Concentration of market power in the EU seed market

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Food sovereignty means access to seeds that are

- healthy,
- local,
- produced in agroecological conditions,
- Non GM

But in general means that people have **control** and **decision power** on food chain **(food democracy)**

Is this possible today?

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Why is concentration in the seed sector dangerous?

4 companies → 40% of the market

"when four companies control more than 40% of a market it's no longer competitive because of the greater possibility to keep prices high, and can be considered an oligopoly.“

- Less diversity
- Less innovation
- Higher prices

World’s Top 10 Seed Companies, 2011

Rank	Company	Seed Sales, 2011 US$ millions	% Market Share
1.	Monsanto	8,953	26.0
2.	DuPont Pioneer (USA)	6,261	18.2
3.	Syngenta (Switzerland)	3,185	9.2
4.	Vilmorin (France) (Groupe Limagrain)	1,670	4.8
5.	WinField (USA) (Land O Lakes)	1,346 (est.)	3.9
6.	KWS (Germany)	1,226	3.6
7.	Bayer Cropscience (Germany)	1,140	3.3
8.	Dow AgroSciences (USA)	1,074	3.1
9.	Sakata (Japan)	548	1.6
10.	Takii & Company (Japan)	548	1.6
Total Top 10		**25,951**	**75.3**

Source: ETC Group, Phillips McDougall

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2.3. Consolidation in the global seed market: the seed giants

Table 6: Evolution of the market share of the biggest seed companies in the world[16]

1985	$M		1996	$M		2009	$M		2012	$M	
COMPANY	Net sa-les	% of global seed market	COMPANY	Net sales	% of global seed market	COMPANY	Net sales	% of global seed mar-ket	COMPANY	Net sales	% of global seed mar-ket
PIONEER	735	4.1	PIONEER	1500	5.0	MONSANTO	7297	17.4	MONSANTO (USA)	9800	21.8
SANDOZ	290	1.6	NOVARTIS	900	3.0	DUPONT-PIONEER	4700	11.2	DUPONT-PIONEER (USA)	7000	15.5
DEKALB	201	1.1	LIMAGRAIN	650	2.2	SYNGENTA	2564	6.1	SYNGENTA (SWITZERLAND)	3200	7.1
UPJOHN -ASGROW	200	1.1	ADVANTA	460	1.5	LIMAGRAIN	1155	2.8	LIMAGRAIN (FRANCE)	1700	3.8
LIMAG-RAIN	180	1.0	SEMINIS	375	1.3	KWS	920	2.2	WINFIELD (USA)	1300	3.5
SHELL NICKERSON	175	1.0	TAKII	320	1.1	BAYER	645	1.5	KWS (DENMARK)	1300	2.9
TAKII	175	1.0	SAKATA	300	1.0	DOW	635	1.5	DOW (USA)	1000	2.9
CIBA GEIGY	152	0.8	KWS	255	0.9	SAKATA	485	1.2	BAYER (GERMANY)	0.4	2.2
VANDERHAVE	150	0.8	DEKALB	250	0.8	LAND O'LAKES	?	?	SAKATA (JAPAN)	0.4	1
Share in Global Seed Market (GSM)		**12.5 %**			**16.7 %**			**>44 %**			**62%**

Source: Elaboration by EP Policy Department B, based on Schenkelaars et al. 2011; Fugeray-Scarbel and Lemarié, 2013 (to be published); Ducros et al., 2013. Note: for 2011, **ETC Group reached an even higher market share for the top ten companies (75.3%).**

25 years of concentration

1985:

top 5 companies controlled less than 9% of the world’s seed market shares

2012:

top 5 companies controlled around 52 and 62 % of the world’s seed market shares

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Is the EU seed market concentrated?

- In 2008 in the EU (including Turkey), the top 5 companies controlled around 40% of the market.
- In 2011 the same companies control 50% of it.

BASED ON AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON MARKET SHARES, 40% OF THE TOTAL EU SEED MARKET CORRESPONDS TO EXTREMELY CONCENTRATED MARKETS.

