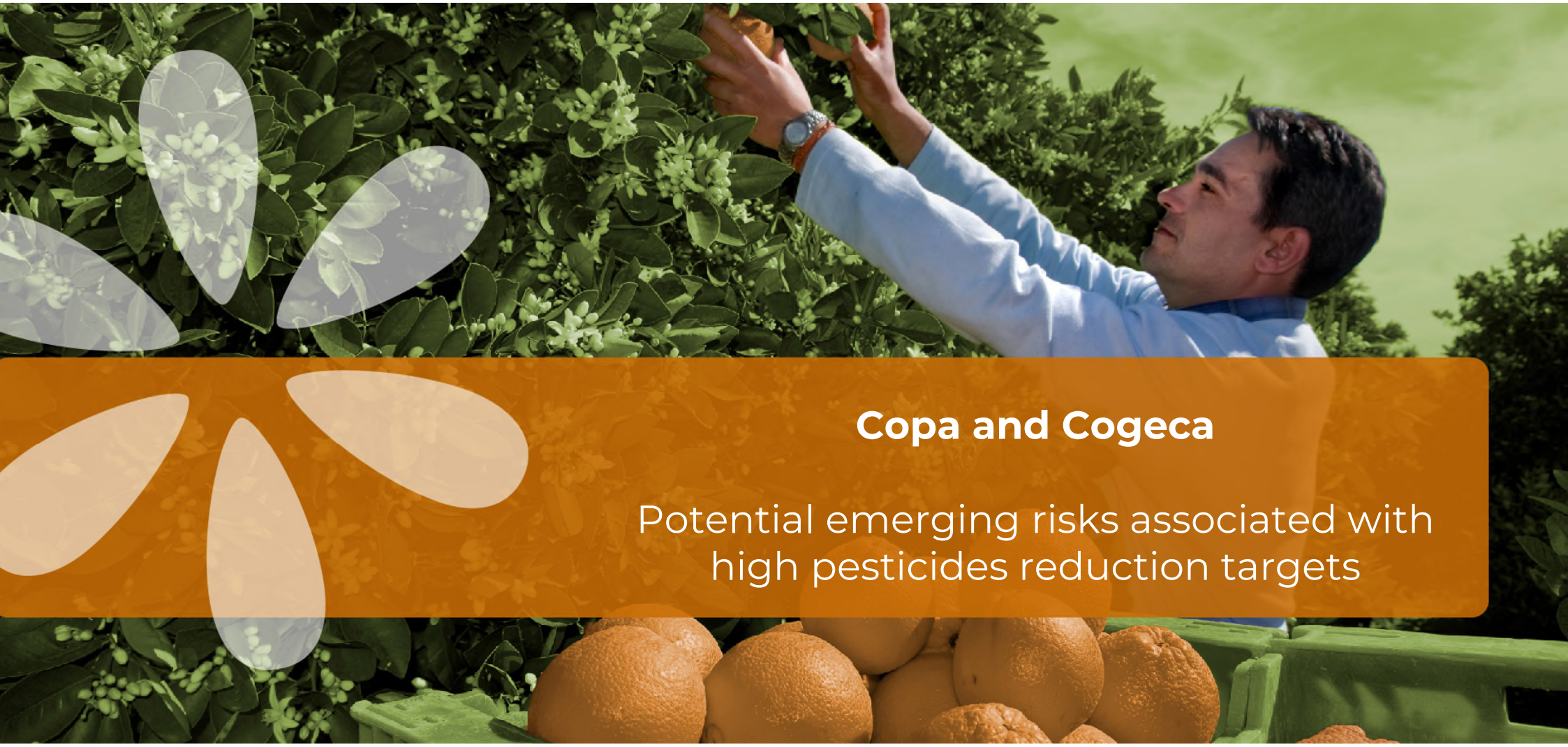

Copa and Cogeca

Potential emerging risks associated with high pesticides reduction targets

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Potential emerging risks associated with high pesticides reduction targets

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CONTEXT

Reduce the overall use of chemical pesticides by 50% by 2030

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CONTEXT IN WHICH TO ACHIEVE THOSE TARGETS

Farmers are asked to achieve this reduction target while ensuring food security and safety in environment with growing requirements and constraints:

1. **Increasing demand** for food, feed and non-food outlet production
2. **New pests** and diseases derived from climate change effects
3. **Higher requirements** for products safety and quality

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CONTEXT IN WHICH TO ACHIEVE THOSE TARGETS

What could be the consequences of the pesticide reduction target for those requirements and constraints?

1. **Increasing demand** for food, feed and non-food outlet production
2. **New pests** and diseases derived from climate change effects
3. **Higher requirements** for products safety and quality

Less pesticides

Consequences?

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POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES: CONSTRAINTS 1 AND 2

1. **Increasing demand**
2. **New pests and diseases**

Less pesticides

With less pesticide and increasing number of pests and diseases due to climate change, it becomes very complicated to ensure food security and answer the increasing demand

The reduction of the use of pesticides is possible, but to reduce by 50% by 2030 could present important risks in terms of food security

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POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES: CONSTRAINTS 1 AND 2

Examples of the consequences of the reduction of the use of pesticides for food security in a environment with more pests and diseases

<u>The issue of the broadbean beetle:</u>

The chemicals pesticides allowing to combat this pest have been deleted

This resulted in up to 30% broadbean being infected which makes them unsuited for human consumption (*1, 2)

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POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES: CONSTRAINTS 1 AND 2

Examples of the consequences of the reduction of the use of pesticides for food security in a environment with more pests and diseases

<u>The issue of the cabbage-stem flea beetle:</u>

The chemicals pesticides allowing to combat this pest have either been deleted or will be in the coming months

