

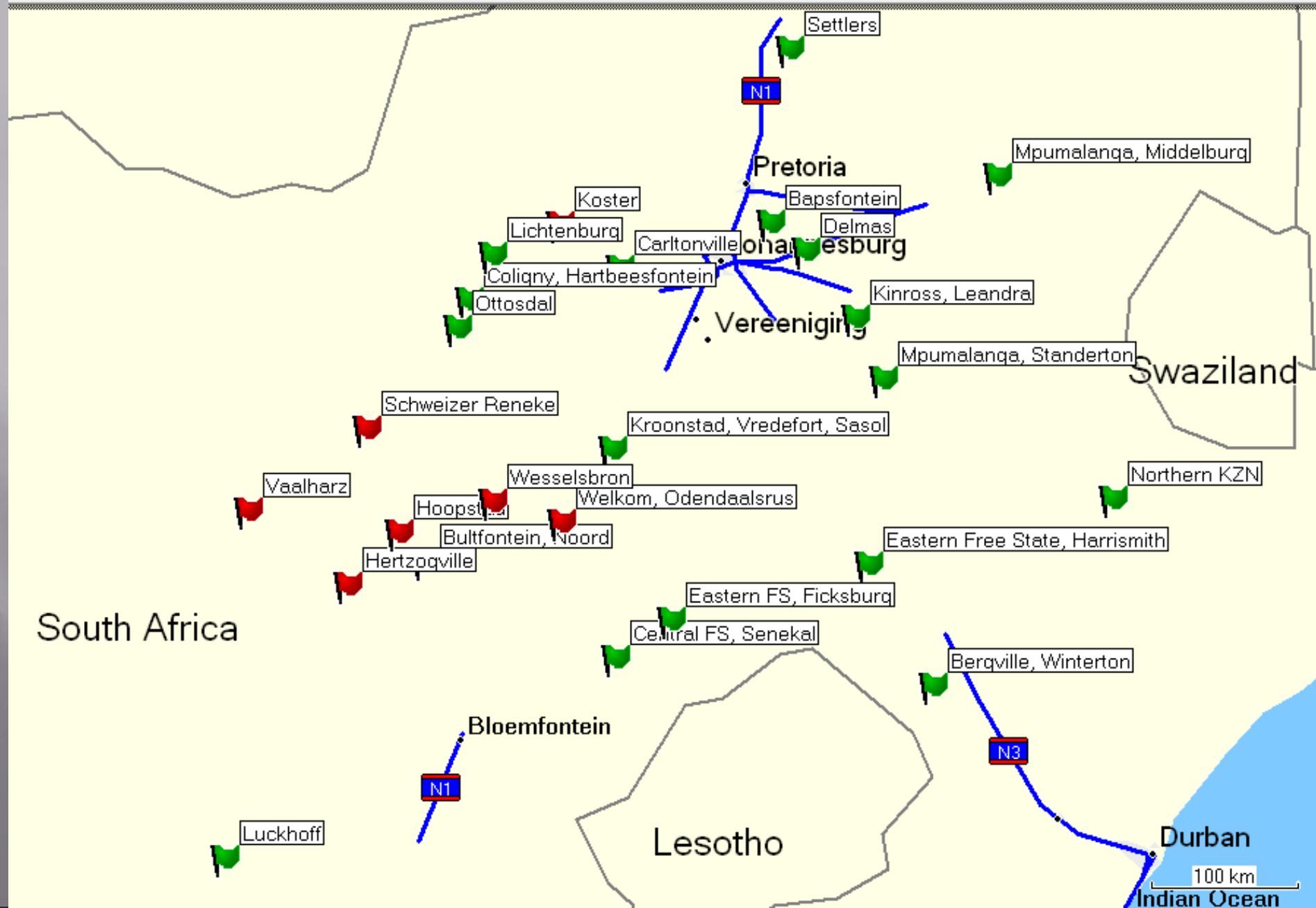
CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE



1. CA situation in South Africa
2. Discussions with farmers
3. Drivers and barriers of CA
4. Needs
5. Strategy
6. Outcome today

