HNV farming in France

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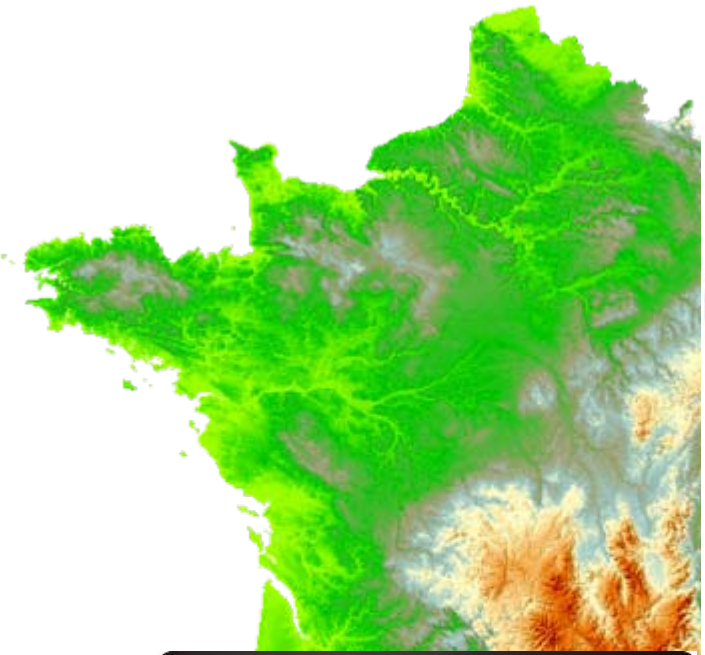
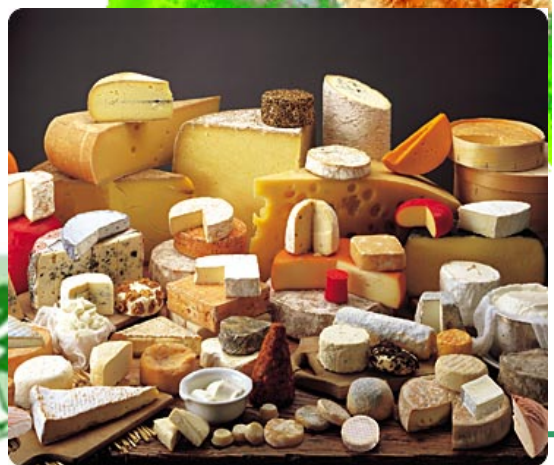
An overview of French agrarian geography

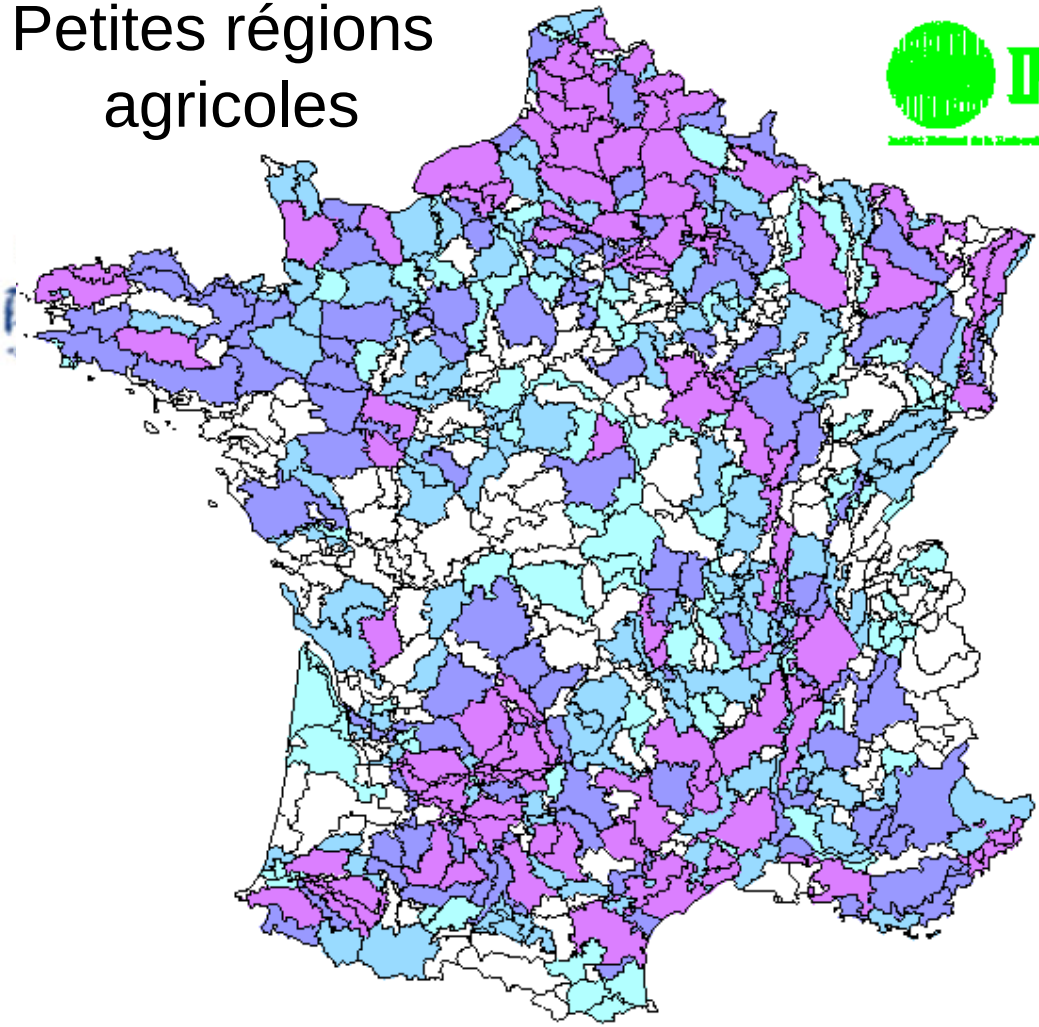
- **France at the crossroad of the main biogeographic zones**
- **A great variety of geographical zones**
  - ✓ mountains, hills, plains
  - ✓X humid and dry
- **A great variety of « terroirs » inherited from the XIXth century**

An overview of French goegraphy for EU citizens (in 1 mn)

