



# Spatial localisation of grassland and grazers in Europe

De Vlieghe A.  
Van Gils B.

EGF- WG 'GRAZING'  
Kiel, 29 August 2010



Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research

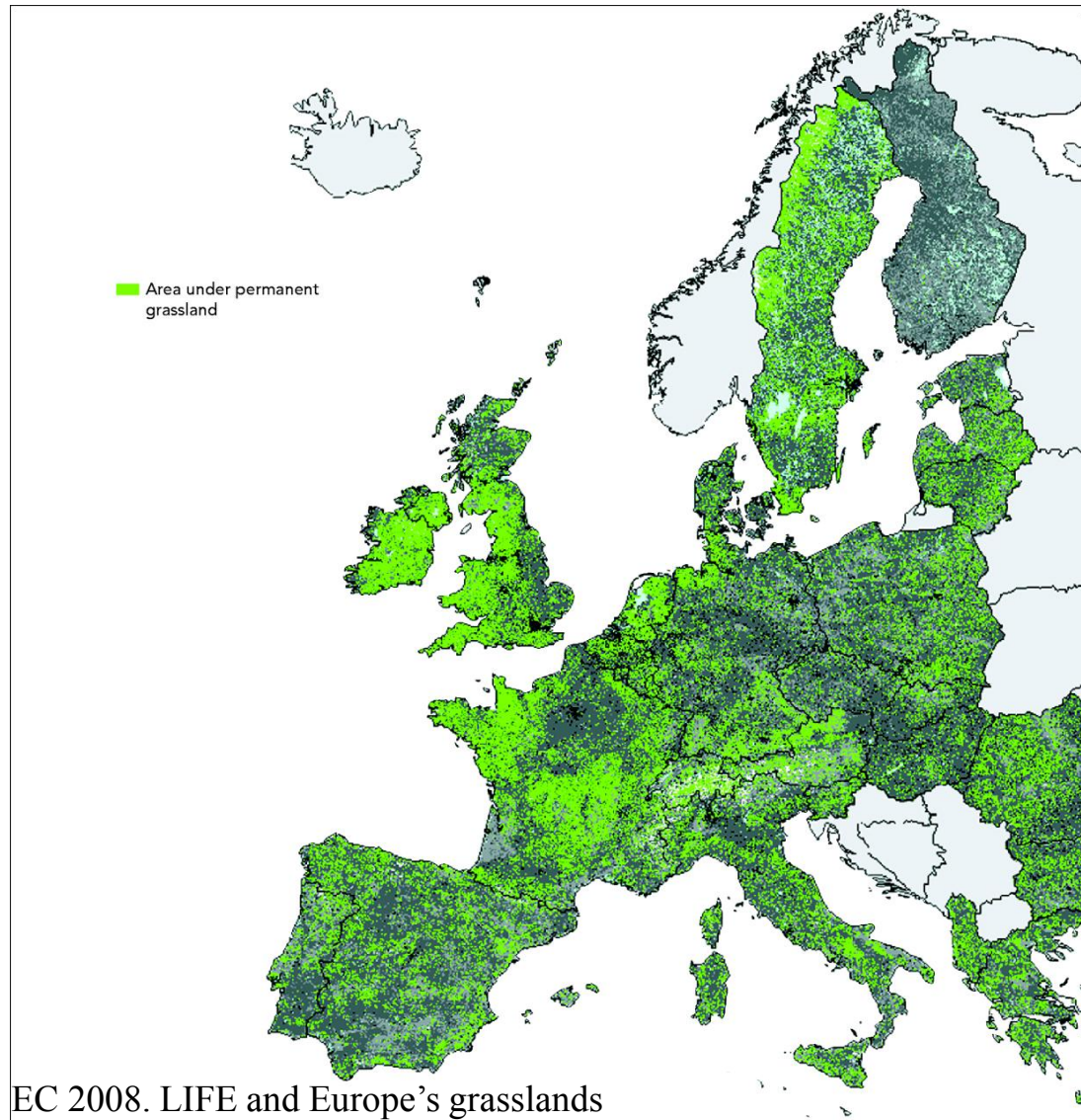
# Multisward task 1.1: roles and utility of grassland in Europe

## Inventory:

*Importance, functions and utility of grassland in Europe at the catchment and landscape levels from economic, agronomic and environmental point of view*

- Spatial localisation of grassland within landscapes
- Interactions between grassland, arable crops and other landscape elements
- Incorporation of different farming systems, pedo climatic and socio-economic conditions

