

# GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM ON SALT-AFFECTED SOILS

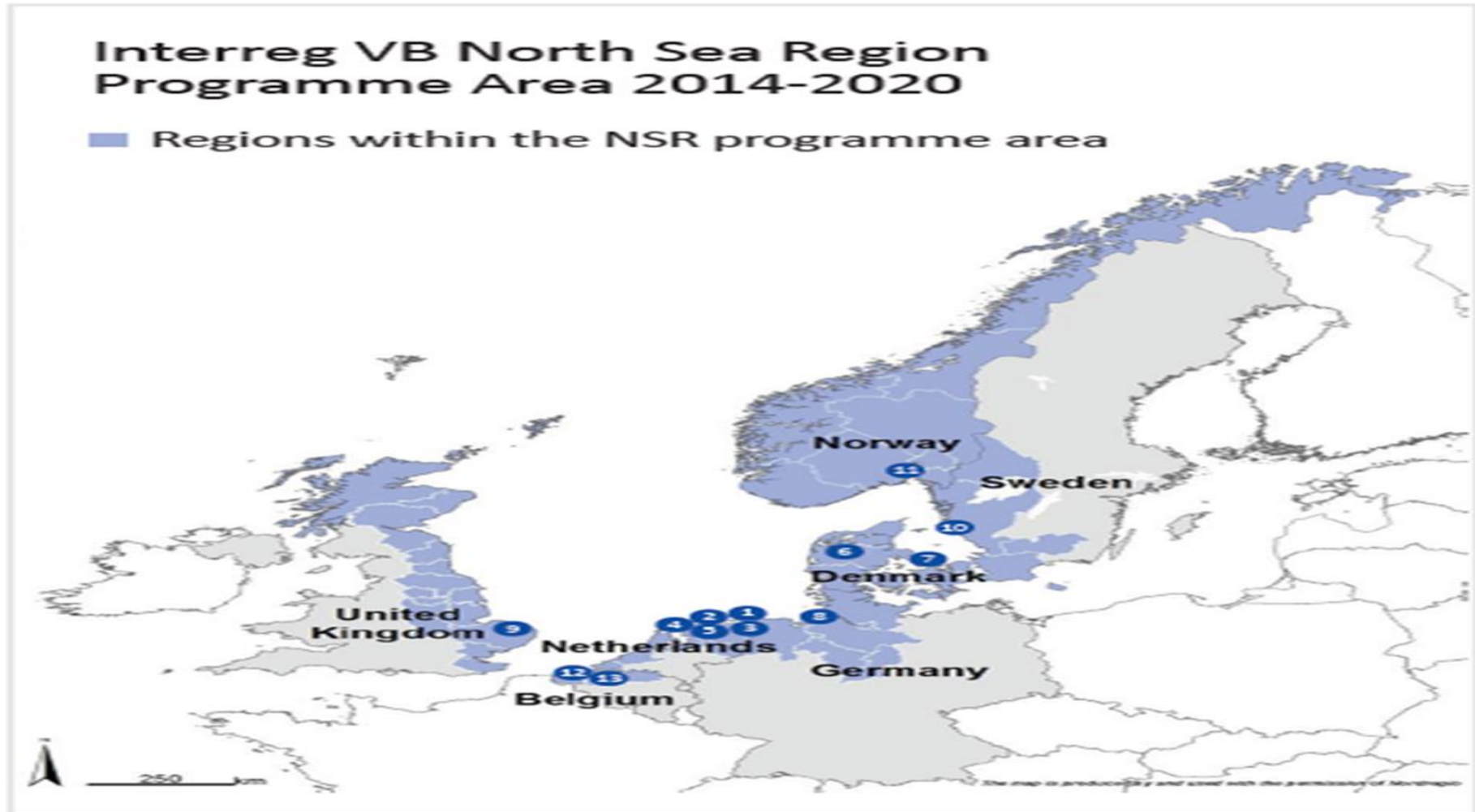
20 - 22  
October, 2021  
Virtual meeting

**Building a community of science and practice  
on saline agriculture in the North Sea region,  
Europe.**

*Angelica Kaus*



# SalFar project International partnership



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# Multidisciplinary partnership

Farmers and food producers from Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, UK