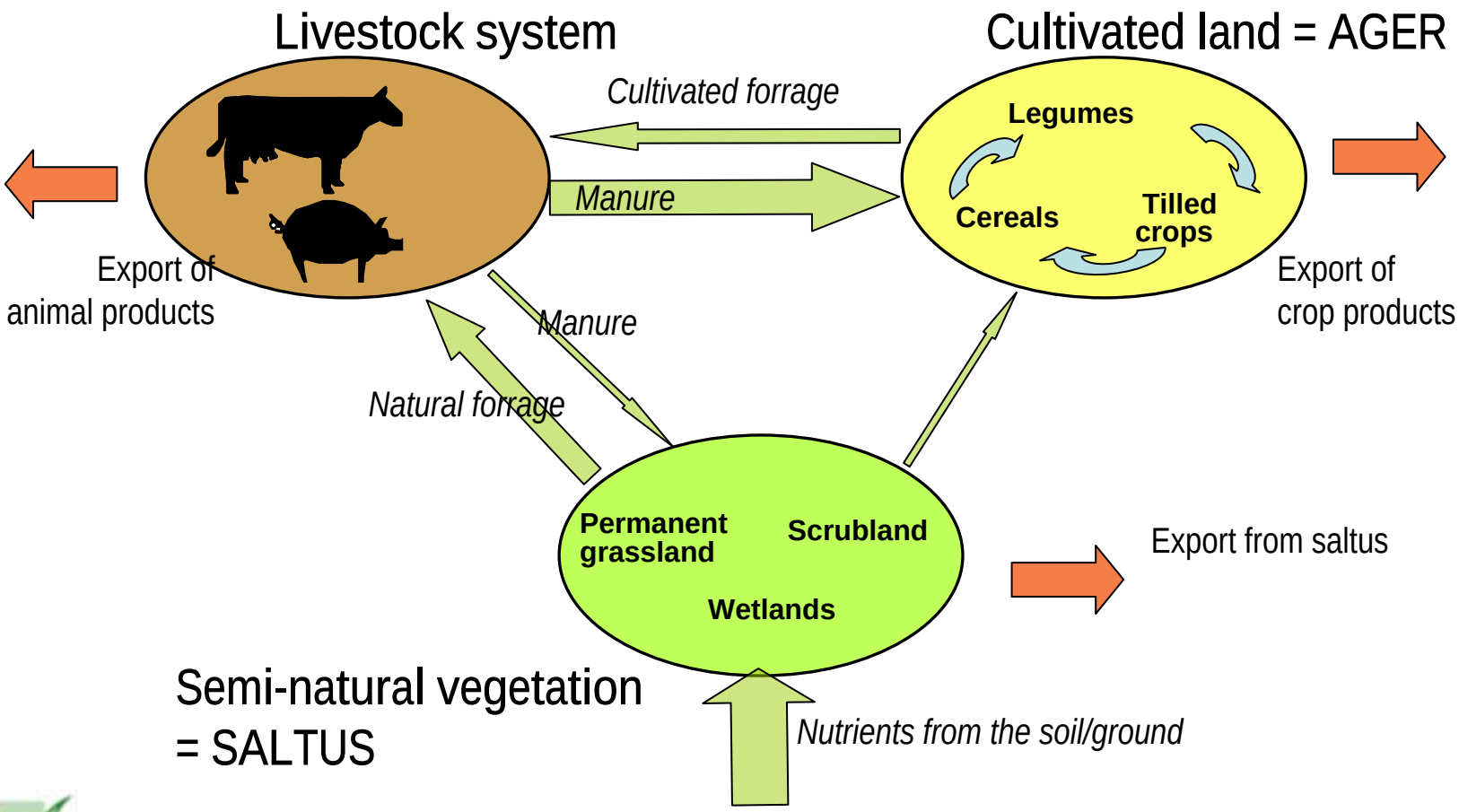




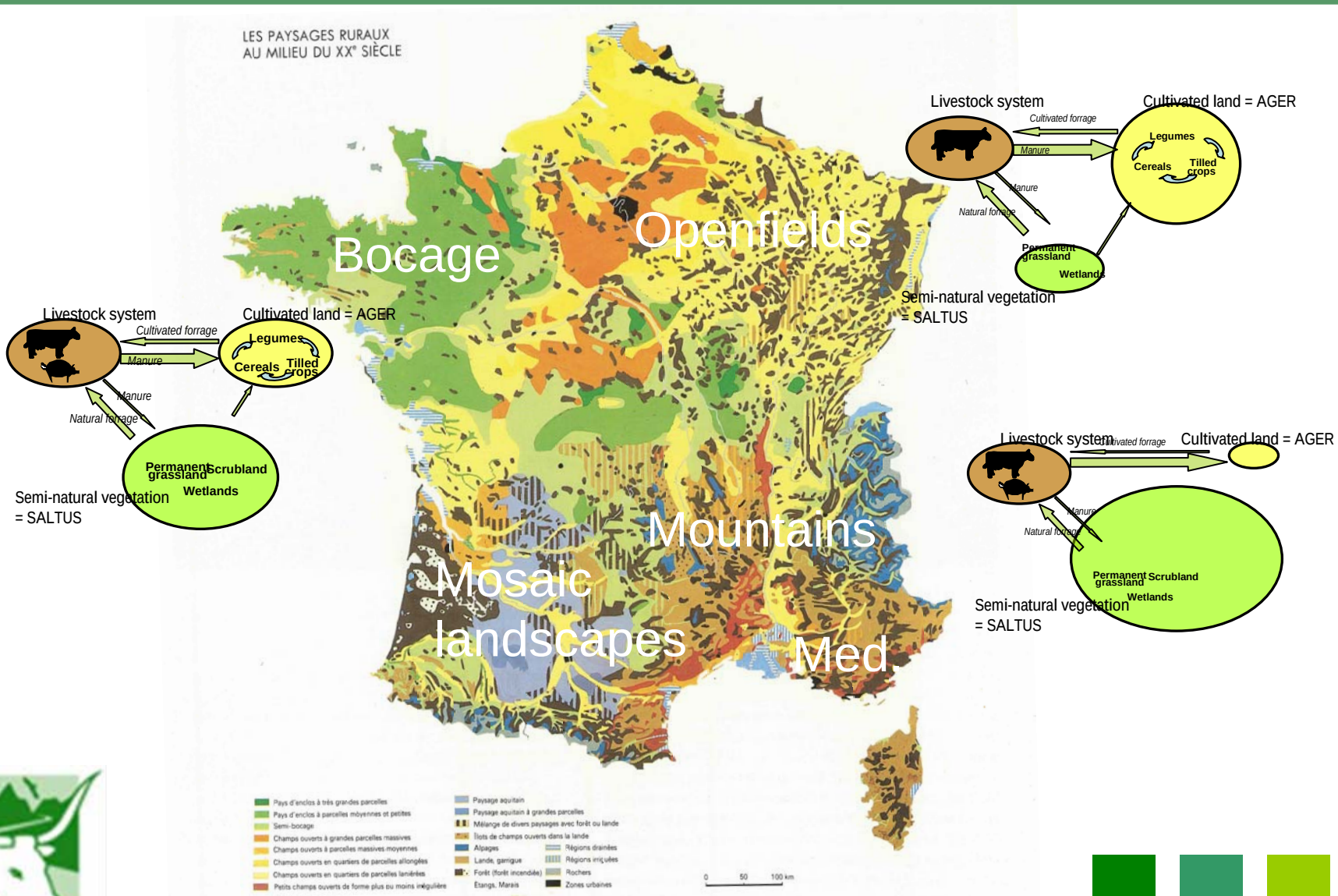
Petites régions agricoles



When a large part of French farming systems used to be HNV

