The future of Grazing – Welcome!

3rd Meeting of the EGF Working Group “Grazing”
Aberystwyth, UK, 7 September 2014
Coordination

- Agnes van den Pol-van Dasselaar (Wageningen UR Livestock Research, the Netherlands)
- Alex de Vliegher (ILVO, Belgium)
- Deirdre Hennessy (Teagasc, Ireland)
- Jean-Louis Peyreaud (INRA, France)
- Johannes Isselstein (University of Göttingen, Germany)
Welcome

- Agenda
- List of participants
- Discussion groups
- Name tag (please write down your first name)
Participants

- 16 countries (15+1)
- Majority research, but also advice, education, policy, industry, press
EGF Working Group Grazing

- Established at EGF 2008 in Uppsala, Sweden
- Aim: exchange knowledge on all aspects of grazing and networking
  - First meeting in 2010 in Kiel, Germany: Research methodology of grazing
  - Second meeting in 2012 in Lublin, Poland: Innovations in grazing
  - Third meeting in 2014 in Aberystwyth, UK: The future of grazing
Grasslands in Europe
Grazing in Europe

- Country specific
- East and South < North and West
- Grazing has advantages and disadvantages
- In general, the popularity of grazing is declining
  - Less cows
  - Less days yr\(^{-1}\)
  - Less hours d\(^{-1}\)
So...

- Is there a future for grazing .... ?
- And what do we need to shape that future?
Today

- Session I: Welcome
- Session II: Several forward looking views on the future of grazing in Europe
- Session III: Developments in forage production
- Session IV: Current and future economics of grazing
- Session V: Closure
Group discussions

- 4 groups per session
- Present in plenary session: 2-3 sentences...

- Items to discuss:
  - List of questions / propositions / themes
  - Items can be added

- Reporters: max 1 A4 to agnes.vandenpol@wur.nl