

# An Overview of the Italian F&D market

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Milano, 4° May 2015

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- What is the Green Seed Group?
- Italy's Market Background
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# WELCOME TO THE GREEN SEED GROUP

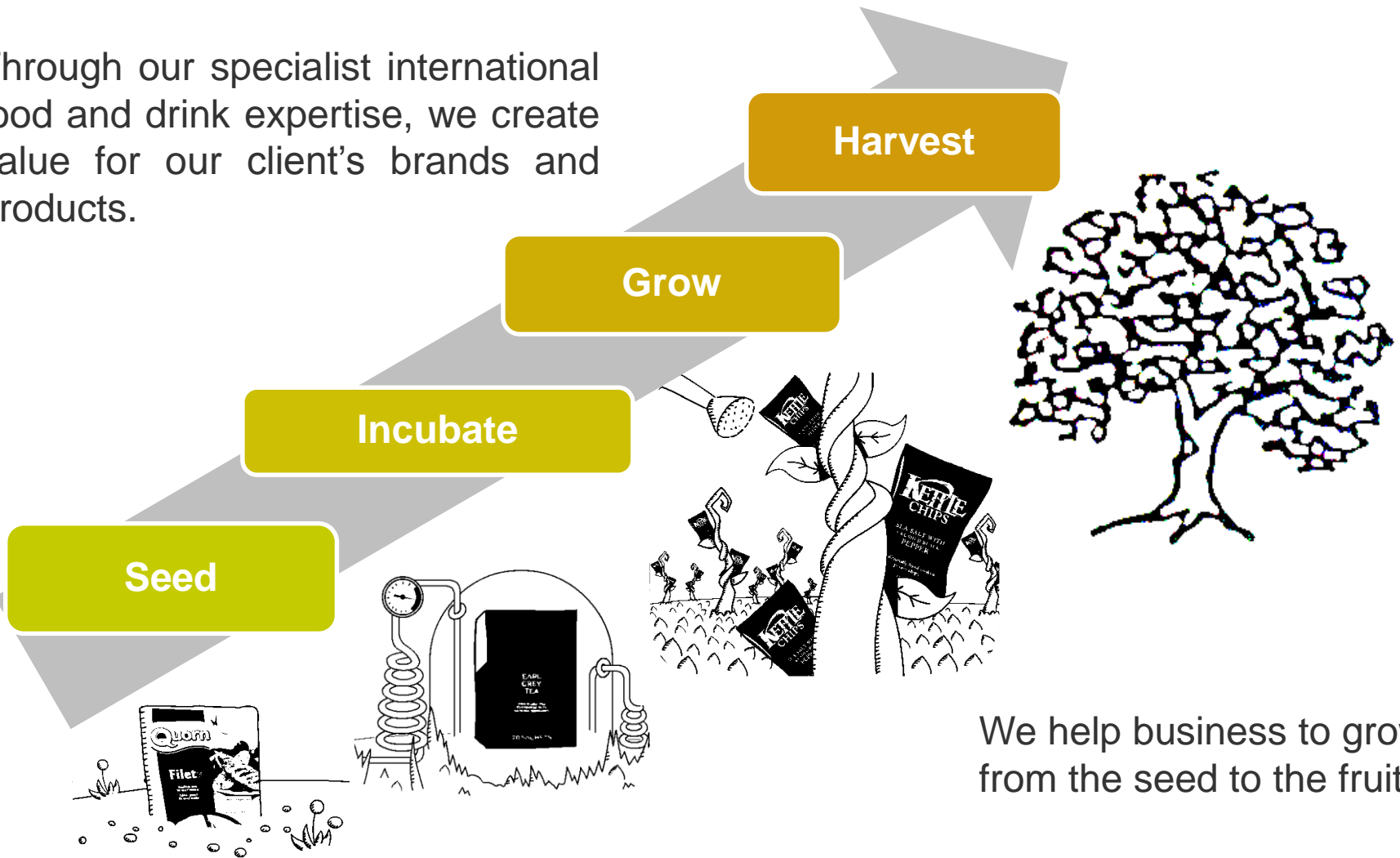


## ■ What is the Green Seed Group?

- People who can help you seed, incubate and grow your international business.
- An international network of 10 sales & marketing companies, covering 19 countries, with over 60 in-market experts, helping over 800 companies every year.
- A network of associates to cover the developing markets.
- Green Seed professionals have expertise covering all aspects of your business: retail and manufacturing, food service, import/export, country management as well as providing many other services in the fields of public relations, research, market analysis and consultancy.

# The Green Seed Concept

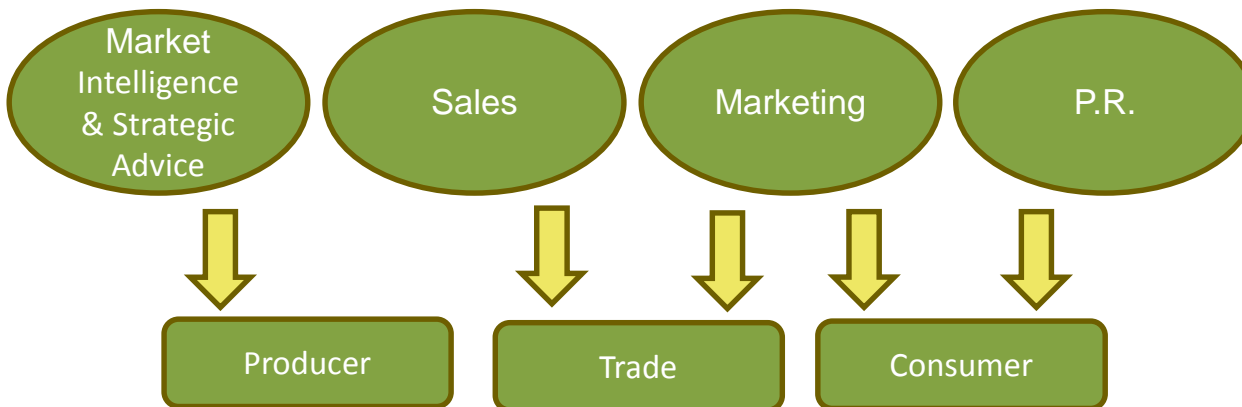
Through our specialist international food and drink expertise, we create value for our client's brands and products.



We help business to grow,  
from the seed to the fruit

# GREEN SEED ITALY: INTRODUCTION

The unique grocery consultancy agency to help your business grow in the Italian market.



