



Joint NGO proposal for support to High Nature Value farming

**CAP Agri-environment
Advisory Group**

17th November 2010

Guy Beaufoy, EFNCP



EUROPEAN FORUM ON
NATURE CONSERVATION
AND PASTORALISM





CAP reform 2013

last chance to stop the decline of Europe's
High Nature Value farming?



Some principles for the CAP at EU and country levels

- Set clear objectives
- Robust analysis of key challenges and best responses
- Long-term and joined-up thinking
- Real monitoring that informs policy improvement



Now it doesn't work like this, but trying

to get there



Natural resource and territorial challenges for the CAP

- Biodiversity 2020 + Natura 2000
- Water Framework Directive
- Soil Thematic Strategy

▶ ***No quantitative analysis of needs or best approaches through CAP***

So that instruments are used in ways that are insufficient and inconsistent



The challenges need to be analysed and quantified – including the biodiversity challenge for 2020

In broad terms, low-intensity farmland and intensified farmland represent very different challenges and need different responses



Most of our farmland biodiversity is on land farmed at low intensity and with a high proportion of semi-natural elements – Wales

Large % of unimproved pasture



Biodiversity elements, e.g. big hedges



Most of our farmland biodiversity is on land farmed at low intensity and with a high proportion of semi-natural elements - Romania



Most of our farmland biodiversity is on land farmed at low intensity and with a high proportion of semi-natural elements – Normandie



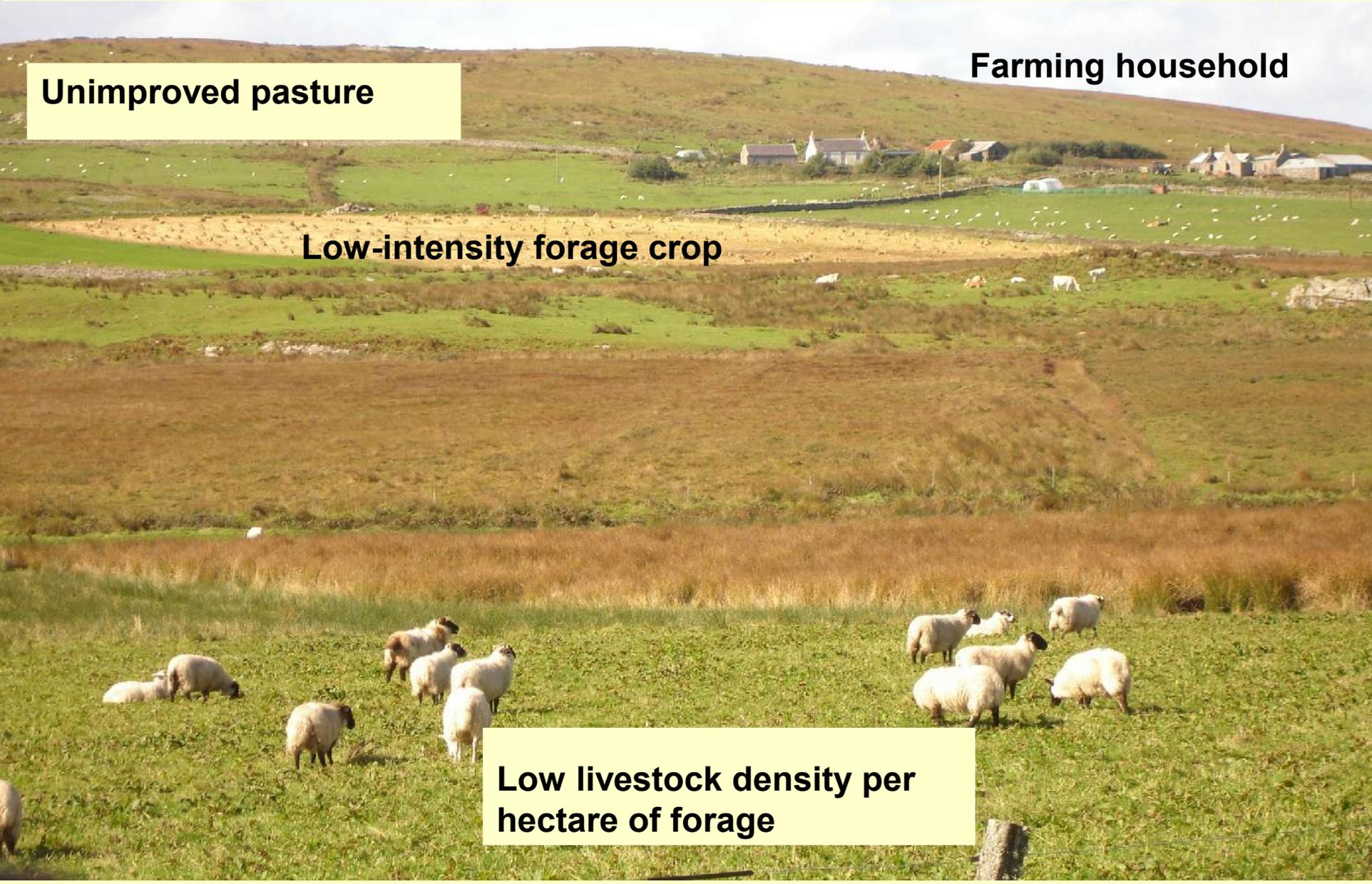
Low livestock density per hectare of forage at the farm level is a common characteristic of high-nature-value farming - Scotland