This has important consequences for rapeseed production has it could impact its production by 25% to 30% (*3,4)

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POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES: CONSTRAINT 3

3. Higher requirements for products safety and quality

Less pesticides

With less pesticide the quality and the safety of food products could be affected as it would be impossible to combat some organisms developing in edible plants that threatens food safety

The reduction of the use of pesticides is possible, but to reduce by 50% by 2030 could present important risks in terms of food safety

Potential emerging risks associated with high pesticides reduction targets

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES: CONSTRAINT 3

Examples of the consequences of the reduction of the use of pesticides for food safety

<u>The issue of the jimsonweed (*Datura stramonium*):</u>

The chemicals pesticides allowing to combat this weed that affects sunflowers might not be available anymore

This could threaten food safety as the Jimsonweed is a tropanic alkaloid highly toxic for humans and livestock. The toxic dose for cattle is 600-900 mg of seeds per kilo of body weight (*5, 6, 7, 8).

Potential emerging risks associated with high pesticides reduction targets

POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES: CONSTRAINT 3

Examples of the consequences of the reduction of the use of pesticides for food safety

<u>The issue of the mycotoxins:</u>

The chemicals pesticides allowing to combat the mycotoxins that affects many cereals might not be available anymore

This could threaten food safety as mycotoxins are toxic for humans and livestock. The Commission is even currently looking at stricter levels for mycotoxins while their presence is increasing due to new weather conditions (*9, 10, 11, 12)

Potential emerging risks associated with high pesticides reduction targets

CONCLUSION

The examples presented that relates to food security and safety only represent a faction of the problem

The reduction of the use of chemical pesticides is possible, but if we go to fast and we do not have new tools available, this could have serious consequences for both food security and food safety

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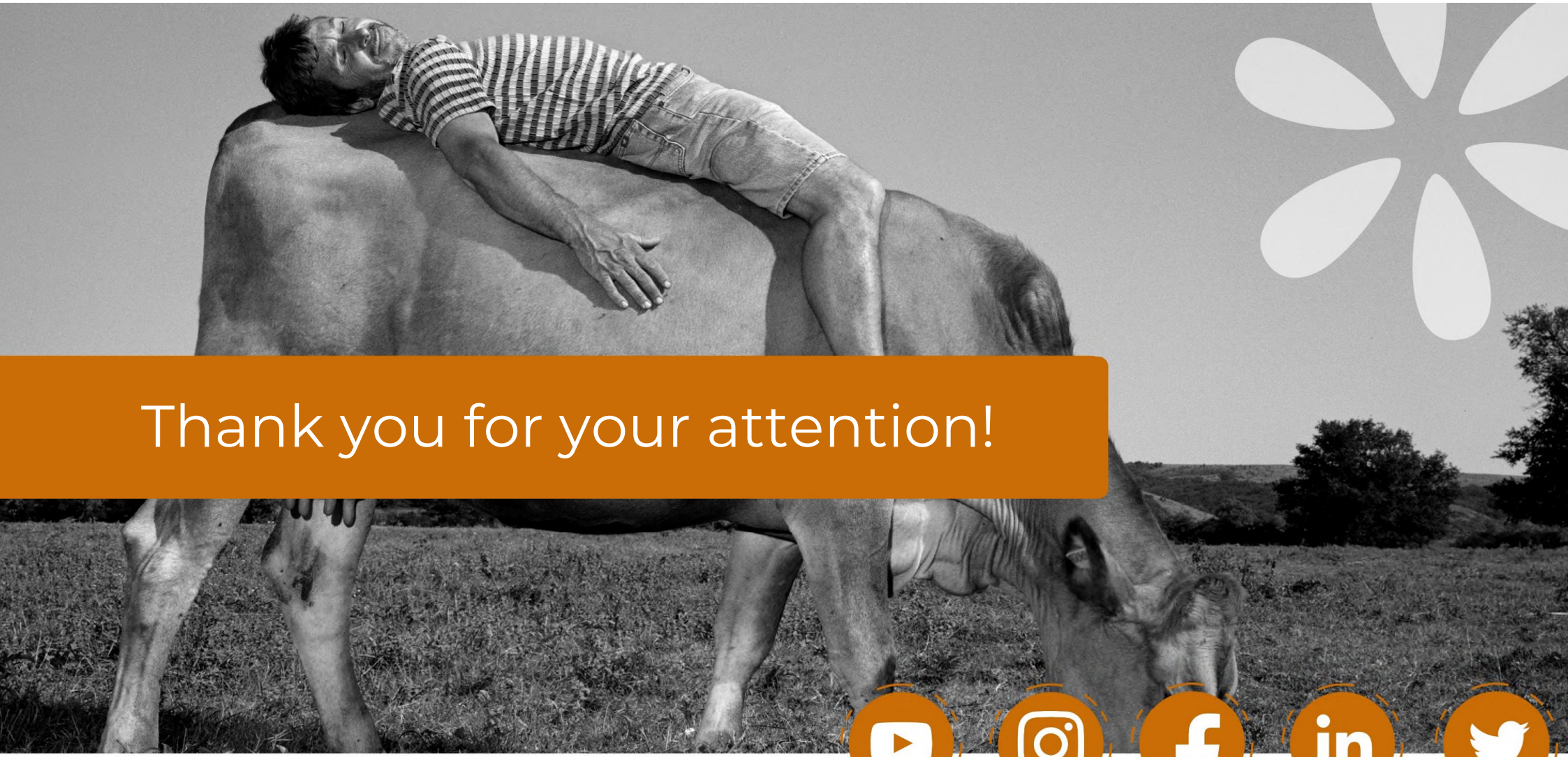

Thank you for your attention!

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