# Distribution of grasslands in EU

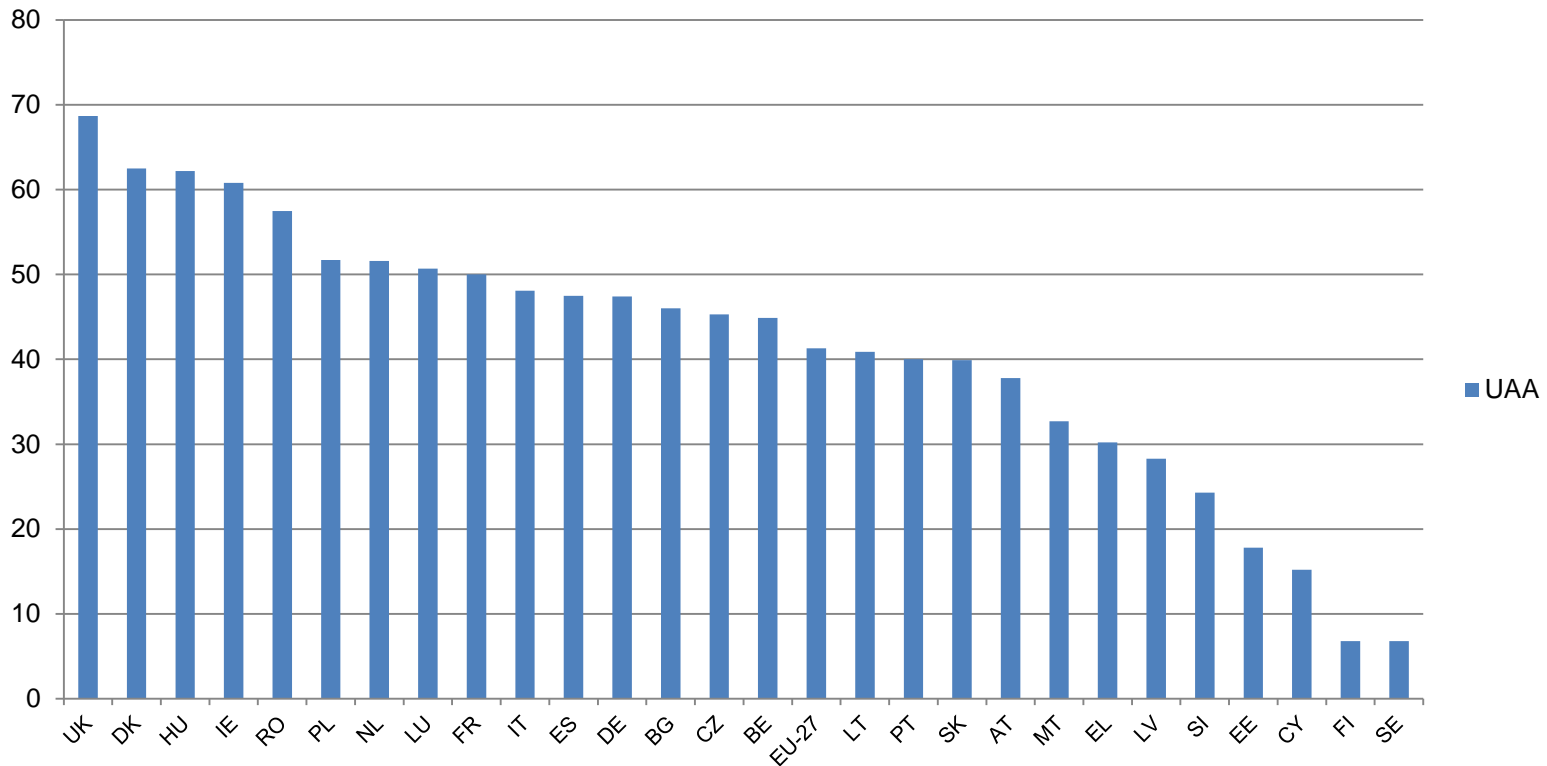


# Distribution of grasslands in EU

## Utilized Agricultural Area in the EU 27

Eurostat 2009: Agricultural Statistics 2007-2008

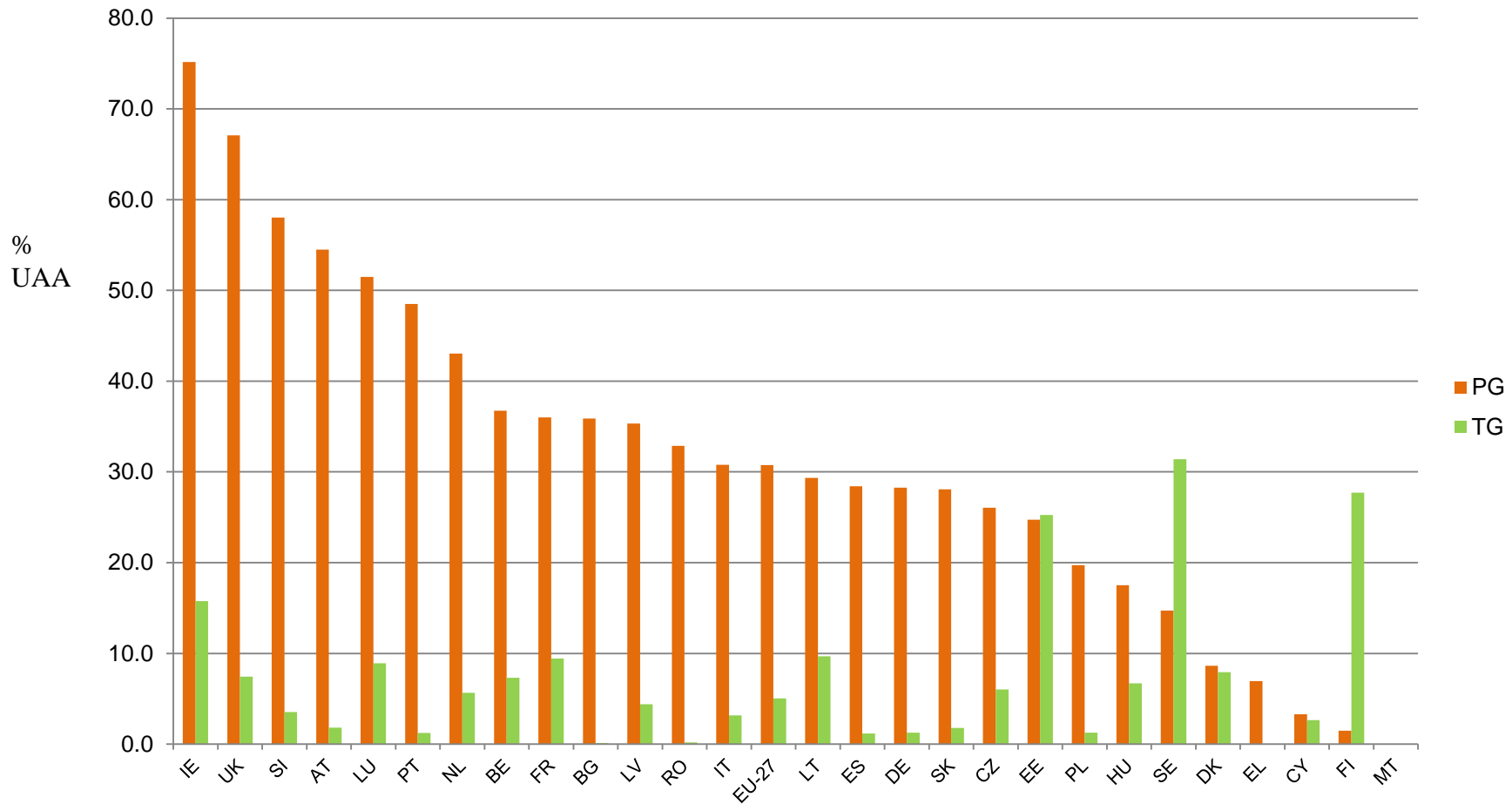
### UAA (% total area)



# Distribution of grasslands in EU

## Permanent and temporary grasslands in EU (% UAA)

Eurostat 2009: Agricultural Statistics 2007-2008





# Grassland production

Grassland DM productivity (Smith *et al.* 2008)