Unimproved pasture

Farming household

Low-intensity forage crop

Low livestock density per hectare of forage



For olives and other orchards of high biodiversity, a semi-natural grass understorey is a common characteristic. Andalucía, Spain



... and in arable landscapes, a high density of semi-natural elements, such as field boundaries. Poland



Legend

Non wooded seminatural land



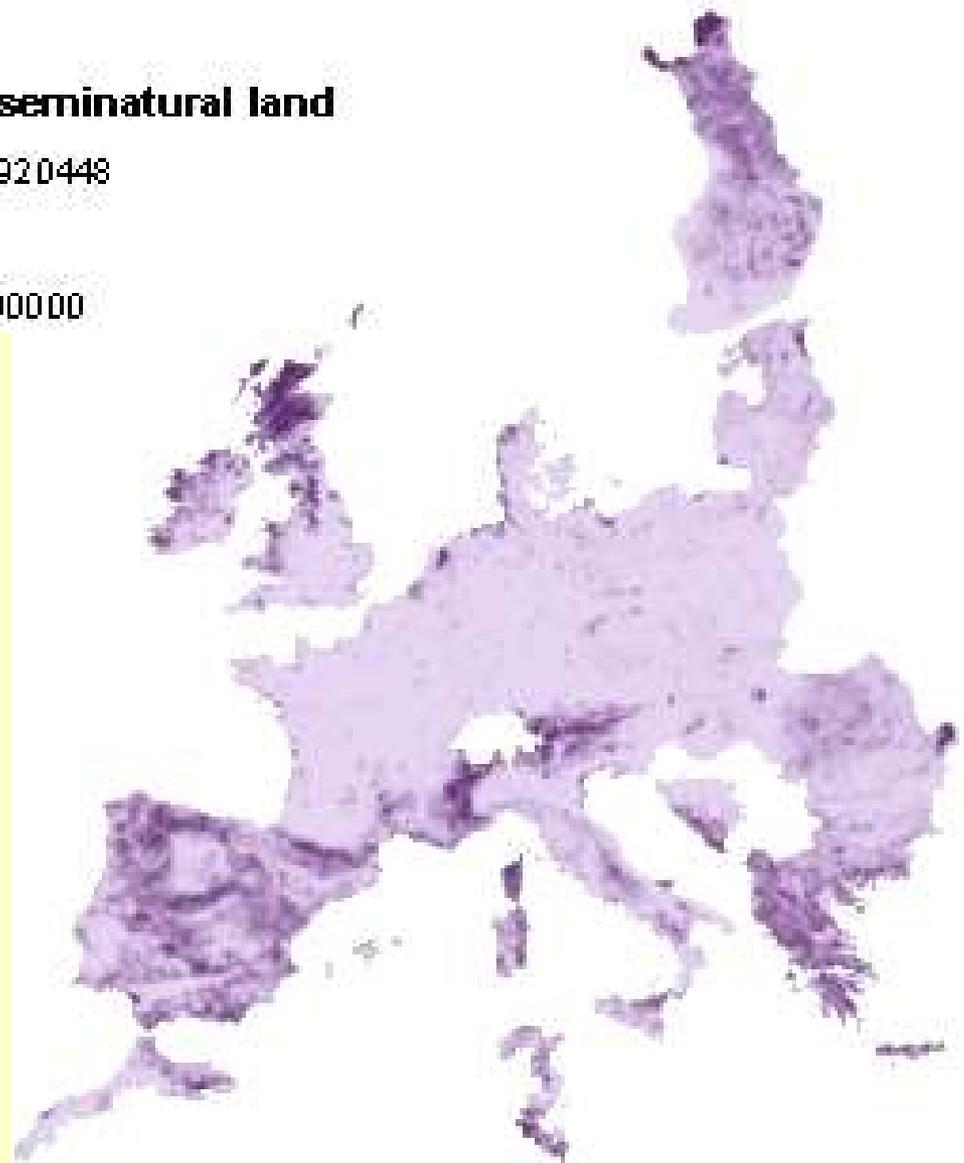
High : 99,920448

Low : 0,000000

