



CSPs and Precision Farming overview of interventions

CDG ON THE CAP STRATEGIC PLANS AND HORIZONTAL
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Outline

The objective of this presentation is to provide an overview of the interventions planned and the support provided in the CAP Strategic Plans (CSP) 2023-2027, **as adopted**, relevant to PF techniques.

The recent amendments/proposals for amendment have **not** been taken into consideration

Technology and Innovation within CAP

- The objective for the EU is to remain at the forefront in all areas of technology and innovation linked to the agri-food sector;
- There is role of technology to increase sustainability and adaptation against climate change;
- Agriculture should not lag behind

Contribution of Precision Farming to CAP Objectives

- Precision Farming is a combination of technologies and practices directly contributing to the **cross-cutting objective** of modernising agriculture;
- Can contribute to the **SO4, climate change mitigation and adaptation**; **SO5** to foster sustainable development and efficient management of **natural resources**; and **SO6**, to halt and reverse **biodiversity loss**;
- PF contributes to **economic sustainability and competitiveness**, mainly **SO2**

Why is Precision Farming supported?

The PF practices and technologies can:

- Improve farming activities to achieve higher yields;
- Support the efficient and sustainable use of PPPs, fertilisers and water;
- Reduce the impact agriculture makes on the environment;
- Ensure the preservation of soil fertility and biodiversity

EU farmers should be supported **during transition to sustainable way of production;**

How is Precision Farming supported through the CAP?

- Support can be mostly provided in the form of **eco-schemes, agri-environment-climate commitments and investments** for practices going beyond the environmental protection and conditionalities;
- Examples in CSPs of voluntary support can be found in fertilisers use, (decision support systems or systematic soil analyses); pesticides (adoption of integrated pest management practices); or sustainable use of water (use of soil sensors and advice based on existing data).

Precision Farming within CSPs - 1

- The Commission has encouraged Member States to promote and support PF practices through the CSPs;
- Almost all the Member States decided to promote PF via **investments**, making the relevant technology known and available to a higher number of farmers;
- MSs remained reluctant in further promoting PF **via area-based related interventions**;

Precision Farming within CSPs - 2

The PF has not yet demonstrated its full potential:

- The technology used is still expensive;
- The farmers don't have yet the skills and knowledge needed;
- Some Member States designed more classic and traditional interventions, where their uptake was deemed secured;
- Some other decided to promote a more sustainable use of pesticides, fertilisers and water via other practices.

