

Profitable grazing...



EGF workshop Grazing, 7 September 2014

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Profitable grazing

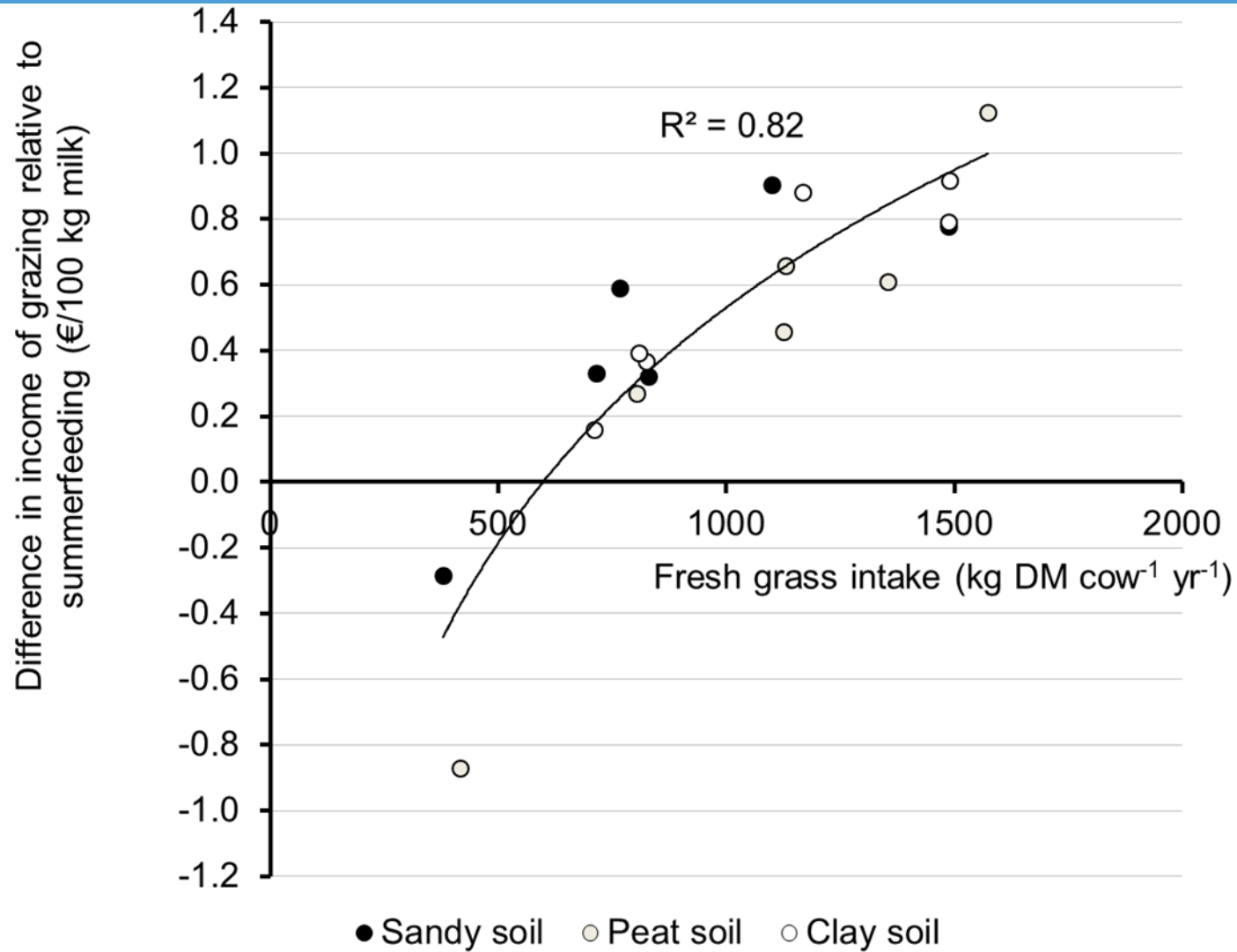
study end of 2012

- Cost differences calculated with DairyWise farm model
- Statistical analysis of data commercial dairy farms (2011)
- Success factors for profitable grazing in practice
- Approach for more profitable grazing in NL