Includes maybe 50 million hectares of farmland that is fundamentally different from mainstream intensified farmland:

- highest farmland biodiversity, public goods, ecosystems services
- lowest farm incomes
- highest threat of abandonment

Needs special attention from policy, consistently across EU
[map to help thinking, not to



HNV farming concept:

Some broad types of farming and farmland are inherently rich in biodiversity, and have common characteristics.

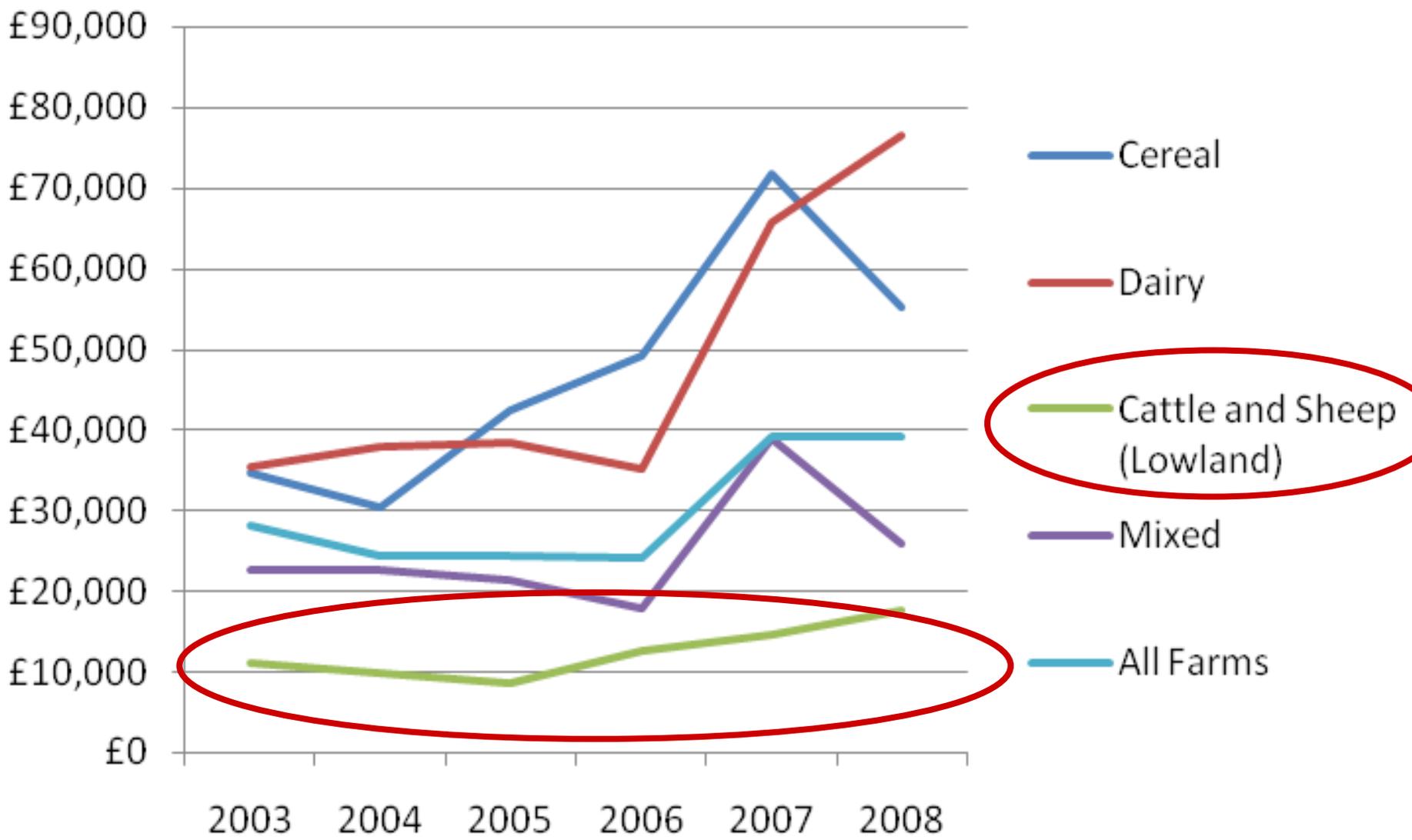
They are mainly on land with physical or structural limitations.