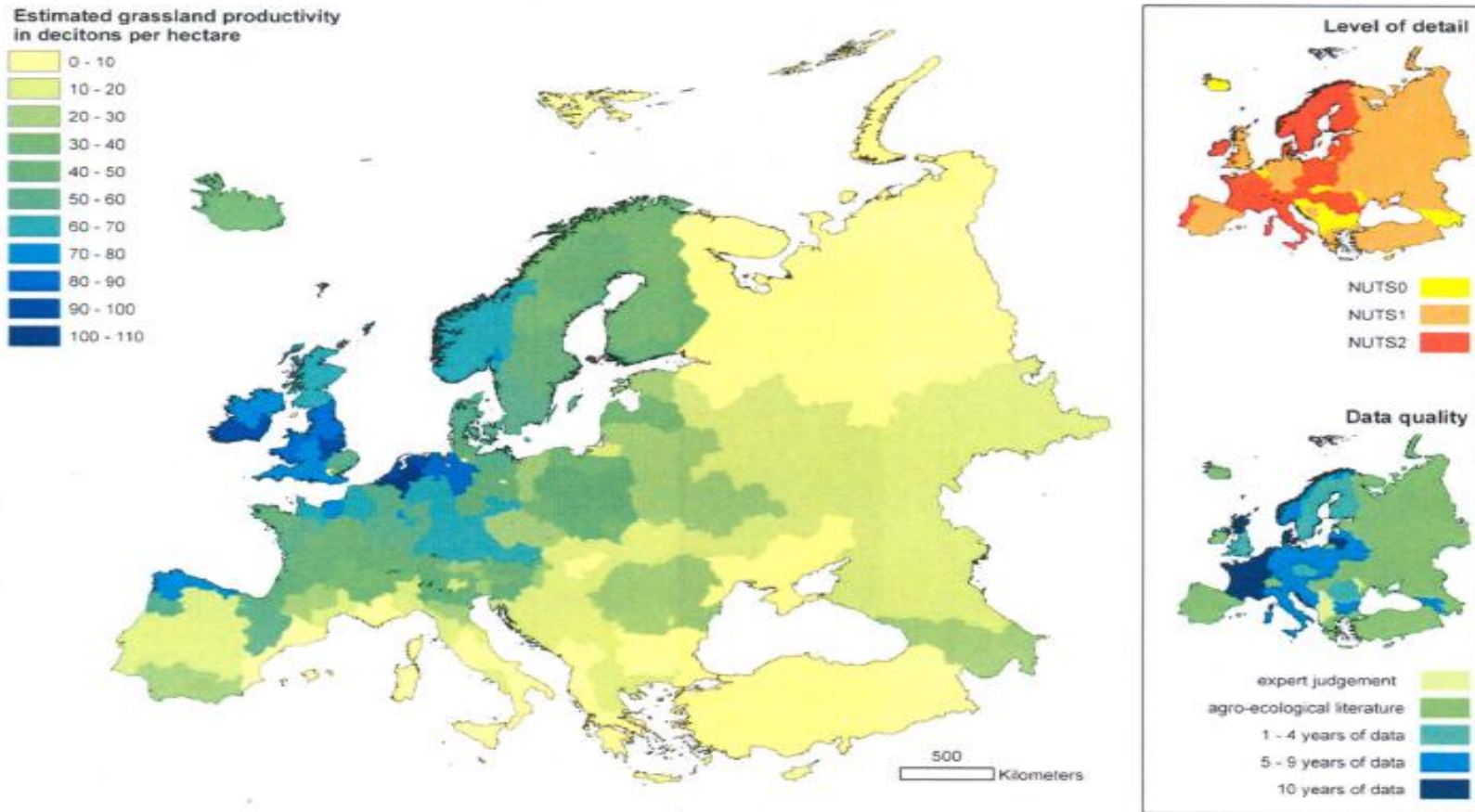
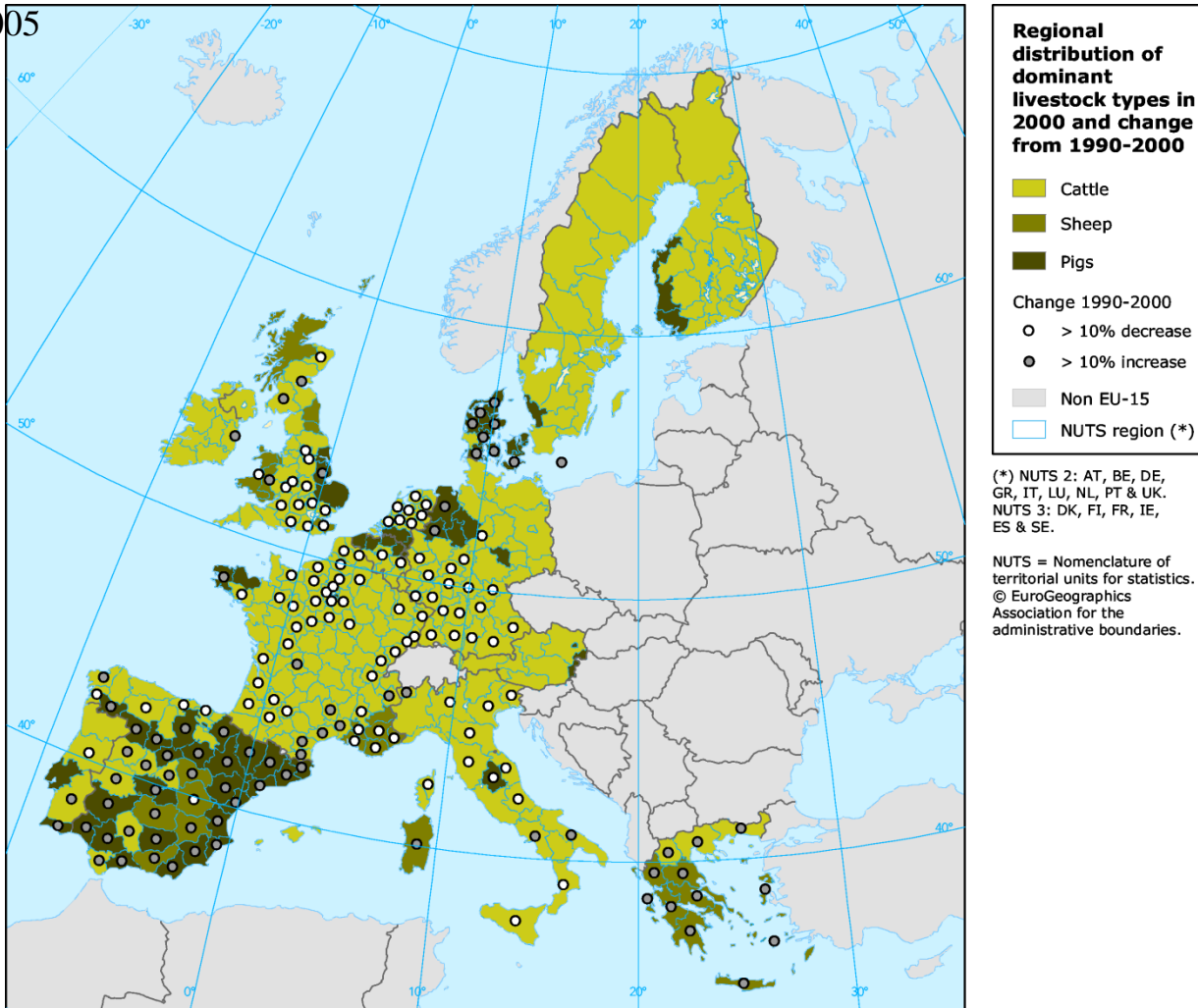


Fig. 2. Spatial distribution of grassland productivity (dt ha<sup>-1</sup>) in Europe. NUTS, Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics.

