



Latvia University  
of Life Sciences  
and Technologies



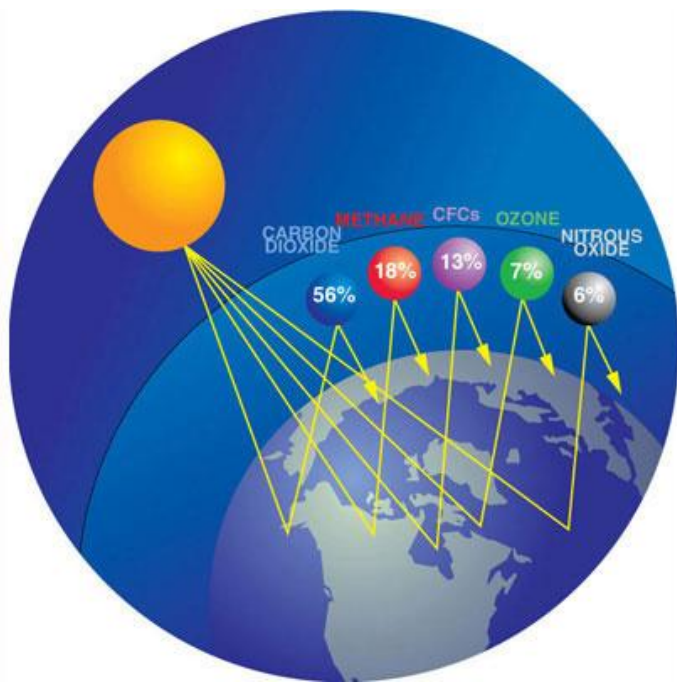
# Effect of mitigation measures on GHG and ammonia emissions of pilot farms in European countries

D. Ruska, K. Naglis-Liepa, P. Hargreaves, A. Lenerts, M. De Vries, P. Galama, A. Kuipers, A. Cieslak, J. Bell, B. Rees, V. Juskiene, M. Skorupka

Climate care dairy farming: follow up  
Session 05, 28.08.2023, Lyon



# Climate and policy



<https://www.labxchange.org/library/pathway/lx-pathway:793d74a7-f393-4fe1-9943-4662d8a0d651/items/lx-pb:793d74a7-f393-4fe1-9943-4662d8a0d651.html:e7c26031>

- ◆ Many GHGs, including water vapor (the most important), ozone, carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, are naturally present in the atmosphere.
- ◆ Other GHGs are synthetic chemicals that are emitted only as a result of human activity. Anthropogenic (human) activities are significantly increasing atmospheric concentrations of many GHGs.



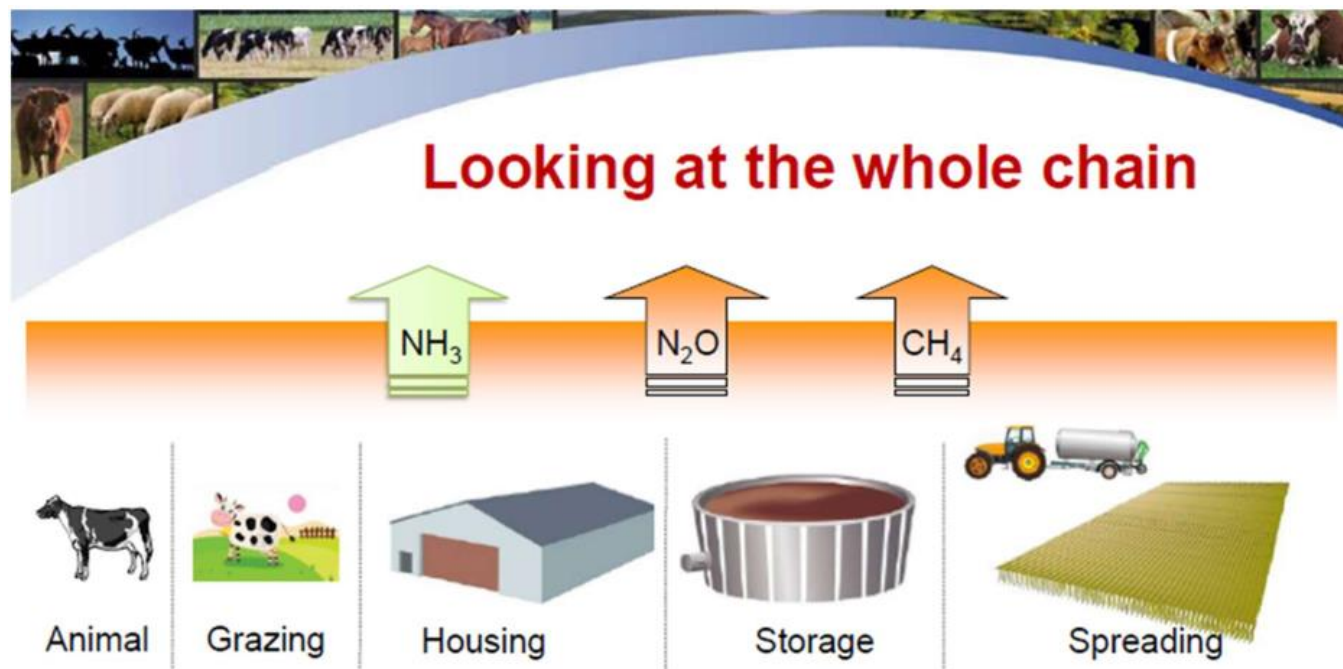
**The first climate-neutral continent**  
by 2050