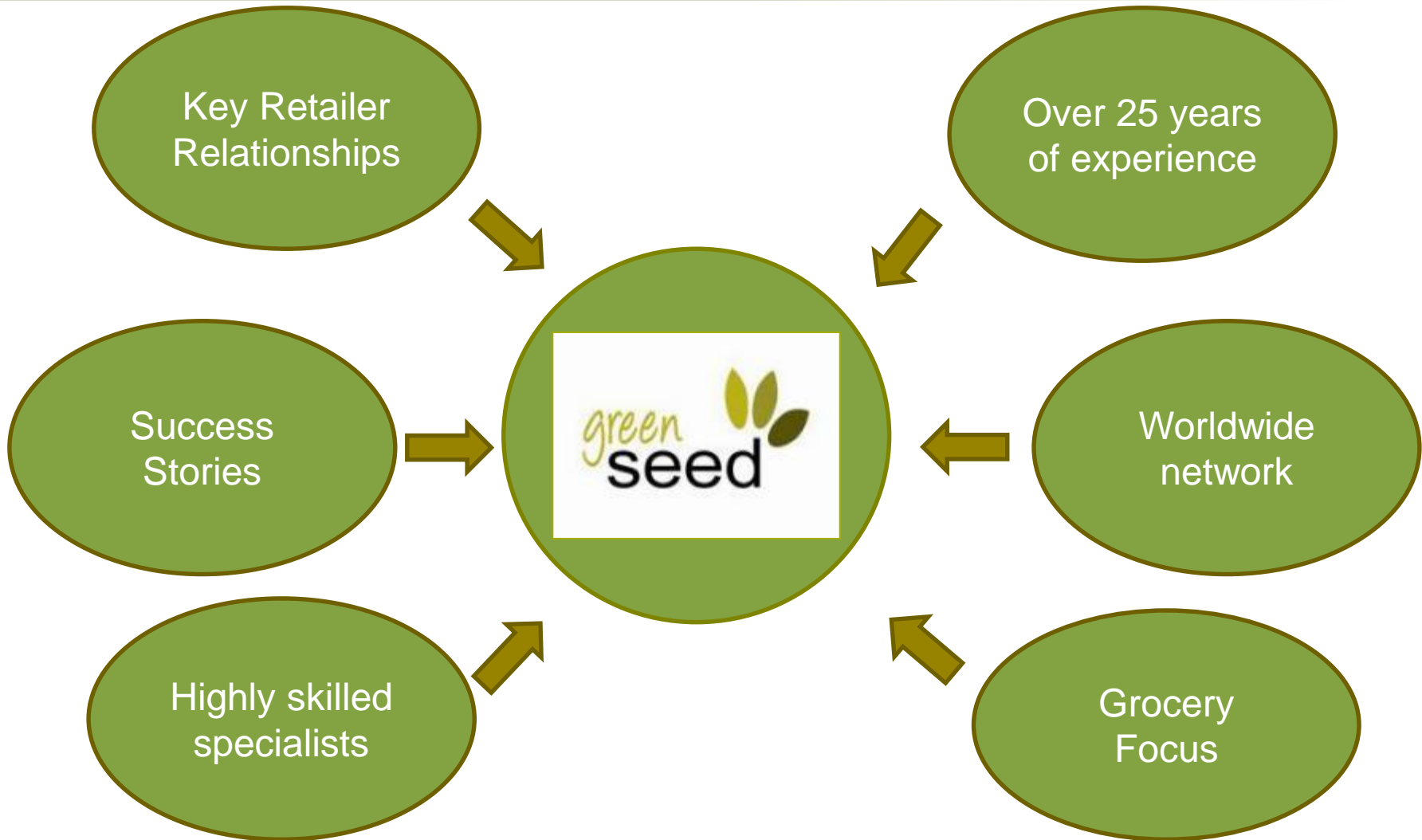
**Headquarters:  
Bologna**

# GREEN SEED GROUP: OUR SERVICES



***“We advise, we execute & we deliver”***

# GREEN SEED ITALY: WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE?



# GREEN SEED ITALY: CLIENTS



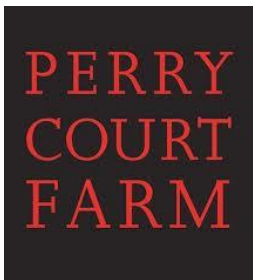
- **Food Promotion Agencies:** Bord Bia (similar to Sopexa in France e former CMA in Germany and Food From Britain in UK) – marketing, PR and promotion of food and drink overseas
- **Associations of Producers and Consortiums:** Hybu Cig Cymru (HCC – Meat Promotion Wales); EBLEX (English Lamb & Beef Executive); HGCA (Home Grown Cereals Authority); QMS Scotland) – marketing, PR and promotions and trade development, market research; Seafood Scotland
- **International Food & Drink Companies** (from SMEs to companies quoted on stock exchange):
  - Kettle Foods
  - Dorset Cereals
  - Borges
  - Dole
  - Halo Foods
  - Typhoo
  - Perry Court Farm
  - Europatisserie
  - Quorn Food
  - Arla Foods
  - .....
- Retailers, International Distributors
- Trade Fair Organisations



# Our Clients



Ufficio  
Carne  
Scozzese



# GREEN SEED ITALY: THE TEAM



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Field Salesforce: 6 regional KAM's

# ITALY: TODAY

- A large and modern country
- Total population: 58.8 million inhabitants
- 7<sup>th</sup> economy in the world, 2<sup>nd</sup> largest industry in Europe
- Flat GDP, in decline in last 4 years
- Inflation rate 14: +0.4%
- Food still very important
- Taste and quality are crucial
- Still big regional differences = consumer behaviours
- Approx. 5.9 million immigrants; a specific market in the Italian market



## ITALY: REGIONAL DIFFERENCES

- Italy was founded as a nation in the late 19th Century and strong regional differences persist today as sense of identity is closely linked with place of birth. The differences are:

- ✓ Social
- ✓ Political
- ✓ Economic



- The South is economically disadvantaged when compared to the North. There are major differences in overall employment rates with youth unemployment in some areas of the South rising to above 25%.
- Major differences in lifestyle and consumer habits also exist (north more open to innovation, south more traditional).

# How recession has hit Italy

- ***Italy has been badly hit by the economic downturn and Italian consumers are conscious of their reduced purchasing power***



- *Shoppers have moved towards retailers with strong value for money credentials e.g. Discounters and Private labels*
- Lots of tactics shoppers started in 2008 as the recession began are still in use today: couponing, frequent shopper cards, shopping lists, on line comparison shopping etc.
- Consumers are eating out less and entertaining at home
- Consumers will augment their recipes with less expensive bulk items: whole-wheat pasta, lentils, brown rice, tomatoes, fruit jams etc.

# Top Trends in the Food and Drink Sector In Italy



- **Saving strategies in the shopping basket:**
  - ✓ Reduce waste ( now still more than 3kg/month per capita) 60% of consumers pay attention)
  - ✓ Increase purchase promoted items ( avg Int Index 29,9%)
  - ✓ Increase OL
  - ✓ Increase cheaper solutions/products
- **Organic:** 375 mio in 2007 to 725 in 2014 (CAGR 12% 10-14)
- **Vegetarian/Vegans:** 120 mio ( +180% vs 2010) 6,5% of tot population
- **Luxury products** ( index 134 vs 2008)
- **Ethnic products** (index 164 vs 2008)
- **Healthy Products:** (index 120 vs 2007)
- **Huge interest in culinary programs/ blog** and Home cooking : 2/3 Italians show interest in cooking , 3/10 top blog are food related

# HEALTH & WELLBEING

- The relationship between Italians and healthy eating has grown over recent years as they are ever more concerned with physical well-being.
- Traditionally Italians have a certain 'savoir-vivre' nationally in terms of healthy eating and in Europe the country has one of the lowest obesity rates: one Italian in two have no weight issues.
- It should be noted that Italian women are becoming increasingly slimmer: their average body mass index has been in steady decline for over twenty years.
- Sales of vitamins, minerals and food supplements are also increasing year on year.