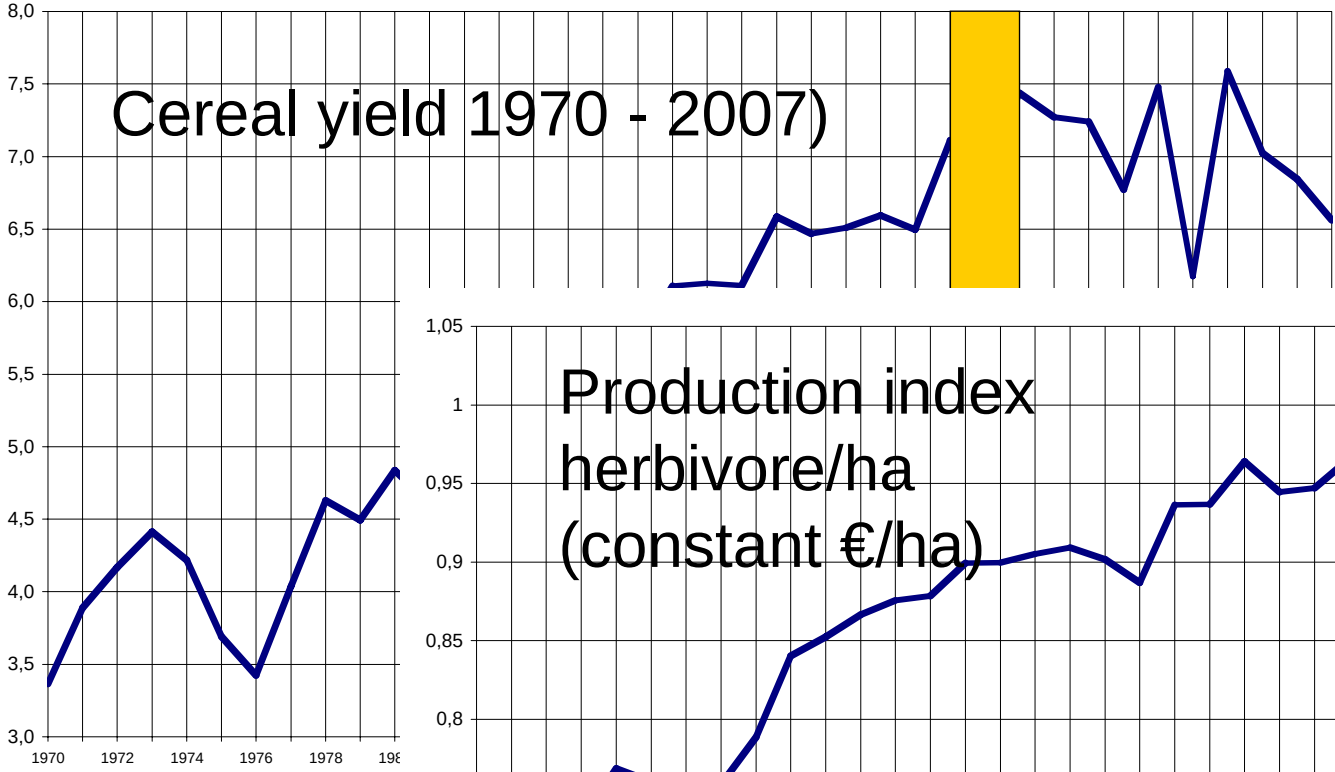


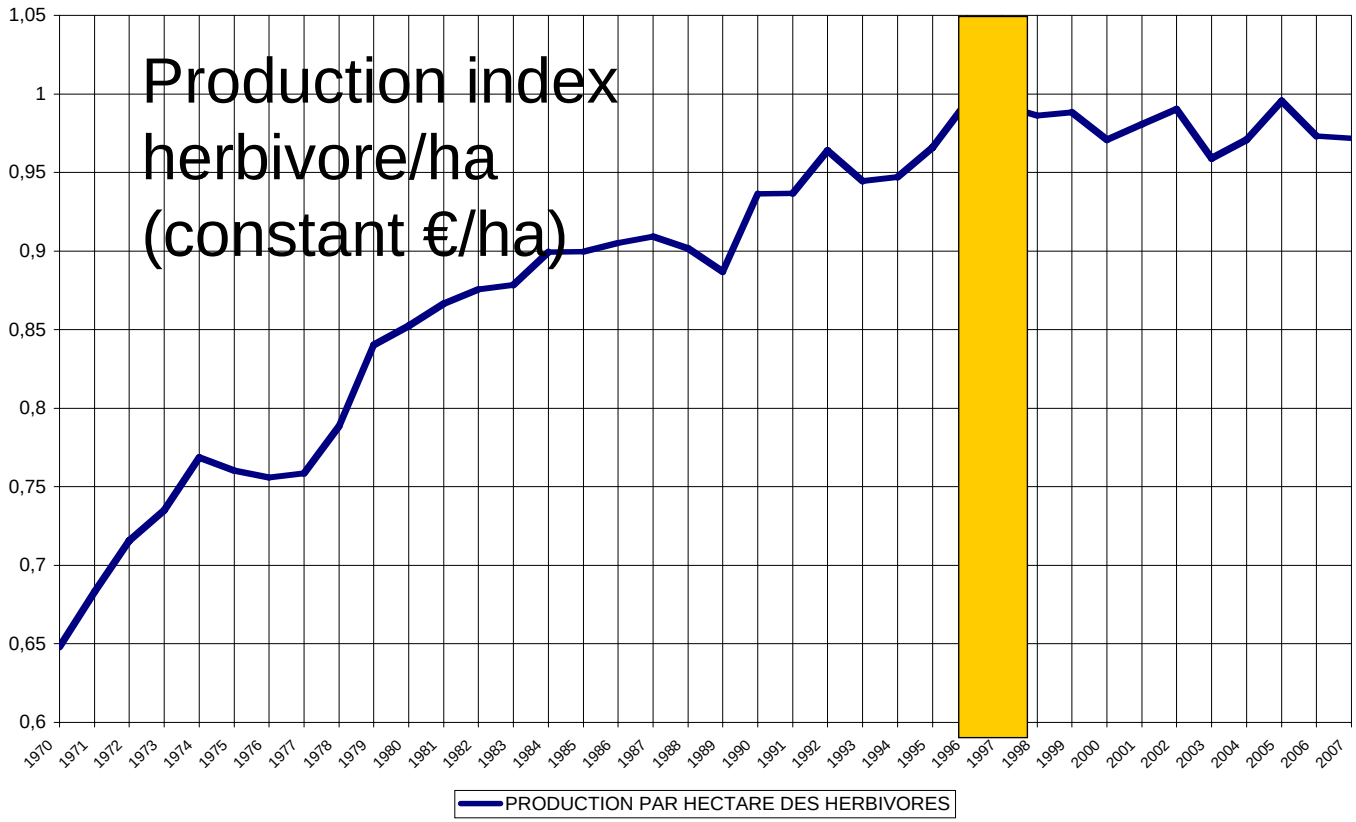
Map of rural landscapes in 1950



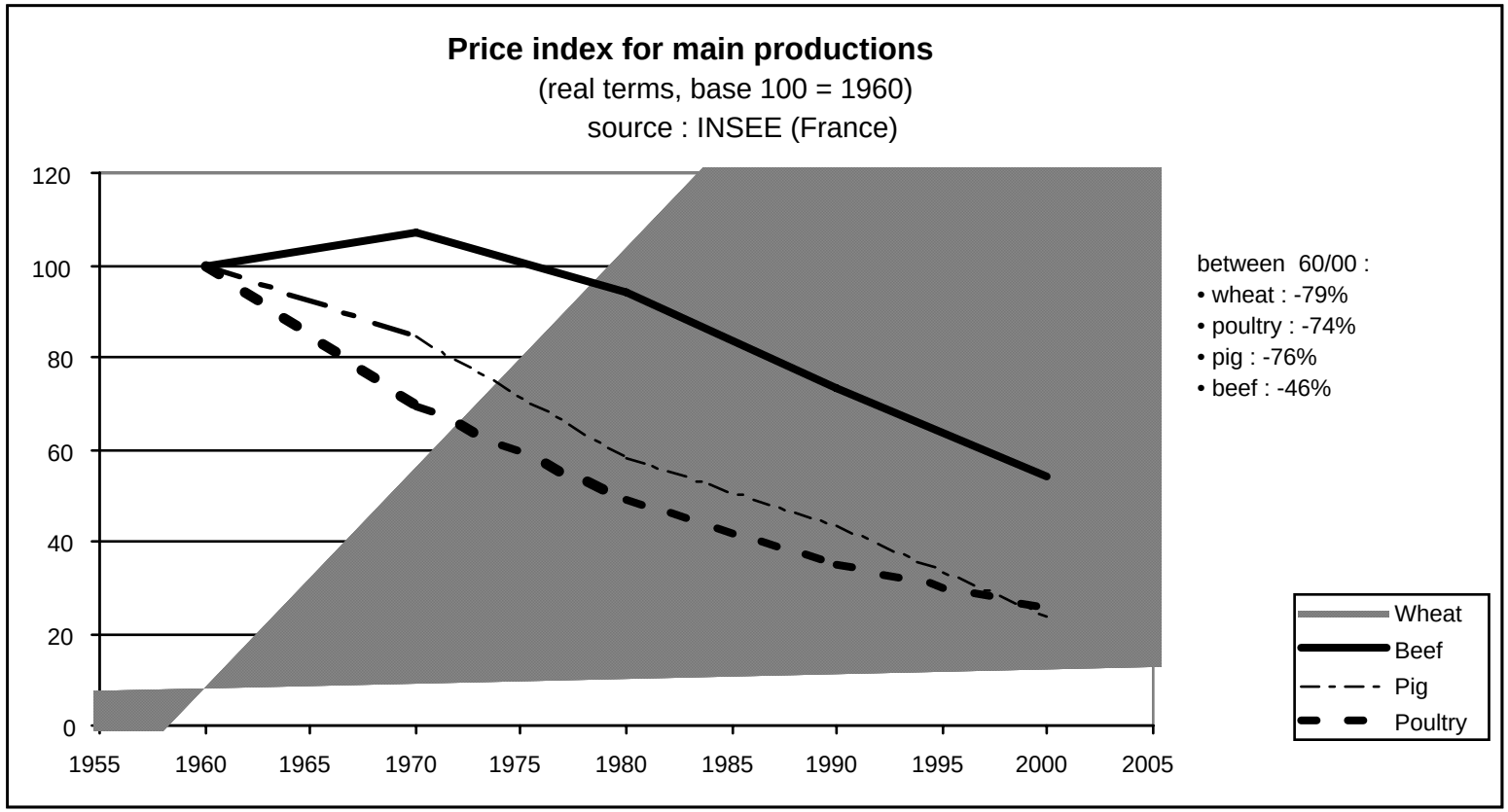
Main trends affecting French agriculture