**At least 55% less**  
net greenhouse gas emissions by  
2030, compared to 1990 levels

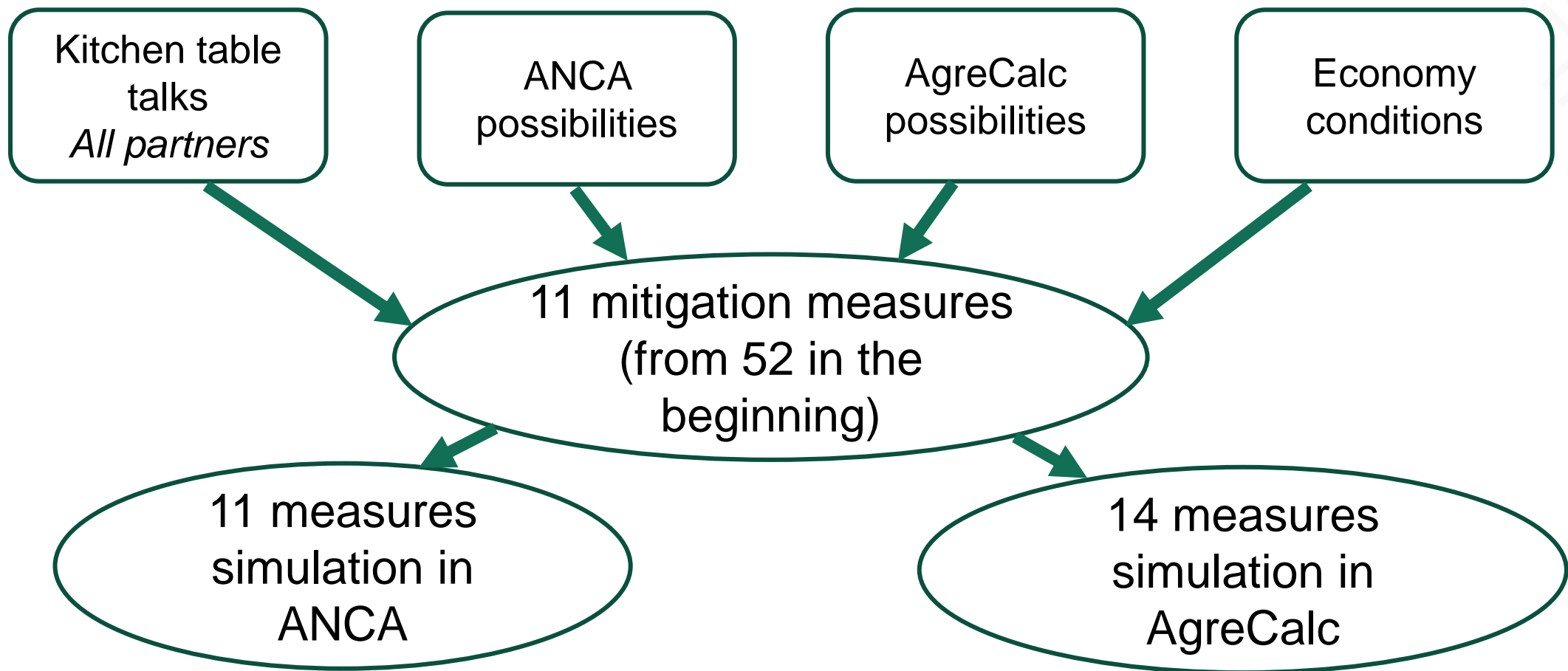
**3 billion**  
additional trees to be planted in the  
EU by 2030

# Mitigation measures of GHG and ammonia emissions

- ◆ Genetics and breeding
- ◆ Herd management and housing system
- ◆ Feed production, grassland and land management
- ◆ Manure management and spreading
- ◆ Energy management