## Sales - Health & Wellbeing 2014: +16.3% vs 2013

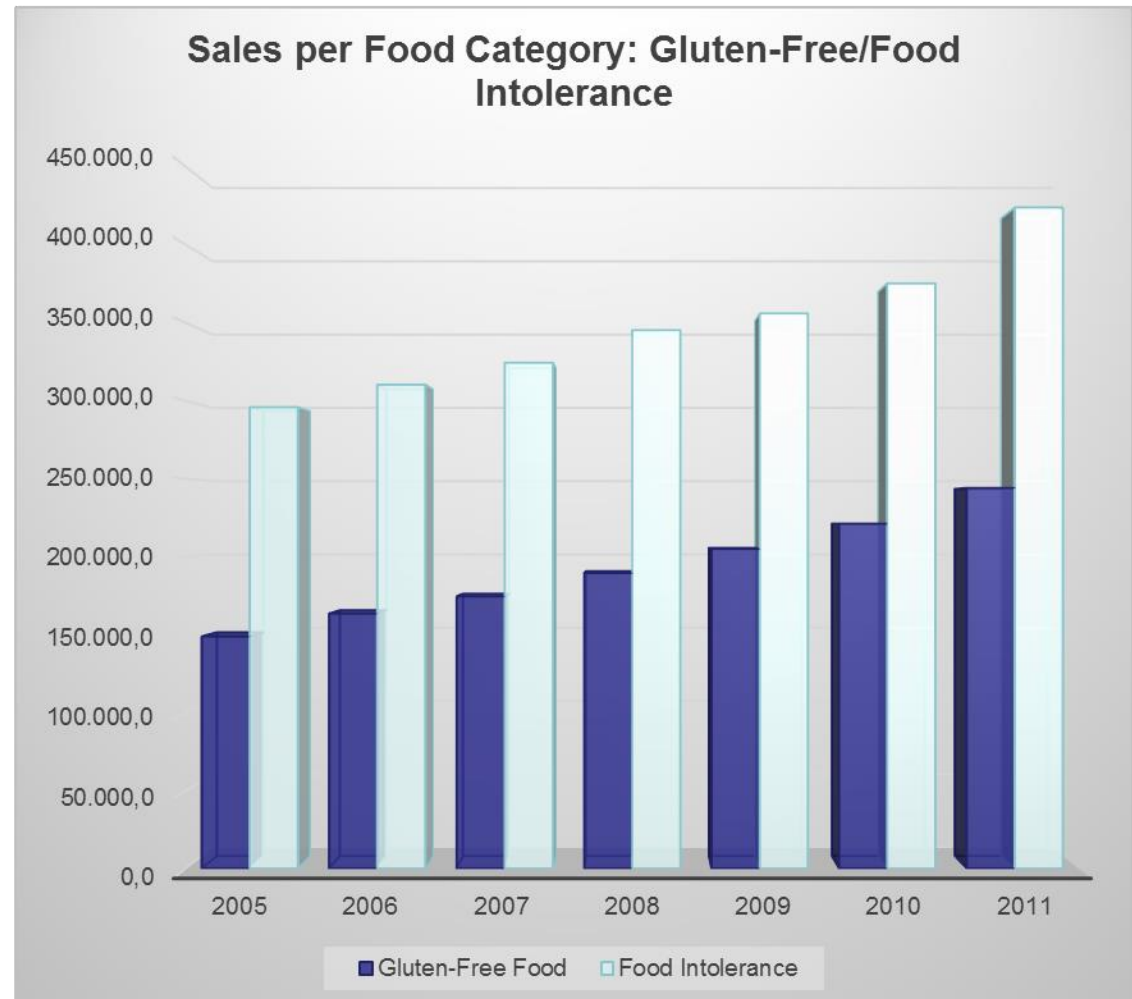


### Examples of Sales Trends in the Health & Wellbeing Category

+9.7%	Kamut / whole wheat pasta
+7.3%	Food supplements
+9.4%	High digestibility milk

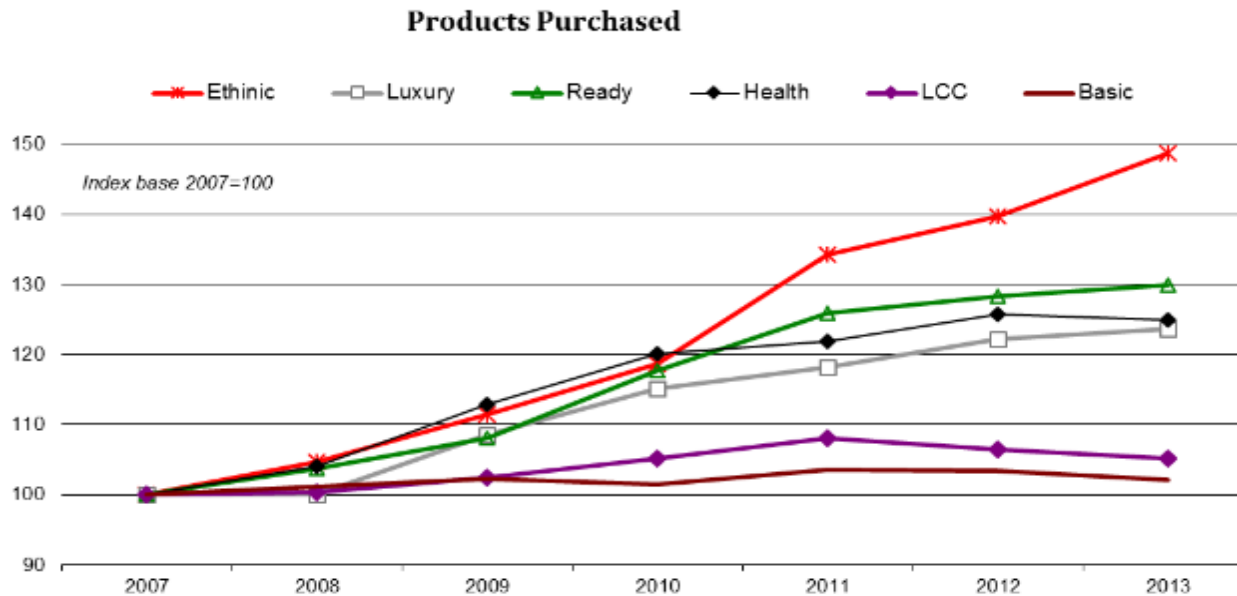


- Gluten-free products are gaining market share across all categories, notwithstanding the crisis.
- Gluten-free pasta is expected to remain the strongest constant value growth segment.
- Diabetic products are forecast to gain market share, as diabetes is one of the fastest growing health conditions in Italy, however at present the category is extremely small.



