CONTEXT PROFILE





FARMER Wilfred Hessels



INNOVATION Old grasslands and biodiversity



MAIN DOMAIN OF THE INNOVATION Improvement of grassland management



AGROCLIMATIC AREA Atlantic central



CLIMATE Moderate rainfall



SOIL TYPE Sand

KON
RS-

MANAGEMENT Pasture dairy



TECHNICAL Difficult











FINANCE/INVESTMENT Low

MARKET Global





CONTEXT PROFILE THE NETHERLANDS

Case Study: NL_15	Agroclimatic Zone								
Item (Key Innovation Elements)	Alpine	Atlantic Central	Atlantic North	Atlantic South	Boreal	Continental North	Continental South	Mediterranean North	Mediterranean South
Utilising old grassland	++	+++	++	++	++	++	++	+++	+
Ditch cleaning practice to support biodiversity	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+



Generic information/not relevant



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Implementation Gaps

- grassland cannot widely • Old be implemented in all regions
- Ditch cleaning practices are more common in lowland areas; regional laws often limit the practice in certain areas.
- Extreme weather in summer or winter may lead to frequent reseeding of grasslands

Research Gaps

• Impact of extensive ditch cleaning on biodiversity

- use of old grasslands
- concerns



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Suggestions to Adapt

• Provide financial support to encourage the

• Strengthen biodiversity over aesthetic

COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

INVESTMENT COSTS

Total initial investment costs at start up:

- Initial authorisation costs (e.g. sanitary, veterinary, etc.)
- Initial advisory costs
- Initial buildings and machineries
- Initial certification costs
- Initial working capital (personal qualification, marketing and promotion, etc.)

ON-GOING COSTS

On-going advisory costs	low
On-going certification costs	low
On-going buildings and machinery costs	low
On-going working capital	low

BENEFITS RELATIVE TO ORIGINAL SYSTEM

• Economic

Reduction in energy consumption (electricity; fuel consumption)

Reduction in input use (fertilizers; pesticides; feed) etc.

Payback period

Product value added

Additional farm income through agroecological/agri-environmental payment schemes

• Environmental

Animal feed self-sufficiency increase

Biodiversity increase

Improved nitrogen cycling

Soil regeneration

Animal health and welfare improvement

• Social

Workload reduction

Engagement of young generation



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low
not applicable/not known

not applicable/not known
high
mid
not applicable/not known
not applicable/not known

not applicable/not known
high
high
high
not applicable/not known

not applicable/not known

mid

Literature

English

- https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1470160X23010956
- https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378112724004584



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