# Selection process for emission reduction measures



# Mitigation measures for dairy farms were chosen

- ◆ Animal - feeding
  - ◆ Increase feed efficiency
  - ◆ Low protein diets
  - ◆ High digestible diet and change in crops
  - ◆ Feeding enteric methane inhibitor
  - ◆ Use of probiotics
- ◆ Housing
  - ◆ Low emission floors
- ◆ Fertilizing
  - ◆ Use of nitrification inhibitor for crops
  - ◆ Low emission slurry spreading techniques
  - ◆ High digestible diet and change in crops
- ◆ Manure management
  - ◆ Mechanical manure separation
  - ◆ Covering manure storage
  - ◆ Adding straw to slurry for covering the manure storage
  - ◆ Manure acidification
- ◆ Energy management
  - ◆ Renewable energy sources on farm (RES)
  - ◆ Energy saving equipment



## Mitigation practices simulation for farm

Farm code \_\_\_\_\_

To achieve the GHG and ammonia reduction objectives potential mitigation practices and techniques and their promising combinations will be simulated based on farm data.

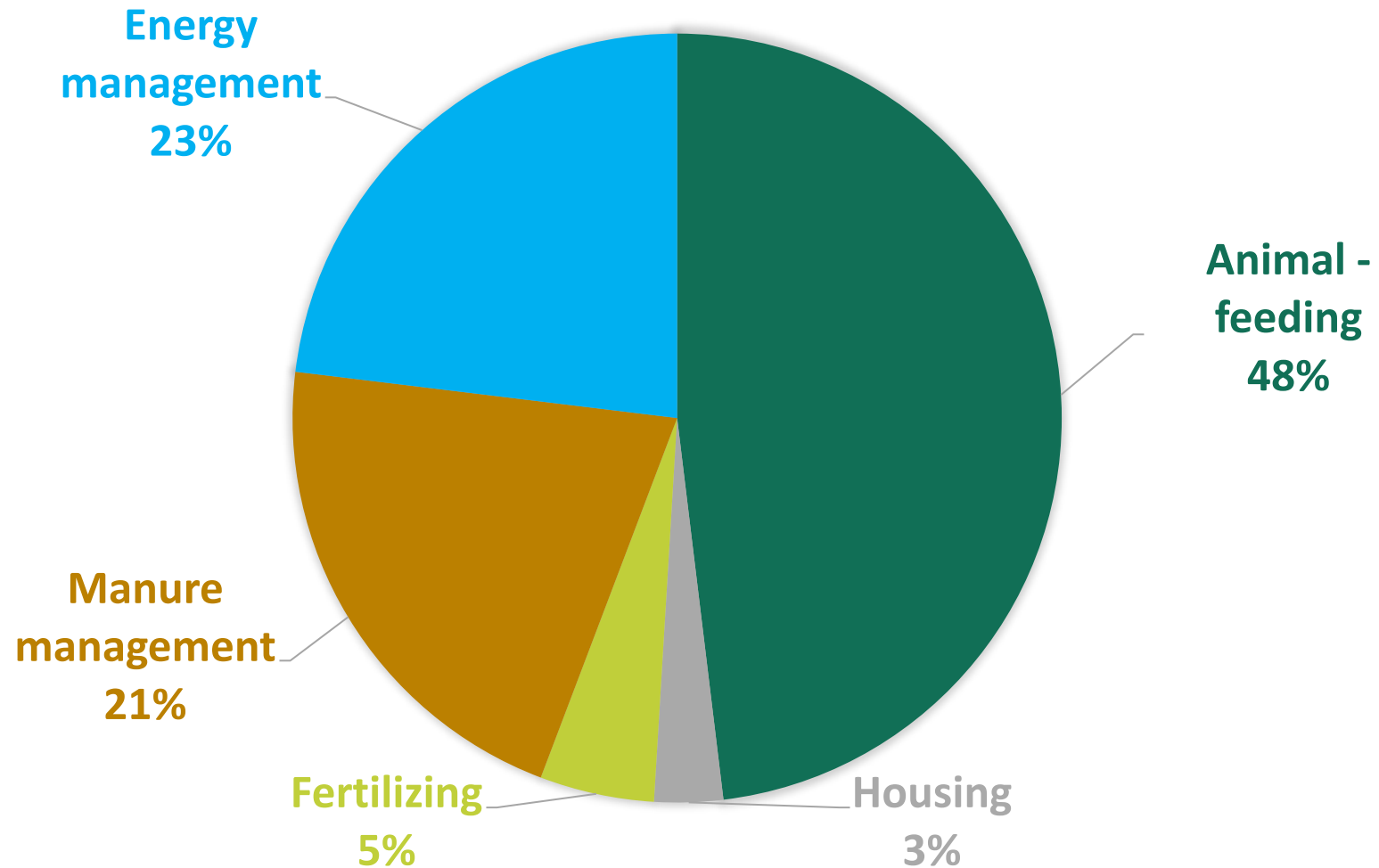
Please choose at least **two mitigation** measures mostly related to **NH3 emission**.

