



# HNV Farmland in Bulgaria



**Vyara Stefanova**  
**Conference „High Nature Value Farmland in Europe“**  
**14 – 18 June 2010, Vilm**

# Facts and figures

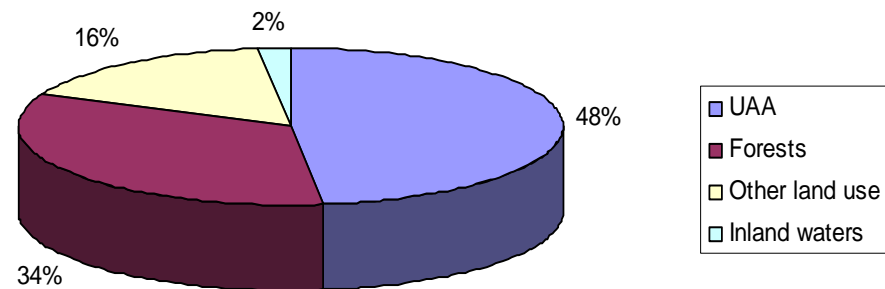
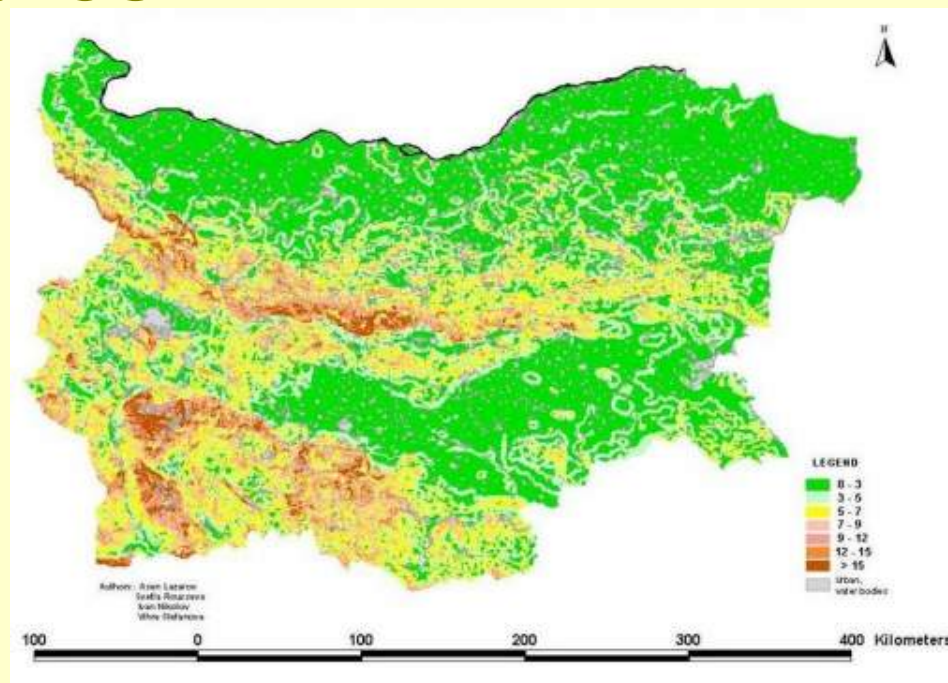
Total area  
of Bulgaria = 11.1 million ha

UAA = 5.3 million ha

- Arable land – 61.8%
- Permanent pastures – 33.8%
- Permanent crops – 4.0%
- Family gardens – 0.3%

Forest area = 3.7 million ha

Inland waters = 0.2 million ha



# Land use change

| LAND USE (000 ha)                                   | 2004          | 2008            |
|---|---------------|-----------------|
| <b>Agricultural land</b>                            |               |                 |
| 1. Arable land                                      | 3 296,8       | 3 213,6         |
| 2. Permanent crops                                  | 215,8         | 172,6           |
| 3. Permanent pastures (pastures, meadows and other) | 1808,8        | 1 351, 4        |
| 4. Family gardens                                   | 15,1          | 302, 2          |
| 5. Mixed Use  | 2,0           | 588, 3          |
| <b>total:</b>                                       | <b>5330,5</b> | <b>5 628, 1</b> |
| <b>Non agricultural land</b>                        | 5545,6        | 5 471,4         |
| <b>Other Physical blocks</b>                        | 0,2           | 0,2             |





