

# EUROPEAN SEMINAR on AGRI-ENVIROMENT-CLIMATE MEASURES

## Extensive Grazing AECM on Portugal Mainland RDP 2020

### Round table 3 – Overview of innovative AECM implemented in MS

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# Extensive Grazing AECM Portugal Mainland RDP 2020

## AGENDA

Which AECM operations on extensive grazing pastures?  
Identification of the environmental issues.

Type of Commitments and level of adhesion to Extensive  
Grazing AECM

Innovative approach for AECM Extensive Grazing

# Extensive Grazing AECM Portugal Mainland RDP 2020

## Which AECM operations on extensive grazing pastures? Identification of the environmental issues.

### 1. Extensive Grazing - maintenance of High Nature Value *Lameiros*.



#### Natural and semi-natural Permanent Grassland

- North and Center Mainland
- Plots non-irrigated or irrigated w/ traditional gravity irrigation systems
- HNV characteristics (low intensity farming systems, semi natural vegetation, valuable landscape mosaic)

#### Environmental Values and risks

Soil (avoid under or overgrazing, increase organic matter)

High Floristic richness

Biodiversity (link w/ Low intensity use of machinery, fertilizers and low LU)

Prevention against Fires (irrigated plots, mosaic pattern)

Lowering the risk of land abandonment or intensification

Promote Carbon sequestration

Regulation of water cycle

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# Extensive Grazing AECM Portugal Mainland RDP 2020

## Type of Commitments, Level of adhesion to Extensive Grazing AECM

### 1. Extensive Grazing - maintenance of High Nature Value *Lameiros*.

#### Type of commitments

- Stocking density 0,2 - 2 LU/ha – avoid over or undergrazing
- Cattle, sheep, goats (usually indigenous endangered breeds)
- No tillage except for pasture restoration (authorization of regional MAFDR departments on plots w/ low slope, following the contour lines).
- No haymaking on non-irrigated plots
- Traditional irrigation and drainage systems in good working condition

#### Level of Adhesion

- Non-irrigated *Lameiros* (2.106 farmers w/ 8.586 ha; 48% on area Natura 2000)
- Irrigated *Lameiros* (3.267 farmers w/ 10.333 ha; 33% on area Natura 2000)



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# Extensive Grazing AECM Portugal Mainland RDP 2020

## Which AECM operations on extensive grazing pastures? Identification of the environmental issues.

### 2. Extensive Grazing - maintenance of agro-forestry-pastoral systems in the cork oak, holmoak and Pyrenean oak



#### Montado (permanent pastures + oak trees + livestock)

- Mainland (mainly on Center and South Mainland)
- HNV characteristics (low intensity farming systems, semi natural vegetation)

#### Environmental Values and Risks

*Montado* classified as Habitat 6310 (Council Directive 92/43/EEC)

Risk of land abandonment, bad management practices including overgrazing or soil tillage, damage to tree roots and natural regeneration (Loss of Areas of *Montado*)

Soil Erosion (under grazing or overgrazing; low organic matter)

Landscape

Biodiversity (link w/ low intensity use of machinery, fertilizers and LU)

Prevention against Fires (shrubby encroachment)

Promote Carbon sequestration

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# Extensive Grazing AECM Portugal Mainland RDP 2020

## Type of Commitments, Level of adhesion to Extensive Grazing AECM

### 2. Extensive Grazing - maintenance of agro-forestry-pastoral systems in the cork oak , holmoak and Pyrenean oak



#### Type of commitments

- Stocking density 0,2 – 0,6 LU/ha – avoid over or undergrazing
- Cattle, sheep & goats, swine (usually indigenous endangered breeds)
- No annual crops
- Optional commitment Use of Brush Cutter – if control the shrubs w/ machinery, use only brush cutters (prevent the damage of oak tree roots)
- Optional commitment – restrain areas for natural regeneration oak trees (grazing not allowed)

#### Level of Adhesion

- *Montado* (1.467 farmers w/ 212.792 ha; 36% on area Natura 2000)
- Optional commitment - Use of Brush Cutter (32.973 ha)
- Optional commitment – Support Natural Regeneration (1.014 ha)

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# Extensive Grazing AECM Portugal Mainland RDP 2020

## Which AECM operations on extensive grazing pastures? Identification of the environmental issues.

### 3. Extensive Grazing – Support for Iberian Wolf Protection

- Mainland (area of occurrence of the Iberian wolf – some municipalities Northern and Central highlands of Mainland)
- Support to the maintenance of specific type of livestock guarding dogs

#### Environmental Values and Risks

- Iberian wolf protected by Council Directive 92/43/EEC and Decree Law - Conservation Status of the Iberian wolf- Endangered
- Attack to livestock has generated an increase of conflicts w/ human activities including extensive grazing farming activities (loss of wolfs and livestock) jeopardizing the survival of the Iberian wolf
- National Decree Law foresee compensations to farmers due to livestock losses if farmers have livestock guarding dogs or confined their livestock properly, subject to aid state rules.
- Using specific type of livestock guarding dogs reduces the wolf attacks to livestock and increase the protection of the Iberian wolf
- Articulation with the future Iberian wolf conservation national action plan



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# Extensive Grazing AECM Portugal Mainland RDP 2020

## Type of Commitments, Level of adhesion to Extensive Grazing AECM

### 3. Extensive Grazing – Support for Iberian Wolf Protection



#### Type of commitments

- Maintenance the minimum area of Permanent Pasture
- Stocking density 0,2 – 2 LU/ha (exception 3 LU/ha for small farms)  
– avoid under grazing or over grazing
- Cattle, sheep & goats (usually indigenous endangered breeds)
- Maintenance of the livestock guarding dog during the 5 year's commitment period, with legal obligations in terms of licensing and maintenance of good animal health

#### Level of Adhesion

- 2.751 farmers w/ 4.295 herd guard dogs; 65.300 hectares; 44% on area Natura 2000



# Extensive Grazing AECM Portugal Mainland RDP 2020

## Why is this measure innovative?

### Maintenance of High Nature Value "*Lameiros*" Permanent grassland

- More demanding commitments in minimum grazing stocking density (to avoid under grazing)
- Increase of the area where commitments can be undertaken

### Maintenance of agro-forestry-pastoral systems in the Cork oak, Holm oak and Pyrenean oak

- Extension of support to permanent grassland under Cork oak trees
- More demanding commitments in grazing stocking density (to avoid under grazing and over grazing)
- Optional commitment use of Brush Cutter (preventing the damage of oak tree roots and improving the soil structure)
- Increase of the area where commitments can be undertaken

### Support for Iberian Wolf Protection

- A new AECM sub measure complements the National Decree Law, that foresee compensations for livestock losses, with a sub measure that provide support to the maintenance Livestock Guardian Dogs, in order to reduce the conflict between the wolf and farmers, by preventing the wolf attacks to livestock.

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## Extensive Grazing AEEM on Portugal Mainland RDP 2020

Thank you for your attention !

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