**Please choose mitigation practice from list below, and choose the statement which best describes your situation, based on:**

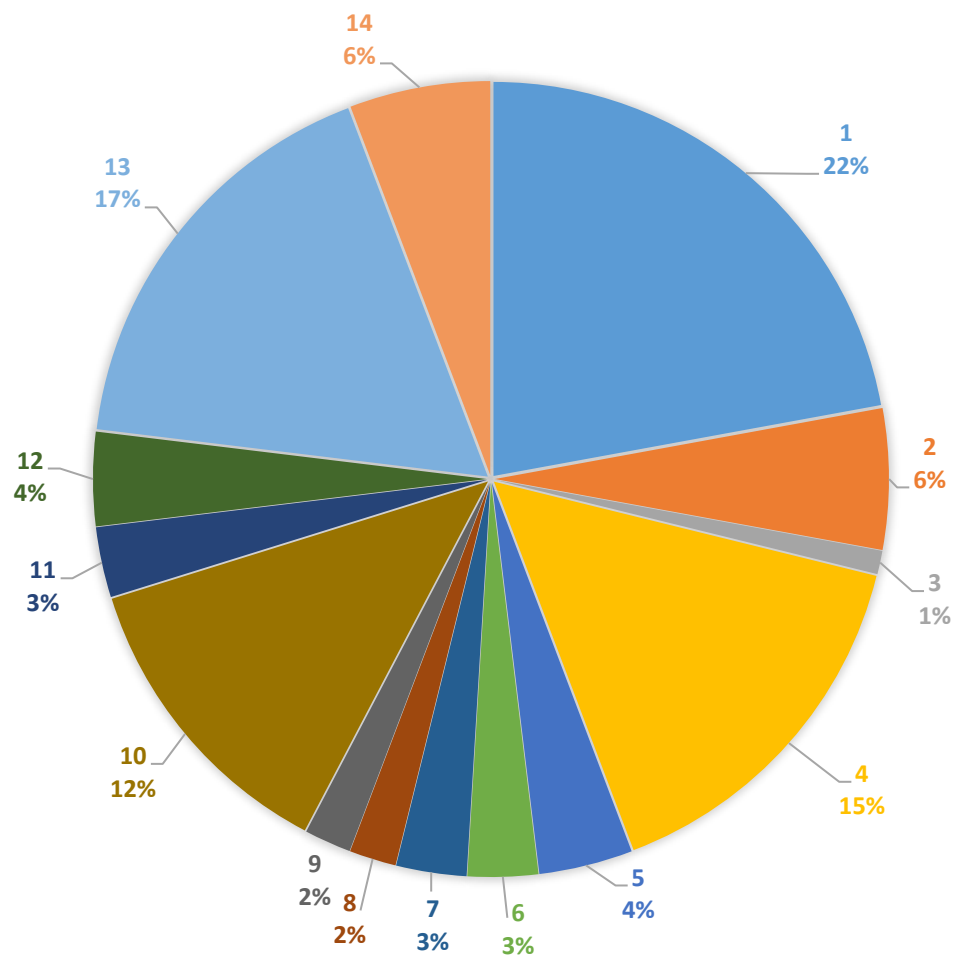
Measures		NH3	GHG	Explanation	Mark your choice	
					Yes/No	Not applicable/Already used
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
1	Increase feed efficiency	x	x	Change the rations of feed. Feed efficiency is improved through improved animal management (incl. health). The feed ration is not changed and milk yield remains the same. <b>Mitigation practice include:</b> feed ration calculation; feeding plan preparation and control; precision feed distribution. <b>Benefits:</b> lower feed consumption. <b>Weakness:</b> increased additional work for farmers.	Yes	
2	Low protein diets	x	x	Change the rations of feed. The N content of feed ration ingredients is reduced, e.g. by reducing N content of concentrates. Milk yield and milk composition remains the same, assumed that the feed ration composition is not changed, and there are no changes in grass or crop management. <b>Mitigation practice include:</b> purchase/production of low		x