Maize Trust
CA Workshop
27 March 2012

CA adoption in South Africa



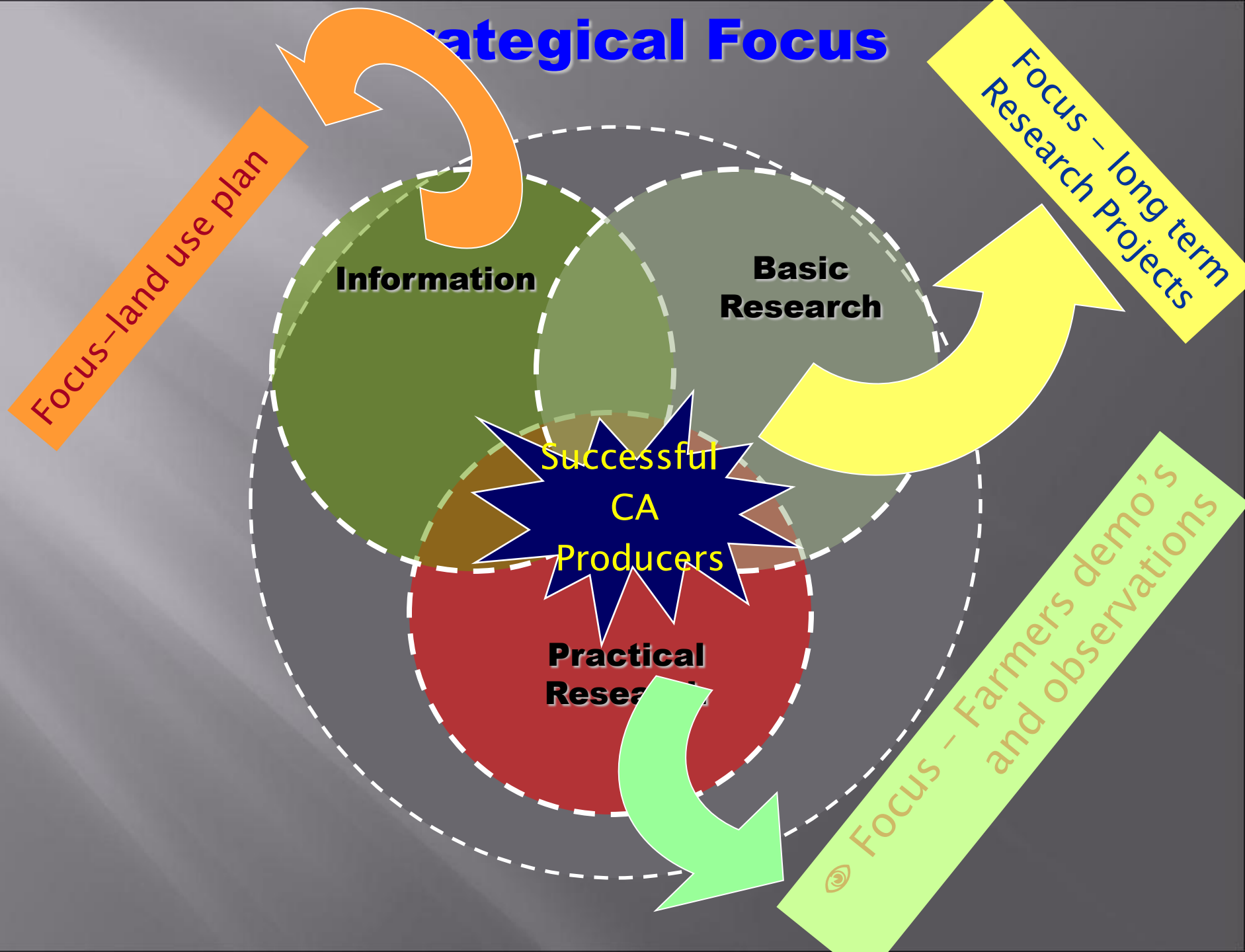
Chief Barriers



- ▣ Sandy soils,
- ▣ Location specific information
- ▣ Risk and uncertainties
- ▣ Animal factor
- ▣ Investment capital
- ▣ Mental perception
- ▣ CA structure
- ▣ RSA unique soils and climate
- ▣ Lack of cover crops



Strategic Focus



Focus - land use plan

Information

Basic Research

Practical Research

Successful
CA
Producers

Focus - long term
Research Projects

© Focus - Farmers demo's
and observations

Drivers for CA Adoption



- ▣ Input Cost – Fuel and Labor
- ▣ Soil health
- ▣ Soil protection – erosion
- ▣ Effective moisture usage
- ▣ Yield increase
- ▣ Conservation attitude

Messages from CA Farmers



- ▣ Individual efforts
- ▣ Information from KZN no-till club and
- ▣ International visits
- ▣ Clean break, no backdoor open
- ▣ Open for sharing experience
- ▣ More and more hunger for change
- ▣ CA is not easier – higher management skills

Research needs expressed



1. **Coordination of Basic Research**
 - **Diseases**
 - **Effect of Chemicals on soil health**
 - **Cover crop development**
2. **Crop rotation**
3. **Compaction**
4. **Planter – tone , couters (discs)**
5. **Plant orientation, population**
6. **Rodents**

Research Needs

- ▣ Will be defined today



Change ?



- ▣ More Research on CA
- ▣ Evidence that CA is successful in area
- ▣ International Visits
- ▣ Higher Fuel Prices
- ▣ Farm Labor
- ▣ Effective Equipment
- ▣ Fellow farmer influence and testimonies

Outcome of workshop

- ▣ Future vision with CA for Maize Trust
- ▣ Where do we want to be in 5 years? (2017)
- ▣ Research needs identified
- ▣ Next steps defined

DREAM



The road ahead

Competitive Crop Production