Income with and without grazing

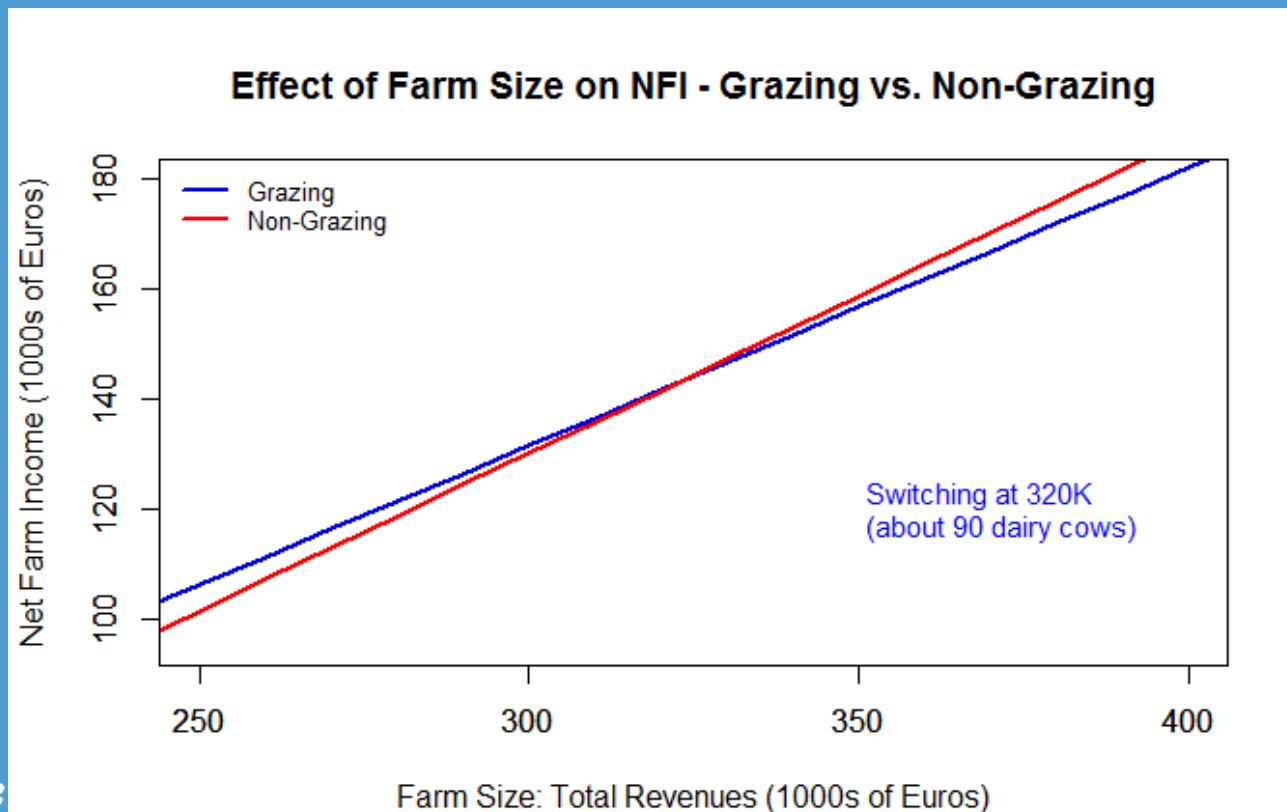
DairyWise model



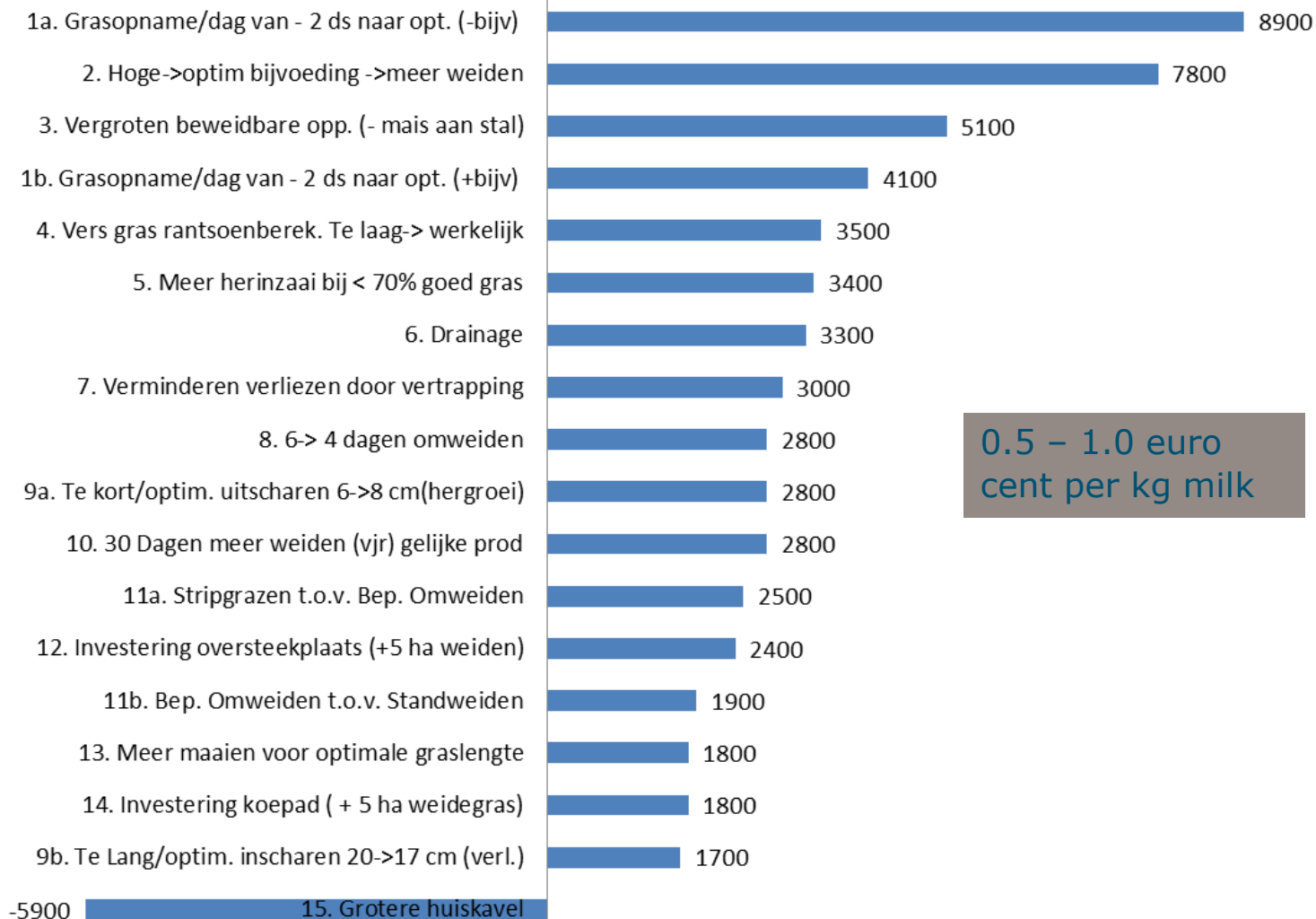
Effect gross margin

(data from commercial dairy farms)

In general, grazing was more profitable in 2011. However, these positive results declined in relation to increasing farm size. The transition point was, on average, a farm size of about 90 dairy cows (or 130 dairy cows if the grazing premium of 0.5 eurocent was included).