Microbiologists from the Universities Gothenburg and Lund, Sweden

Agricultural scientists, geographers and economists, University of Lincoln, UK

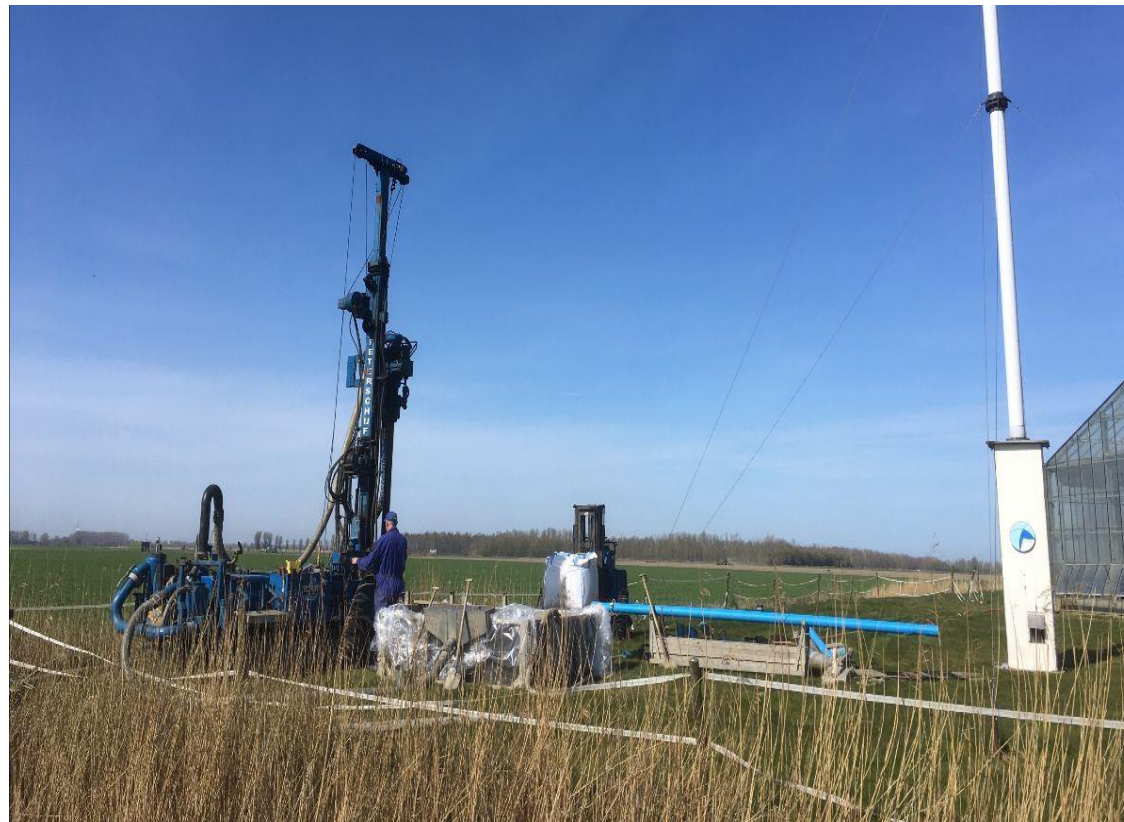
Soil experts, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Ås, Norway

Knowledge Centre for Food Innovation, Food & Bio Cluster (FBCD), Denmark

Vlaamse Landmaatschappij and Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research (ILVO), Belgium

