

# Grazing in Europe 2016

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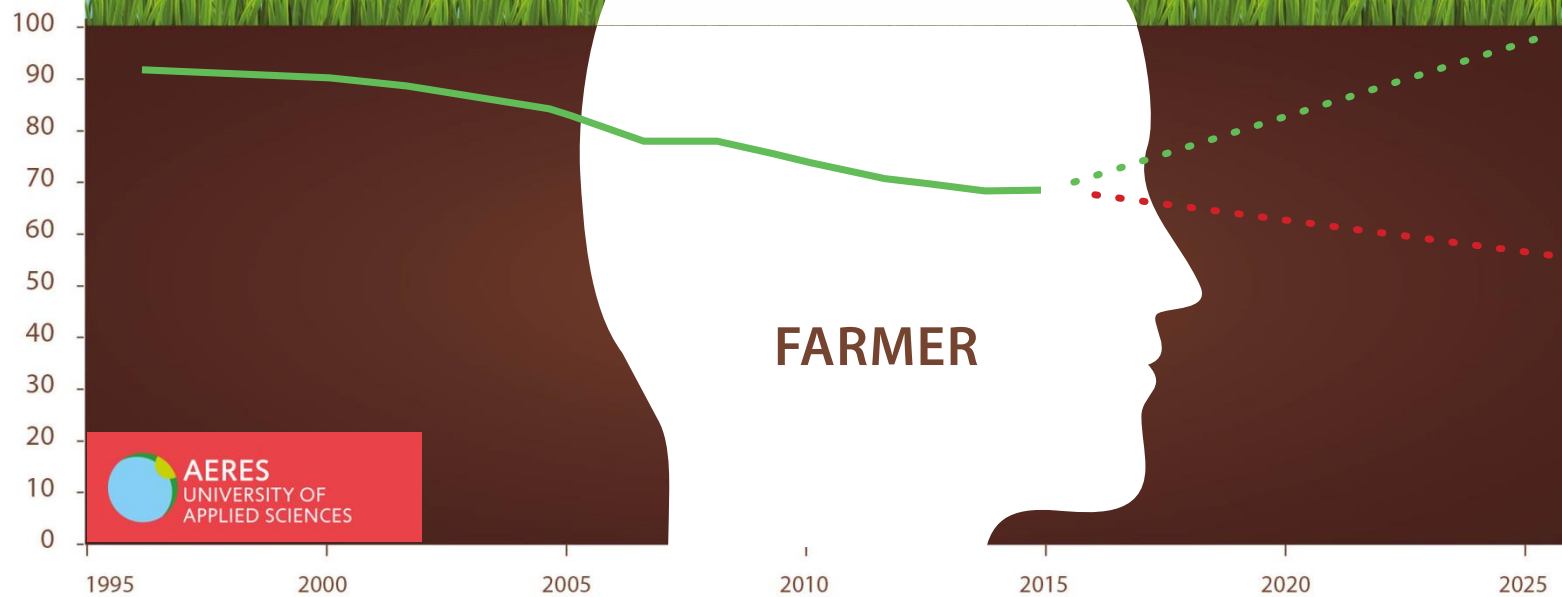
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# The farmer decides...