# INDULGENCE

- Contrary to the performance of many other categories, the purchase of luxury products (+1.2%) which includes high unit value items such as champagne, mushrooms, truffles and some types of fish products is showing growth.
- Trends show a polarization of the compartments in terms of consumption and certain segments of the population tend to buy products with a higher unit cost on a regular basis.



Source: REF Ricerche on Nielsen data



## HOBBY FARMING, LOCAL ORIGIN KM 0 AND PROTECTED NAMES



45.9%

Italian consumers claim to have purchased zero km products in the last year

2.7 mln

Italians have a vegetable garden

1.2 mln

Italians are involved in agricultural activities as a hobby

- Italians are experimenting with new models of food supply and the sector is rapidly increasing.
- Product provenance is of utmost importance; in fact Italy is the world leader in terms of certified food productions, with 239 products in the EU register including 149 PDO, 88PGI and 2 STG.
- Local origin km 0 and artisan products have increasingly attracted attention and market share over recent years, in part thanks to the efforts of the Slow Food movement, founded in Italy.
- More than 17% of Italians who conduct amateur activities in agricultural activities/hobby farming have started in the last 5 years – in parallel with the beginning of the economic crisis.
- Overall consumer trends are showing that Italians are increasingly sourcing local, high quality food & drink products where and when possible.

# ETHICAL AND ORGANIC

- The ethnic segment continues to return positive signals.
- This is in part due to the increased shelf space that the Gdo is dedicating to these products in response to an increase in the number of ethnic groups present and in part due to growing appreciation of these products by Italian consumers.
- Organic food & drink products are also gaining market share across all categories.
- Italy also has the largest number of vegetarians in Europe with a total of approximately 7 million, representing 12% of the total population; the number of vegans is included in this number and accounts for roughly 10%.



## Organic food & drink in Italy

(Hyper + Super + Lis)

**725 mln euro**

turnover in 2014

(+14% vs 2013)

Was **375 mio**

In 2007

**205** (+22 vs. 2012)

Average number of references in the Bio outlets

A black and white photograph of a pair of hands gently cupping a small, vibrant green seedling with three leaves and a small amount of dark soil. The background is softly blurred, showing the outlines of other hands in the background.

# THE ITALIAN RETAIL MARKET

# THE ITALIAN RETAIL SECTOR: AN OVERVIEW

The Italian retail sector is highly fragmented with consumers preferring to shop at smaller convenience stores which is slowing down market consolidation especially in Southern regions.

519 hypermarkets  
3.631 supermarkets  
8.022 smaller stores

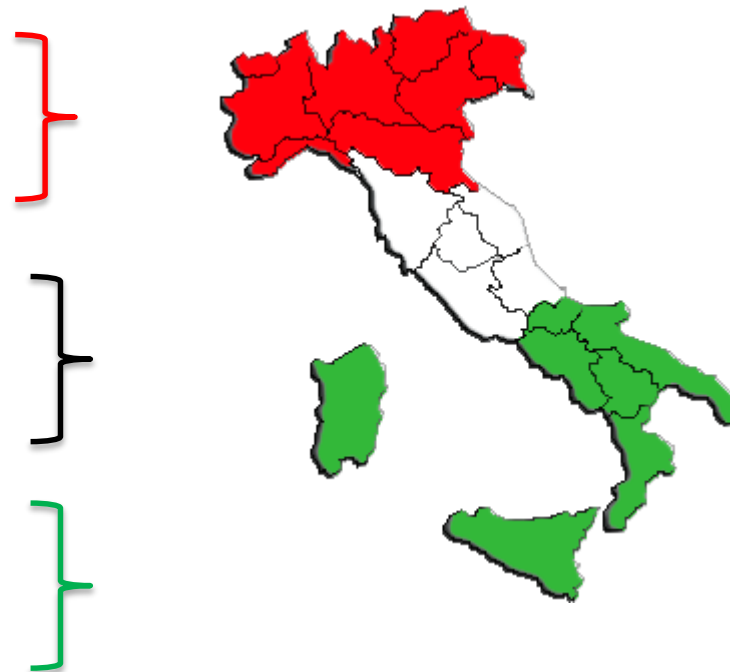
Northern Italy  
Nielsen Area 1&2

158 hypermarkets  
1.960 supermarkets  
4.843 smaller stores

Central Italy  
Nielsen Area 3

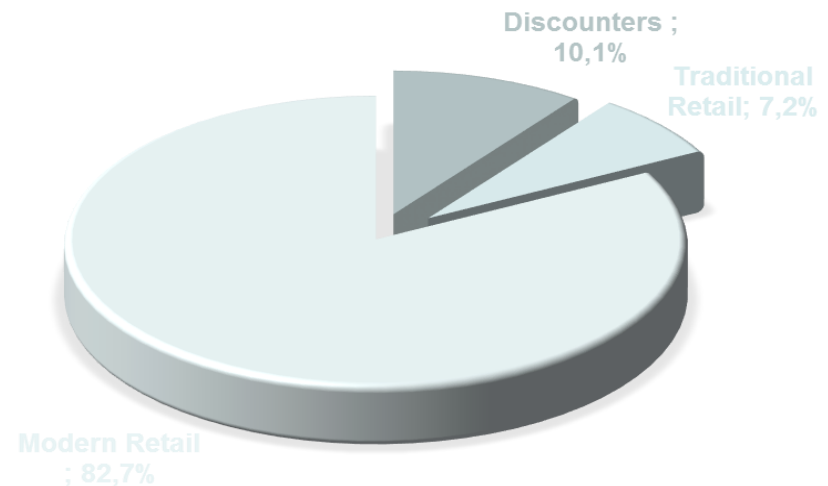
148 hypermarkets  
2.701 supermarkets  
7384 smaller stores

Southern Italy  
Nielsen Area 4



# DISTRIBUTION ITALIAN FOOD & DRINK SECTOR

- The Modern Retail Channel (supermarkets/hypermarkets) accounts for 81.9% of total Food & Drink sales.
- The Discounters Channel is increasing annually and now represents over 11% of sales.
- Traditional Retail is the only channel that is decreasing, giving up market share to both the other channels and now accounts for only 7.1%



Source: IRI Mat oct  
2014

# OVERVIEW ITALIAN RETAIL SECTOR

- Italy is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest grocery market in Europe (after France, UK and Germany).
- However it is also the most fragmented grocery market within the EU Top 5.
- The current market share of the top 3 retailers in Italy is only around 35%.
- The largest retailers have de-centralized control with the majority being co-operatives or large buying groups.
- Retail chains are mostly regionally based due to acquisition of smaller chains.
- Logistics are centralized in Northern Italy resulting in challenges in Southern Italy.
- Direct import by large retailers is increasing while purchases from local importers and distributors are decreasing annually.



