Agriculture in The Netherlands

Nuffield CSC, Zeewolde

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RaboResearch Food & Agribusiness
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What is your image of agriculture in The Netherlands?

**Dutch cow poo overload causes an environmental stink**

Dairy farms in the Netherlands are producing so much dung they can’t get rid of it safely. Now the WWF is calling for a 40% cut in herd numbers to protect the environment.
Dutch agricultural export record in 2017

Exports of agricultural goods
2017 (raming)

Source: CBS tot en met okt. 2017, raming nov. en dec. 2017 door WUR en CBS.
Using less CPCs and fertilisers and...

Source: WER, Nefyto, IFA, Rabobank 2018
..reducing the use of antibiotics.

Source: FIDIN, CBS, European Commission, Rabobank 2018
New climate targets will have an impact on future farming systems

Emissions in CO₂ equivalent compared to base reference in 1990

- Total NL
- NL Agriculture
- Dairy
- Rutte III/Paris (49%)
- Kyoto (20%)

Source: LEI, Emissieregistratie, Rabobank 2018
Succession is a challenge

Number of farms is declined with nearly 44% between 2000 and 2017: size and sector does matter!

Source: CBS, Rabobank 2018
Arable Farming in the Netherlands

Source: Rabobank 2018
### Arable farming in a land scarce country

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Farm Size (ha)</th>
<th>Value/ha</th>
<th>Fertiliser use/ha</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US: land abundant</td>
<td>1,076</td>
<td>1,654</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands: land scarce</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>5,968</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: IFA, USDA, CBS Rabobank 2018
Challenge 1: how can we maintain soil health?

Source: Rabobank 2018
Challenge 2: making sure future generations have access to arable land

*Arable land in the Netherlands is expensive (€/ha)*

Source: Rabobank 2018
Livestock in the Netherlands

Livestock is concentrated in the South and the East

Distribution of Livestock in Animal Units (GVE’s)

Source: CBS, Rabobank 2018
The Netherlands: Land of Dairy

Since 2014 milk production increased with 1.9 million tonnes to 14.3 million tonnes

Average farm size remains relatively small

Source: ZuivelNL

Source: National Statistics, Rabobank
Dutch dairy as premium product

Chinese shops selling Dutch dairy products
The reality at the moment is slightly different

33,695 tonnes of Dutch SMP in EU intervention stocks (Jan 2018). Which is the equivalent of 367,000,000 liquid milk equivalents.

Majority of the access milk is used for bulk products (2014-2016).

Source: ZMB, EU Milk Market Observatory, Rabobank 2018
Cost prices increased, while milk prices became more volatile

Break-Even-Point II in the last 4 years
in Ct/kg ECM, mean, long-term farms with 4-year participation in a row

Source: ZuivelNL, EDF
Dutch Dairy and Minerals: phosphate

Phosphate reduction plan & phosphate production rights

- Phosphate reduction plan = 2017
- Phosphate production > 1\textsuperscript{st} of January 2018
- Reference date: 2\textsuperscript{nd} of July 2015

Phosphate reduction plan

- Reduce the amount of phosphate in cattle feed (1.7 million kilograms)
- Offer pre-financing solutions ‘stoppersregeling’ to farmers who want to quit in 2018 (2.5 million kilograms)
- GVE-reduction’ or ‘Fosfaatreductieplan ZuivelNL’ (4.0 million kilograms).

Source: RVO, Boerderij.nl
Farming in the Netherlands is challenging

With (capital) intensive farming systems and strict regulation

However, challenges also accelerate innovations!
Thank you for your attention
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