# Livestock production

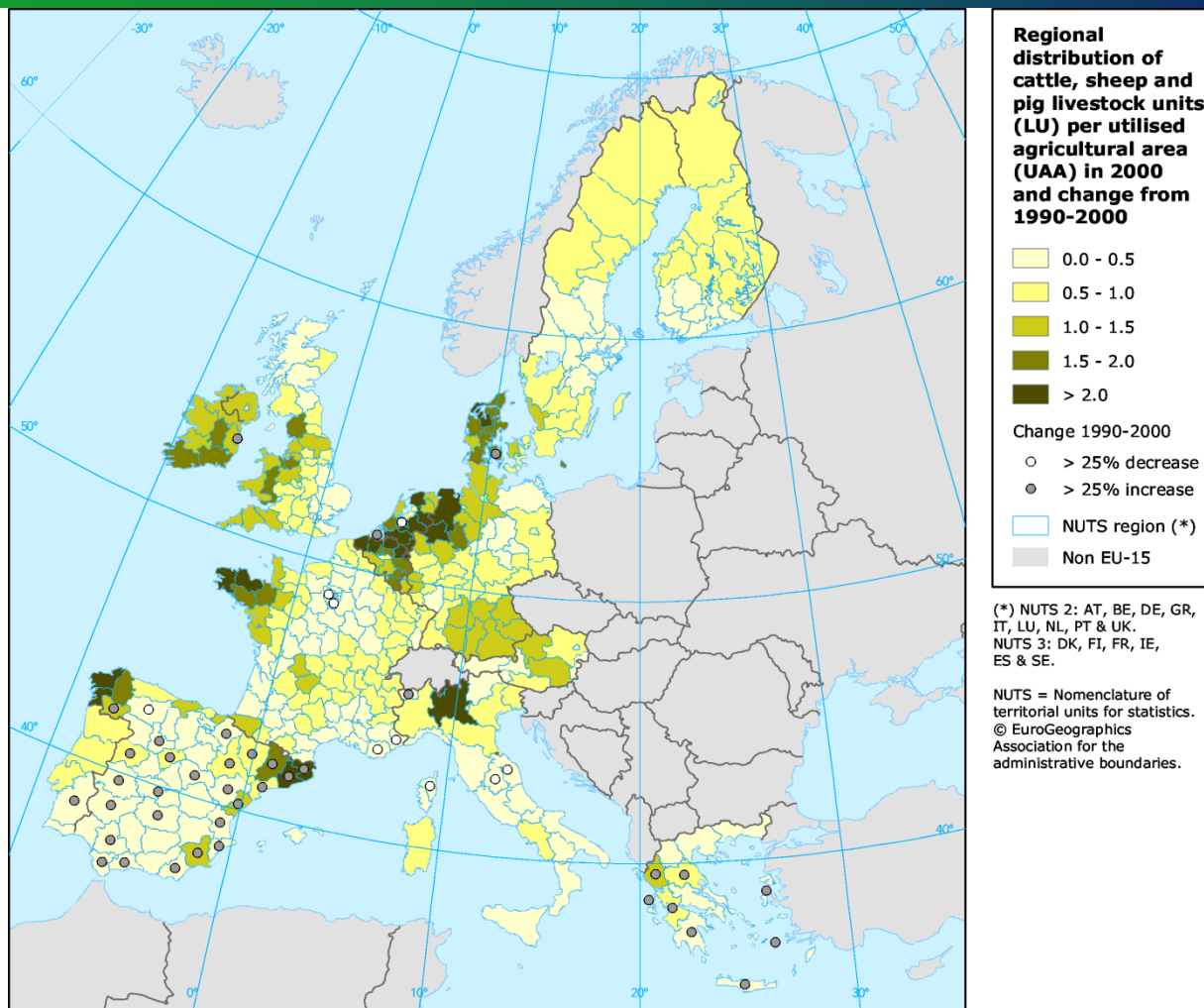
## Regional distribution of livestock types (2000)

EEA Report No 6/2005



# Regional distribution of livestock density

EEA Report No 6/2005

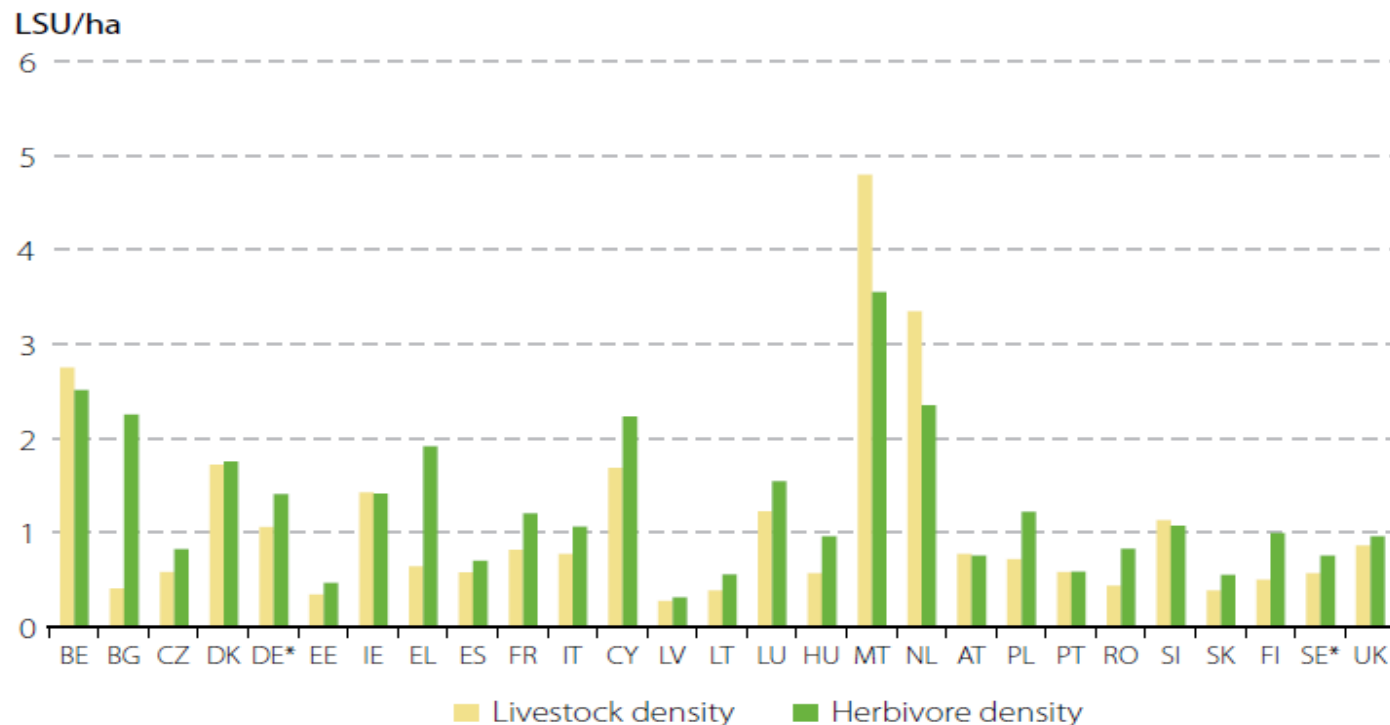




# Measures of intensification

Source: Agricultural Statistics. Main results 2007-2008 (Eurostat pocketbook)

**Figure 4.4.1:** Livestock densities, 2007

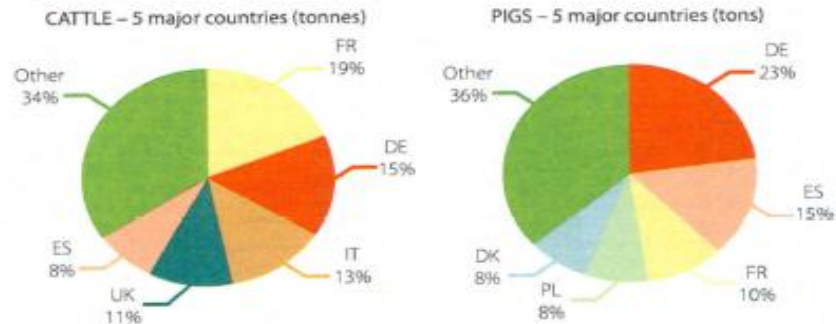


Source: Eurostat, Farm Structure Survey 2007

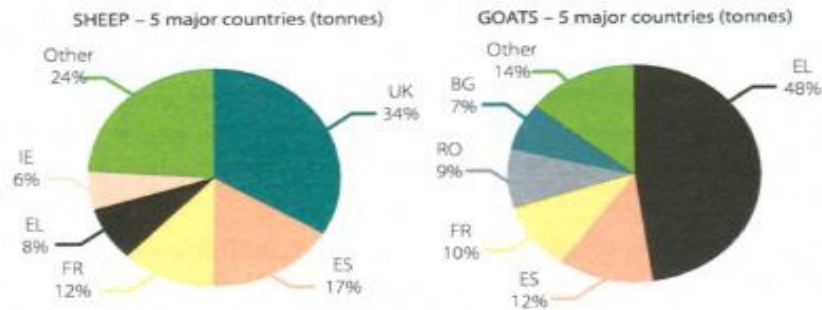
\* Herbivore density in Germany and Sweden does not count the goat populations which are non-significant compared with other livestock in these two countries.

