



## Public goods in the Czech Republic: a case study on mixed farming

Public Goods and Public Intervention in Agriculture
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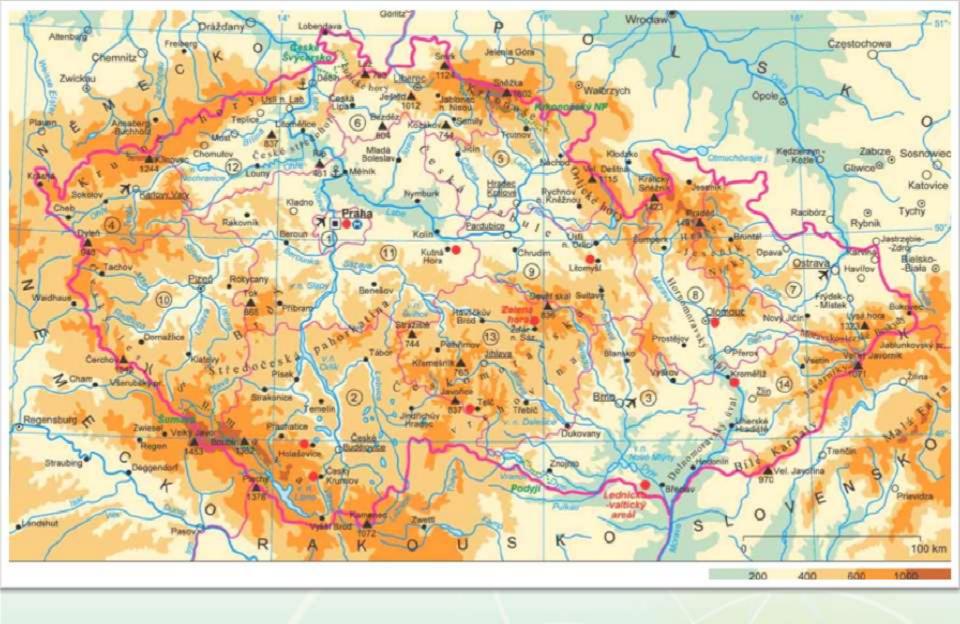




### The national context and the case study area

- Large mixed farms (72% of land in farms >500 ha), fields and machinery, low animal density (lack of management)
- Arable intensive (medium inputs), 50% in productive areas, 
   field boundaries, extensive grasslands
- Case study area: less grassland, both intensivespecialized and mixed farms. Most characteristics are the same.





















### Public goods on agricultural land in the Czech Republic - trends

- Biodiversity: decline without farming, provision beyond good practice, relatively stable (birds)
- Climate and air (C sequestration, emissions of GHGs)
- Water quality (improvement, under-provision)
- Soil functionality (improvement, under-provision)
- Landscape (landscape features lost in the past, appearance, openness, stable/improvement).







### **Public goods in the Czech Republic** - provision Biodiversity on mixed productive farms I

- General: decline without farming, Agri-environmental measure (AEM) provision, slow decline of birds
- Species richness (provided/under-provided):
  - Habitats: lost in past (drainage, intensive farming), now maintained extensively – provided (AEM-pastures/meadows)
  - Loss of food in winter: winter crops on large fields and rapid harvesting/ploughing – partially provided (by AEM)
  - Fallow not used, too unified habitats (frequent, partially provided)
  - Valuable habitats management, late cut, no nutrients, low density of animals, cut from centre (under AEM, Natura 2000 payments)







### Public goods in the Czech Republic Biodiversity on mixed productive farms II

- Habitats threatened by no management: not an issue on arable land, (provided on grass by AEM).
- Decline due to fertilisers/pesticides use: arable rather intensive; provided on grassland and permanents crops by organic/integrated farming (AEM)







## Public goods on agricultural land in the Czech Republic - level of provision I

- Climate air: usual emissions reduced due to extensive production (methane, less fertilizers), AEM and afforestation support (sequestration)
- Landscape (landscape features lost, maintained *Cross Compliance*): CZ population valued at 134,800 EUR the landscape management provided by farmers (2009).
- Animal welfare: the normal practice ensures key animal requirements.