The main biodiversity challenge is to maintain them on a large scale, to change practices is not the aim.

Viability is a key concern



Farm income south-west England. If we are thinking strategically, where is HNV farmland on this graph?



Sources of farm income – south-west England.

Beef, sheep and mixed farms have negative income from production, highest dependence on Pillar 1

	Sources of Income									
	Agriculture	%	Agri-environment payments	%	Diversification	%	Single Payment Scheme	%	Farm Business Income	%
Cereal	-£430	-1%	£7,596	14%	£13,256	24%	£34,871	63%	£55,294	100%
Dairy	£52,005	68%	£2,630	3%	£400	1%	£21,382	28%	£76,417	100%
Cattle and Sheep (Lowland)	-£1,832	-10%	£3,174	18%	£3,502	20%	£12,823	73%	£17,668	100%
Mixed	-£3,186	-12%	£4,806	19%	£2,129	8%	£22,201	86%	£25,950	100%
All Farms	£8,146	21%	£4,953	13%	£5,364	14%	£20,696	53%	£39,082	100%



High income, high subsidy
Low public goods value



Negative income, low subsidy **High public goods value**



	Intensive irrigated olives € / ha	Marginal non-irrigated olives € / ha
Net income without CAP	1 400	- 400
Flat-rate payment	450	450
LFA	20	0
Net income with CAP	1 870	50

This lack of economic viability and support has serious natural-resource and territorial consequences

Current schemes – Pillar 1, LFA and agri-environment – are failing to address this specific but large-scale challenge on the EU scale



Abandonment - grasslands of most biodiversity value are dropping out of farming systems all over Europe.

Natura 2000 and agri-environment are not stopping this on a sufficient scale, or with any consistency across the EU.



Upland hay meadow

New livestock handling facilities on common land - an example of positive action, but not enough strategic thinking.

Income problem not addressed sufficiently by Pillar 1, nor by Natura 2000 and agri-environment...



Abandonment of traditional olive groves is a fire risk and very difficult to reverse