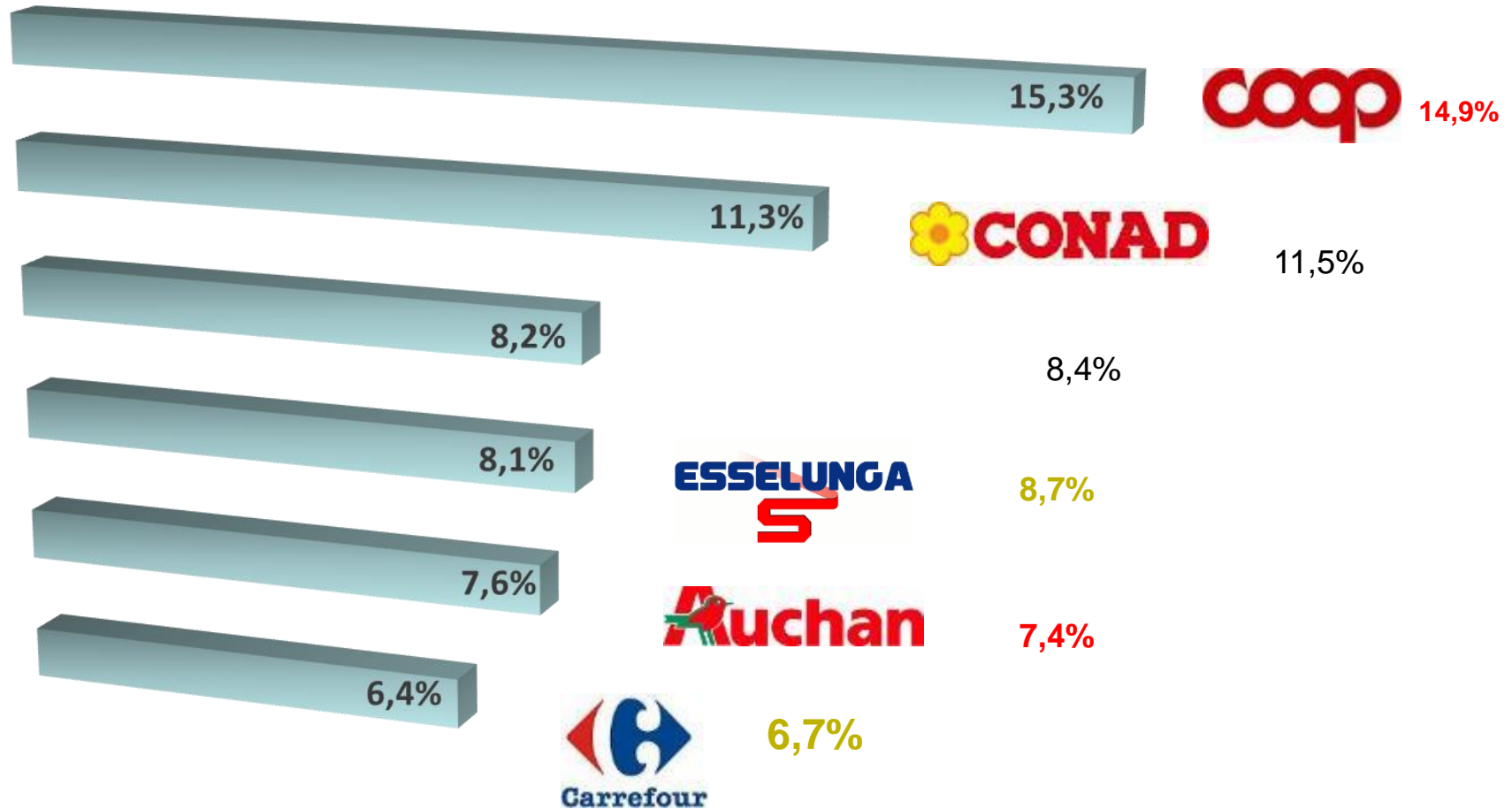
# OVERVIEW ITALIAN RETAIL SECTOR

- The private label sector is relatively small in Italy, approaching 20% compared to an EU average of 35%.
- This underlines large potential and the market share of private label is expected to grow.
- The recent recession has tightened consumer spending which affected the retail market in a positive way as more consumers prefer to eat at home rather than eating out.
- Due to the high level of promotions (price cuts up to 40%) in large retail chains, customer loyalty has decreased as they switch constantly searching for high-quality and low-cost products.
- Hypermarkets and supermarkets are expected to face increased competition from discounters over the next years.