- **Modernisation of agriculture**
  - ✓ More fertilisers
  - ✓ More plant protection products
  - ✓ More tractors
  - ✓ Less farmers !
- **Saltus decreases (-30% permanent grassland between 1970/2006)**
  - ✓ Fertilised permanent grassland
  - ✓ Forage maize
  - ✓ Cultivated grassland
  - ✓ More crop
- **Specialisation of farming systems**
  - ✓ Crop system
  - ✓ Grass-based systems
  - ✓ Imported protein crops (soyabean)

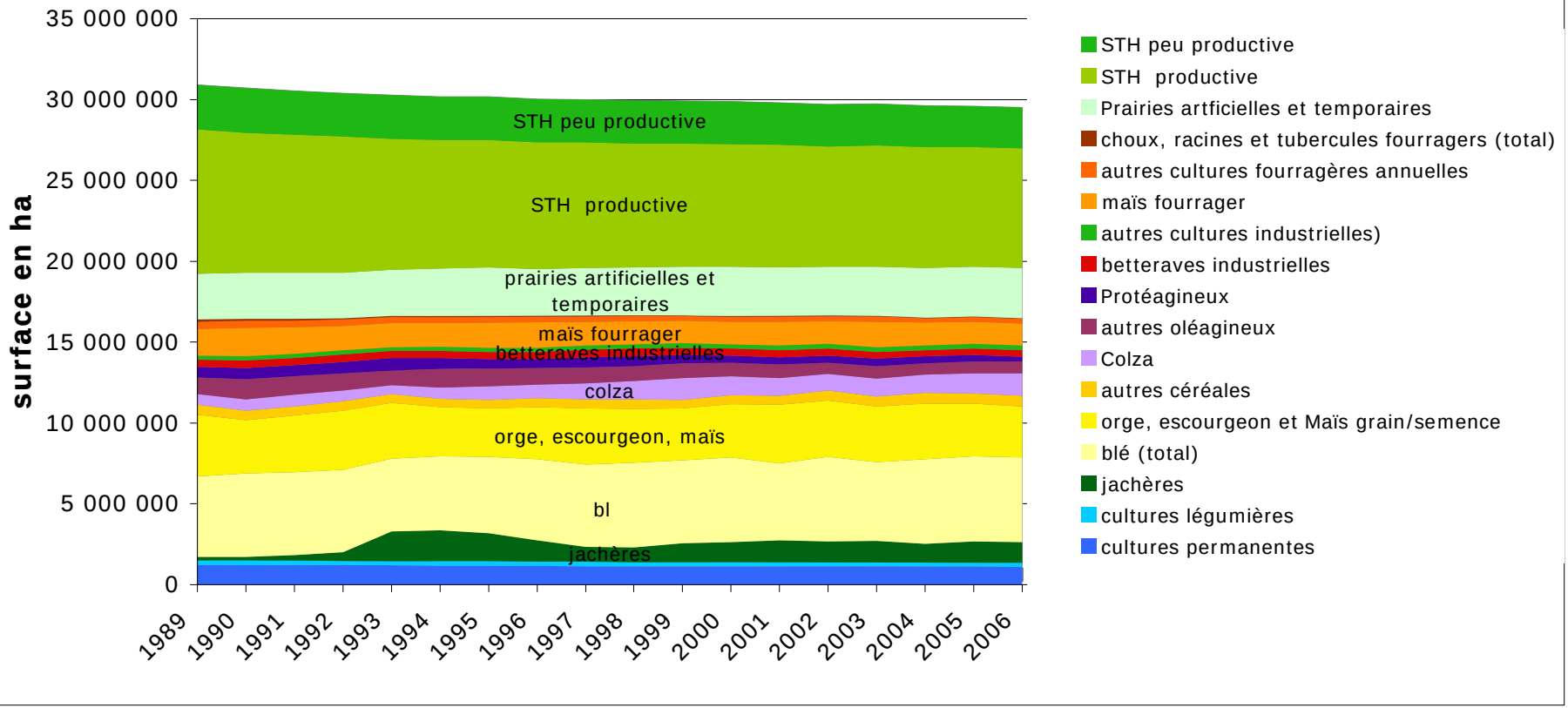

Cereal yield 1970 - 2007)
8,0
7,5
7,0
6,5
6,0
5,5
5,0
4,5
4,0
3,5
3,0
1970
1972
1974
1976
1978


Production index herbivore/ha (constant €/ha)
1,05
1
0,95
0,9
0,85
0,8
0,75
0,7
0,65
0,6
1970 1971 1972 1973 1974 1975 1976 1977 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007
PRODUCTION PAR HECTARE DES HERBIVORES