# Farmers and/or experts chose



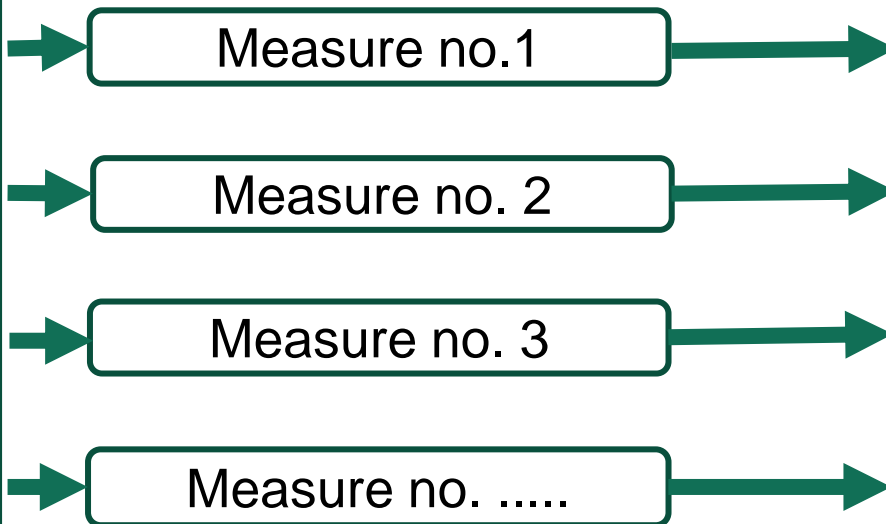
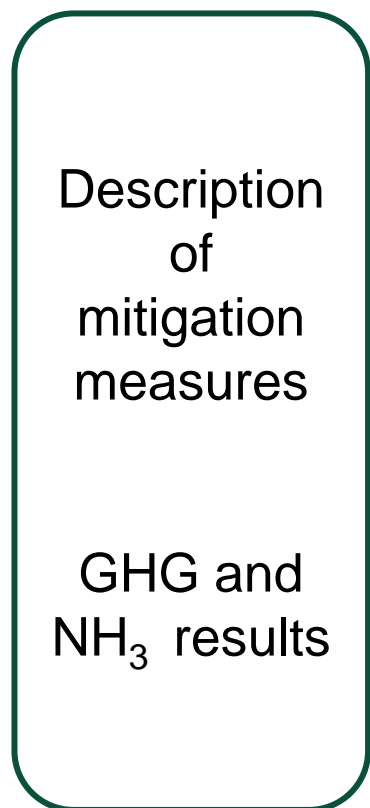
# Farmers and/or experts chose



- 1 Increase feed efficiency
- 2 Low protein diets
- 3 High digestible diet and change in crops
- 4 Enteric methane inhibitor
- 5 Use of probiotics in the barn
- 6 Low emission floors
- 7 Use of nitrification inhibitor for crops
- 8 Low emission slurry spreading techniques
- 9 Mechanical manure separation
- 10 Covering manure storage
- 11 Adding straw to slurry for covering the manure storage
- 12 Manure acidification
- 13 Renewable energy sources on farm (RES)
- 14 Energy saving equipment



# Farm plan for simulation of mitigation measures



## Farm plan reduction of emissions

Dairy farmer: LV\_1

### 1. Description of farmers' future strategy on development of farm and reduction of emissions

Farm LV\_1 has made changes in farm practices and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration. These practices and strategies are: Extending pastures and improving animal welfare.

For the reduction of emissions, farmers consider important would be to change the following farming activities: animal health; Livestock sheds and manure storage; Fertilizer and manure use and soil management; Machinery and Fuel Use and Technology and Automation.

For the economic development of the farm farmers consider important the following farming activities: Increase milk production per cow; increase longevity of stock; Use grass clover mix in pastures; Increase fertilisation efficiency; increase roughage production per ha; Add feed additives to ration and Increase soil organic matter.


To reduce an ammonia emissions farmer made changes on the following farming practices: fast application of manure and retain nitrogen. In the future, the farm does not plan to implement additional measures to reduce an ammonia emissions.

### 2. Which mitigation measures / practices were already taken?


 Extending pastures


 Improving animal welfare

 Fast application of manure


 Retain nitrogen


### 4. Expected effects on emissions (based on tool calculations)

 **Increase feed efficiency.**  
Reduce the energy per cow by 5 to 10%. The assumption is made that less feed is needed for the same amount of milk produced


 **Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.**  
The measure envisages placing 12.8 kW solar panels on the farm, which will produce 10,432 kWh of electricity.


### 3. Which mitigation measures are planned to be implemented and how?

 **Increase feed efficiency.**  
Feed efficiency is improved through improved animal management (incl. health).

 **Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.**  
The purpose of the measure is the production of renewable energy on the farm by installing solar panels.

