

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....

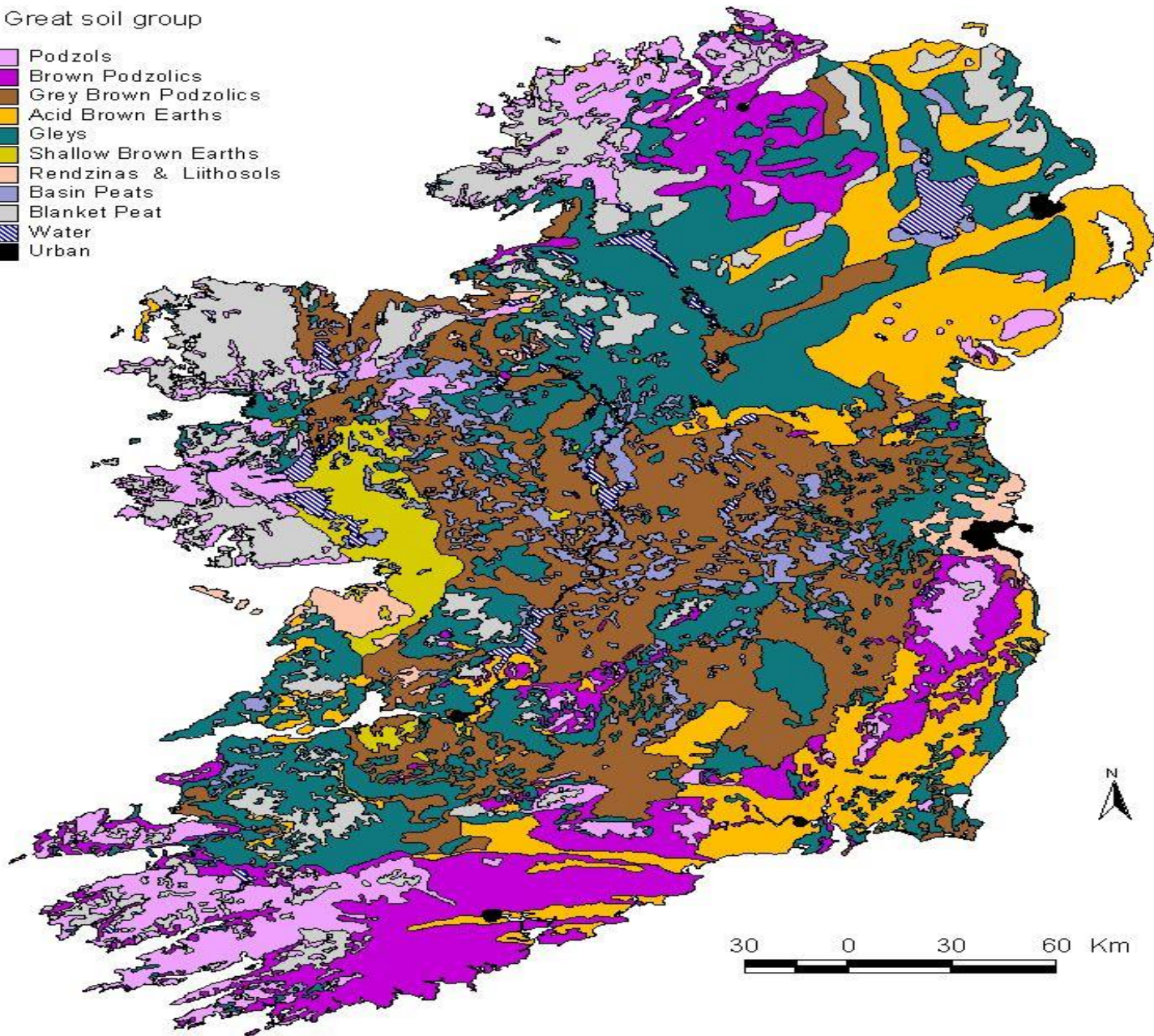
- **Must produce in sandy free draining soil**
- **Invest in large cold store facilities**

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



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







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.