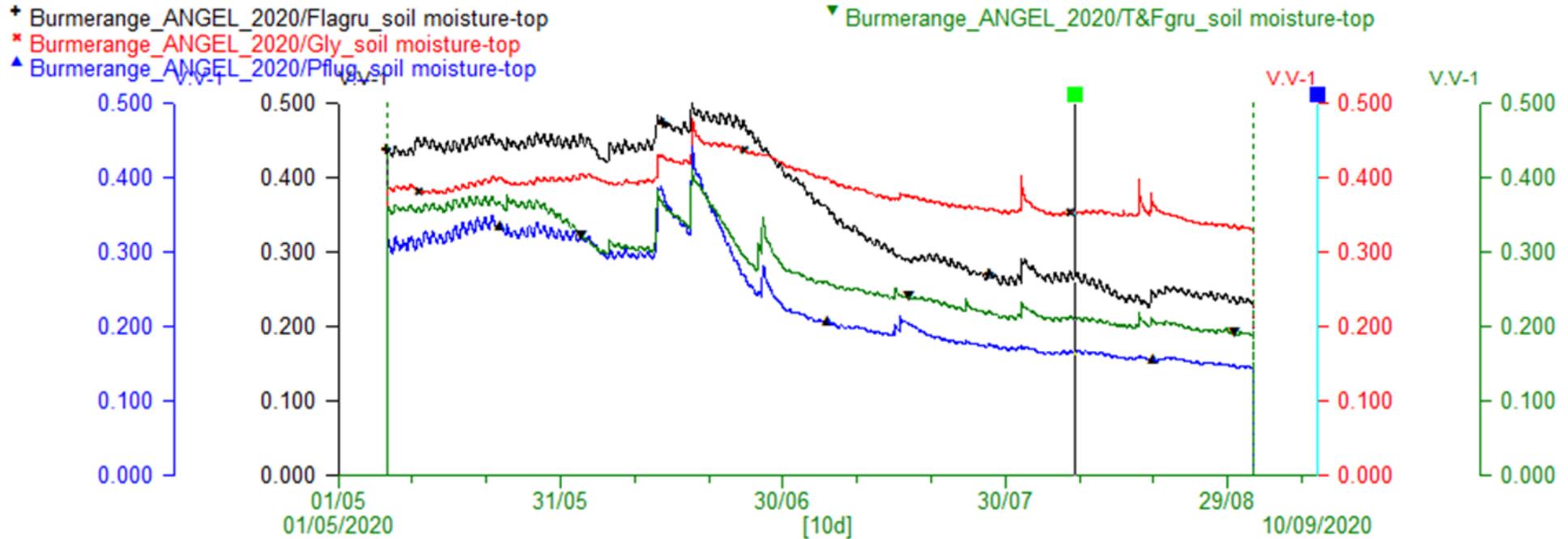
# Maize trials in Luxembourg

## Results



# Maize trials in Luxembourg

## Results



# Maize trials in Luxembourg

- ▶ European project (2019 – 2024) where we compared different weed control techniques against each other
  - One-pass herbicide
  - Two-pass herbicide
  - Maize hoe
  - Maize hoe + herbicide row application
  - Harrow (one pre- and one post emergence)

# Maize trials in Luxembourg



# Maize trials in Luxembourg

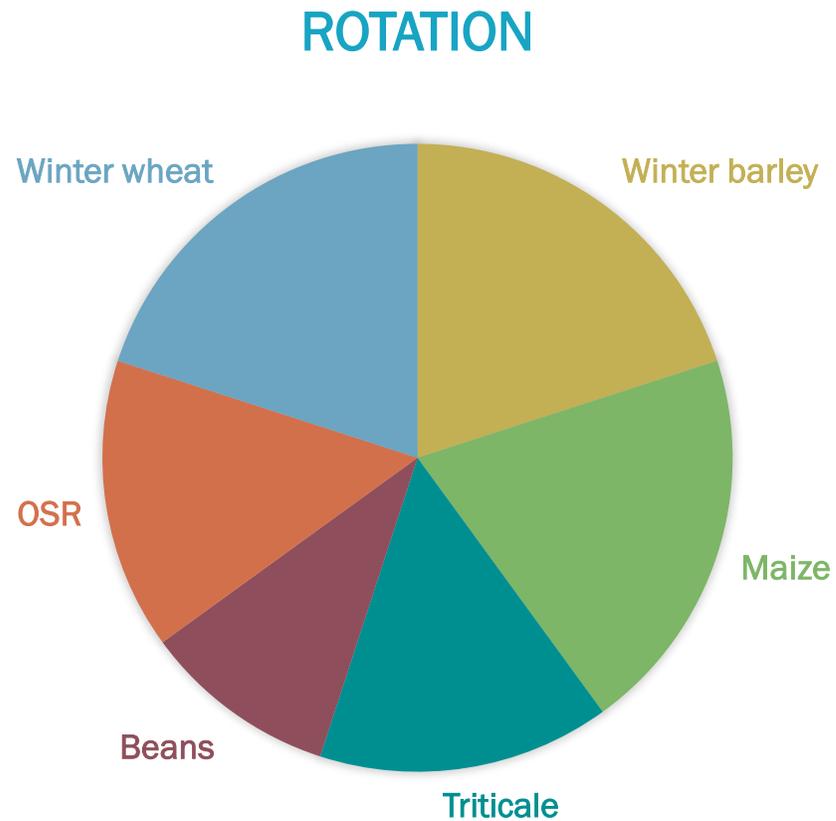
- ▶ Knowledge transfer into practice
  - Field day
  - On-Farm shows
  - Conferences





# Work as a farmer in Germany

# How we grow maize Rotation



# How we grow maize

## Cover crops

- Maize after winter barley
- Cover crop as soon as possible (in direct drilling since 2022)
- Mix of 8 – 14 species (e.g. buckwheat, phacelia, linseed, clover,...)



# How we grow maize

## Planting

- ▶ Ideal time of planting May 1st to 15th
- ▶ 6 row Horizon PPX Planter



# How we grow maize

## Planting

- ▶ experimenting with no-till maize planting since 2023
- ▶ Very challenging, because springs of 2023 & 2024 were very wet



# How we grow maize

## Fertilisation

- ▶ Manure on standing cover crop (preferably on frozen ground to avoid soil compaction)
- ▶ Slurry application and incorporation a few days before planting
- ▶ legally limited to a maximum of 170 kg organic nitrogen per ha
- ▶ We utilise this to the full and add 80 – 120 l/ha of NP 10-34 as starter in furrow



# How we grow maize

## Weed control

- ▶ Use of Glyphosate to kill the cover crop (begin of april)
- ▶ One or two soil cultivations (depending on weather and soil conditions)
- ▶ One-pass herbicide program in the 2 to 3 leaf stage
  - Dimethenamid-P + Terbuthylazine
  - Foramsulfuron + Iodosulfuron



# How we grow maize

## Harvesting



- ▶ Normally end of September beginning of October
- ▶ we achieve between 40 and 50 tonnes per hectare
- ▶ Dry matter between 29 and 36%
- ▶ Since using liquid starter fertilizer, we could boost starch content from 32-33% to 36%



**Thank you for  
your attention**