# Meat production in EU 27

Figure 3.2.2: Slaughter by Member States, 1000t, 2008



Germany, Spain and France produce almost half (48 %) of the pig meat produced in the EU. France, Germany and Italy produce a similar proportion (47 %) of cattle meat. .



The United Kingdom and Spain produce more than half (51 %) of the sheep meat while Greece alone produces almost half (48 %) of the goat meat produced in the EU.

# Milk production

Milk production in L/ha UAA (Smith et al. 2008)

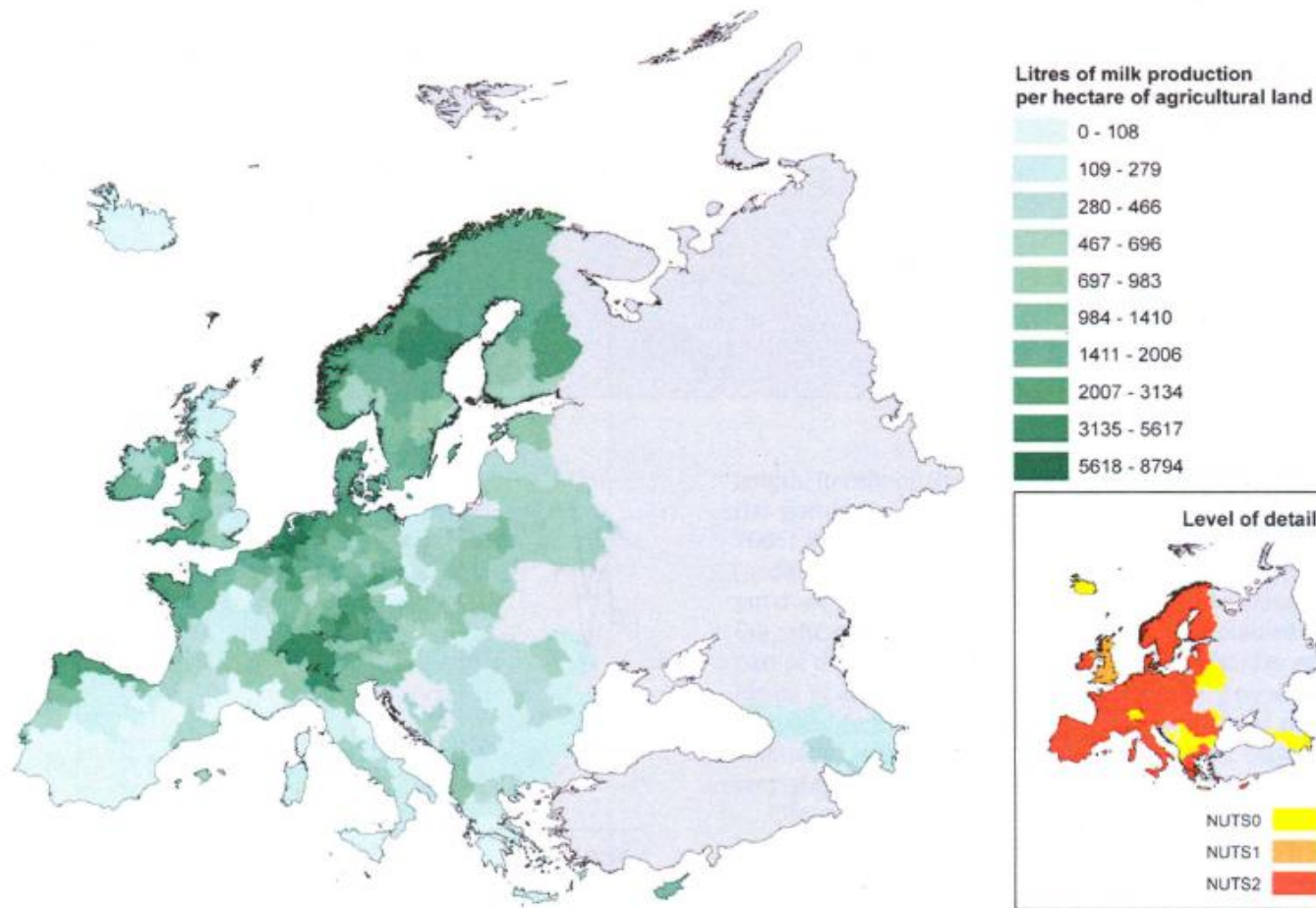
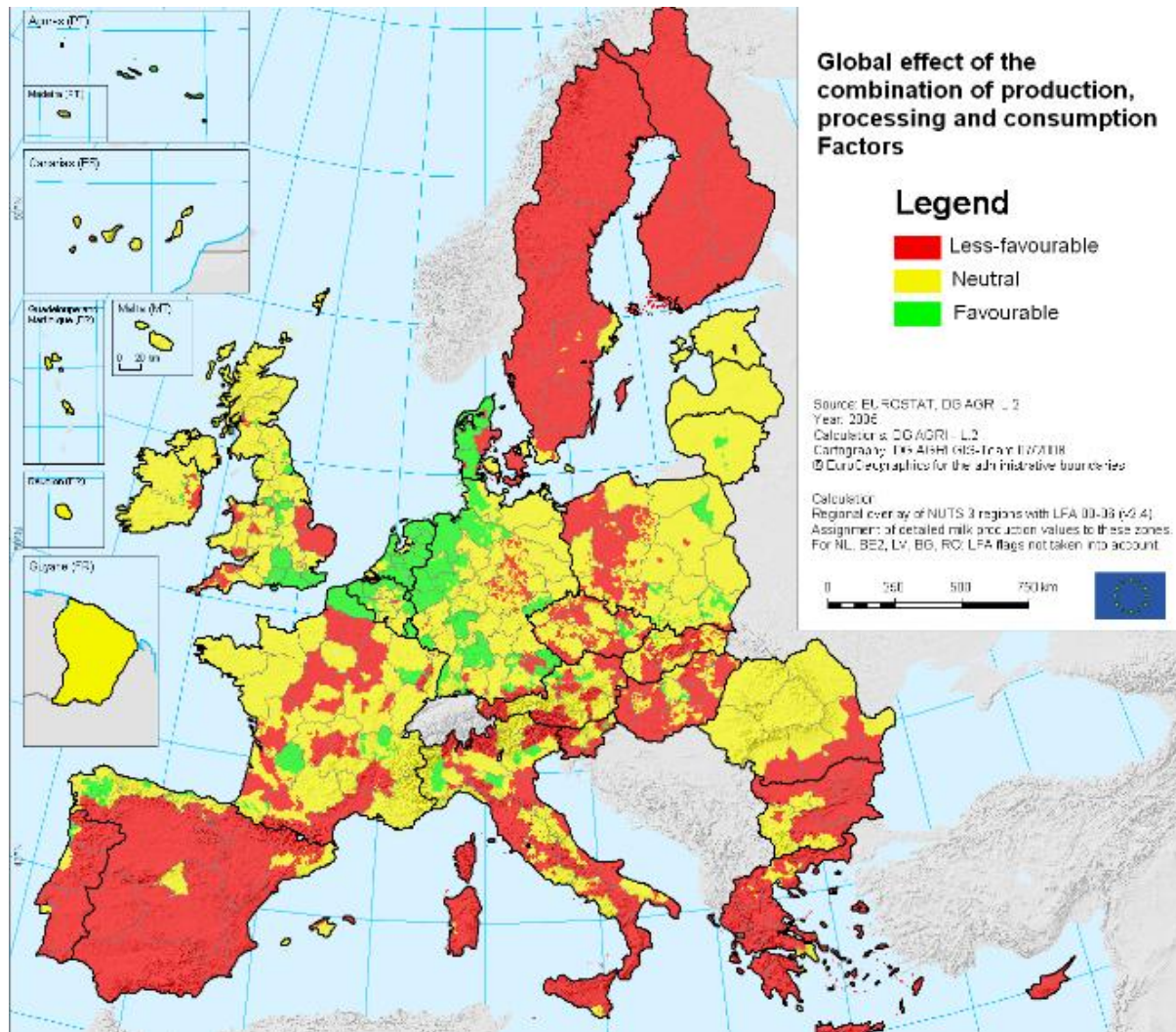