# ITALIAN RETAILER'S TOP CHAINS

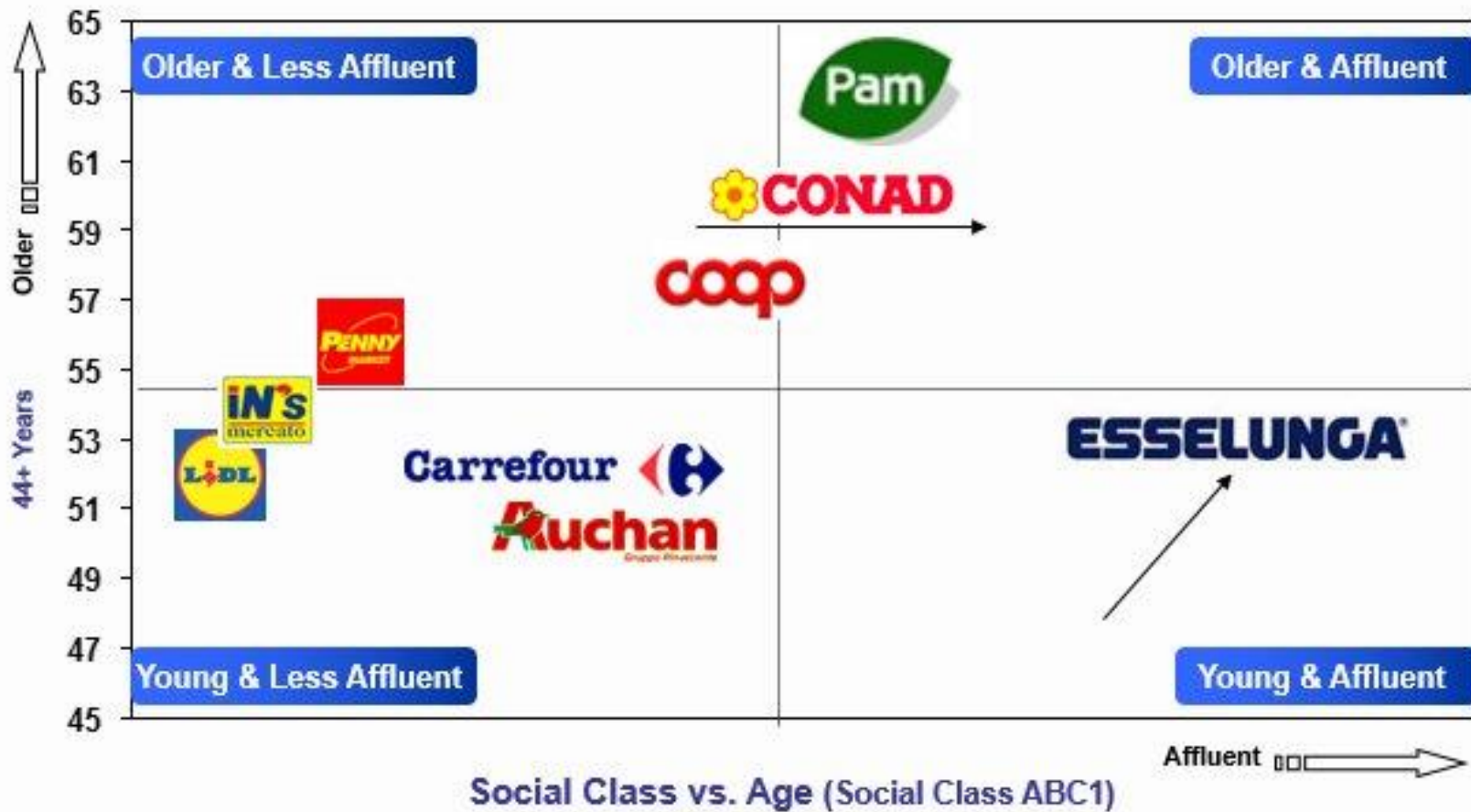


# MARKET SHARES KEY ITALIAN RETAILERS



Source: Nielsen Italia Top Trade  
Jan 2014

# SHOPPER DEMOGRAPHICS DETERMINE RANGE & PRODUCT MIX IN STORES



Source: adapted from homescan

# COOP ITALIA



- **Coop** is the leading group in Italian food retail and the largest single chain present on the market. The chain turnover in 2013 was just over €13,5bn with a positive trend. In 2014 lost because of Hyper format decline
- Coop is organized through a network of **155 regional cooperatives (9 large, 13 medium sized and 133 small cooperatives often with only one store)**, which are **partially controlled centrally**.
- The top 9 big cooperatives are grouped into 4 under a regional “Distretto” that coordinates their activities and manages logistics. Now Tuscany has split
- Even if the main objective of the chain is to centralise control and decisions, a large part of power is still in the hands of the 9 big Cooperatives.



## Private Label Ranges

- **Fior Fiore:** premium range



- **Bio-logici:** organic range



Now moving to Vivi Verde brand



# COOP ITALIA: PRIVATE LABEL RANGE



## Private Label Ranges

- **Soldal:** Fair Trade range



- **Soluzioni:** convenience/service/ready-meals range

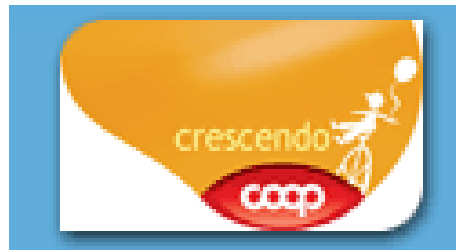


# COOP ITALIA: PRIVATE LABEL RANGE



## Private Label Ranges

- **Crescendo:** baby foods range



- **Senza glutine:** gluten-free range (15 products)





- Conad is the second largest retail chain in Italy with a market share of 11.5%
- Conad is an **association of private owners of smaller chains** located throughout Italy. These smaller chains are managed through regional independent cooperatives with a national headquarters responsible for overall coordination and the Private Label range.
- Conad is based on a **network of 8 cooperatives** spread throughout Italy with a total of 2.937 stores, divided as followed;
  - 1.198 Margerita Stores (small supermarkets in city centres and suburbs)
  - 1.453 Conad Supermarkets
  - 31 Conad Hypermarkets
  - 255 Discount stores



# CONAD: PRIVATE LABEL RANGE



## Private Label Ranges

- **Conad Own Label:**  
Wide range of product categories



- **Conad Percorso Qualità**

Quality assurance label for the following product categories:

- Fruit & vegetables
- Beef
- Chicken, turkey and other poultry
- Fish & seafood



# CONAD: PRIVATE LABEL RANGE



## Private Label Ranges

- **Conad Il Biologico**  
Range of organic products



- **Conad Sapori & Dintorni**

Premium range of regional products with specialities from the various regions of Italy





- Esselunga is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest retail chain in Italy with a market share of 8.7% and a total of 151 stores. It was also the first Italian retailer to introduce online shopping.
- The retailer operates mainly in Northern Italy (22% market share in Lombardia) and Tuscany. The chain operates through;
  - 85 Superstores
  - 66 Supermarkets
- In 2014 Esselunga has completed the change from its smaller supermarkets to superstores, in response to costumers who are less willing to shop in large hypermarkets that take up too much of their time.
- This concept has already proven successful as Esselunga has experienced the largest growth in revenue among Italy's top 5 retailers.



# ESSELUNGA: PRIVATE LABEL



- Private label always been a central and strategic part of Esselunga, with a particular focus on organic and environmentally friendly products.
- First 'Esselunga' own label products created at end of 1970's.
- Private Label today: **over 7000 items** for a share of 25%. **Total turnover above € 1.600m**
- Strategy focusing on fresh, high quality products at reasonable price level, policy of transparency and strict control on product safety (by internal quality assurance and external laboratories).
- Private label ranges in Esselunga:
  - ✓ The classic **'Esselunga'** brand for basic food and non-food products.
  - ✓ **'Fidel'** (fantasy name label) brand for best price products
  - ✓ **'Esselunga Bio'** brand for organic private label range
  - ✓ **The 'Naturama'** brand for fresh meat, fish and vegetables
  - ✓ **'Esselunga Top'** brand for premium products

# ESSELUNGA: STANDARD OWN LABEL

**ESSELUNGA**

green  
seed  
International Food Expertise

## Esselunga: Standard own label range

- Own label introduced in late 1970s
- Focus on quality and price
- Now wide range across all product categories, both food and non-food



# ESSELUNGA BIO: ORGANIC OWN LABEL



- Organic own label brand created in 1999.
- Now includes 250+ food items covering all the food categories from fresh fruit and vegetables, jams, preserves, cereals and bakery products, dairy products to ready dishes and ice-creams.
- The Esselunga organic range is the most extensive one among the Italian retail chains. Esselunga was the first Italian retail chain to make Organic a central strategy to communicate the chain's competence in fresh, natural, healthy and environmental friendly products, all subject to strict controls by Esselunga's QA and by external accredited organic certification.





**EsSELUNGA Naturama:** quality assurance brand for meat, fish and fresh vegetables

- Focus on quality and traceability
- Strict quality control schemes in all phases of production
- Products under Naturama brand include: fresh meat (beef, rabbit, chicken, hams), fish, pre-packed fruit & vegetables, eggs.







## EsSELUNGA Top: premium own label range

- Premium products with focus on taste, indulgence and also regional specialities.
- Products include: pasta, fresh pasta, pasta sauces, olive oil, mackerel fillets, jams, honey, butter, pizza, apple strudel and chocolate.



