

The production of strawberry plants to meet today's requirements

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Objectives

- Present plant propagation in Ireland
- Propagation in the Netherlands
- Outline of plant types and production methods used
- Fruit production in the Netherlands
- Final conclusions

Propagation-Irish situation

- Ireland-season now from April-Oct
- Irish can only supply plants for part of season
- Cold stored plants are needed for 60-day & protected cropping
- Vast majority of plants imported
- Mostly from the Netherlands and the UK
- ***Challenge for the Irish propagator !!***

Propagation-Irish situation

The future

- **At least 3 tray plant producers**
- **Requirement for a large bare root plant producer**

but....

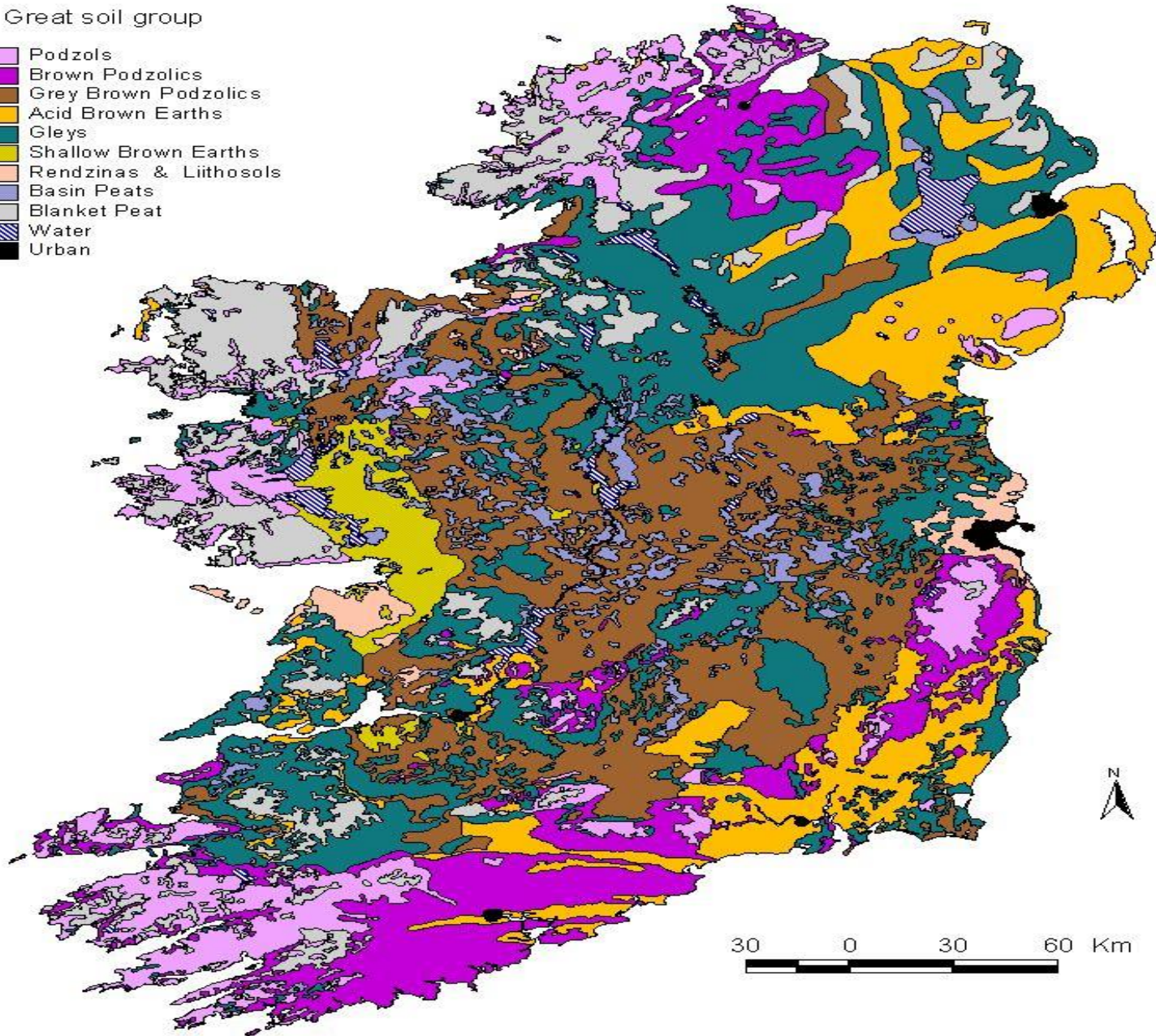
- **Must produce in sandy free draining soil**
- **Invest in large cold store facilities**

Ireland : Great Soil Groups

(Categorised from the General Soils Map 1980)

Great soil group

- Podzols
- Brown Podzolics
- Grey Brown Podzolics
- Acid Brown Earths
- Gleys
- Shallow Brown Earths
- Rendzinas & Lithosols
- Basin Peats
- Blanket Peat
- Water
- Urban



Today's plant requirements

- **A+ extra, A+ and A etc.**
- **Tray plant's**
- **Waiting bed plants- heavy, medium, small etc.**

NETHERLANDS



0 50 km
0 30 mi

North Sea

WADDEN ISLANDS

Schiermonnikoog National Park

Terschelling

Ameland

Vlieland

Texel

Holwerd

Lauwersoog

Harlingen

Groningen

Den Helder

NETHERLANDS

Haarlem IJmuiden

Zwolle

Amsterdam

Leiden

The Randstad

Utrecht

Enschede

The Hague

Delft

Rotterdam

Arnhem

Hoge Veluwe

Delta Region

Breda

Tilburg

GERMANY

Middelburg

Eindhoven

BELGIUM

Brussels

Maastricht

Waiting bed plants

- **A+ extra, A+ and A etc.**
- **Tray plant's**
- **Waiting bed plants- heavy, medium, small etc.**





















A+ and A etc..

- **A+ extra, A+ and A etc.**
- **Tray plant's**
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Tray plants

- **A+ extra, A+ and A etc.**
- **Tray plant's**
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8 8'00











Fruit production





19

20

21

22

23



Conclusions:

- **Labour charge was greatest cost difference between growers**
- **Break even in first year of prodn.**
- **Must get as much yield as possible..use bigger plants??**
- **Can reduce costs to a point but this extra yield is vital.**