Fig. 5. Spatial distribution of milk productivity ( $l\ ha^{-1}$  agricultural land) (average of 1995–2004) in Europe. NUTS, Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics.

# Favourable areas for dairy production

Source: Rural development in the EU (Report 2008)



# Favourable areas for dairy production

Source: Rural development in the EU Report 2008

## Very favourable:

5% of the EU-territory and 20% of the EU dairy production

## Neutral:

71% of the EU-territory and 70% of the EU dairy production

Sc1: potential in specific conditions – need of encouragement by rural development policy

Sc2: low milk prices → decrease in milk production → ceasing collection of milk → socio-economic problems for the region

## Less favourable:

24% of the area and 10% of the EU dairy production (mountain areas)

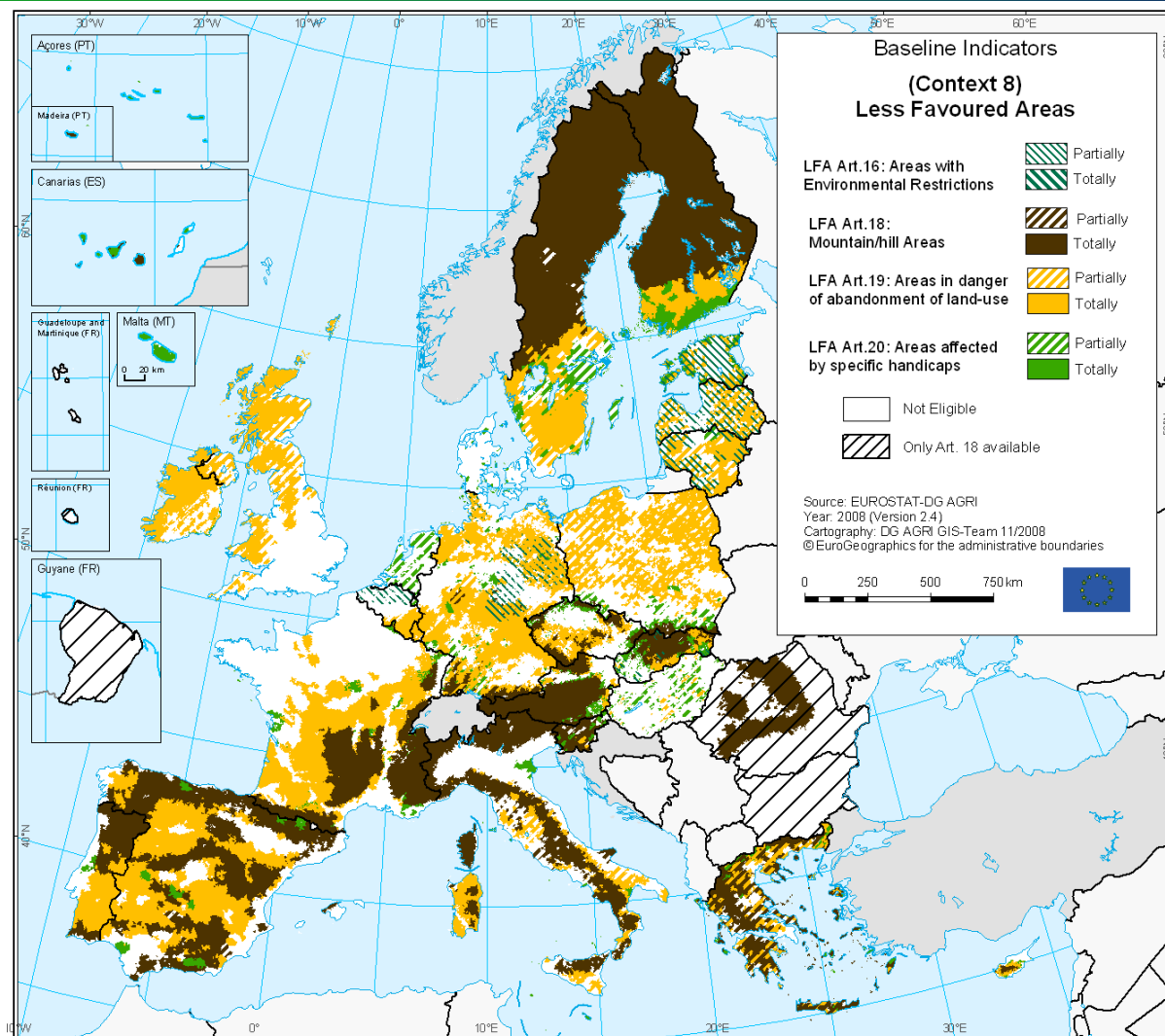
Production at risk but no other agricultural activity possible!

