



Innovation and curiosity - the way to resilience

Based on the farm “Le Safran du Jorat”

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Agrobiodiversity is one of the pathways to resilience. It has been identified as a key measure that enables farms to adapt to environmental and socio-economic changes, particularly those linked to climate, disease, inflation and consumer behaviour. This poster presents concrete examples of practices that lead to resilience, based on the farm **Le Safran du Jorat**, which displays agrobiodiversity at many levels.

Le Safran du Jorat in a nutshell

- Owner: Jean-Daniel Cavin
- 29ha, around 6ha of crop and 23ha of diverse meadows
- 18 suckler cows and many ewes, sheep, geese, ducks, turkeys, chickens...
- Organic “Bio Bourgeon” since 2017
- Biodynamic “Demeter” since 2019
- And much more...

Diversity of practices



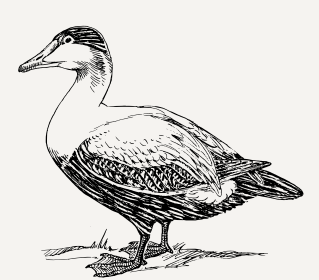
Agroforestry

Benefits of the keyline design are: shade, organic matter for hummus and animals, prevents damaging surface water flows & provides habitats.



No-till farming

No-till farming increases **soil fertility** (by preserving stable aggregates and soil biota, high biological activity, good nutrient and water uptake capacity and nutrient availability for plants). Additionally, it **prevents** considerably **soil compaction and soil erosion**.



Mechanical & biological pest/weed control

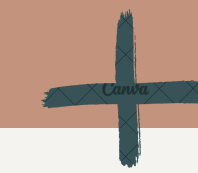
Thanks to diverse non-chemical practices to prevent pests and weeds, such as “Flasches Saatbett”, crop rotation, green manure and **interactions of crops with animals**, the farm ensures **fertile soils** and is **independent from industrial excipients**.

Diversity of stakeholders



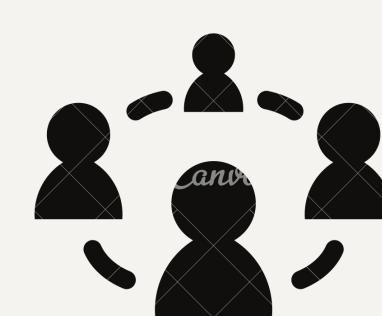
Business cooperation

The Safran du Jorat works together with many local and national actors (e.g. neighbouring mill, butchery and national breeder advocate).



Friendly cooperation & facility sharing

Interactions characterized by skills sharing and exchange, not monetary (e.g. bee-keeper profits from crops in exchange of honey, farmer processes a neighbour's crop and uses the rest for his animals)



Multi-level network

Network of local actors resulting from diverse interactions between the farm and stakeholders. This leads to more independence (i.e. price setting, production planning) and empowers local economy.

Highly diverse product range

The Safran du Jorat commercializes over **20 products**, is specialized in **niche products** and builds on the **multifunctionality** of its cultures: trees provide simultaneously fruits for juices and shade for animals; hemp results in eatable seeds and oil, and ground straw layers for cows. **On-farm activities**, such as flat rental and visits, also contribute to the farm resilience.

Niche products

- safran
- sechuan pepper
- birch sap
- walnut oil
- aronia berries
- + on-farm activities