### 5. Equipment involved, investment and economic

 **Increase feed efficiency.**  
Significant changes in farming, which provide for the preparation of feed plans (377 EUR per year), additional work for the distribution of feed to workers (105 EUR per year).

 **Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.**  
The investment for the purchase and assembly of the panels is EUR 17,920 and the service life is 20 years. The value of the produced electricity (price 0.11 EUR kWh<sup>-1</sup>) is 1,148 EUR per year.

### 7. Quote of farmer:

*"while increasing milk production per cow, it is important to maintain the longevity of the herd"*

### 6. Attention points when implementing measures

**Increase feed efficiency.**  
It is difficult to express the expected effect financially

**Renewable energy production (RES) at farm.**  
The solar panels service life.



# Farm plan for simulation of mitigation measures

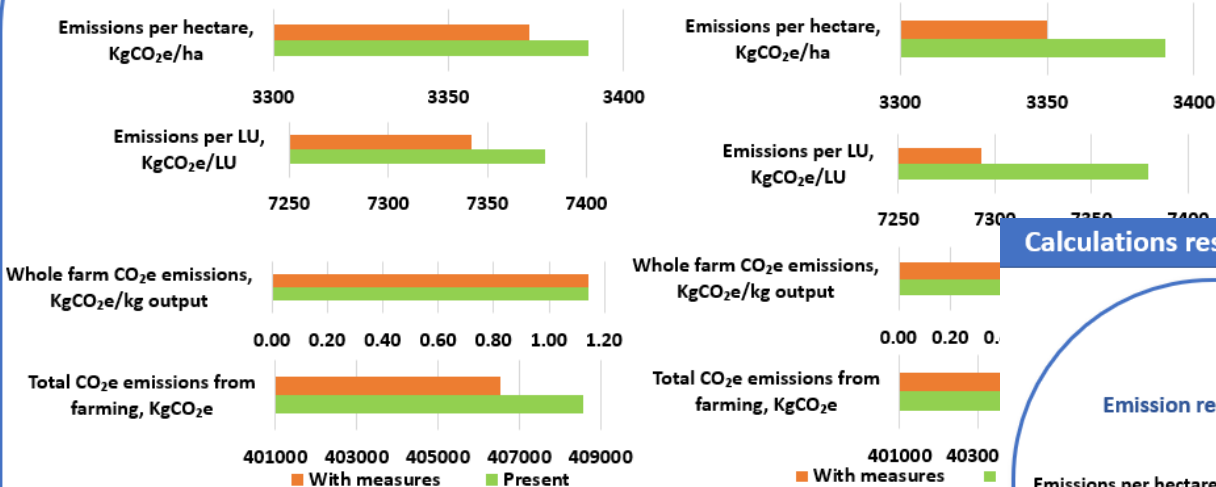
Calculations results

Dairy farmer: LV\_1

8. Table: Farm LV\_1 emissions calculations results with Agrecalc tool

GHG emissions reduction with RES use

GHG emissions reduction with feed efficiency



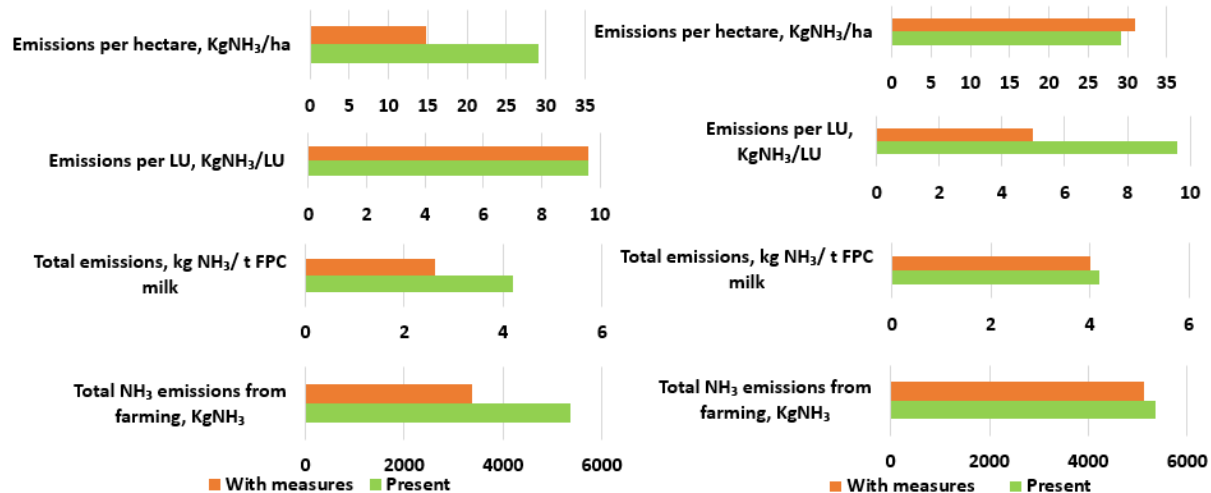
Calculations results

Dairy farmer: LV\_7

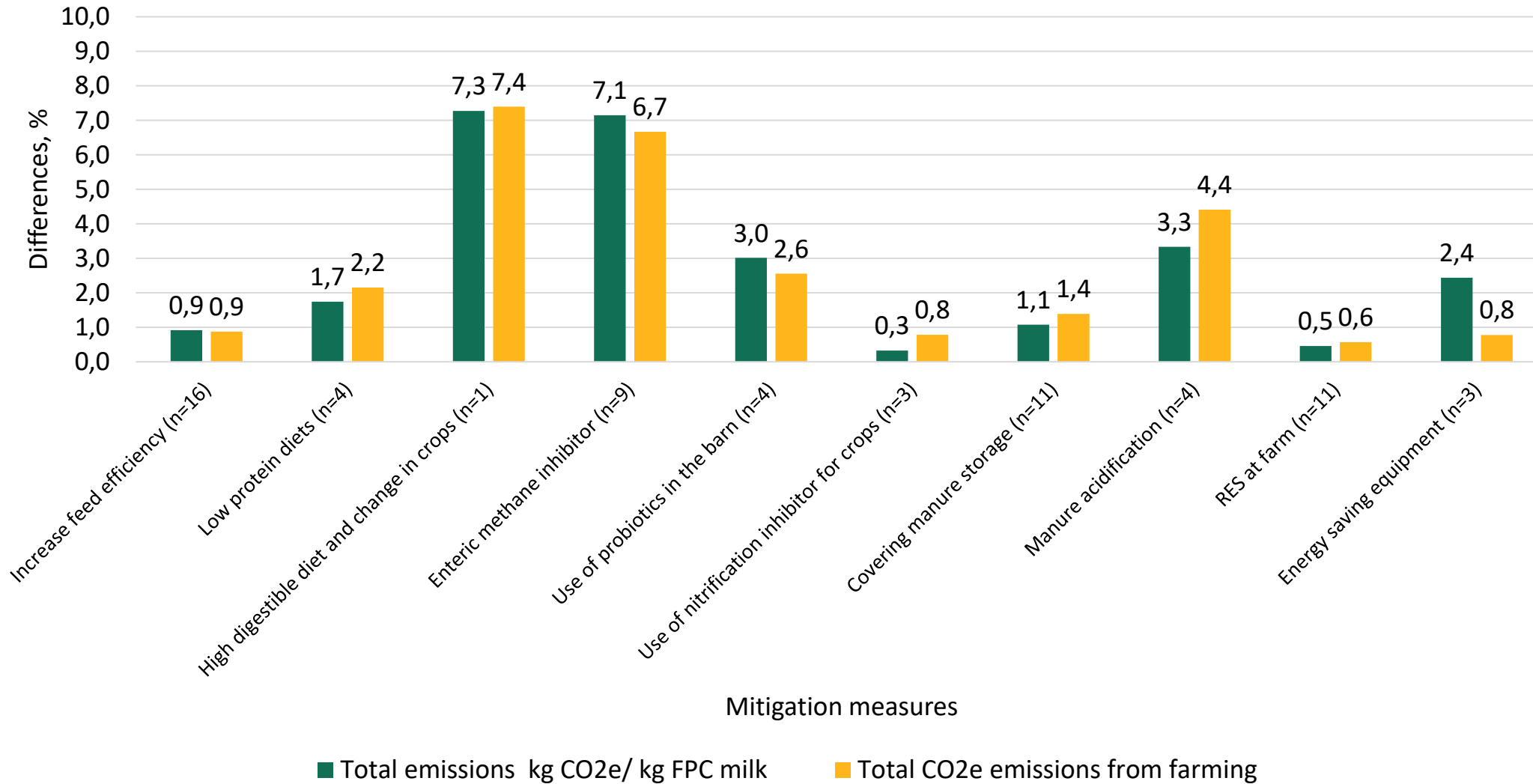
8. Table: Farm LV\_7 emissions calculations results with ANCA tool