- Gruppo Auchan is now the 5<sup>h</sup> largest retailer Italy with a market share of 7.4% and is present in 11 regions.
- In the Italian retail market since 1989, the chain has patchy national coverage concentrated in Lombardia, Veneto, Marche, Lazio, Sicily and Sardegna.
- The chain operates through:
  - 49 Auchan Hypermarkets
  - 157 Sma Supermarkets
  - 38 Citylper Superstores
  - 1.356 Punto Sma & Sma Franchises
- The chain is suffering despite the to focus on food and on smk channel (Simply). Now only to brands: Auchan an Simply





- This large French retailer is now the 6<sup>th</sup> largest multiple retailer in Italy with a total market share of 6.7%. It is the second largest retailer in the world (after Walmart) and number 1 in Europe.
- Carrefour entered the Italian market through the acquisition of many local chains and today has 1,300 stores throughout Italy (hypermarkets, supermarkets and discount stores).
- In 2014 Carrefour has completed to transform all its hypermarkets into 'Carrefour Planets', and use only Carrefour brands for all the store formats like in other countries
- All points of sale are controlled centrally by the headquarters in Milan.



# PRIVATE LABEL

- The Private Label sector in Italy has an 19,9% market share, which is low compared to the European average of 35%.

- However the Italian market share is growing fastly and is expected to reach 20% market share in 2015.

- While in Northern Italy Private Label products make up for almost 30% of total sales, in Southern Italy a certain resistance exists and PL products only represent 12% of total sales.

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Year	%
2006	12.6%
2007	13.0%
2008	14.0%
2009	14.8%
2010	15.4%
2011	18.0%
2012	19.5%
2013	19,8%
2014	19.9%

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- Especially the PL products by Coop (Fior Fiore) and Conad (Sapori & Dintorni) are perceived as premium products.

# DISCOUNT CHANNEL

10.2%



- Unlike other European countries and despite the recent increase, discount stores in Italy still have a relatively small market share: 11.1%
- The main discount chains in Italy are:
  - **Eurospin:** more than 600 sales stores and 2,200 products – No. 1 discount chain in Italy;
  - **Lidl** (Lidl & Schwarz Group): 450 sales stores and 1,400 products – No. 2 discount chain in Italy;
  - **Dico:** more than 300 sales stores and 2,750 products (No. 3);
  - **Penny Market** (Rewe Group): 220 sales stores and 1,200 products;
  - **In's** (PAM Group): about 200 sales stores and 1,200 products;
  - **LD Market** (Lombardini Discount): 200 sales stores and 1,200 products.



## Traditional Channel



## TRADITIONAL CHANNEL

- The traditional channel, made up of small independent retailers, is decreasing, but is **still very important in Italy**.
- Traditional stores, however, are suffering from the growth of the retail chains and to survive, they are **looking for unique products, high in quality** (taste, appearance, ingredients, processing, packaging) and service.
- This category is difficult to define as each individual store has its own unique format.
- The general traditional food retailer is slowly disappearing to be replaced by stores that add added value through **specialisation in high quality** or through **adding more service** by staying open **longer hours** and week-ends. The latter are increasingly being run by first generation ethnic minorities. This channel will not disappear in Italy as it provides a mixture of personal attention, service and quality that allows stores to survive against all predictions.



# Foodservice





# FOODSERVICE: KEY CHARACTERISTICS

## Total market worth €57.0 Billion

- Commercial catering €30.9
- Contract catering €6.3
- Consumption in Bars €19.6
- Canteen €6.2

## Characterised by large numbers of small family managed outlets:

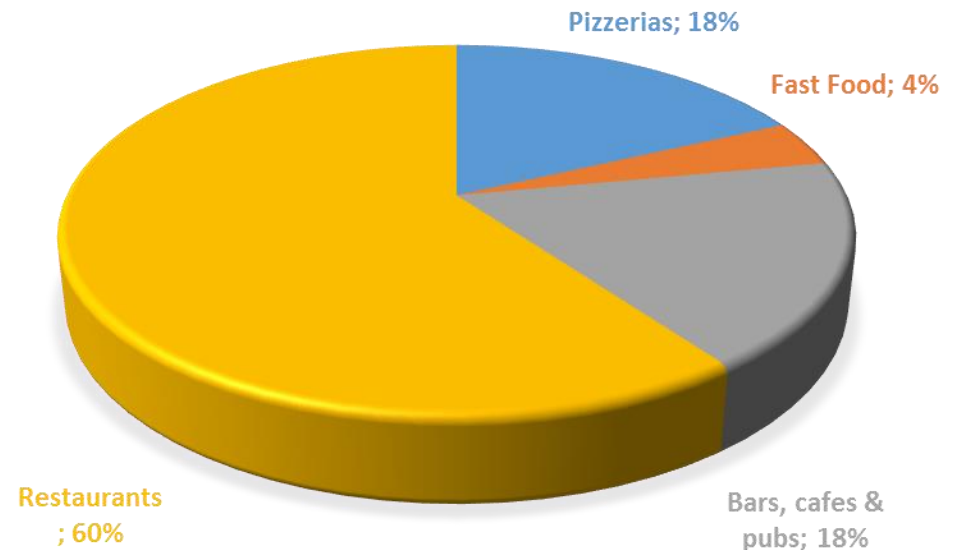
- Over 140,000 bars
- Pizzeria/Trattoria 28,000
- Restaurant 25,000
- Ice cream parlours 16,500