Price index since 1960

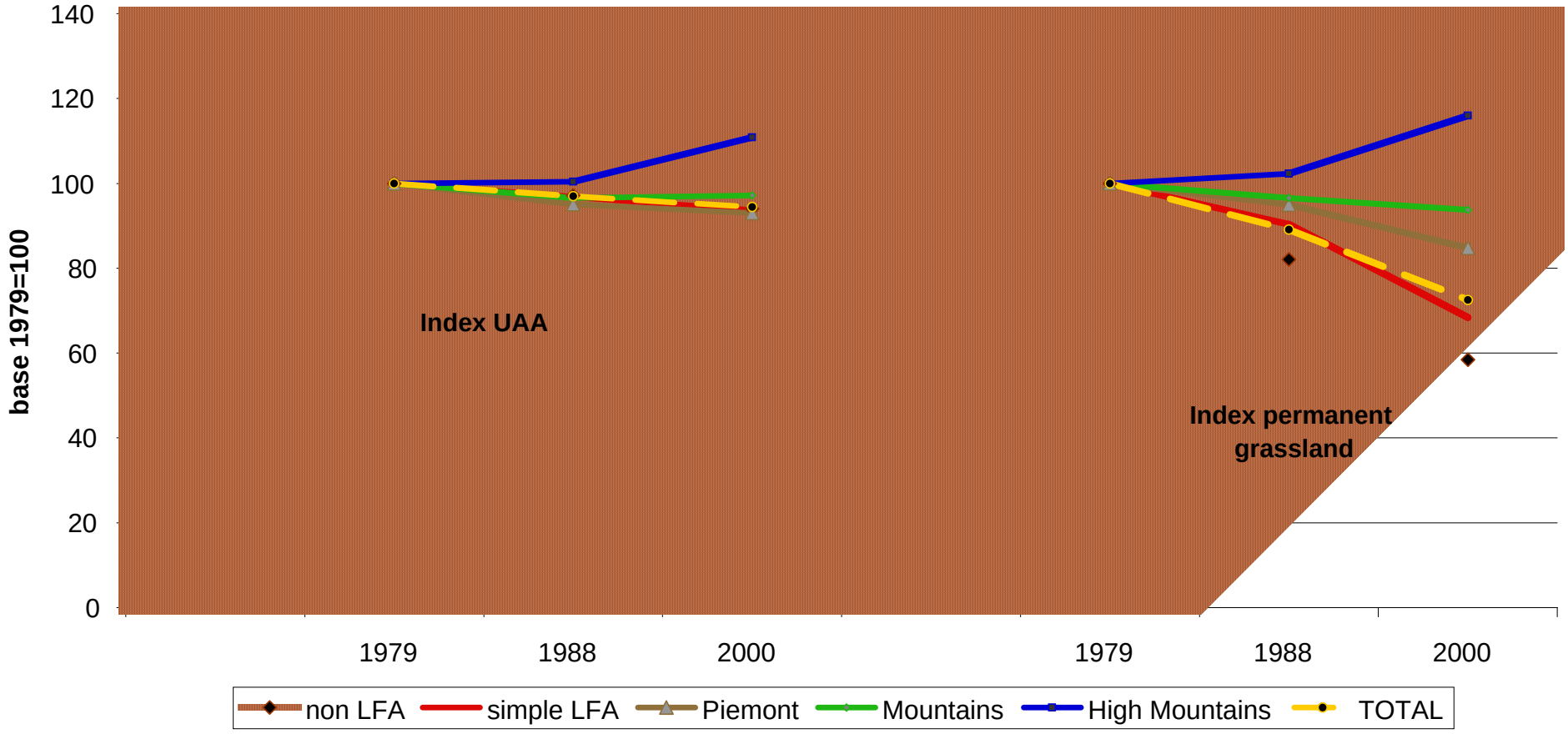


Development of French UAA since 1989

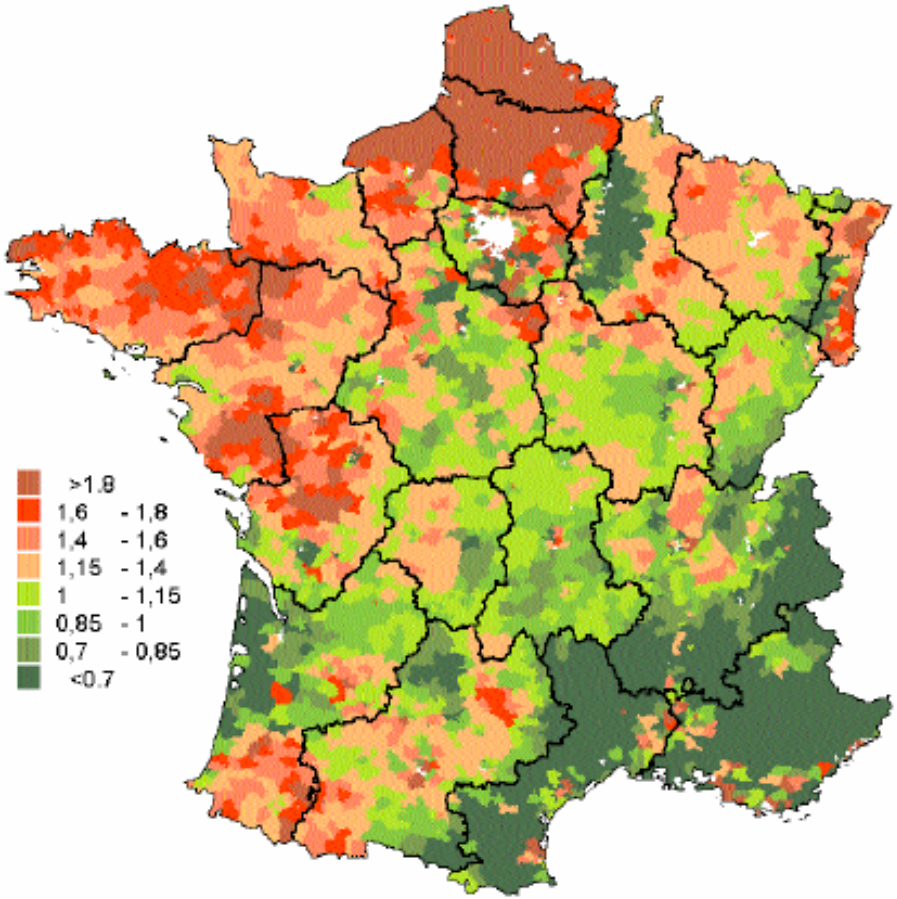


- **1950 : permanent grassland fertilised ε**
- **1982 : permanent grassland fertilised 40 %**
- **1998 : permanent grassland fertilised 66 %**

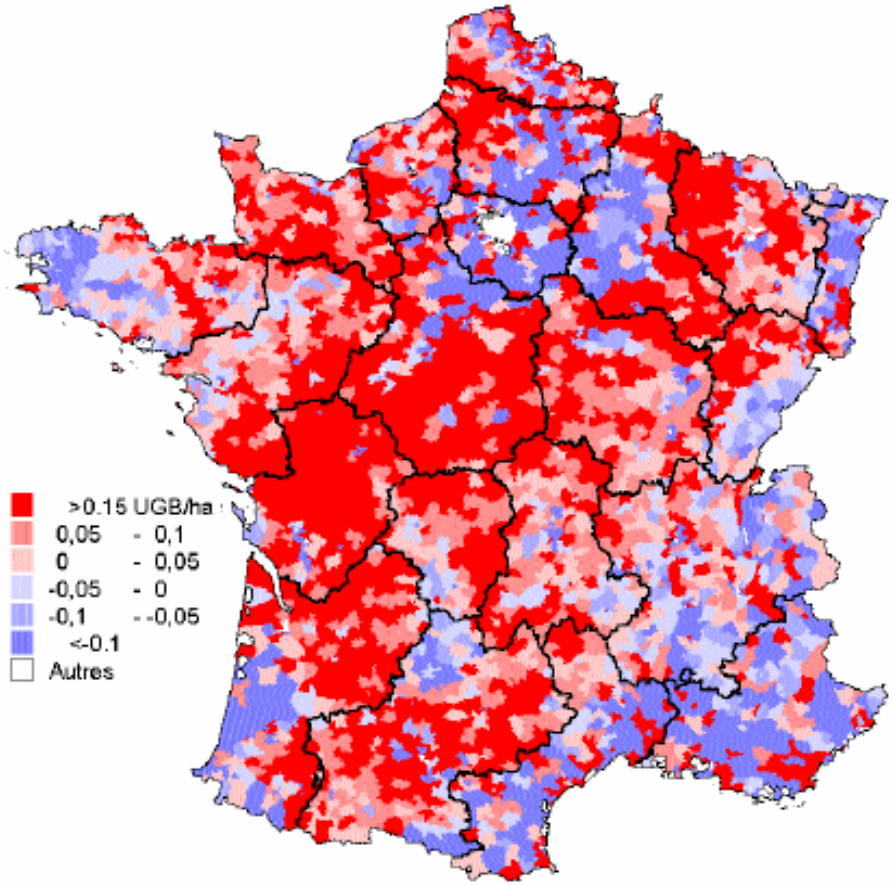
Development of UAA and permanent grassland index (1979 = 100)



- **Chargement : total UGB herbivore/ha SFP**

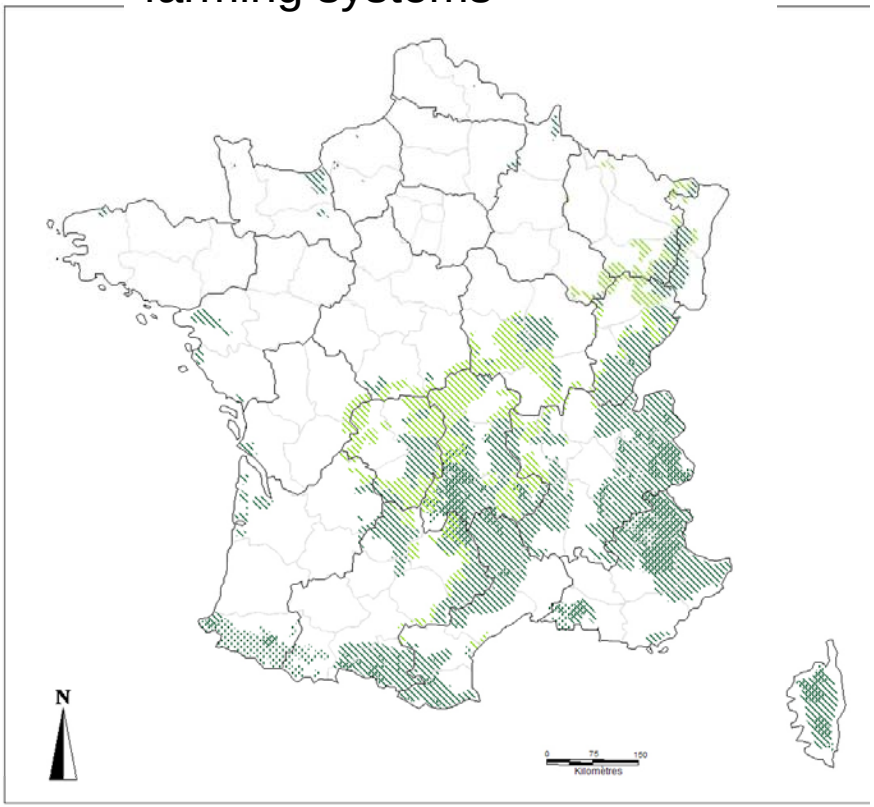


- **Evolution de 1988 à 2000**



source: © Agreste – Recensements agricoles 1988 et 2000, traitement et cartographie: Institut de l'Elevage