# Grasslands in Bulgaria



- 66% of the grasslands are low productive natural and semi-natural pastures
- 1% of the grasslands are temporary pastures
- 28% - natural meadows
- 5% - meadow gardens

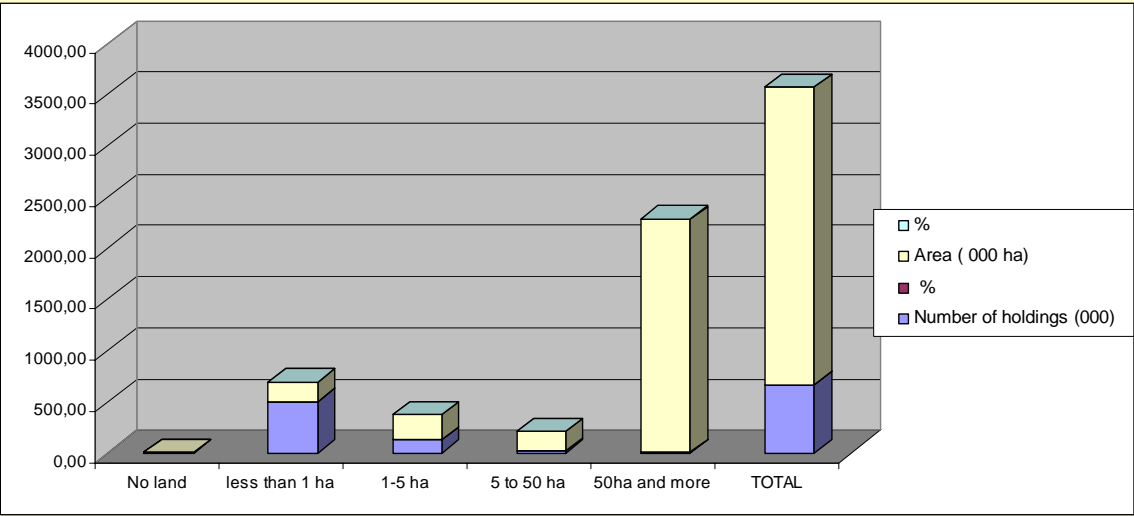
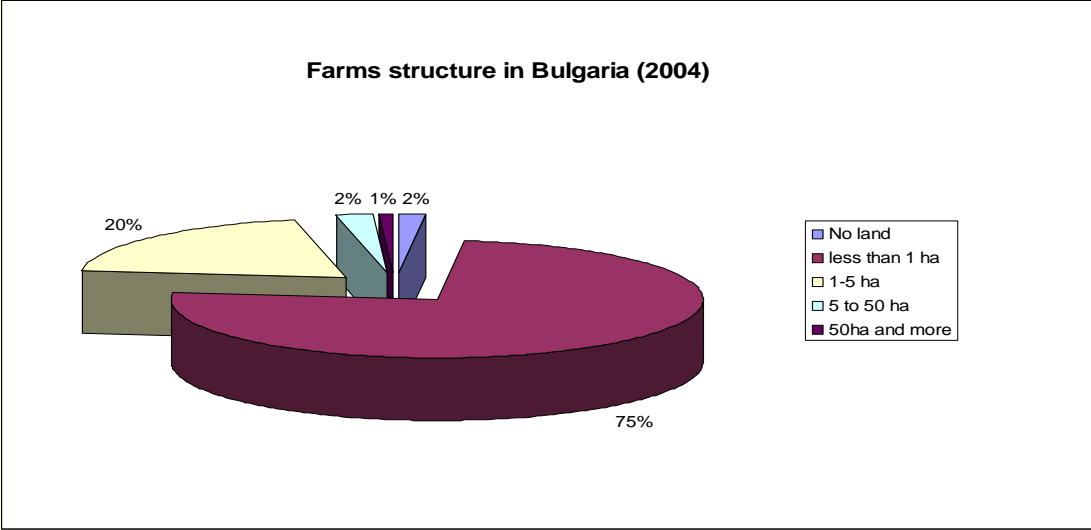
27% of the grasslands are in South -West Region  
25,2% - South – Central Region  
Only 9,7% - North –East region





