Common land –
common heritage, common issues?

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Common land – what exactly is it?

• Land belonging to Government and used by farmers?
• Land over which people apart from the owner exercise rights?
• Jointly owned land?
• Some sort of joint governance?
• For today, we’ll assume the common thread is plurality of use (or the right to use) for grazing
Common land – how common is it?

• Eurostat says:
• Do we believe it? 😊
• It might be 24 million ha in EU and 15 million ha in non-EU!
• The UAA of France is 27 million ha

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER STATE</th>
<th>COMMON LAND (ha) year 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>4 205 593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>750 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>422 415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>610 165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>252 872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>171 351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>1 195 246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>627 225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>858 563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>1 497 764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>1 698 949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>8 221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Not identified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Not identified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU TOTAL (ha)</td>
<td>12 299 265</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Over 40 million ha!
It’s significant!

- Socially and economically for its users
- Often for the wider agricultural sector
- Cultural and social value for society
- As an important element of the semi-natural area of the EU it has
  - Landscape value
  - Biodiversity value
  - Carbon sink
  - Catchment protection
  - Huge role in fire risk (/management)
Secure, guaranteed access to land
Governance of the pasture
Secure, guaranteed access to ‘forage’ (on paper)
Regulations which recognise and cope with common pasture
Support measures which ‘work’ on common pastures
Applicants eligible for support

Food products from semi-natural resources
Resilient food supply (climate, fuel…)
Cultural and landscape values
Habitats and species
Fire control
Combatting rural poverty
It’s rather marginalised

- Geographically
- Socio-economically
- In terms of awareness and understanding
- In policy

- And graziers FEEL marginalised and alone
Aims of this event

• Getting to know each other and our circumstances

• Finding our common issues and especially the ones where we can potentially act together, either as a whole group or in smaller bilateral or multilateral partnerships

• Identifying common areas of work and building a consensus about a prioritised plan of action for the next 2 years