## Highly successful models against which it is proving difficult for chains to compete

- High quality

## Personal service:

- Flexible working hours



# FOODSERVICE: TOP COMPANIES

## Top chains are :

- McDonald's
- Flunch
- Autogrill
- Sarni
- Camst



## Top wholesalers:

- Marr
- Partesa
- Lekkerland



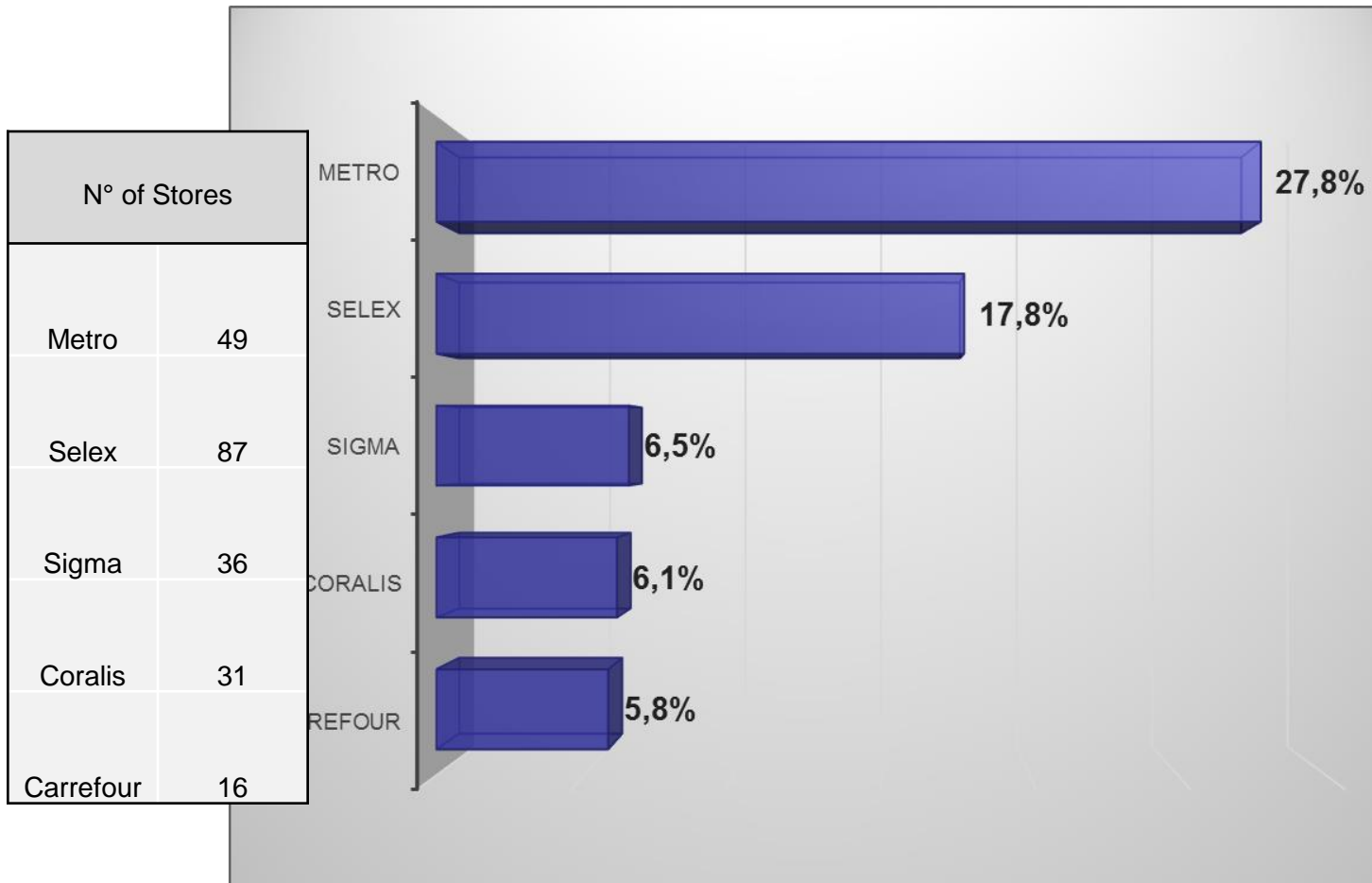
# CASH AND CARRY



# CASH & CARRY CHANNEL IN ITALY

N° of Points of Sale	→	397
Total Surface area	→	1.606,0
Average Surface Area	→	4.045
N° of businesses	→	105
LCC Turnover (Billion Euro)	→	4.2

# CASH & CARRY: TOP 5 COMPANIES



# CASE STUDIES

# CASE STUDY: KETTLE FOODS

- Our office supported Kettle Foods Ltd in exporting to Italy for the first time by offering them the service of 'DIRECT EXPORT SUPPORT'; identified as the best route to market for them.
- **Italy became the first Export market for Kettle in 2000. After this successful experience, Kettle Foods decided to replicate the same business model in other European Markets such as Holland and Belgium working together with the local Green Seed Offices.**
- Kettle Foods have become very successful in Italy and reached a turnover of € 2.900.000 in 2014.
- Green Seed Italy is continuing to support the company, managing clients and expanding their current business with new clients.
- Our support to Kettle is 360° (sales, logistics, administrative, PR & marketing) to guarantee the best approach to the market.



## CASE STUDY: DOLE

- Being a global company with worldwide presence, Dole currently sells or sources more than 200 products in 90 countries.
- Part of their range includes value-added products offering gently processed tropical fruit while combining convenient and innovative packaging with original formulations.
- The Green Seed Italy office prepared a three-year Business Development Plan for the Italian market in order to support Dole in enlarging their distribution in the multiple retail chains and sourcing new opportunities in the food service channel thereby increasing the potential turnover of the company.
- Results so far: 50 WD in 2 years, 3<sup>rd</sup> largest market in Europe after UK and France





# CASE STUDY: DORSET CEREALS



- In order to enter the Italian retail market, Dorset Cereals first contacted Green Seed Italy. Time was spent in assessing their specific market segment and insights were provided by Green Seed on local consumer culture, retail systems and regulations. The next step was to use Green Seed's consolidated contacts to set up a meeting between Dorset Cereals and Coop Italia (the leading retailer in Italy) in order to present their product range as a solution to cover an existing gap in the premium breakfast cereals category.
- Green Seed Italy also provided advice on adapting the size of the packaging with smaller packs for the local market thereby optimizing its appeal for the Italian consumer, recommended pricing and made introductions to critical supply chain partners. Furthermore, Green Seed developed the market entry sales plan and executed the commercial rollout strategy, by managing key retail and distributor accounts.
- Product placement was also secured within Eataly, the leading Italian retailer in terms of premium products.



# KEY LEARNINGS

# THE ITALIAN MARKET: KEY LEARNINGS



- One of the largest markets in Europe for Food & Drink.
- One of the highest added value markets in the world.
- Ideal market for selected high quality food & drink products.
- Good opportunities for Private Label suppliers.
- Large and growing Food Service market.
- Still fragmented distribution system but concentrating:
  - ✓ Lower introduction costs
  - ✓ More possibilities to go direct
- Payments are no longer a problem (new law from 2012, max 60 days payment terms).

# THE ITALIAN MARKET: KEY LEARNINGS



- Most of the importers speak a good English but it is not the case for the buyers of the retail or food service chains
- Fundamental is to find the right logistic partner to serve Italian customers when approaching the market ( not easy to match retailers logistic level of service, 1-2 deliveries x week, AxC...)
- High cost to serve of Italian fragmented distribution ( lots of little drops) to be consider in the value chain
- Margins of retailers may vary quite a lot ( 35-50%)
- Almost all retailers ask for Listing Fees and Marketing support plans

**And now...questions pls**

## Milan store visits (05/05/15)

- Meeting hotel 9 am: journey by Tube (MM)
- 9am-1 pm
- Finiper Hyper market Portello MM1 QT8
- Carrefour planet Assago MM 2 assago
- Ipercoop Lodi MM3 TIBB Lodi
- Esselunga Garibaldi superstore MM 2 Garibaldi
  
- 2-6 pm
- Eataly Garibaldi MM2 garibaldi gourmet chain
- Pack via Spadari MM1 Duomo top deli superette
- Brian & Barry Duomo MM1 Duomo deli shop + restaurant eataly
- Larinascente Duomo MM1 Duomo gourmet shop in Harrods style mall
- Excelsior Duomo Deli smk Harrods style in fashion shop (if we have time)
  
- Dinner: 8.30 Innocenti Evasioni (not far from hotel)