Likely density of type 1 HNV farming systems



Légende

Chargement en bétail:

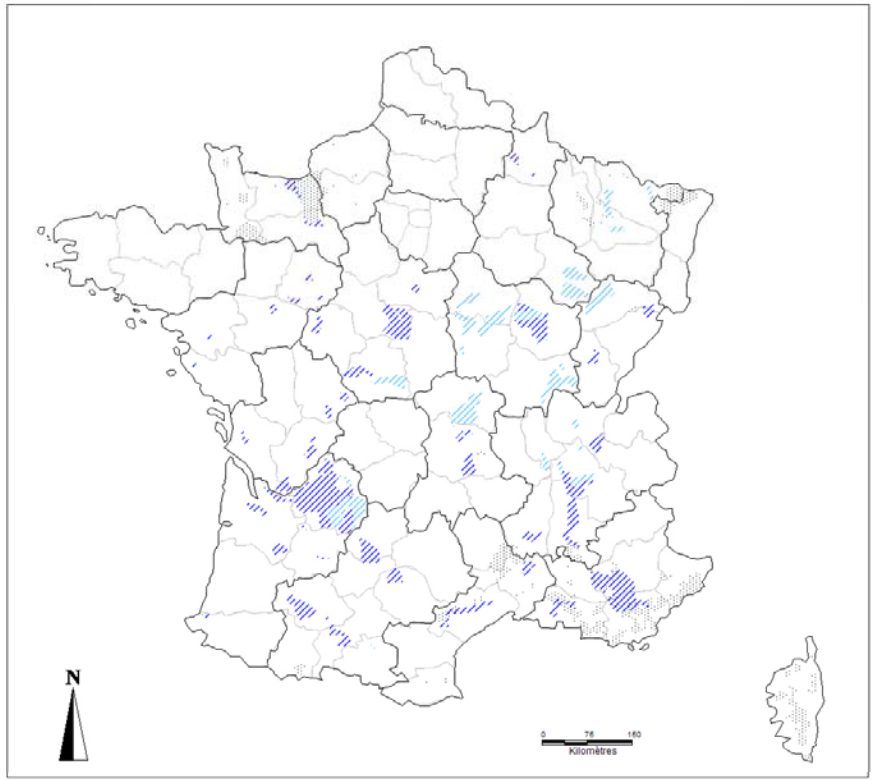
- < 0,7 UBG/ha en zone méditerranéenne ;
- < 1 UGB/ha en zone continentale et alpine ;
- compris entre 1 et 1,15 UGB/ha en zone atlantique.

- < 1 UGB/ha en zone méditerranéenne ;
- compris entre 1 et 1,15 UGB/ha en zone continentale.

Pacages collectifs

Plus de 10 fermes par commune utilisant des pacages collectifs

Likely density of type 2 HNV farming systems



Légende

Chargement en bétail :

- < 1 UGB/ha en zone méditerrannéenne, alpine et continentale ;
- compris entre 1 et 1,15 UGB/ha en zone atlantique.

- compris entre 1 et 1,15 UGB/ha en zone continentale.

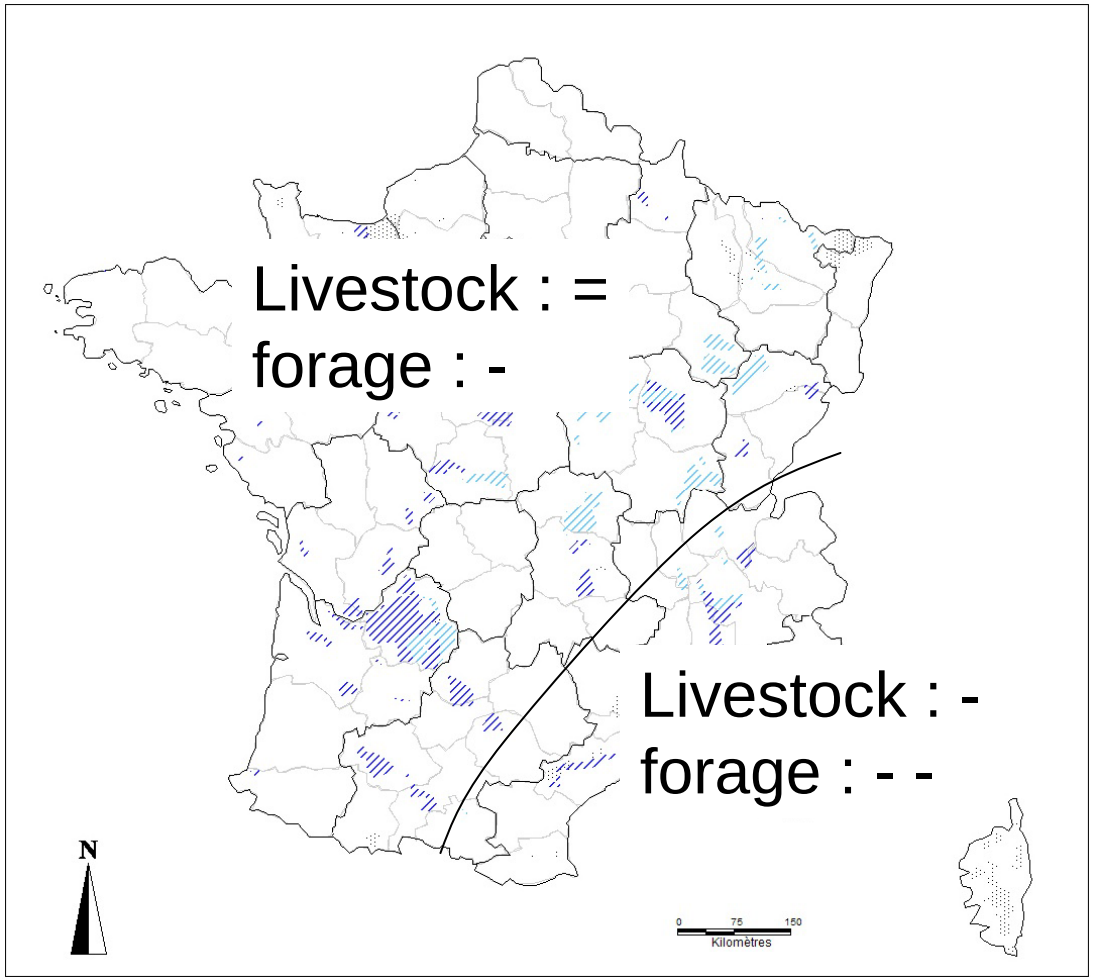
Vergers traditionnels:

densité par commune (> 4 pourcents de la SAU)

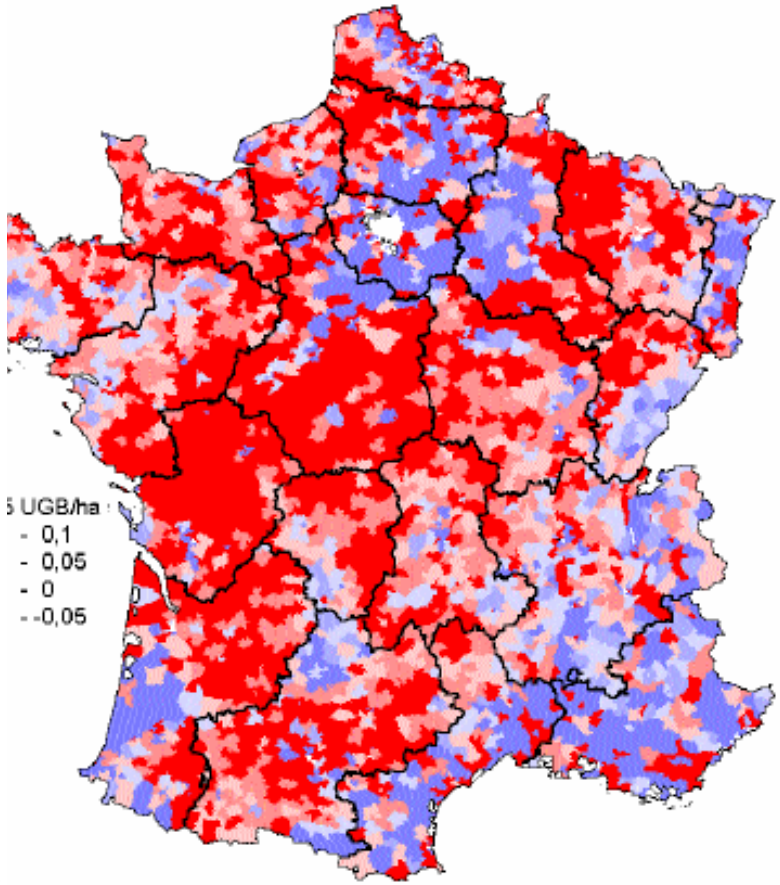
Type 2 HNV : the most drastic decrease in the last decades