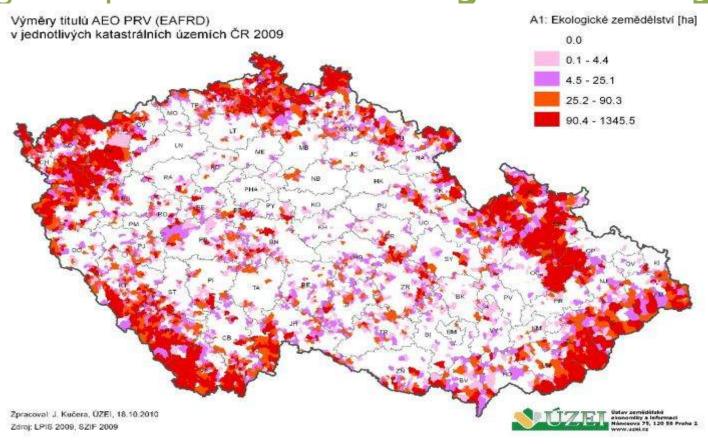
### Public goods on agricultural land in the Czech Republic - level of provision II

- Soil water erosion: only partly prevented (conversion of arable land to grassland, cover crops – AEM, afforestation, Cross-Compliance)
- Water: on grass provided (low inputs), on arable nutrients/pesticides (not high); soil erosion, storage facilities: improved, (conversion of arable land, cover crops - AEM).





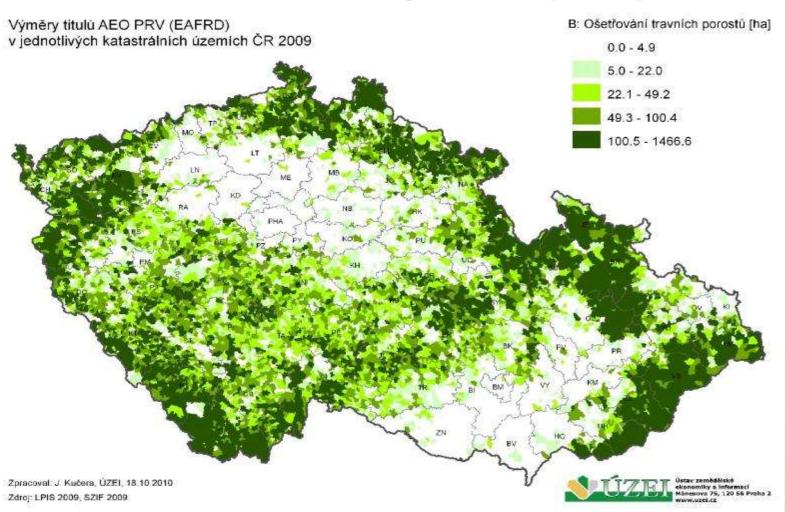
### Geographical distribution of supported public goods provision: **AEM – organic farming**







