

Hay meadows in decline - what should the EU do about it?

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Hay meadows fit well with EU2020 priorities

- Biodiversity targets mean that we MUST halt haymeadow decline:
 - 1) habitats and species targets
 - 2) ecosystem services targets
 - 3) Biodiversity measures in agriculture policy targets
- Resource efficiency
- Low-carbon economy
- Inclusive jobs, including marginalised communities



Instruments for delivering EU2020 for hay meadows – CAP Pillar 2 is the KEY

- Pillar 1 greening proposals have NOTHING to offer hay meadows and HNV farming systems.
- But Pillar 2 has an explicit Priority 4 (a):

"restoring and preserving biodiversity, including in **Natura 2000** areas and **high nature value farming**, and the state of **European landscapes**"



Relevant CAP Pillar 2 instruments

- Agri-environment and Natura 2000 payments
- Areas with Natural Constraints payments
- Farm investment aids
- Farm advisory services
- Local co-operation projects
- LEADER
- RDP sub-programmes for HNV farming
- Etc.



So the EU has agreed the aims and provides the instruments – but are countries delivering?

- Romania ambitious scheme for HNV grasslands, but needs extending and better adaptation for hay meadows
- England long history of agri-environment schemes, and of transferring funds from Pillar 1 to finance them
- Agri-environment schemes are essential but not enough we need measures to support the farming systems and economy
- And it is LOCAL PROJECTS that make the crucial difference they multiply the benefits of top-down schemes



2 speed EU

- Some countries are lagging far behind in using the tools provided by the EU to pursue EU priorities
- E.g. Spain has vast areas of HNV farming and hay meadows,
 but has VERY LIMITED agri-environment schemes for them
- The EU institutions and governance systems do not ensure consistent effort to deliver EU priorities, or best practice
- This situation makes a mockery of EU goals and institutions



How can we ensure that the EU provides effective support for hay meadows and HNV farming post-2013?

- Continue to transfer funds from Pillar 1 to agri-environment
- Agri-environment schemes better adapted and supported by other measures, including local projects funded by Pillar 2
- Rigorous ex ante evaluations for Priority 4 (Natura 2000 and HNV farming), and measures that are a SUFFICIENT RESPONSE to the identified needs
- Will the EU institutions insist on this rigorous approach from all Member States??

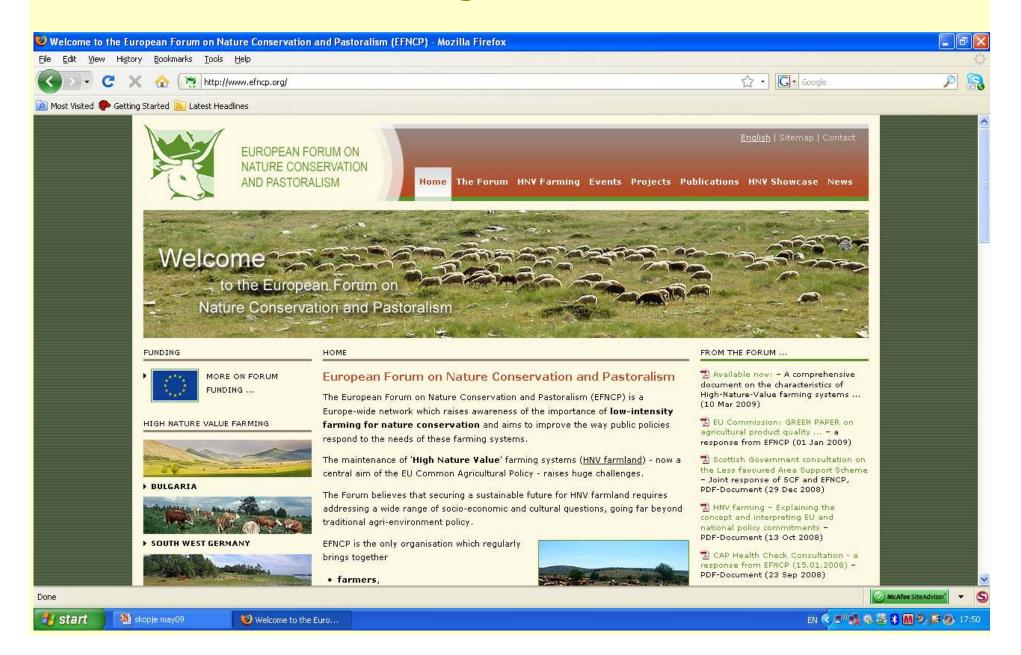


How will we know if we are succeeding?

- We need monitoring systems using sample surveys of:
 - Extent and condition of hay meadows
 - Farming systems and practices
- All countries should be doing this under the Common Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (CMEF) for Pillar 2, but most are NOT doing it
- From 2013, the indicators apply to the whole CAP, so it becomes even more important that they are implemented
- Will the EU institutions make it happen??



What EFNCP is doing about it...

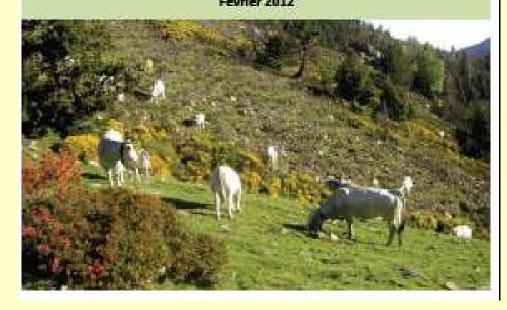


Examples of what EFNCP is doing....

 petition on permanent pastures and CAP eligibility: supported by 80+ organisations !!!



Pour soutenir les éleveurs qui gèrent les paysages pastoraux européens, changeons les règles sur les pâturages permanents dans la PAC





Book on HNV farming in 35 countries...

High Nature Velue (HMV) farming is inherently valuable for biodiversity and forms a living cultural and natural haritage. HWV farmland comprises serre-natural pastures, meadows and orchards, as well as apecies-rich arathr land, and often retains a wealth of landscape features. HNV farming represent in all fluropean countries, with a diversity of types and extent. Apart from being the cornerstone of furupean farmend biodiversity, these types of ferming provide a multitude of latter services for society, including statematric rurer aconomies, and the nch social fating and character of Europe's landscapes. The environmental, socio-cultures and territorial significance of FRV farming is increasingly recognised, but greater awareness is needed amongst policy makers and the wider public.

This book presents at overview of FMV farming. screen 25 European countries, describing the mein characteristics and presenting examples of farming systems, familia and farmers, beside the country chapters there are themselve chapters looking at a range of leaves of farming. nature, economy and policy. Thus the book gives traught to a very firoad subject affecting not only farmers, conservationists and policy makers, but also all people interested in the diversity of dumpoen landscapes.



































High Nature Value Farming in Europe







35 European countries - experiences and perspectives

Rainer Oppermann, Guy Beaufoy, Gwyn Jones (Eds.)











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