- **Mixed farming is the most affected**
- **Loss of permanent grassland is the most visible in the mixed regions**
- **Low intensity dairy production hardly resists in such conditions**
- **What does happen when you go from 3000 kg milk/cow to 7000 kg?**
- **Permanent grassland are then intensified**

- Chargement : total UGB



- Evolution de 1988 à 2000



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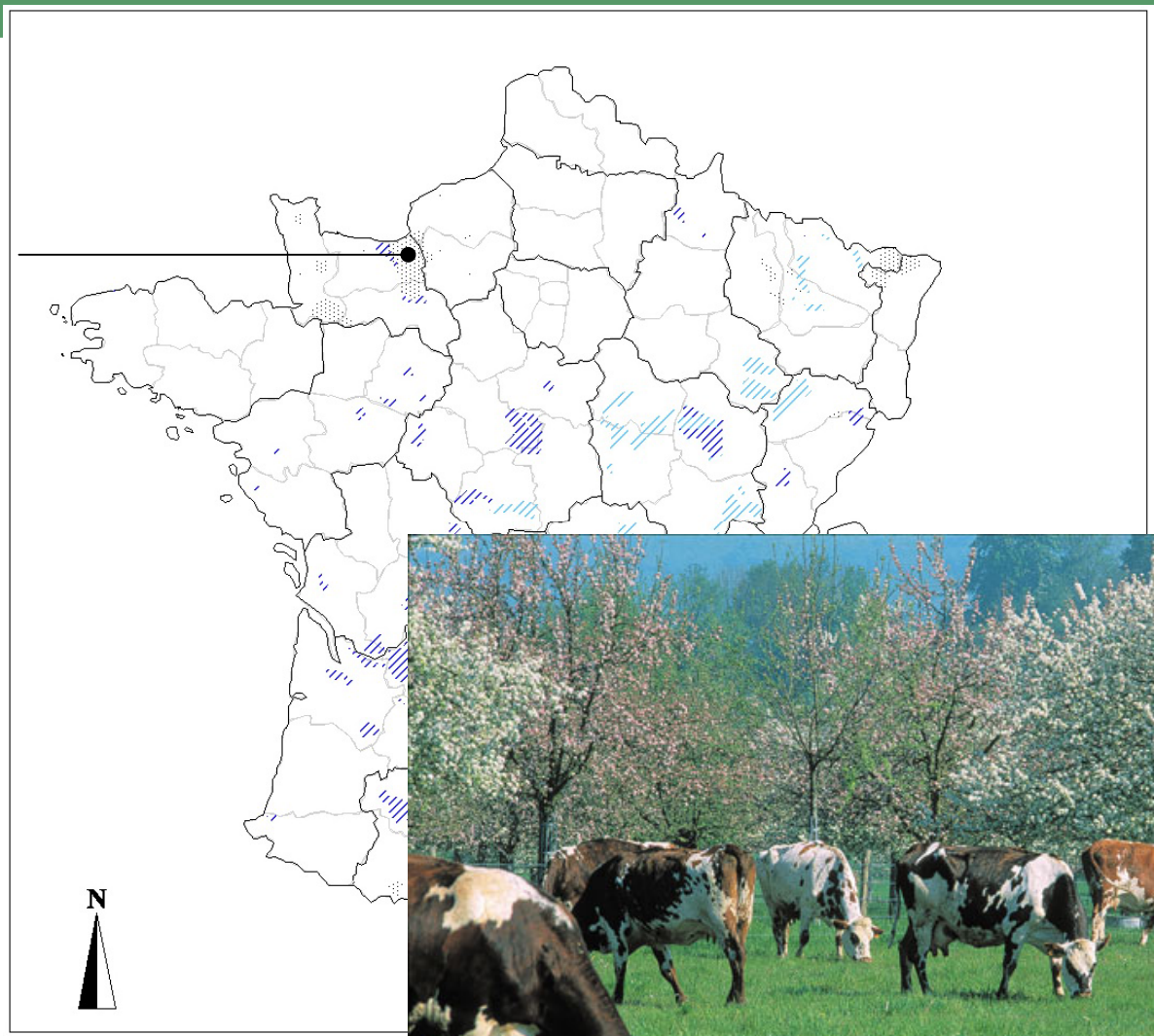
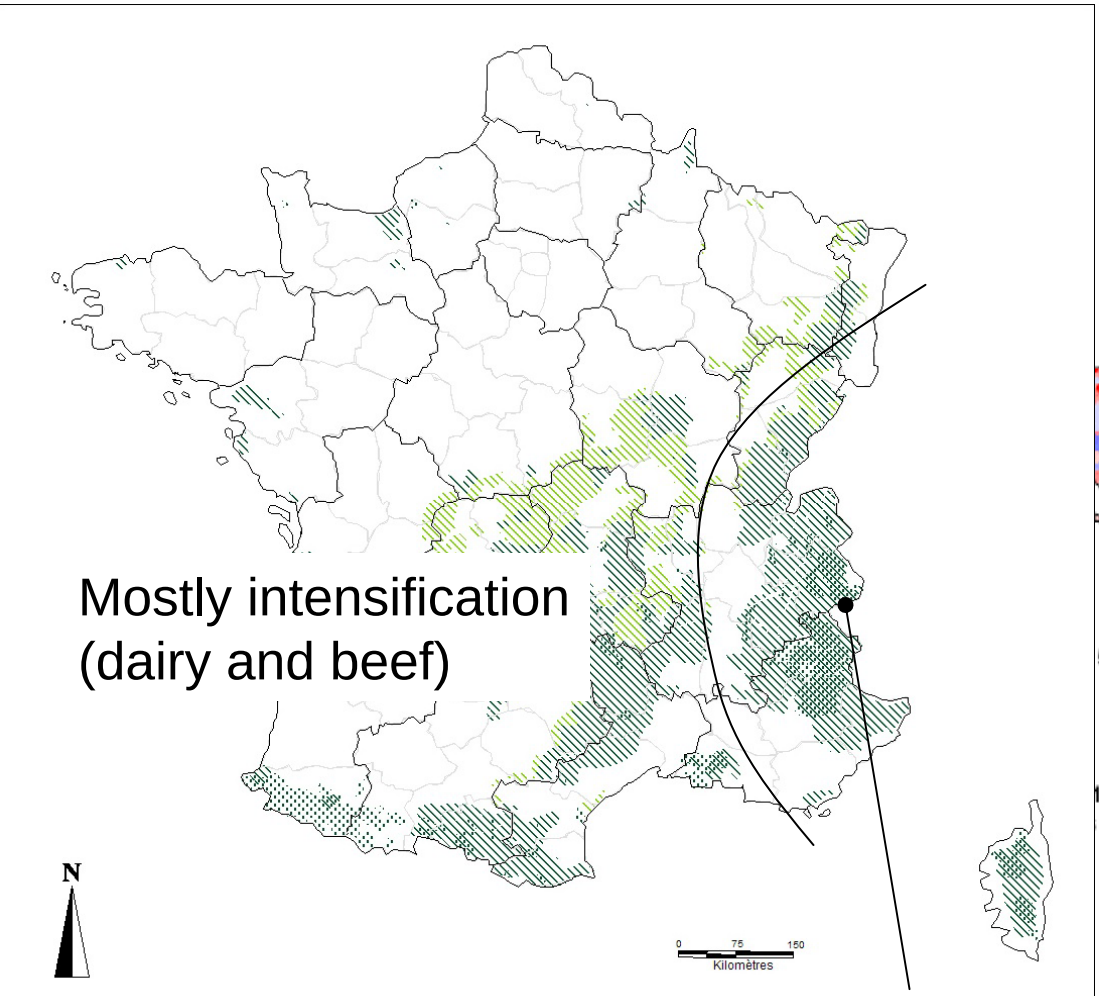
Pays d’Auge