Climate experts, policy advisors and regional municipalities

# Core of the project: Living Labs for Saline Farming



# Test field of volunteers (nerds, innovators)



# Test field of SPNA Agroresearch



# Transnational Co-operation





# Crops & Halophytes



# Crops & Halophytes



# Sharing knowledge with practitioners



Drought summer 2018



Irrigation with brackish water summer 2018

# Sharing knowledge with practitioners



Farmer café October 2018 SPNA + Province of Groningen

# Sharing knowledge with practitioners

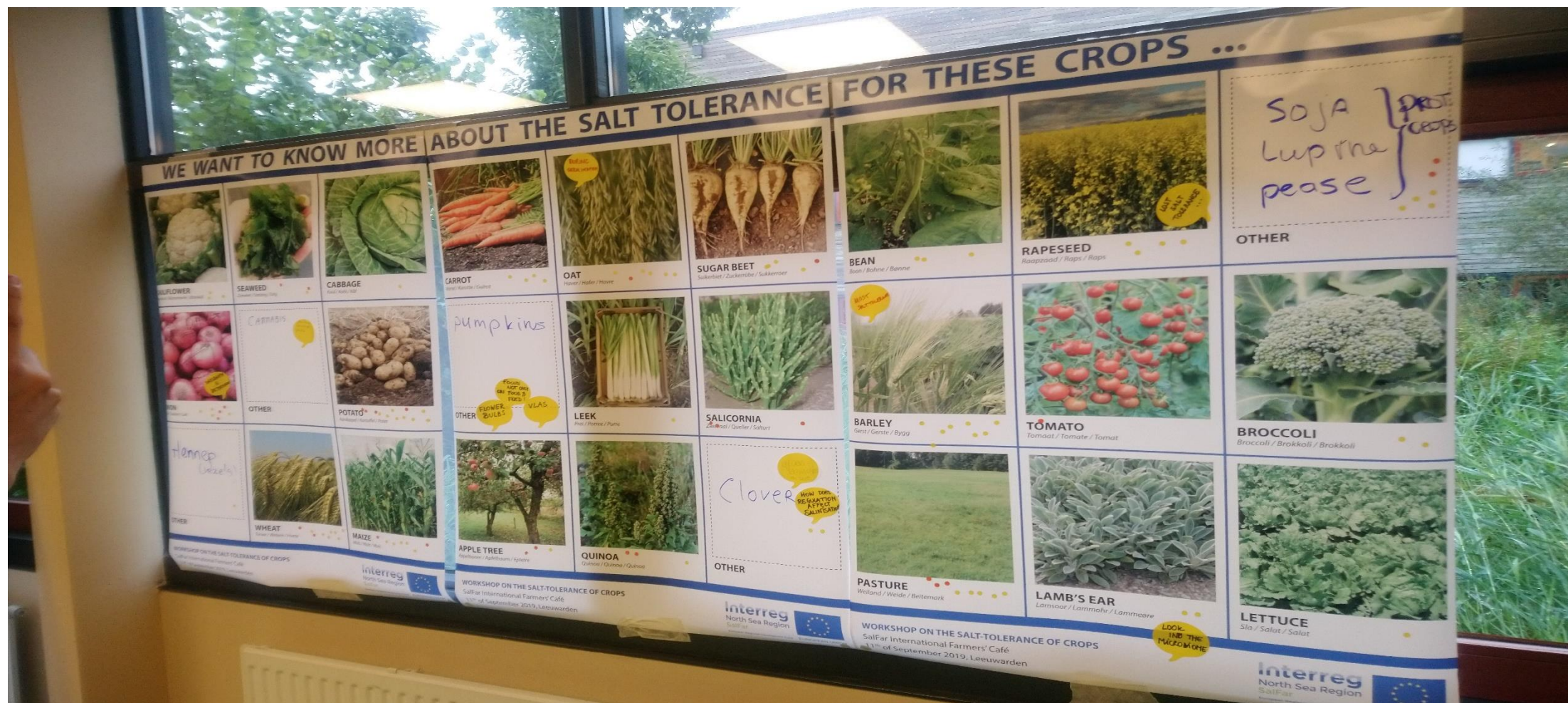


Farmers workshop at Saline Future Conference 2019



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# Sharing knowledge with practitioners



# Feedback from the farming community

- Through their daily work, farmers acquire unique expertise. This ‘tacit knowledge’ is highly valuable and supplements the knowledge acquired through scientific research
- North Sea Region farmers like salt-tolerant grass, potato, wheat and barley varieties. The majority is not in for experiments with halophytes like Salicornia, Sea fennel or Oyster plant
- Farmers said the crops of the past provide a useful gene pool for the development of saline crops for the future. They advise researchers to examine the salt-tolerance of old varieties
- The participants stressed that crop rotation is essential in order to avoid overexploitation. Hence, the implementation of saline agriculture in the North Sea Region requires the development of ‘saline crop rotation’

The entire report can be found here:

[https://northsearegion.eu/media/12556/salfar\\_report\\_on\\_international\\_farmers\\_cafe\\_final.pdf](https://northsearegion.eu/media/12556/salfar_report_on_international_farmers_cafe_final.pdf)

# Sharing knowledge with visitors



Marc van Rijsselberghe showing visitors round on testfield Salt Farm Foundation



# Sharing knowledge with scientists



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# Culinary innovation with halophytes



# Sharing knowledge with unexpected partners

**Event at the Deutsches Hygiene Museum Dresden, June 2021**



**Superfood of the drought – a speculative dinner performance**

- Will we be able to provide enough food for the growing population under increasingly difficult conditions for agriculture?
- Discussion on climate change, increasing drought, soil salinization, flooding events

# Sharing knowledge with consumers



Tasting and learning about salt tolerant plants during Aarhus Food Week

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# Sharing knowledge with a broad public

**The SalFar project aims to create innovative farming methods to adapt to climate change, reduce freshwater consumption, and thereby reclaim salt affected areas for sustainable agriculture.**

**Building a community of science and practice in the North Sea Region means to look for interested partners everywhere:**

**from farmers and food producers to policy makers and urban planners, to artists, chefs and restaurant owners, tourists and teachers.**

# Sharing knowledge widely – there is no planet B

## Salt is our friend, if

- We choose the right varieties of crops
- We know the techniques
- We use suitable fertilizers
- Practice good soil management

## We organise:

- Farmer cafés
- Excursions for farmers
- Workshops for policy makers
- Environmental Education for a broad public
- Guided tours for tourists with cooking workshops
- Inspirational Guide for Saline Farming

We are SalFar

<https://northsearegion.eu/salfar>

**Interreg**  
North Sea Region  
SalFar

European Regional Development Fund



EUROPEAN UNION



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SalFar Final conference  
4-6 April 2022  
Groningen, Netherlands

Thank you!