PERCENTAGE  
WEIDENDE  
KOEIEN



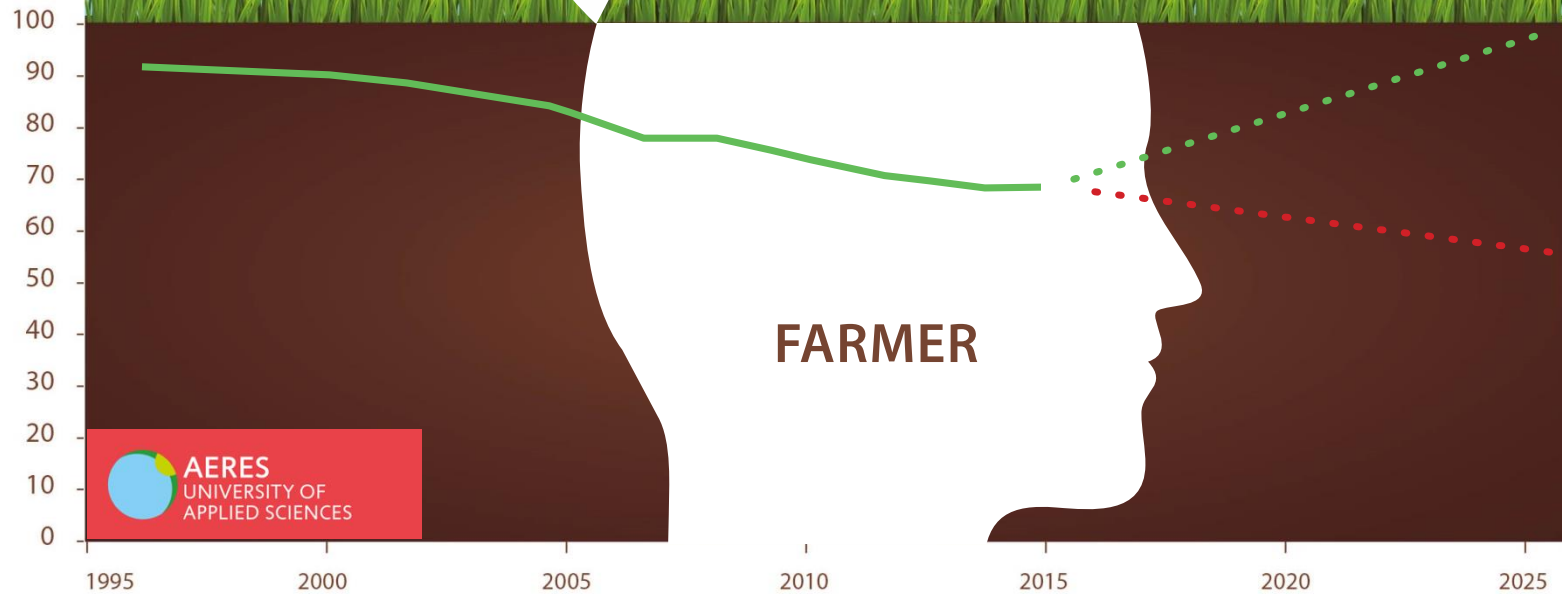
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# Arguments

Technical  
Economy / labour  
Social

PERCENTAGE  
WEIDENDE  
KOEIEN







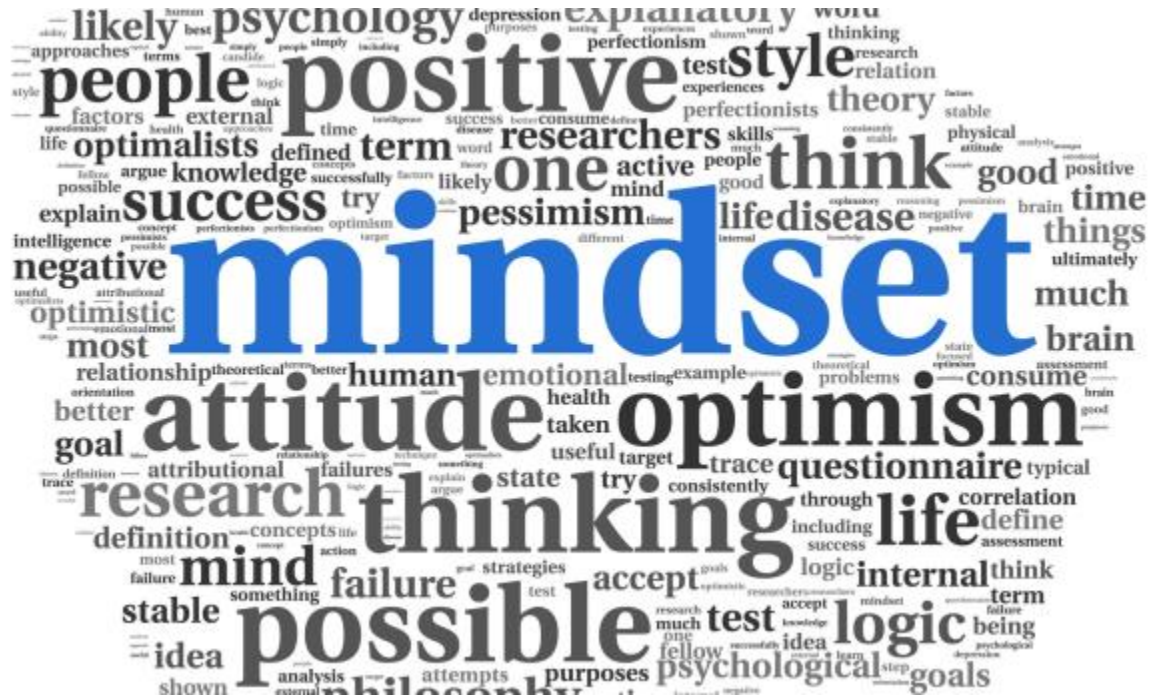
*Technical: for grazing you need grazing space*