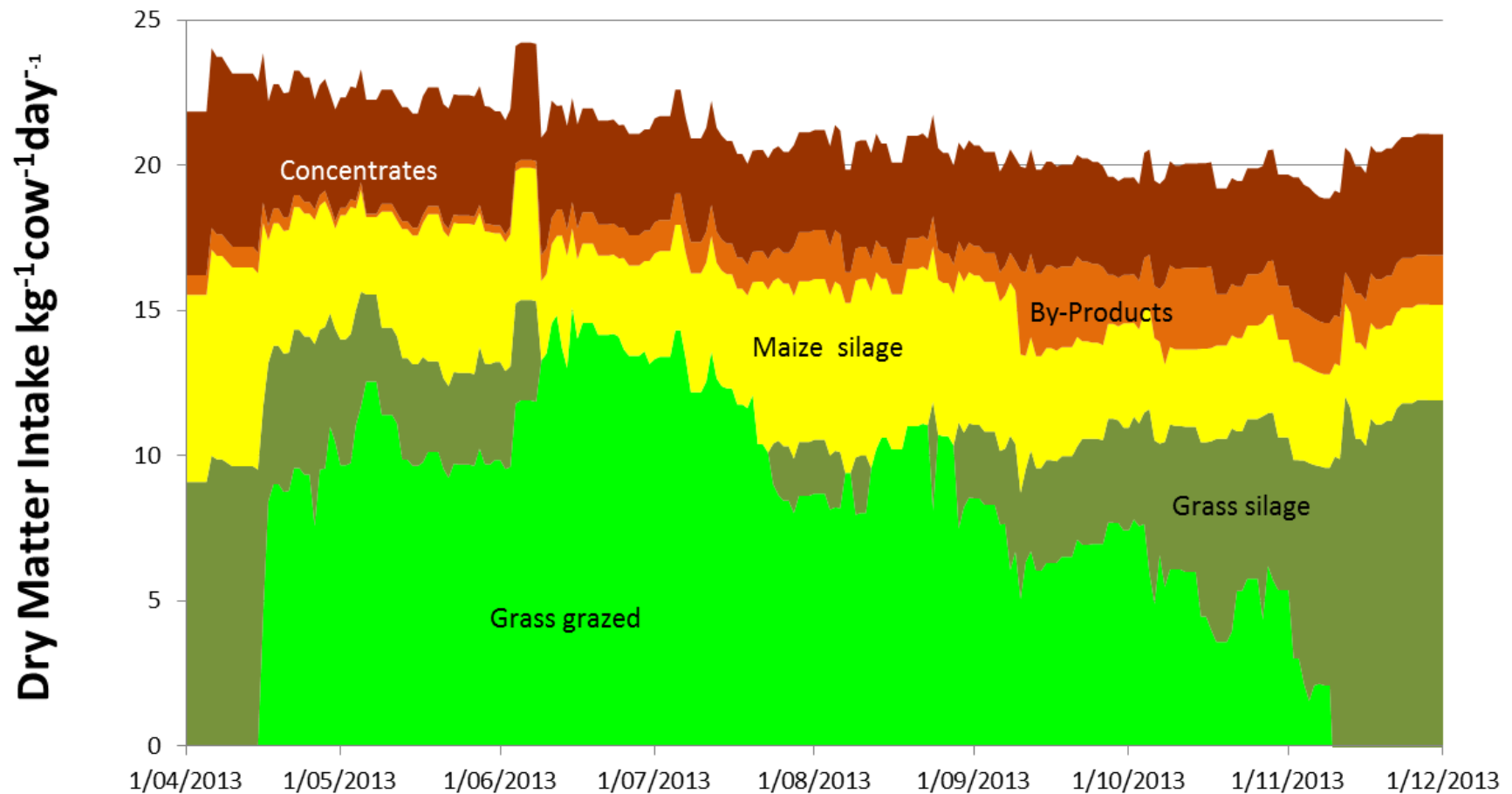


Possibilities for more profitable grazing?



Grass intake crucial factor, depending on supplementary feeding roughage

Network Dynamic Grazing 2013



Approach for profitable grazing in the NL

- Developing concept FarmWalk
 - Watch, measure, decide, act
- Introduction FarmWalk
 - 500 farmers, 5 times in group
- Training 60 grazing coaches in 2014
 - Advisory
 - Teachers
- General communication
 - Weekly column 'Weideman'
 - 2100 farmers



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Summary

Profitable grazing

- Grazing offers financial benefits, because of lower costs for fresh grass (5-10 ct per kg DM)
- In practice benefits not fully used
- Improvement is very well possible, success factors are known
- Supplementary feeding and fresh grass intake are crucial!

+> working on grazing skills