Eco-schemes

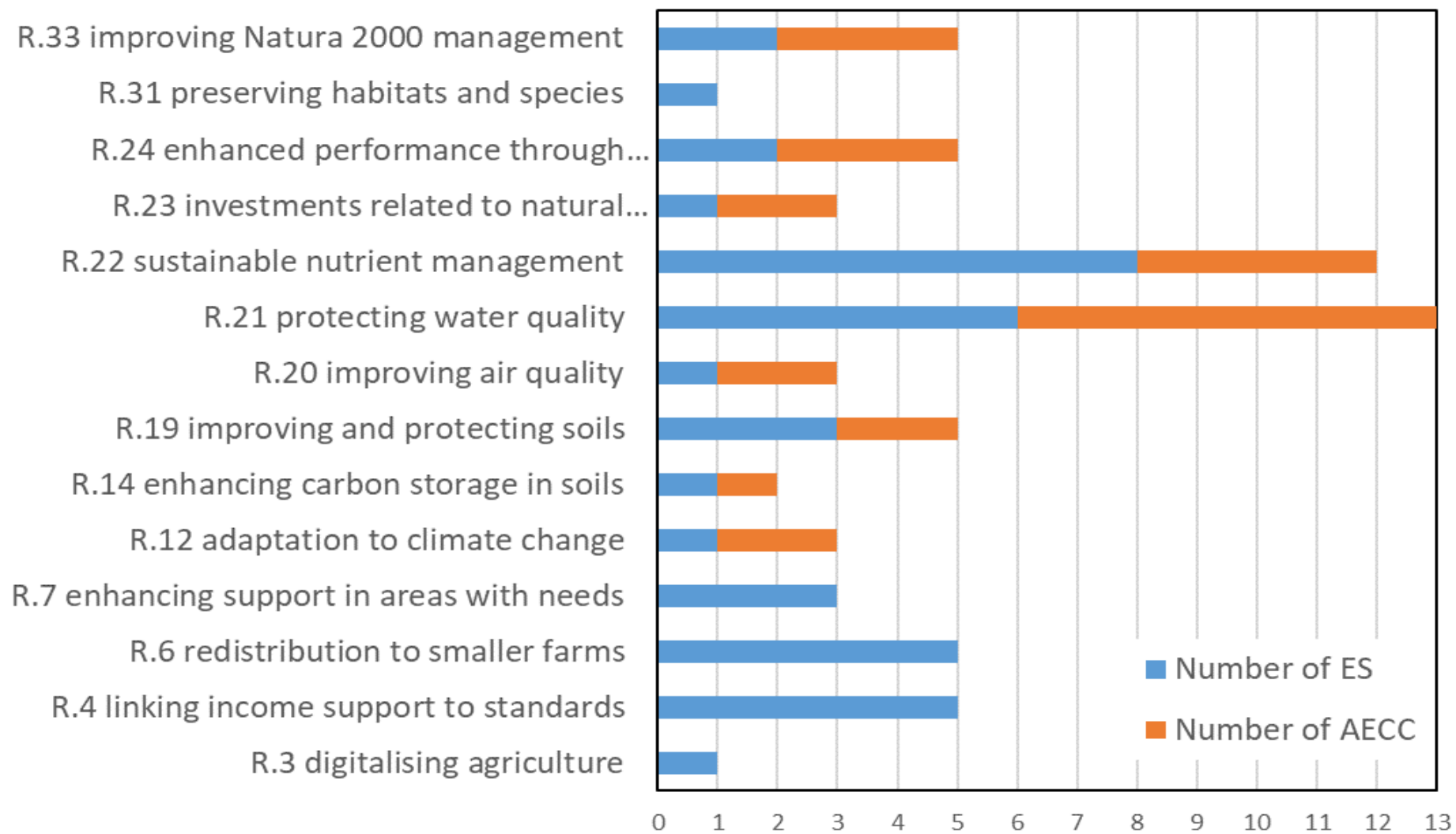
- The CSP of BE-Flanders promotes the use of PF through two tailored eco-schemes, precision agriculture 1.0 and 2.0;
- CZ, GR and SE have eco-schemes dedicated exclusively to PF;
- The unique IE eco-scheme contains a PF-specific practice, amongst several environmental-friendly actions;
- LV has designed two actions supporting the PF under an eco-scheme focusing on the reduction of nitrogen and ammonia emissions and pollution;
- DK have designed a PF specific sub-intervention under an ES.

AECC

- Seven CSPs have AECC interventions supporting PF;
- DE, ES, PT and SI have designed umbrella interventions to deal with specific problems, like improving water quality and quantity, promoting the use of sustainable crops and optimising nutrient management, including PF-specific practices;
- IT, on the contrary, has designed a sole PF-specific intervention.

Number of ES and AECCs linked with the different result indicators.

Note: Investments linked with precision farming are not included



Investments

- All CSP include **on-farm investments** that contribute to climate and environment or animal welfare goals, like climate adaptation and mitigation, precision agriculture and water management;
- Investments related to technology, digitisation and innovation address the need **for modernisation and digital transition of farms to reduce production costs and achieve greater environmental and animal welfare benefits;**
- Investments in equipment, machinery and technologies can be supported and complement support for PF practices;

Investments

- A strong correlation with R.3, **digitalising agriculture**, is shown, since 22 out of the 28 CSPs link PF to R.3;
- R.26 (Investments related to **natural resources**: Share of farms benefitting from CAP productive and non-productive investment support related to care for the natural resources) is also commonly used for investment interventions linked to PF;
- Followed by R.16 (**Investments related to climate**: Share of farms benefitting from CAP investment support contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and to the production of renewable energy or biomaterials).

Further promoting Precision Farming I

- The PF adoption rates will depend on the actual support;
- The market price for synthetic fertilisers is also essential;
- The PF will gain more and more attention, pending concrete positive on-field results, applicable research results and knowledge transfer;
- Simplicity and usability of the technology will help;
- Incentives for collective investments.

Way forward

- The investments are deemed necessary to make the new PF-specific technologies available.
- A successful combination of complementing **investments** and area-based **interventions**, together with cooperation and **knowledge exchange and dissemination of information, including advisory services** may lead farmers adopting innovative production methods and boost the use of PF.

Thank you