→ prevention of abandonment / conservation natural areas



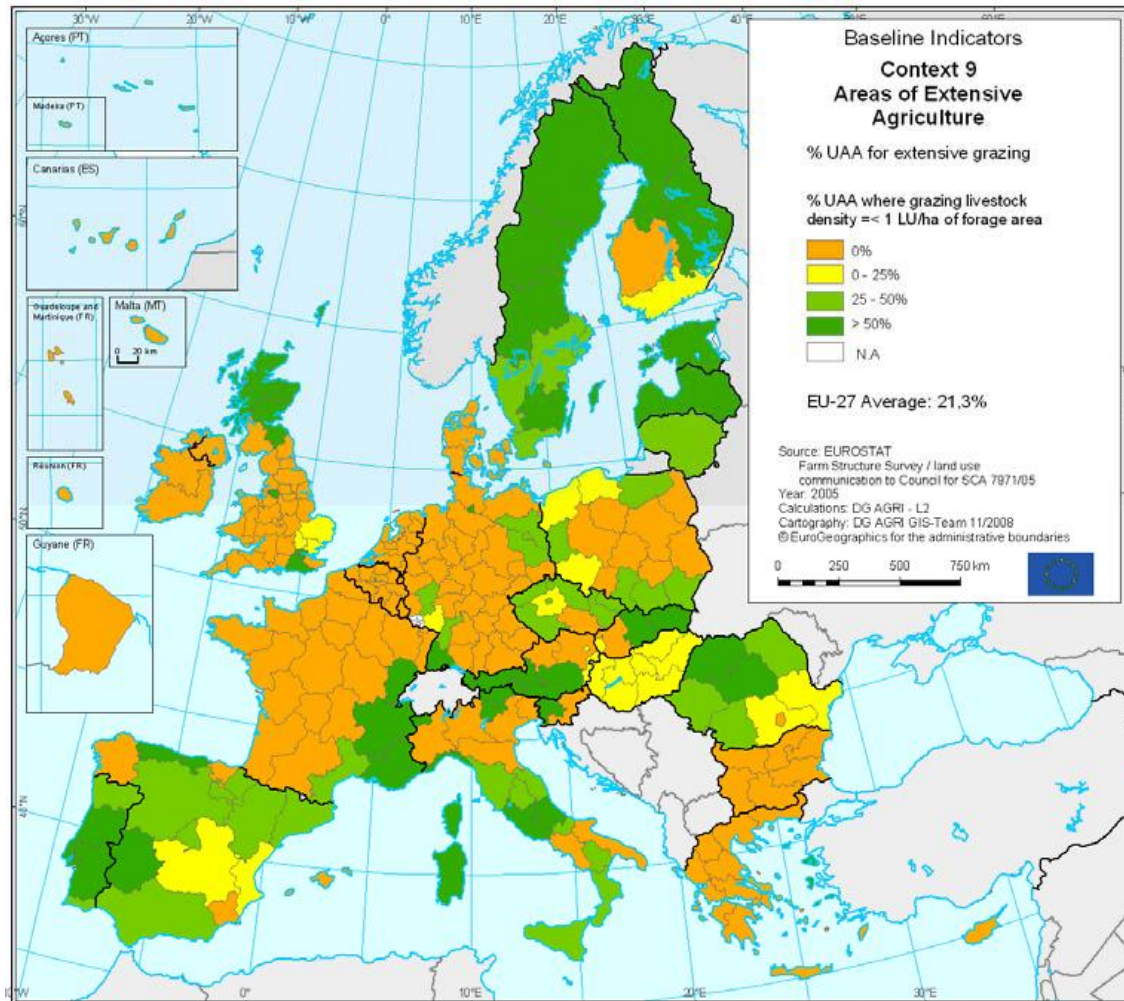
# LFA & land abandonment risk

Source: Rural development in the EU (Report 2008)



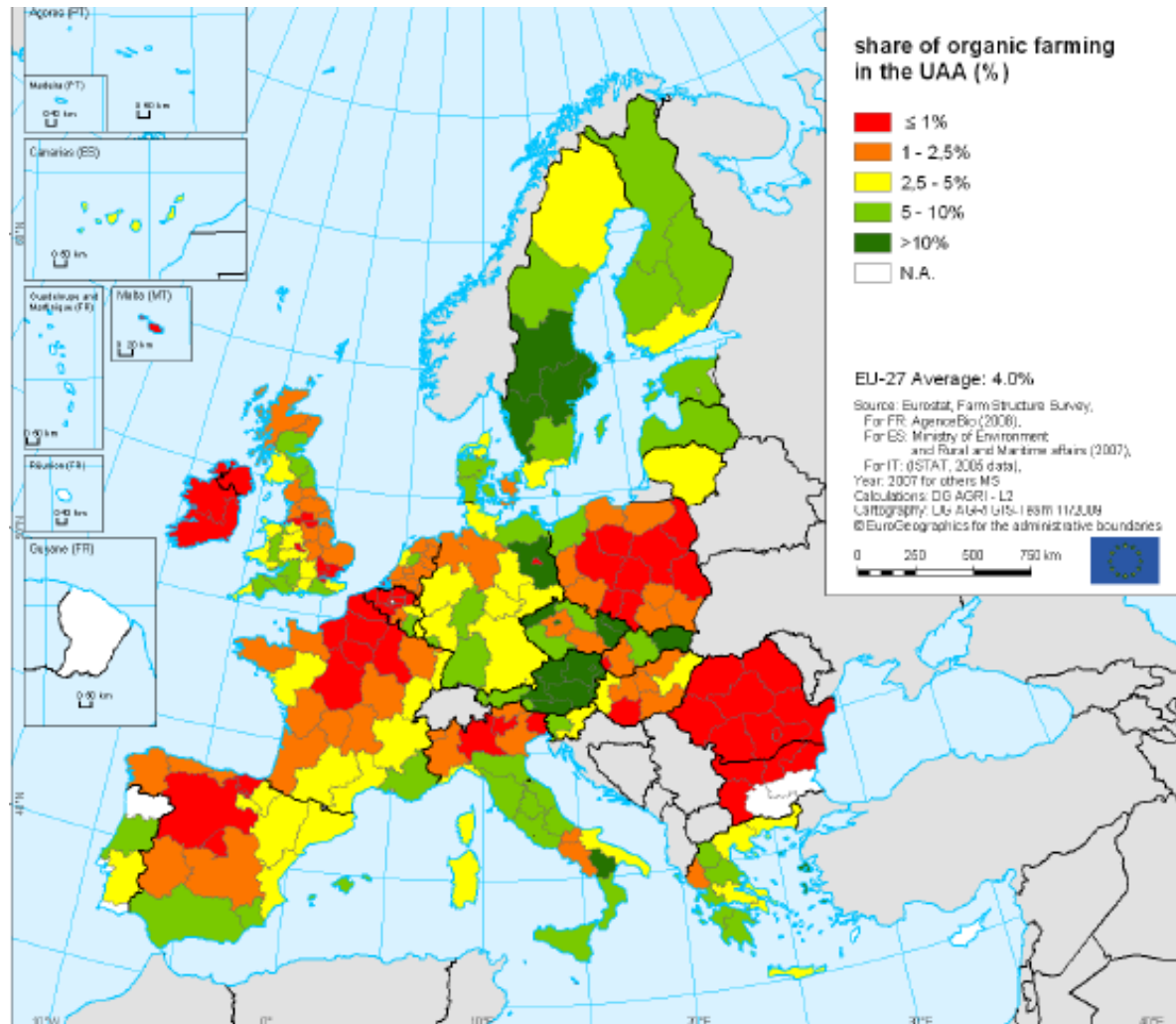
# Extensive grazing

Source: Rural development in the EU (Report 2008)