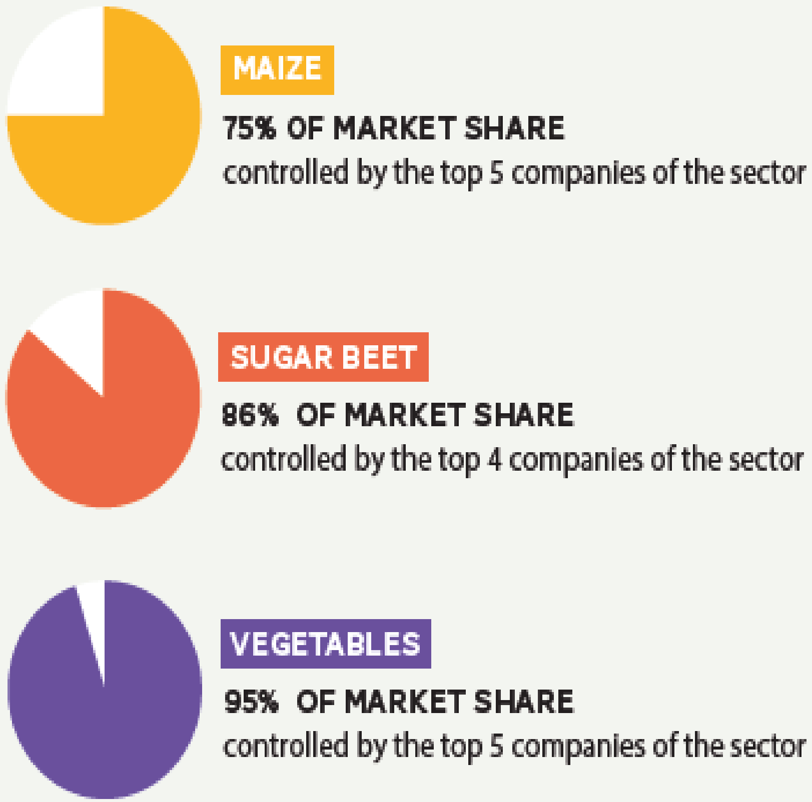

Figure 2:
EU market shares of the top companies in the maize, sugar beet and vegetable seed markets [16]

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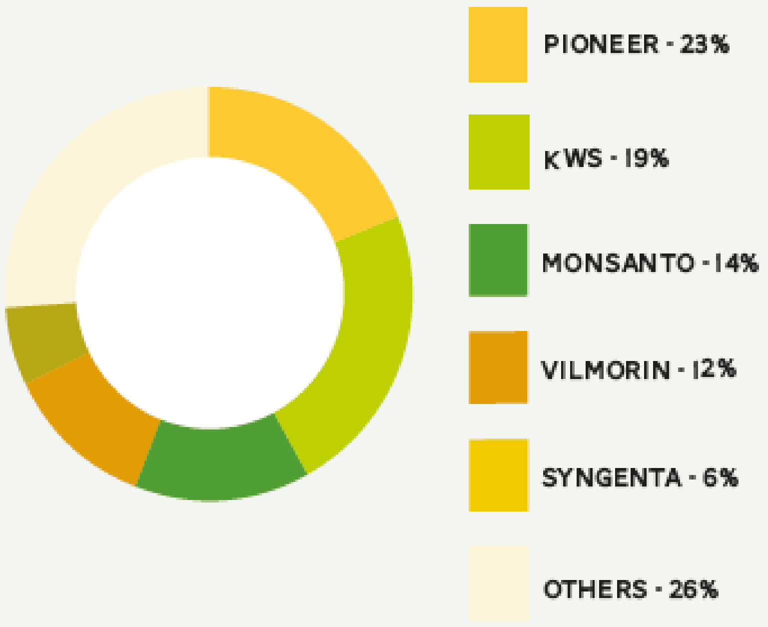
Figure 4:

Market shares of the top 5 companies in the EU maize seed market [61]