Economy / labour

## Social: mindset of the farmer



# Research themes

PERCENTAGE  
WEIDENDE  
KOEIEN

100  
90  
80  
70  
60  
50  
40  
30  
20  
10  
0

1995

2000

2005

2010

2015

2020

2025



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MORE MILK FROM GRASS



MORE MONEY AND LESS LABOUR



MIND-SET FARMER



# Questionnaire within Working Group “Grazing” 2016

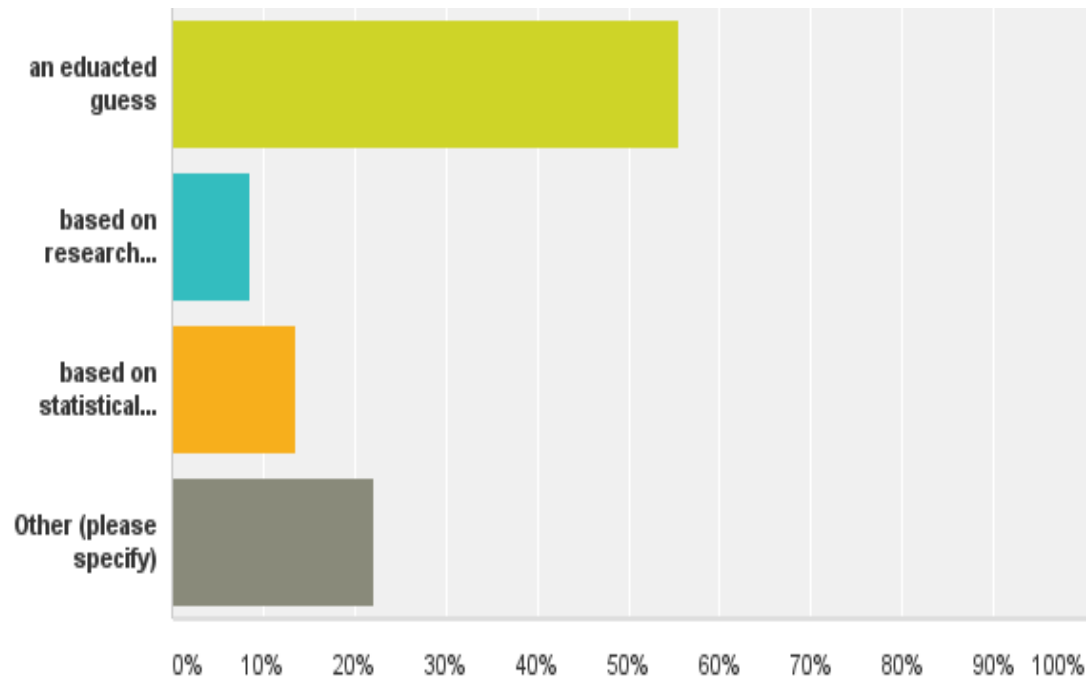
Opinions and thoughts

Educated guess

93 responses (88 completed)



# My estimate of grazing is ....



# Grazing in Europe - North

Norway: 90% in 2016, slightly decreasing

Sweden: 100%, welfare legislation, six weeks to four months outside

Finland: 70% in 2016. Cows in tie stalls have to be let outdoors for 60 days between 1.5-30.9

# Grazing in Europe - West

Ireland: 99% in 2010 and 2011, 98% in 2014, 95-100% in 2016, stable

UK: 92% in 2013, 80-90% in 2016

- 95% in Northern Ireland in 2016
- 70% in Wales in 2016



# Grazing in Europe – Central – more than 50%

The Netherlands, 90% in 2001, 70% in 2014

- Premium for 120/6, increase in activities supporting farmers that graze

Belgium: 85-95% in 2010, 75-80% in 2014, 60-85% in 2016 (more grazing in Wallonia than in Flanders), stable in Wallonia, decreasing in Flanders