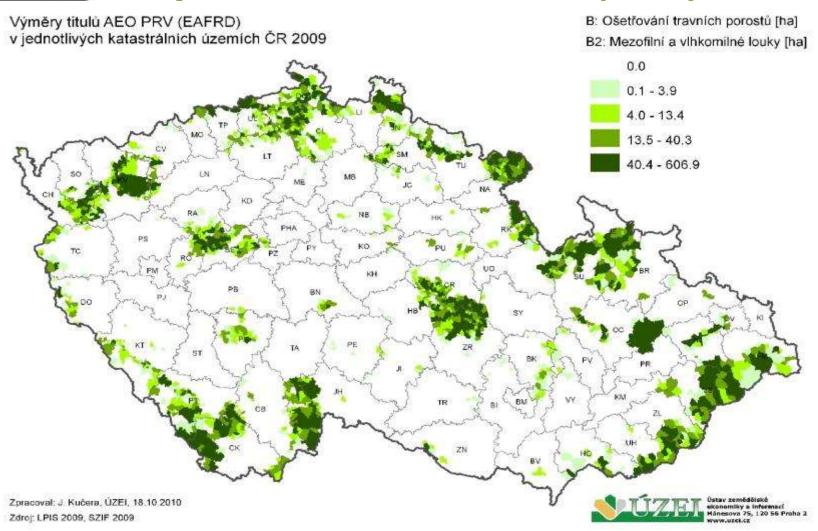
#### **Grassland management (AEM)**







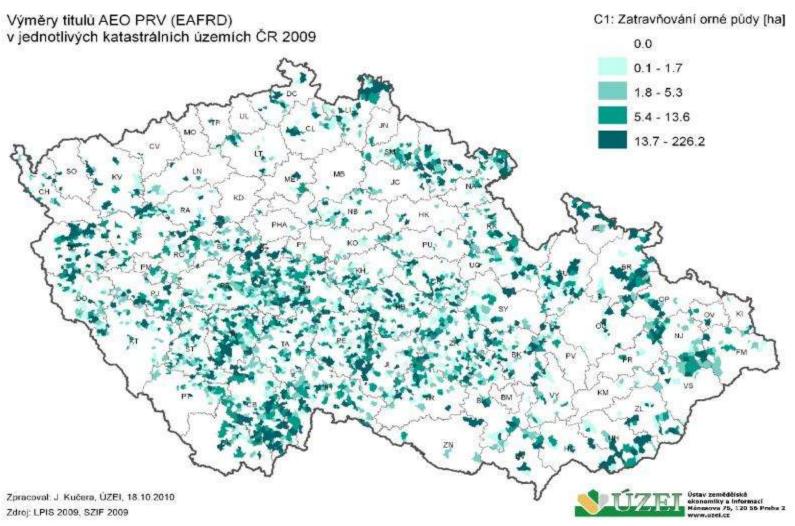
#### Mezophile and wet meadows (AEM)







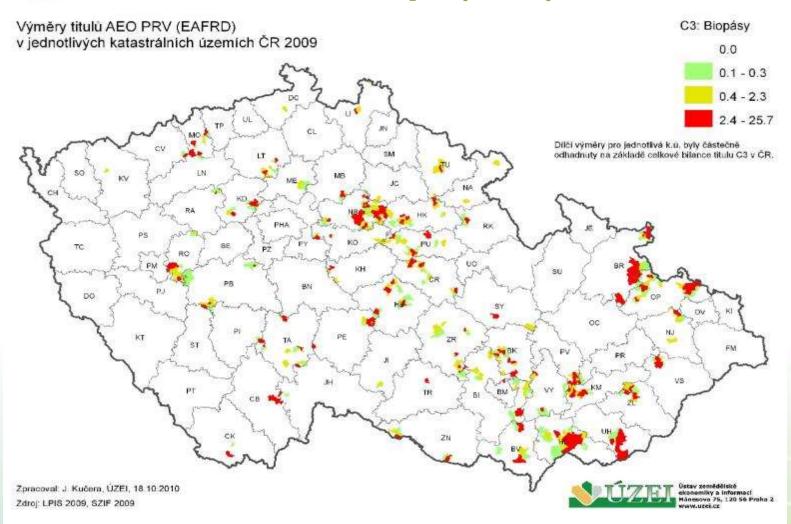
### nversion of arable land to grassland





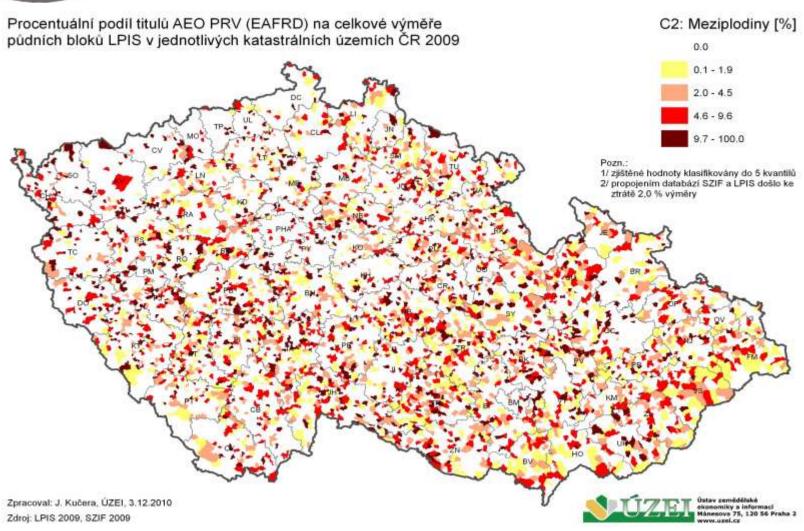


#### **Fodder strips (AEM)**





# Cover crops – (AEM) European Network for Rural Development







### To conclude:

- Under-provision of PG on arable land is more likely than on grassland.
- Farmers with intensive farm are not open to apply for AEM.
- Still some schemes are rather successful: conversion of arable land to grassland, cover crops, fodder strips, organic farming.
- It is possible to povide PG on mixed/arable farms.







#### To conclude - Policies

- Agri-environmental measure: needs improved targeting and communication to farmers, advice to farmers, scintific ground for management.
- Afforestation: limited area, locally important.
- Natura 2000 areas: small area and uptake.
- Land reclamation process: slow, supporting erosion prevention measures.