# Farm structure in BG

- 75% of the farms are less than 1 ha
- 0,8% of the farms (more than 50 ha) manage 86% UAA)



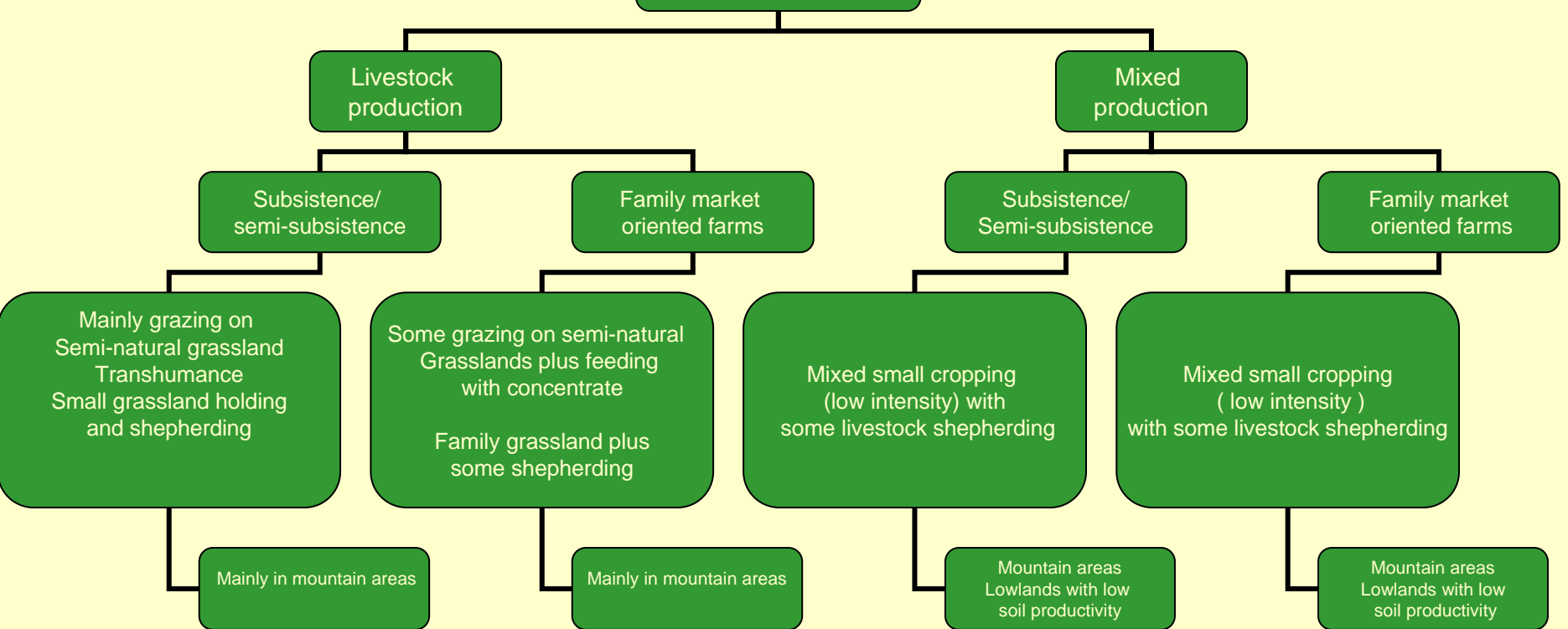


## Farm types in BG

- Subsistence and semi-subsistence (livestock and mixed production)
- Family farms (market oriented) – livestock, mixed production, crop production
- Intensive farms (industrial arable and livestock production, green houses, orchards and vegetables)