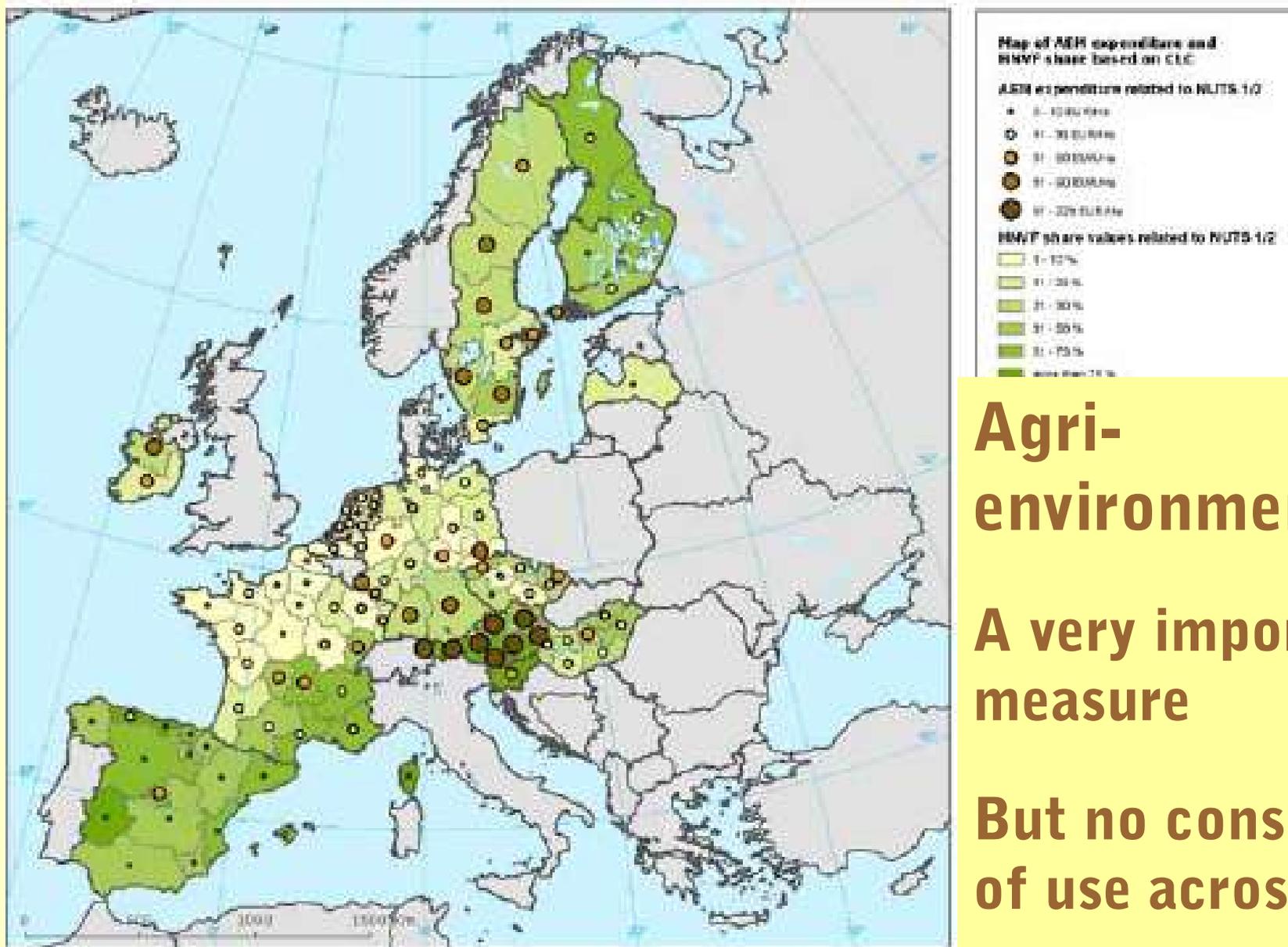
Entire landscapes are under threat, but very few Pillar 2 schemes exist on the ground to stop this process



Abandonment of low-intensity forest grazing and of traditional olive groves is a major cause of increased fire incidence



Map 6.2 Share of HNV farmland and agri-environment expenditure in selected countries and regions (EUR/ha)



Sources: EEA, 2009 (see Annex 5 for details on data and methodology).

Agri-environment:

A very important measure

But no consistency of use across EU

Same is true of

**Challenge for intensive farmland is different. Abandonment is not a threat.
Remaining biodiversity should be retained through cross-compliance.
Improvements are possible, but only so far. And it costs the tax-payer**



Agri-environment payments calculated on income foregone pay well in intensive situations, but are not ideal for rewarding existing farming systems with

Requirement and objective	Payment / ha / year
Low-input arable management - carbon	261
Unsprayed spring cereals with winter stubbles - biodiversity	300
Grass buffer strips to prevent erosion on ploughed land - water	1,250
Enhanced maize management - water	300
Unimproved neutral grassland - biodiversity	111
Upland calcareous grassland - biodiversity	62
Upland wet heath - biodiversity	41



Basis for HNV farming support at **territorial** level – a strategic approach for EU and member states

What are the broad farming types of most biodiversity value?

What values do they support and why?

What challenges do they face, and on what scale?



What measures are needed, and on what scale?

What measures work best, including delivery, integrated packages, etc.? Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 must work together.



What is it most useful to monitor and how? What data are needed?

Ensure that monitoring feeds back into policy development

HNV farmland payments using **farm-level** criteria

1) Pan-EU payment for unimproved permanent pasture, in recognition of high biodiversity and low farming returns. LU/ha criteria?