Emission reduction with improve slurry spreading

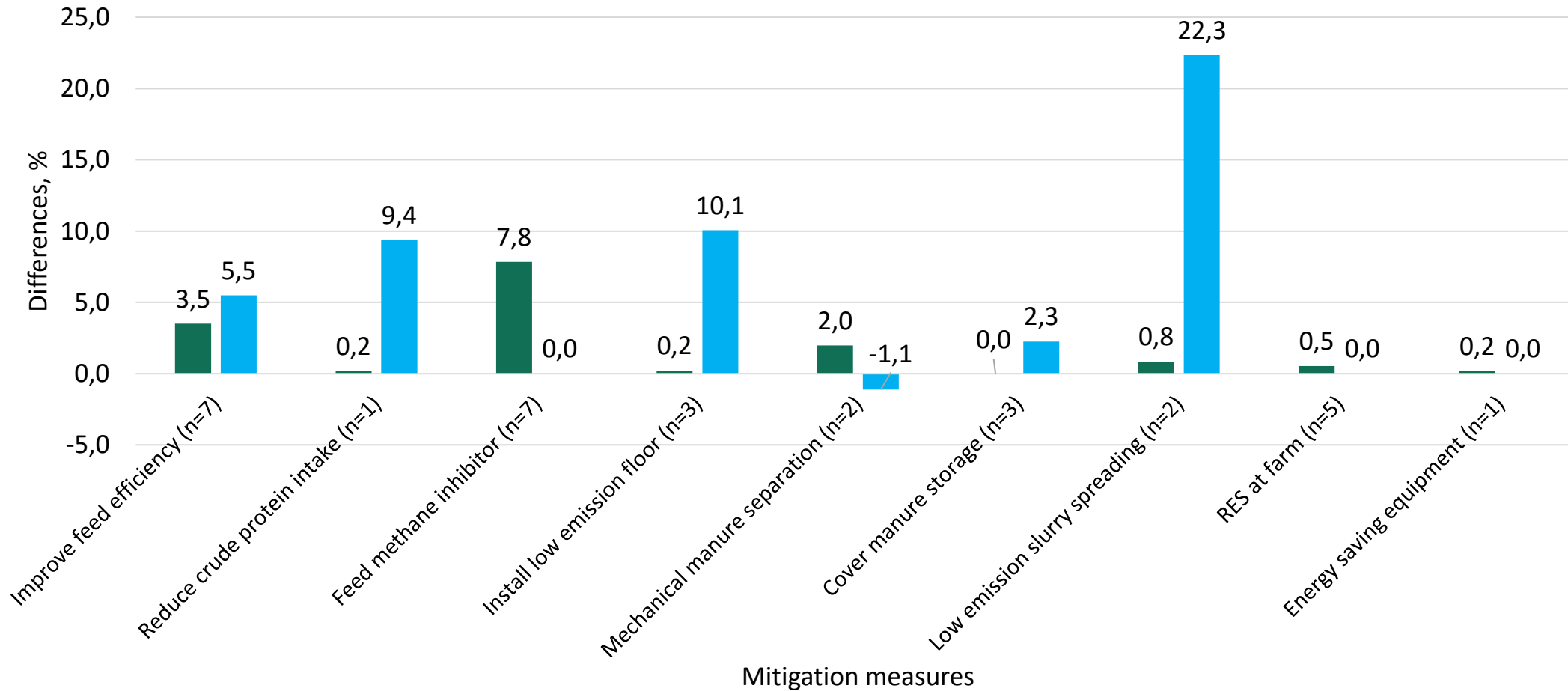
Emission reduction with low emission floor



# Simulation results Agrecalc



# Simulation results ANCA

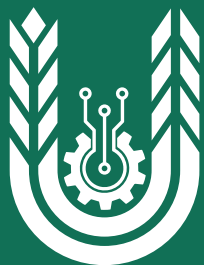


■ Sustainability entire company: total CO2 for milk production, kg CO2-eq/kg FPCM ■ Ammonia emission total per farm, kg

# Conclusions

- ◆ Farmers prefer to choose mitigation measures with possibly quick emissions decreasing results and low investments
- ◆ Mitigation effect of measures depend on farm condition before simulation
- ◆ Mitigation results depend on tools used for simulation (Agrecalc and ANCA)
- ◆ Measures related to renewable energy source (RES) and energy saving equipment did not show preferable results, because estimated part was only for self use at the farm
- ◆ Future research needs to show full possible reduction of mitigation measures by analysing implementation in the farm condition





Latvia University  
of Life Sciences  
and Technologies

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

**Acknowledgement:**

ERA-NETs SusAn, FACCE ERA-GAS & ICT AGRI 2018 Joint Call  
project "Climate Care Cattle Farming Systems", ID: 3274

*For more information: [www.CCCfarming.eu](http://www.CCCfarming.eu)*