Genetic diversity

> 10 animals species

> 15 plant species



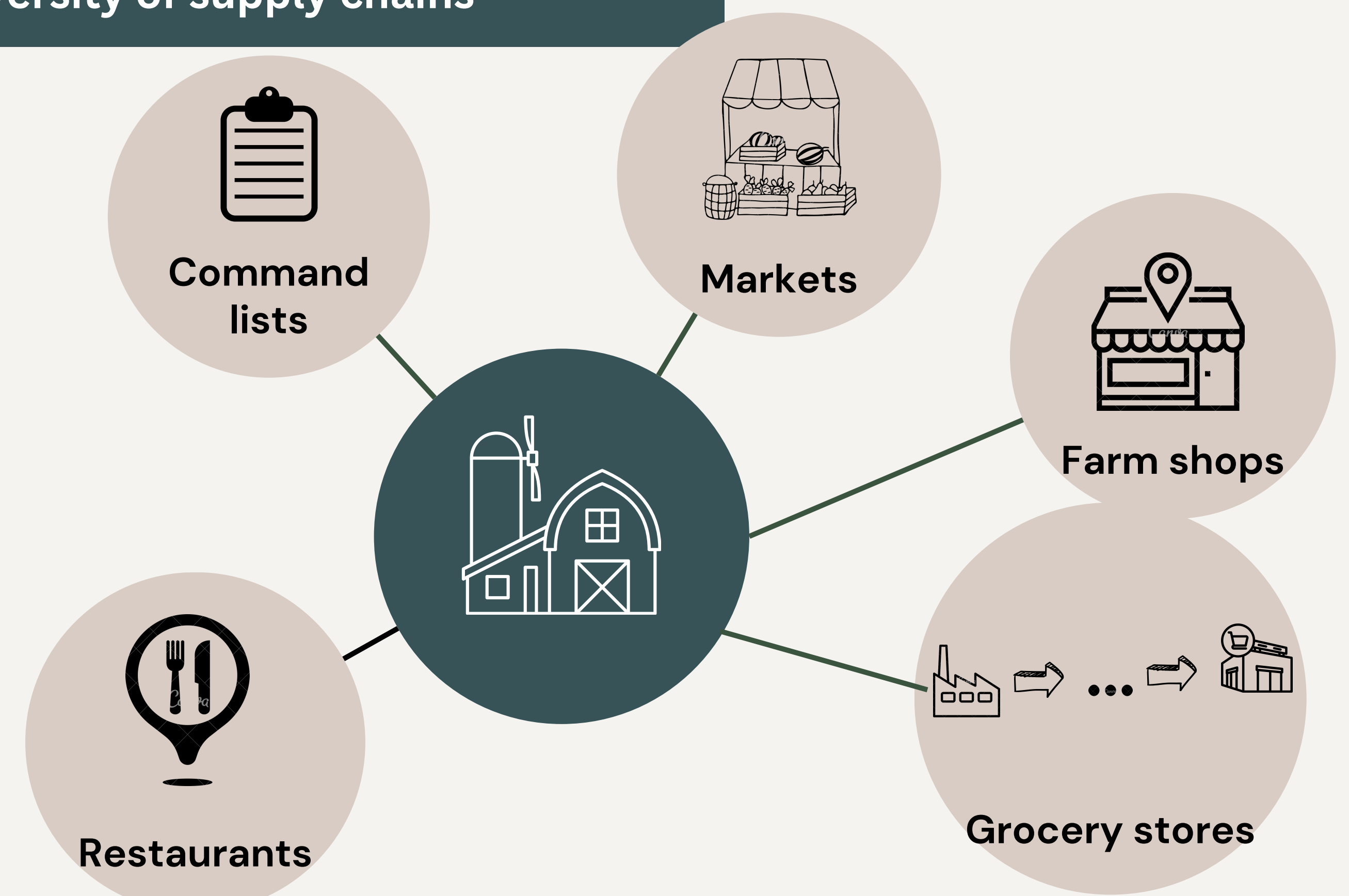
Herds and fields on the farm are more **resistent against pests and diseases**. Some species, being ProSpecieRara ones, are also more resistant against external shocks.

Conclusion

Resilience towards environmental and social/economic shocks results from agrobiodiversity on many levels. The Safran du Jorat shows a broad agrobiodiversity by:

- commercializing a **wide product range**, including niche products as well as on-farm activities.
- creating **various products out of one** raw ressource, which diversifies its line of products, maximizes its ressources and thus, reduces its use of external inputs necessary for other on-farm activities.
- creating a **network of (local) stakeholders**, based on commercial interactions, exchange of services, knowledge and experiences and on facility sharing.
- selling its products through **diverse marketing channels**, especially along short/direct supply chains, including restaurants.
- diversifying its **practices**, including agroforestry and synergies between/within animals and crops.

Diversity of supply chains



The marketing on the farm mostly occurs via **short or direct supply chains**. Many products are **processed on the farm** and sold directly to customers on markets, through command lists (e.g. for meat) and to **restaurants**. The farm also works with distributors and retailers.

The diversity of marketing channels contributes to the farm **resilience** against **price fluctuation** and **consumer behavior**, and to its independence from **prices** set by retailers.

Finally, resilience is guided by **an open mindset** present in every decision made in the Safran du Jorat. This includes:

- **Innovativion & entrepreneurship**: trying new cooperations, niche products, new practices.
- **Curiosity**: being open-minded and seizing opportunities when they show up.
- **“Bricoleur”-like**: creating new infrastructures or processed products out of already existing ressources, looking for synergies.

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