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Climate-neutral policy in the dairy sector expectations and current situation an example of Latvia

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ADSA / EAAP / CCCfarming seminar – Climate care dairy farming Session 48, 07.09.2022, Porto





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The Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)









providing affordable, safe and high-quality food

ensuring a fair standard of living for farmers

preserving natural resources and respecting the environment



Structure of dairy farms, by average cows number in farm (years 2000 and 2021, under milk recording)



Year 2000, 4% of total dairy cows

Year 2021, 86% of total dairy cows





MACC by farming category



Mixing farm systems (dairy and crops) cubicl housing



Biological farm systems



Mixing farm systems (dairy and crops) grazing



Hous holding farming





MACC for agricultural climate policy



















CCC farming project farm milk yield in 2021 (under milk recording)





Milk yield in the project farms

Agricultural data centre, Latvia (2021)





The negative environmental effects of farming are often Climate change impacts are already noticeable (%) overestimated by the public (%)



An individual farmer cannot do anything to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (%)

12



Farmers have the obligation to contribute to environmental protection as much as possible (%)



Sustainable farming practices can create business opportunities (%)



12 50

26



I am willing to take environmental protection measures on my

farm even if it is at the expense of revenues (%)

Strongly agree Agree Unsure Disagree Strongly disagree



The presumption that will change farm structure



Increasing educational programs on sustainable farming practices (%)

Increased regulatory requirements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from my farm (%)

Increased availability of subsidies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from my farm (%)

Increased requirements from my buyers or milk processing company to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from my farm (%)

Increased expectations from the general public on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from my farm (%)



Very likely Fairly likely Not likely at all



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Changes made in farms to reduce GHG emissions



management grazing improved feed modernizing barn management What changes have you made in the past on your farm to reduce GHG manure emissions or incorporation increase carbon sequestration? manure storage improved

- Reduction of nitrogen emissions
- Work optimization
- Improve quality of manure (microbial additives)
- Cost reduction / income increase
- Reduce odours
- Animal welfare
- Legal requirements



Future activities to reduce farm's GHG emissions

- Fertiliser and manure application and soil management
 - Livestock housing and manure storage
 - Animal health
 - Machinery and fuel use
 - Technology and automation
 - Other aspects of crop cultivation (e.g. rotation, cover crops, varieties)
 - Animal feeding
 - Other aspects of grassland and grazing management (e.g. reseeding, cutting regime)
 - Irrigation and/or drainage
 - Animal breeding
 - Business management (contracts and labour)

	100		
	100		
	88		
	88		
	88		
	63		
	62		
	50		
	50		
	38		
	12		

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Farm practices

Capture the methane from the manure store and burn or purify it... Cool the manure store Acidify the manure Provide lower crude protein content feed Provide higher fat content feed Dilute the manure Separate faeces from urine Compost the manure Add feed additives to ration Increase fertilisation efficiency Increase milk production per cow Increase soil organic matter Increase roughage production per ha Use grass clover mix in pastures Increase longevity of stock 10 0



I haven't heard about this practice





 Latvia has incorporated many climate-friendly practices into its CAP strategy, which ensure the achievement of climate goals

Conclusions

- The effect of the measures largely depends on external factors, which makes it necessary to select more and more new measures
- Indicative calculations show that the introduction of CAP will mostly not lead to a decrease in farmers' incomes
- Creation of a national knowledge management strategy in the bioeconomy