Include scrubby and wooded pastures, due to very high public goods – millions of hectares are excluded from payments today

2) Pan-EU payment for low-intensity olives/orchards with unsown grass understorey. Other criteria?



3) Pan-EU payment for “biodiversity features”. Farms with most features are unfairly burdened by cross-compliance – payment should reflect amount of features above a minimum of e.g. 10%.



LPIS-IACS system is essential as basis for effective payments and monitoring of effects

Карта - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by State Fund Agriculture

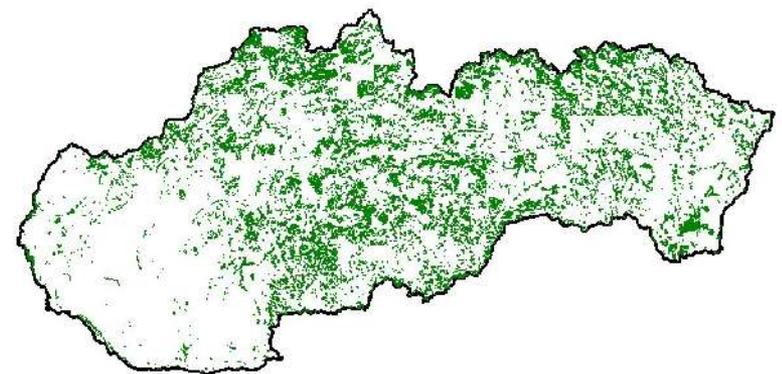
http://iacsdb:7777/iacsprod/?p=141:1203:368174252753809::NO::P1203_MAP_LAYER,P1203_MAP_FARMERID,P1203_MAP_EID,P1203_MAP_CMD,P1203_MAP_CONTROL,P12

И С А К - Регистър "Директни плащания" - 2008

Главно меню > Регистрация на заявление за подпомагане > Детайли > Карта

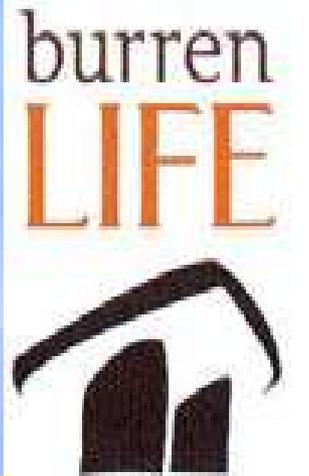
Търсене на	Карта
Землища	ширина/височина(м): 8331.37/5493.21
Кадастрални имоти	1 пиксел = 9.16 м.
Физически блокове	Координати на центъра (UTM35):

National inventories of unimproved grassland have been put on LPIS, e.g. Slovakia



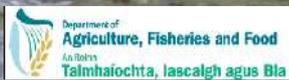
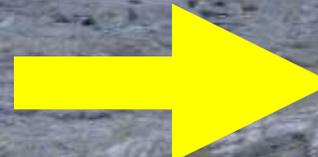
Not just about payments – local projects involving farmers are critical

2004-09



2010-13

Art. 68



For more information on our projects www.efncp.org

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HIGH NATURE VALUE FARMING



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European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism

The European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism (EFNCP) is a Europe-wide network which raises awareness of the importance of **low-intensity farming for nature conservation** and aims to improve the way public policies respond to the needs of these farming systems.

The maintenance of '**High Nature Value**' farming systems (**HNV farmland**) - now a central aim of the EU Common Agricultural Policy - raises huge challenges.

The Forum believes that securing a sustainable future for HNV farmland requires addressing a wide range of socio-economic and cultural questions, going far beyond traditional agri-environment policy.

EFNCP is the only organisation which regularly brings together

- farmers,



FROM THE FORUM ...

- Available now: - A comprehensive document on the characteristics of High-Nature-Value farming systems ... (10 Mar 2009)
- EU Commission: GREEN PAPER on agricultural product quality ... - a response from EFNCP (01 Jan 2009)
- Scottish Government consultation on the Less Favoured Area Support Scheme - Joint response of SCF and EFNCP, PDF-Document (29 Dec 2008)
- HNV farming - Explaining the concept and interpreting EU and national policy commitments - PDF-Document (13 Oct 2008)
- CAP Health Check Consultation - a response from EFNCP (15.01.2008) - PDF-Document (23 Sep 2008)

Done

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