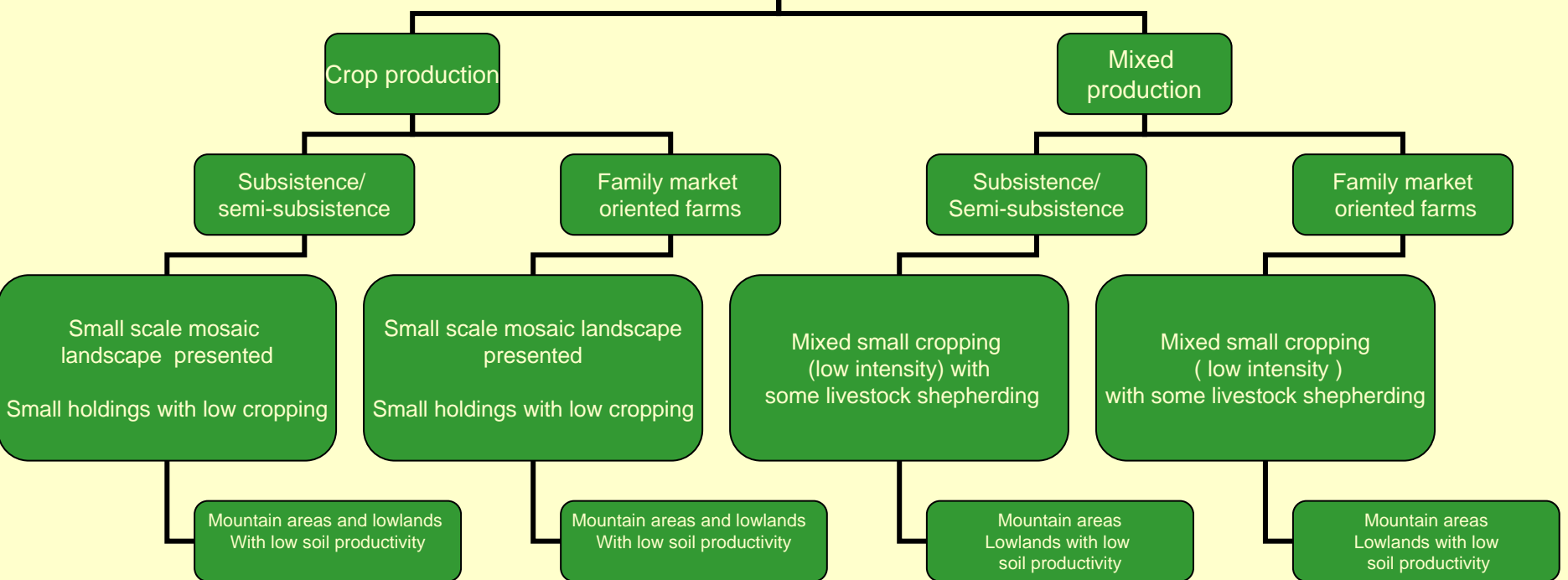
# HNVF type 1







## HNVF Type 2









# HNVF maps – present situation

- Bulgaria adapted the approach used by the EEA by using several national databases for biodiversity situation:
  - CORINE land cover 2000;
  - Natura 2000
  - IBAs
  - Grassland inventory
  - Habitats of triton, souslik, marbled polecat, Romanian hamster, trotoise and butterflies