SOURCE: OWN ELABORATION BASED ON DATA FROM THE EU COMMON CATALOGUES OF VARIETIES OF AGRICULTURAL PLANT AND VEGETABLE SPECIES. DATA BY KWS 2013: HTTP://WWW.KWS.DE/GLOBAL/SHOW_DOCUMENT.ASP?ID=AAAAAAAAAAFFXWN

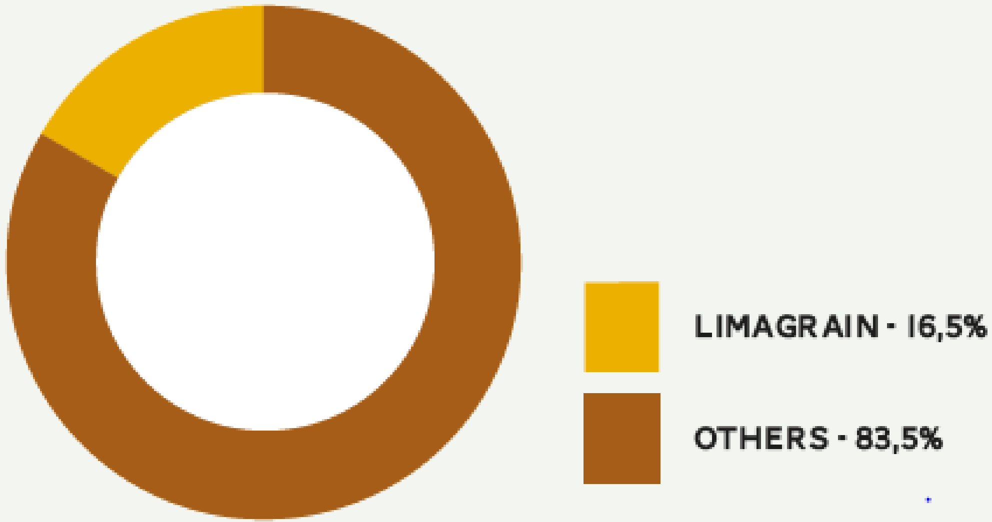
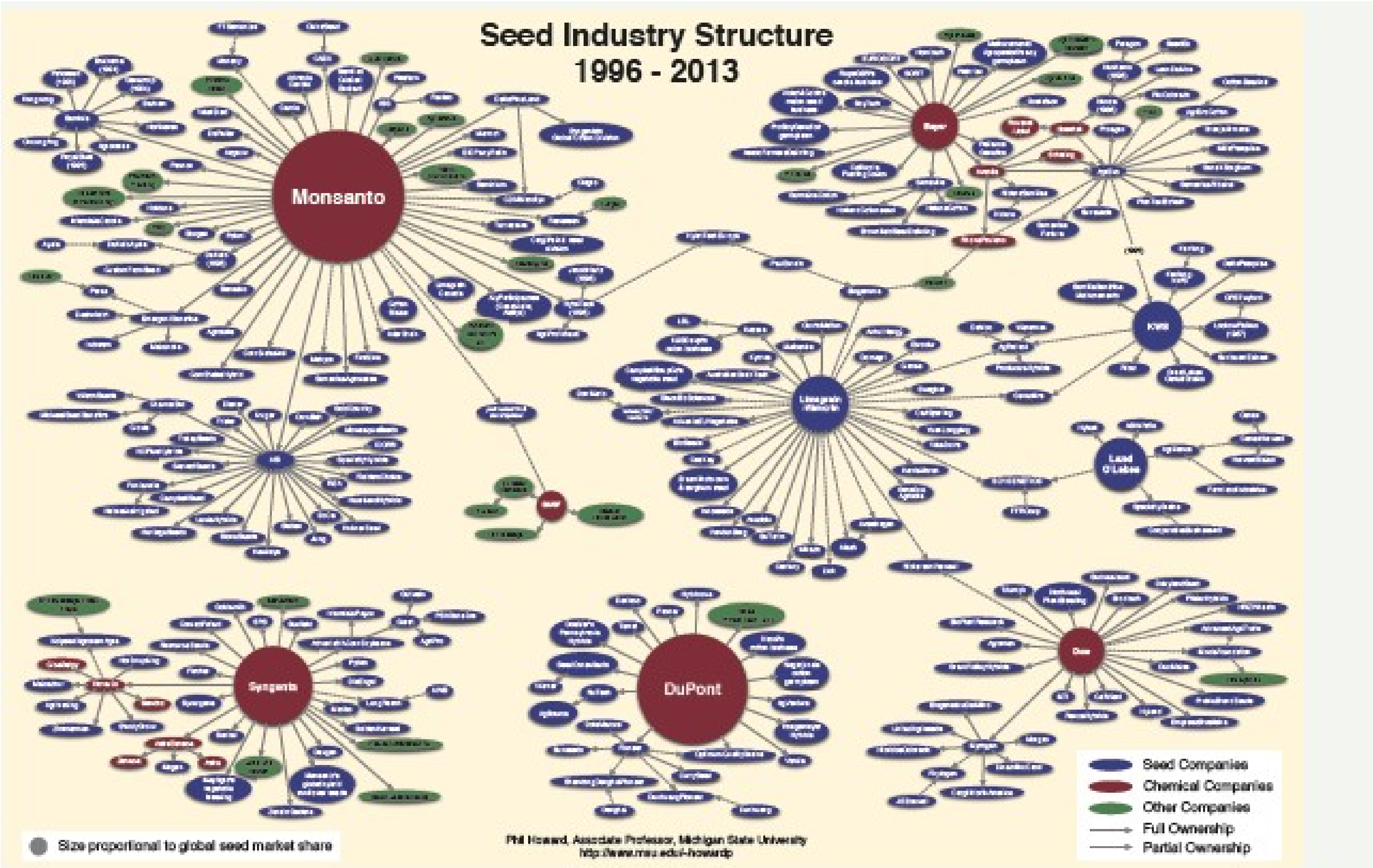