Luxembourg: 90% in 2008, 75-85% free access in 2010, 73% in 2014, 75% in 2016, slightly decreasing

France: 90-95% in 2011, 90% in 2014, 75-95% in 2016

Switzerland: 85-100% in 2011, 75-90% in 2014, 80-97% in 2016

# Grazing in Europe - Central – less than 50%

Denmark: 84% in 2001, 70% in 2003, 40-50% in 2008, 35-45% in 2010, 30-35% in 2011, 25-30 in 2014, 25% in 2016

Germany: 42% of the milking cows are grazing in 2009, 10-50% in 2016

Austria: 25% in 2011, 40% in 2016, stable

# Grazing in Europe - East

Poland: 20% in 2016, quickly decreasing

Estonia: 35% in 2011

Lithuania: 50-70% in 2014

Czech Republic: 20% in 2010, 3% in 2016

Bosnia and Herzegovina: 5% in 2011

Slovenia: 25% in 2010, 20% in 2016, slightly decreasing

Hungary: 70% of all LSU (cows, sheep, horses, goats) are grazing in 2010, 2-3% grazing dairy cows in 2016, stable

Bulgaria: sheep and goat: always, dairy: on big farms NO, on smaller farms grazing; 50% in 2016



# Grazing in Europe - South

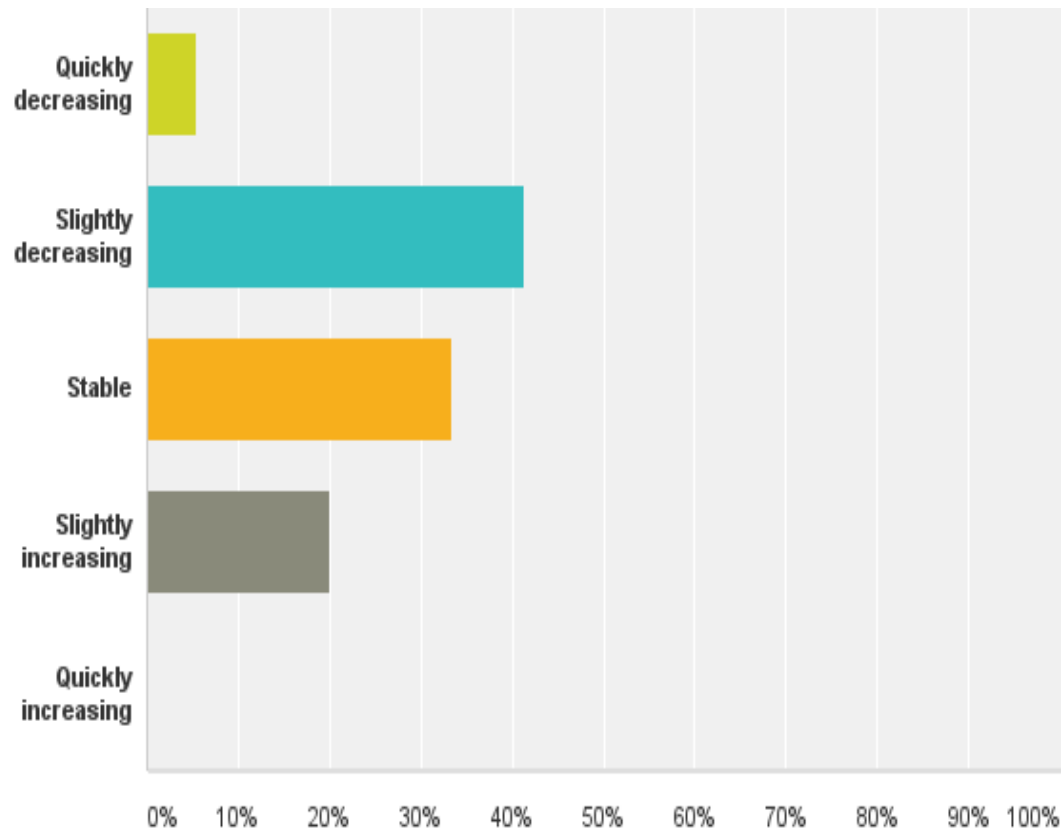
Portugal: 50% in 2010, increasing

NW Spain: 20% in 2010, 18.5% in 2014; 10-30% in 2016

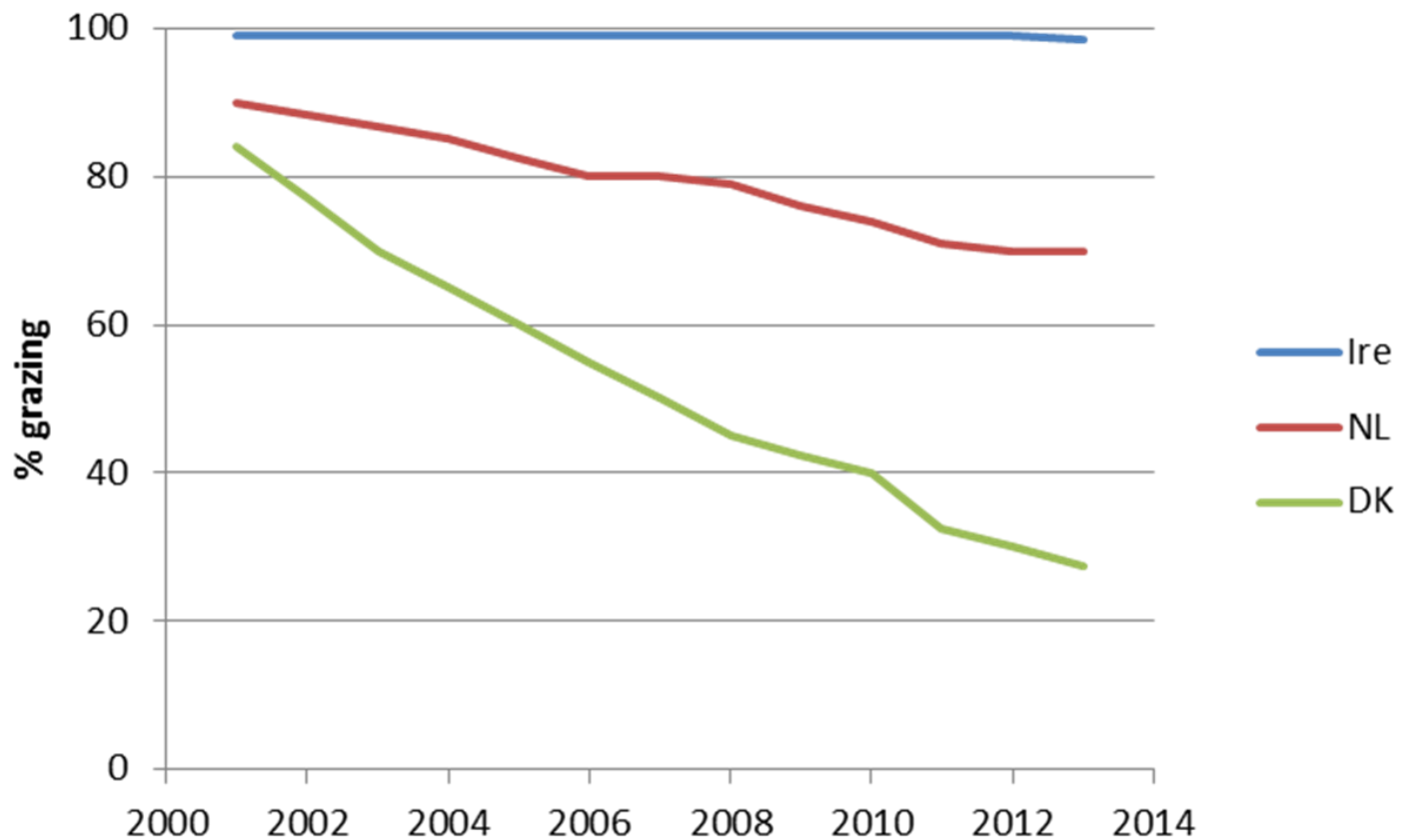
Greece: 15% in 2010, less than 10% in 2011, 10% in 2016, slightly increasing

