

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 Vliegheer (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

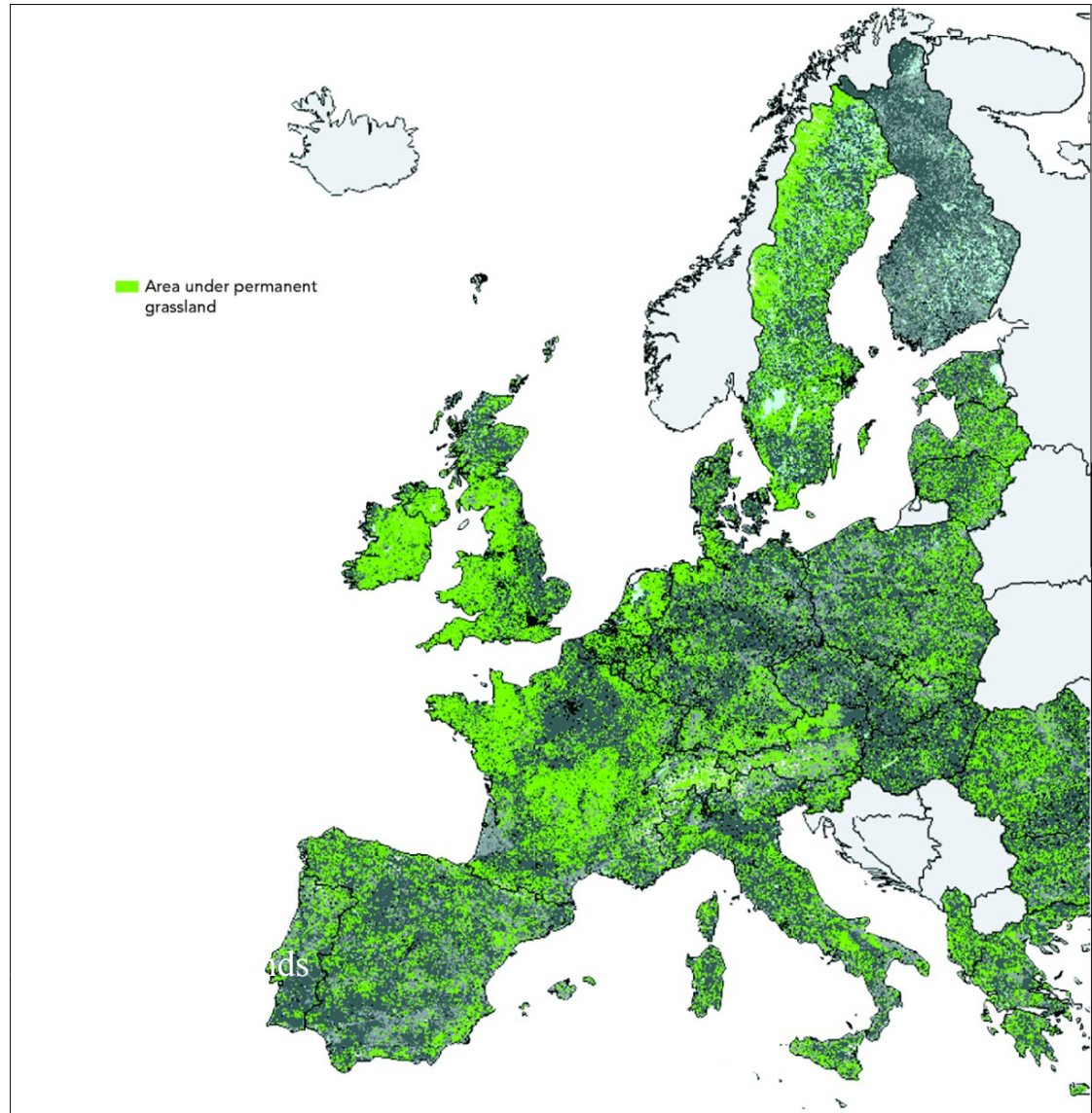
- 16 countries (15+1)
- Majority research, but also advice, education, policy, industry, press



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