Figure 6:
Limagrain market shares in the EU wheat market [70]



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“Who controls the food supply controls the people”

Dr. Henry Kissinger

“Who controls the seed sector, controls the food sector”

Dr. Vandana Shiva

“ What you’re seeing is not just a consolidation of seed companies, it’s really a consolidation of the entire food chain”

Robert Fraley (Monsanto)

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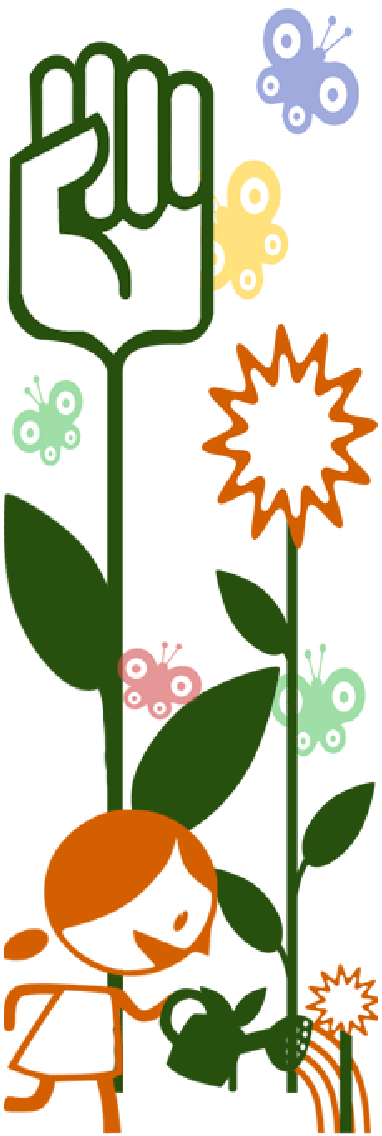
What can we do?



Reclaim our seeds!

- Saving our seeds
- Buying diverse-resilient and free from IPRs seeds
- Join the seed campaigns:
  - No patent on seeds!
  - and the campaigns for a better seed marketing legislation

Food sovereignty starts from ourselves!

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