Italy: 10-20% in 2016, slightly increasing

# Is the percentage grazing increasing or decreasing?



# Grazing in Ireland, the Netherlands and Denmark



Van den Pol-van Dasselaar, 2016



# Grazing in Europe

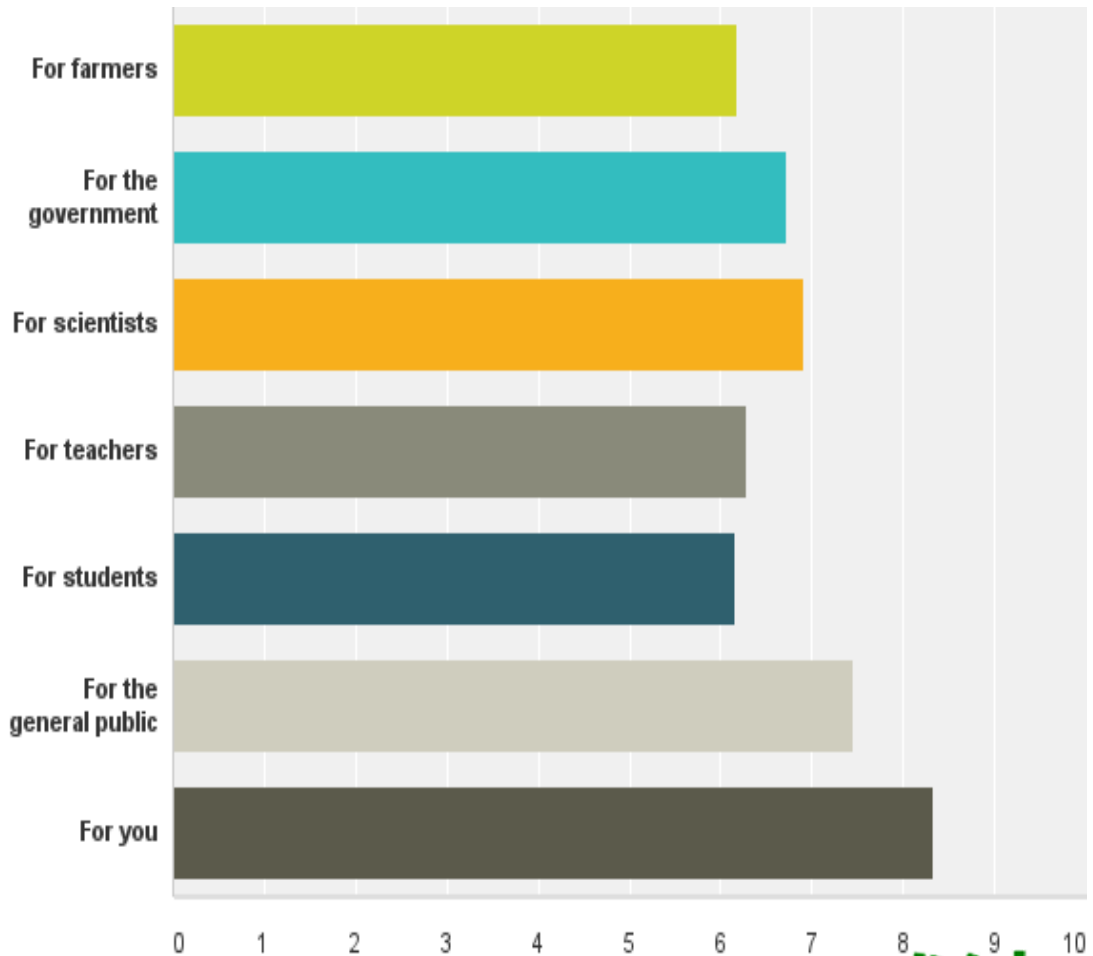
Country specific

East and South < North and West

Even though data are often only an educated guess:

- In general, the popularity of grazing is declining
  - Less cows
  - Less days yr<sup>-1</sup>
  - Less hours d<sup>-1</sup>

# Importance of grazing for different groups on a scale of 1 to 10 (where 1 is unimportant and 10 is important)



# Propositions

	Fully disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Fully agree
Grazing contributes to the image of the dairy sector	1	0	7	28	<u>64</u>
Grazing is profitable	0	6	17	<u>44</u>	33
Grazing leads to higher labour costs	11	<u>42</u>	33	14	0
Management of grazing is more complex than management of full housing	7	5	18	<u>44</u>	26

# What technology and grass and cow measurements could assist farmers?

## 1. Real time reliable grass intake measurements

Real time yield estimates / predictions of grass growth

Real time forage quality measurements

GPS – monitoring cattle behaviour

Fence that is easy to move



# Thank you for your attention



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