

The consequences of the end of the milk quota in the EU for the Dutch rare cattle breeds

SAVE annual meeting
Ponte de Lima Portugal
07/09/2017



End of the milkquota in the EU

July 1th of 2015

Dairy farmers “liberation day”



But they had forgotten the rising amount of shit.....!!!



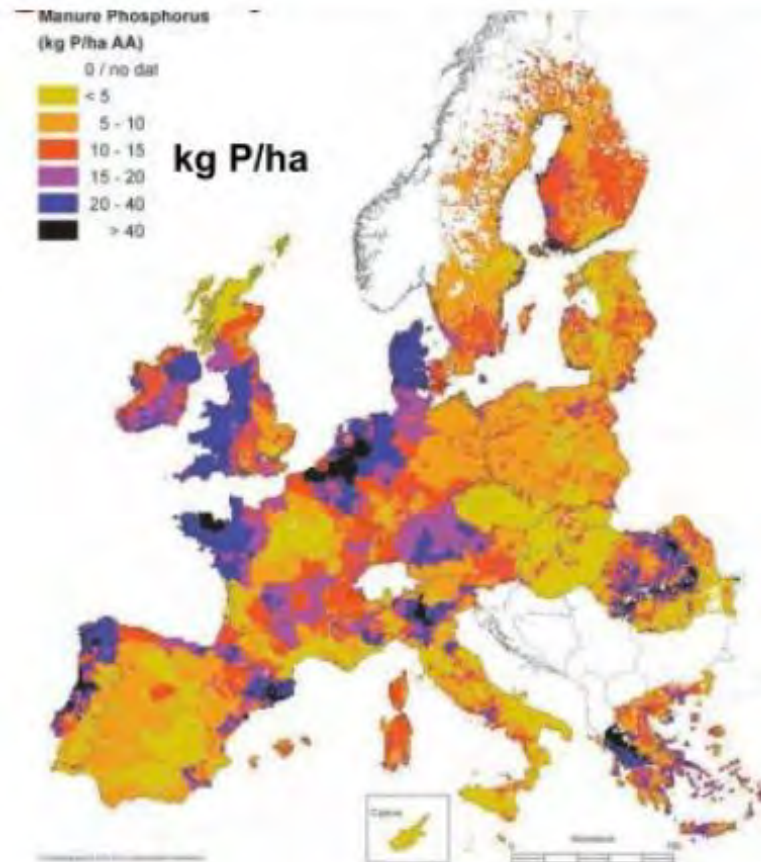
Facts and figures of dairy farming in The Netherlands after 01/07/2015

results in 2016

- 1.740.000 dairy cattle (2800 = **0,16 % Dutch rare breed**)
- Increase of **7%** in one year
- Average milkproduction / cow : 8800 kg
- Production of phosphates **9.000.000 kg above limit** allowed by EU (derogation)



Manure phosphorus in the EU



1. Phosphate reduction plan 2017

Objective:

- Phosphate production on 01/01/2018 below limit of the derogation allowed by EU

Means:

- Reduction of number of dairy cattle with 175.000 pieces dairy cattle by exporting or slaughtering
- Reduction of phosphates in cattle feed



Regulation reduction plan 2017

- In 2017 step by step reduction of numbers of female dairy cattle in the farms to the numbers on 02/07/2015
- Dairy farms with $>2,3$ GVE/hectare including young stock and production of 16.750 kg/hectare have to reduce the number of female cattle 4% more than the number on 02/07/2015. In 2016 the average was 2,9 GVE/hectare
- High fines for farmers which do not realize the targets in time
- € 50.000.000 (money from EU, Dutch public funds and dairy industry) available to end individual dairy farms.
Premium €1200 for an adult cow



2. Introduction of rights for dairy farms to produce phosphates by law

- Start 01/01/2018
- 1 kg produced phosphate = 1 right
- Amount of produced phosphates depends on level of milk production
- All dairy farms get a number of phosphate rights based on the number of cattle and level of milk production on 02/07/2015
- Farms >2,3 GVE/hectare get 4% less rights based on the figures of 02/07/2015



Number of registered Dutch rare cattle breeds in 2016 (female animals active in breeding programs)

Fries Hollands = 2129



Roodbont Fries = 485



Blaarkop = 1603



Maas Rijn IJssel = 12.113



Brandrood = 1150



Witrik = 500



Lakenvelder = 3356



Effects on the rare cattle breeds populations

- **Stand still or decrease** of size. Increase up to 6000 is necessary for a healthy and genetic sufficient diverse breed
- Phosphate rights have an **economic value** and will become marketable. For dairy farmers with the less producing cattle of rare breeds it will be too expensive. Discouraging for young and starting farmers
- Stimulus to **cash and stop** for older farmers



Role of SZH (Dutch rare breeds foundation)

- Twice a year we organize a meeting with the organizations of small breeds of Dutch cattle. KFG = Kleine Fokkerij Groeperingen
- SZH represents the members of KFG in consultations with the public authorities and politicians
- We did a lot of consultations with the department of Economic Affairs (Agriculture is a part of this ministry), lobbying and networking with politicians and the media



Results

- Calves of Dutch rare breeds on dairy farms born from 01/10/2016 are not a part of the phosphate reduction plan 2017. Requirement: they have to be registered by SZH
- Non milk producing farms are not a part of the phosphate reduction plan 2017
- Revival of the “Umbrella Register”. Financial supported by the government



Running affairs

Consultations with the Department about the execution of the system of phosphate rights from 01/01/2018

Main issues

- All cattle on non milk producing farms registered in the umbrella register are free from phosphate rights
- Cattle on dairy farms born after 01/10/2016 and registered in the umbrella register get phosphate rights on 01/01/2018
- Dairy farms with all cattle belonging to a rare breed (>87% pure bred registered in the umbrella register) and <2,3 GVE/hectare are permitted to enlarge their number of cattle within the <2,3/hectare without phosphate rights



Umbrella register



- Official marking as a Dutch rare breed in the Identification and Registration system of the government
- Cattle, sheep, goats and swine. Horses in the near future
- SZH is the executing organization. Start 2012
- Originally meant for times of diseases like MFD, Swine Fever e.g. Also useful in the phosphate crisis



Side effects

- Improved relation and co-operation between SZH, rare breed organizations and farmers
- Attention of all media. Television, radio, social media and newspapers. National and local on prime time. Topic in several talk shows
- Very positive reactions and support of the general public
- Crowd funding: “Save the polder panda” €20.000
- Growing awareness of the importance of save guarding the rare breeds



Never spoil a good crisis