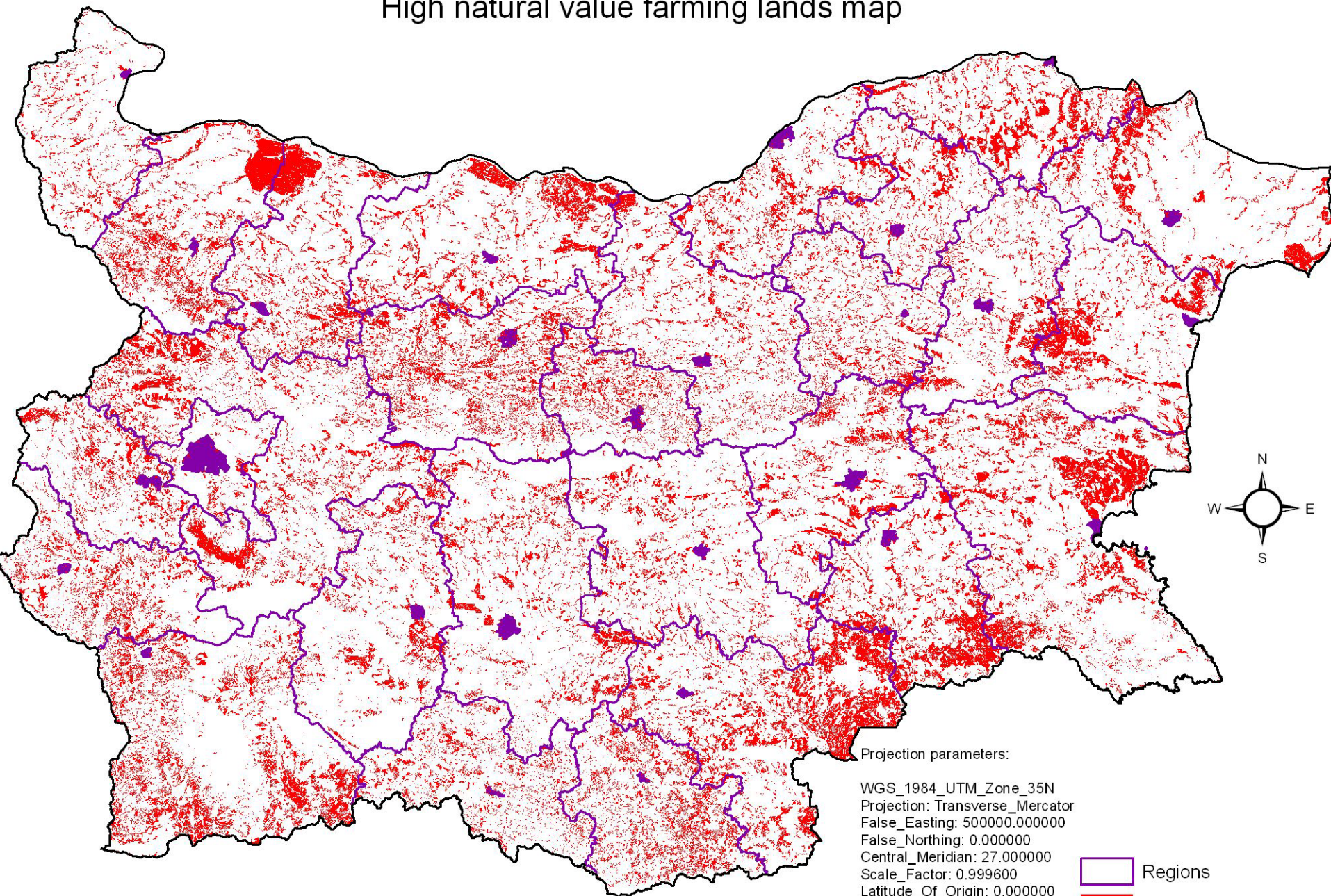
# HNVF – present situation

- The layers were then overlapped with the database for the physical blocks in the LPIS as per September 2007 and again in 2009
- Results for HNVF (2007)
  - Arable land – 359 116 ha of which 47,5% in Natura 2000
  - Permanent crops – 40 155 ha of which 30% in Natura 2000
  - Permanent grassland - 951 256 ha of which 42% in Natura 2000
  - Mixed utilization – 279 013 ha of which 37% in Natura 2000
- Total area 1 630 035 ha – defined as HNVF (around 30% of UAA)





# High natural value farming lands map



Projection parameters:

WGS\_1984\_UTM\_Zone\_35N  
Projection: Transverse\_Mercator  
False\_Easting: 500000.000000  
False\_Northing: 0.000000  
Central\_Meridian: 27.000000  
Scale\_Factor: 0.999600  
Latitude\_Of\_Origin: 0.000000  
Linear Unit: Meter  
GCS\_WGS\_1984  
Datum: D\_WGS\_1984

Regions

High natural value farm

Chief towns

Actual to date: 23.10.2007 M 1: 2 000 000



- The approach uses national data bases for biodiversity situation
- It permits overlapping with other territorial databases (LFA)