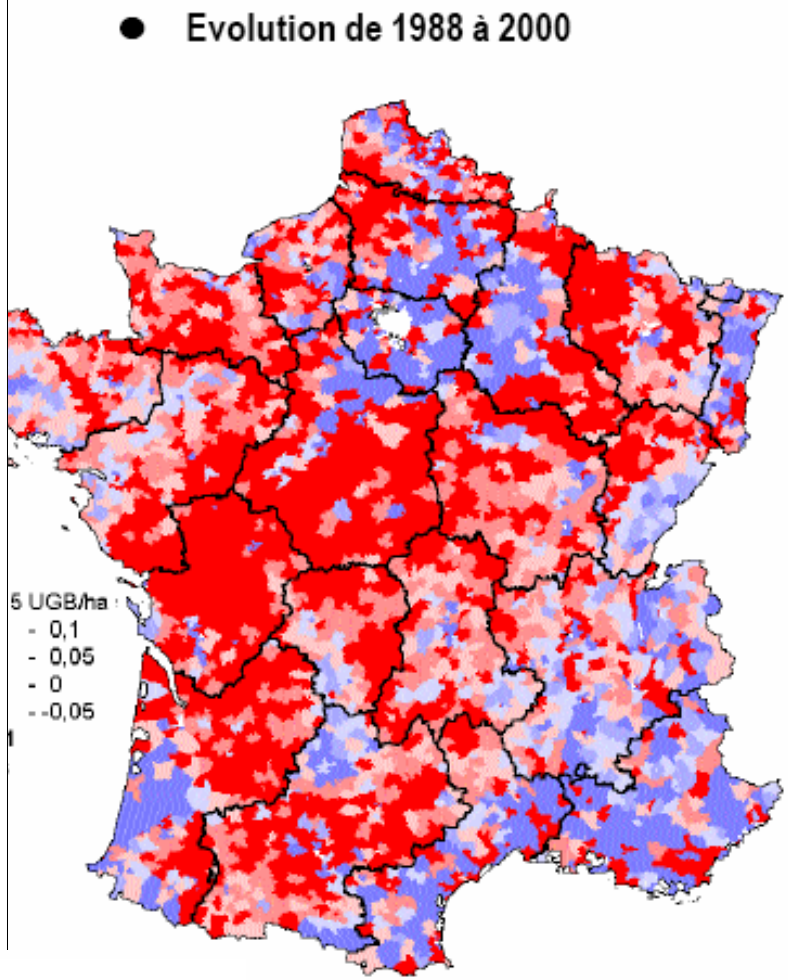


What does happen to type 1 HNV?

- **Still large share of permanent grassland in France**
- **But in detail:**
  - ✓ Intensification
  - ✓ Abandonment
- **An insidious shift**
- **Towards type 2?**



Mostly intensification
(dairy and beef)



source: © Agres

stitut de l'Elevage

Black & white:
Abandonment vs. intensification
(dairy and sheep)

Vercors, where permanent grassland is 98% of UAA in 2000

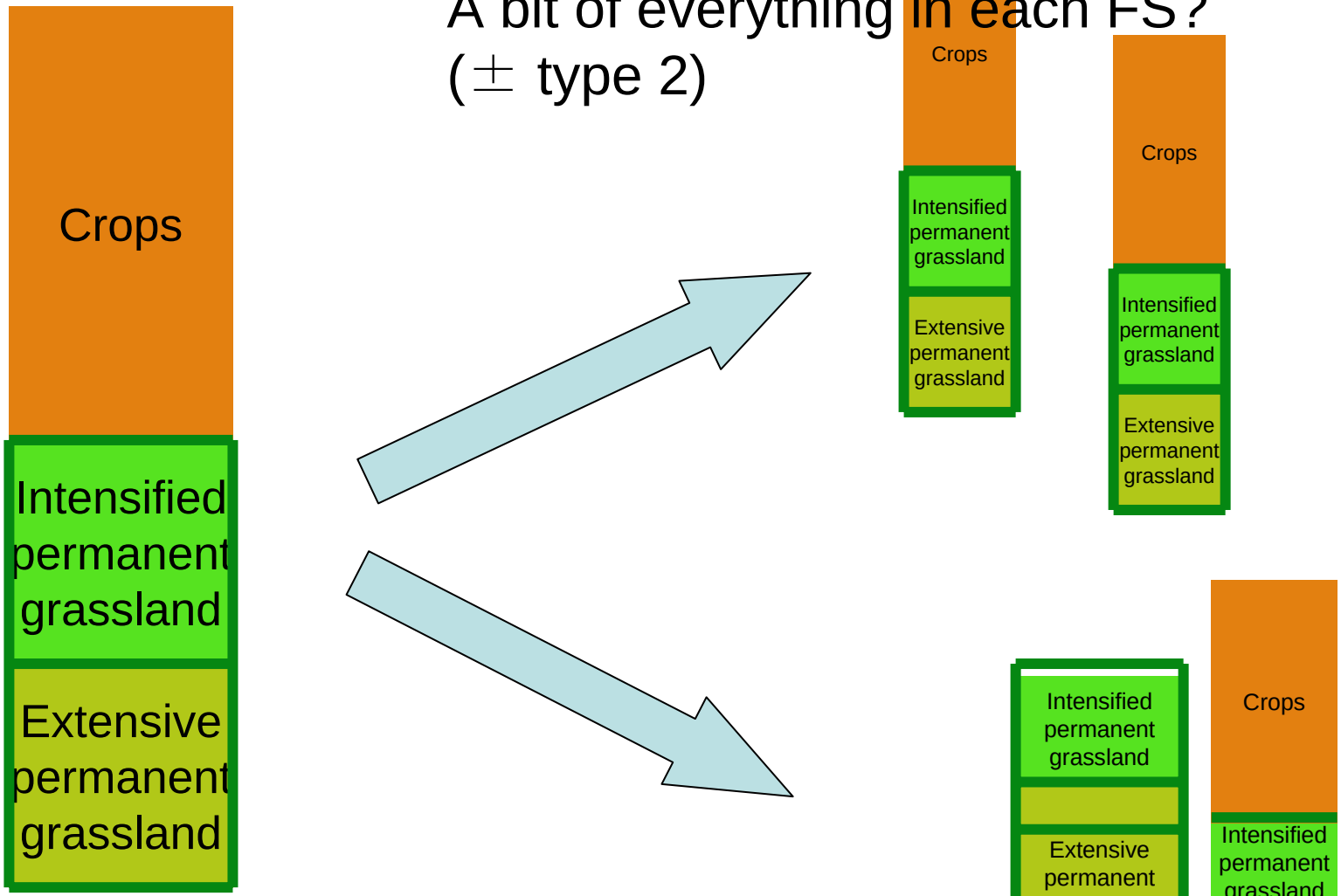
Type 3

- **In practice: mainly N2000 sites for birds**
- **The example of the little bustard (*tetrax tetrax*): rare and endangered bird with hardly no SNV**
- **Is that still HNV?**
- **Can it support other components of biodiversity (including saltus)?**

Conclusions

- **HNV farming is still rapidly decreasing in France**
- **Can we recover large share of type 1 HNV?**
  - ✓ Maintain the common pasture lands
- **Maps and monitoring should show the main threats (e.g. according to regions and productions)**
- **Needs to understand which farming systems should be supported**

At landuse and landscape level



HNV and LNV farming systems?

The future of HNV farming in France

- **Very difficult as « extensification » is rejected by most parties (ex of Saône et Loire)**
  - ✓ Exception: Beaufort and, in a way Jura
- **What is accepted is a share of agro-ecological infrastructures (=SNV) in a more intensive context (type 2)**
- **Governement is quite reluctant to HNV**
  - ✓ OK for « grass » and « permanent grassland »
  - ✓ Not for extensive grassland
- **Prefered approach: biodiversity in PDO**