



Targeted extensification of intensively farmed land in Natura 2000

Paris, Ministère de l'Agriculture
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Why?

The measure (AECM) focusses on habitat nature types called grasslands, alkaline fens and springs, which are **particularly endangered** by adjacent intensive farming practices due to;

- small areas with significant direct (nutrients, cultivated plants) and indirect (climate ao.) border influence,
- critical mass, few seeds/insects/animals (lack of exchange between habitats),
- maintenance by grazing or/and hay production

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Ministry of Environment
and Food of Denmark
The Danish Agrifish Agency



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Content

In Denmark The Agency for Water and Nature Management (AWNM) will appoint about 7000 ha of land, where this voluntary measure would be recommended to the farmer.

Applications have to cover at least 10 ha of coherent areas close to the specific habitat nature in Nature 2000 in order to achieve significant effects. In some cases several farmers have to cooperate in order to reach a total area of at least 10 ha.

When the application is approved the farmer(s) have to register an easement saying that the area is permanently no longer intensive farmland.

Extensification does not include a demand for future farming practice.

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Compensation method

Today two different models for compensation can be utilised, the traditional support for 20 years or a one-off payment.

The advantage in the latter can be, that the farmer can afford to buy new land to quickly replace the land no longer in production and thereby maintain the current production level.

As one-off compensation is new to MS and to the EU-Commission some uncertainties have lead to a need for clarification. We now know that:

- the control and sanction systems have to be maintained at the same level throughout the whole commitment period (20 years)
- the compensation have to be calculated as an updated value (granting the same amount as is paid in 20 years would be overcompensation).

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Thank you for listening!

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