# Organic farming

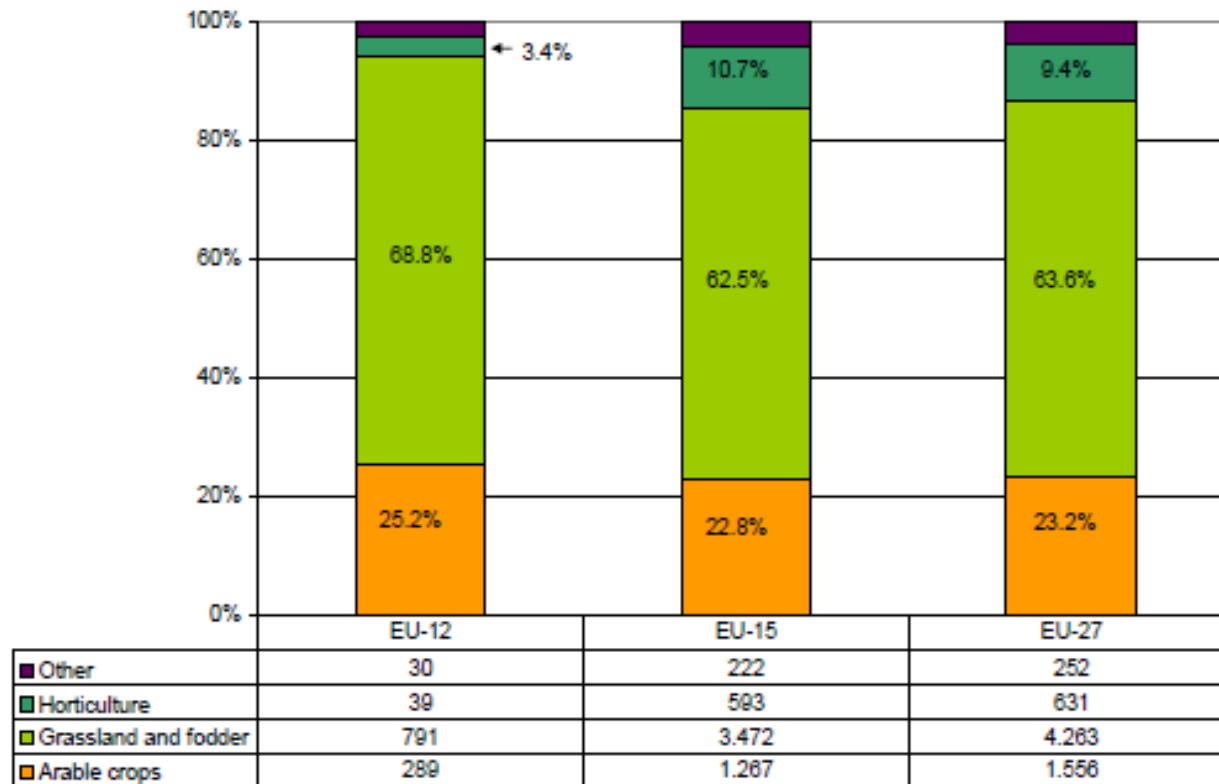
Source: Analysis of the EU organic sector (2010)



# Organic farming

Source: Analysis of the EU organic sector (2010)

**Graph 16.** Breakdown of utilised agricultural area in the organic sector in 2006 in the EU-12, EU-15 and EU-27 ('000 ha and %)

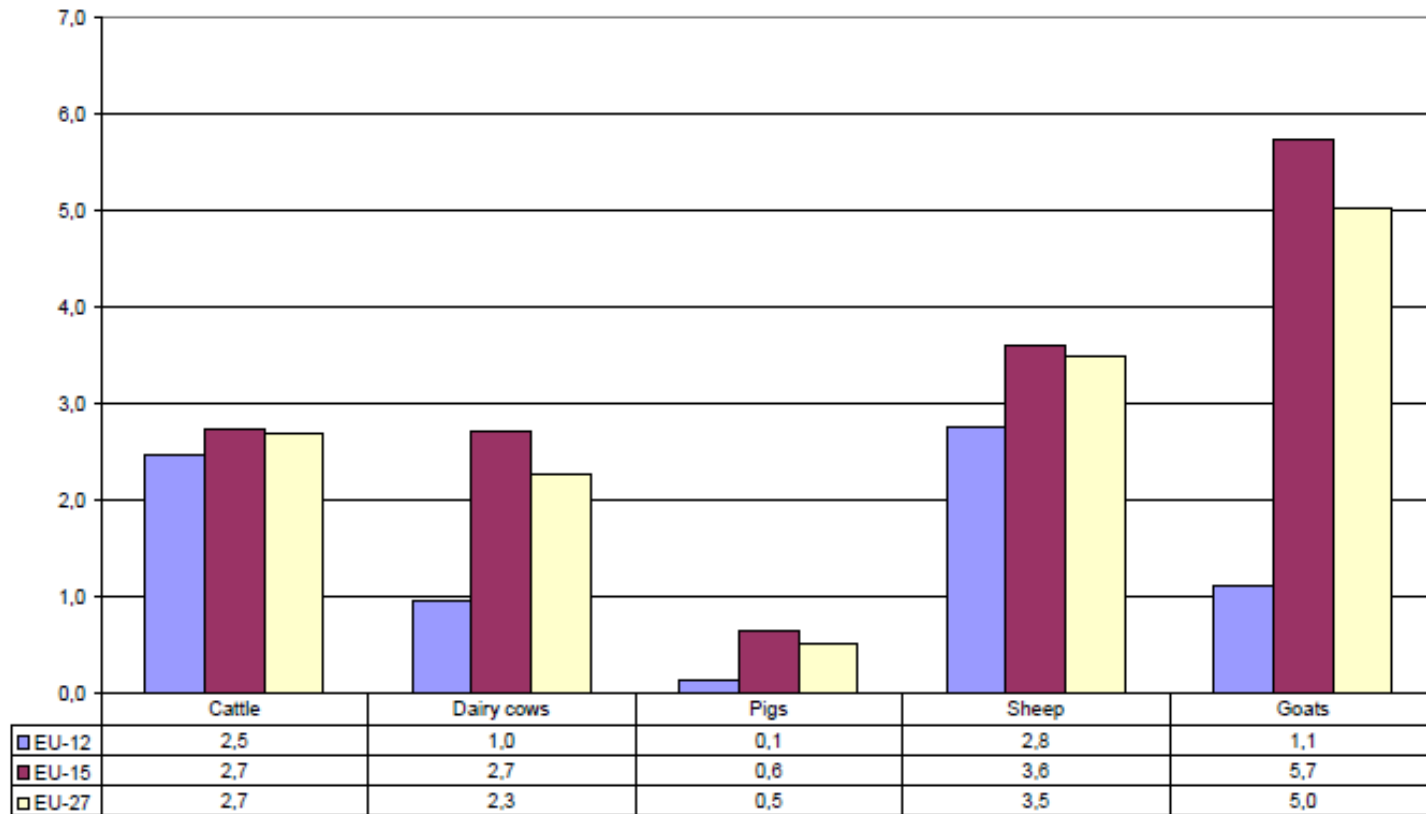


Source: elaborated by AGRI from Eurostat or EU-CEE-OFP data. HU: 2004 or 2007. AT: data communicated by MAFEWM (include alpine pastures)

# Organic farming

Source: Analysis of the EU organic sector (2010)

**Graph 27.** *Share of the organic sector in animal sub-sectors (% of total herd, 2007)*



Source: elaborated by DG AGRI (see sources of Graphs 28 to 32)





# Thank you for our attention

De Vliegheer A.  
Van Gils B.

EGF- WG 'GRAZING'  
Kiel, 29 August 2010



Institute for Agricultural and Fisheries Research