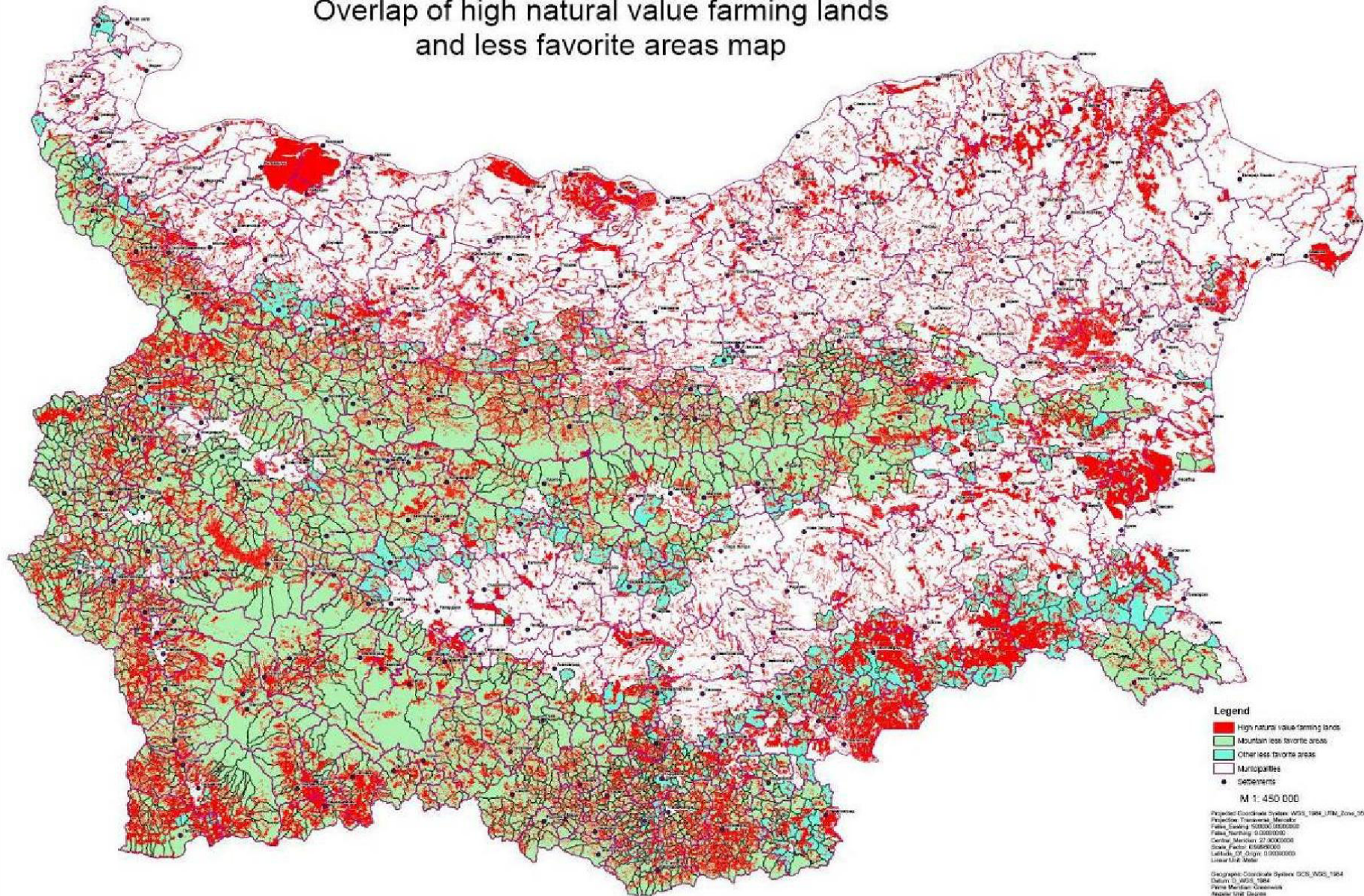
BUT:

- Is not accurate (errors occur of the different scale of the maps used)
- Does not content info for the farming practices
- Does not allow monitoring of the changes in the quality





# Overlap of high natural value farming lands and less favorite areas map



# Support for HNVF in



- Direct payments – only 63% are eligible
- National payments (per livestock unit)
- Rural development measures
  - Support for semi-subsistence farm – 1500 EUR/annually
  - LFA payments
    - Mountain LFA – 110 EUR/ha
    - Other LFA – 50 EUR/ha
  - AE payments
    - HNV grasslands 97/155 EUR/ha
    - Mountain pastoralism 100/110 EUR/ha
    - Traditional orchards 131 EUR/ha
    - HNVF in arable land – 20/102 EUR/ha





Thank you !

