



# **CAP CONTEXT INDICATORS**

## **2014-2020**

### **36. CONSERVATION STATUS OF AGRICULTURAL HABITATS (GRASSLAND)**

2017 update

## CONTEXT INDICATOR 36: CONSERVATION STATUS OF AGRICULTURAL HABITATS (GRASSLAND)

The positive role of agriculture for preserving and enhancing biodiversity is widely recognised. Many valuable habitats and the presence of different species have a direct interdependence with agriculture (e.g. many bird species nest and feed on farmland). Agriculture also benefits from biological diversity. However, the maintenance of a number of species and ecosystems that have emerged over centuries of agricultural cultivation depends on the continuation of appropriate land management practices.

**Conservation status of habitats is illustrated in three 'traffic light' categories**

This indicator covers a set of species of European interest<sup>1</sup> that are linked to agro- and grassland ecosystems. It comprises habitats which are in danger of disappearance in their natural range or have a small natural range following their regression. EU Member States have to monitor and report the conservation status of habitats of European interest. The conservation status is illustrated in three 'traffic light' categories ('favourable' - green, 'unfavourable inadequate' - amber, 'unfavourable bad' - red, plus unknown).

**More than 80% of habitats in Cyprus, Malta and Romania have been assessed as "favourable".**

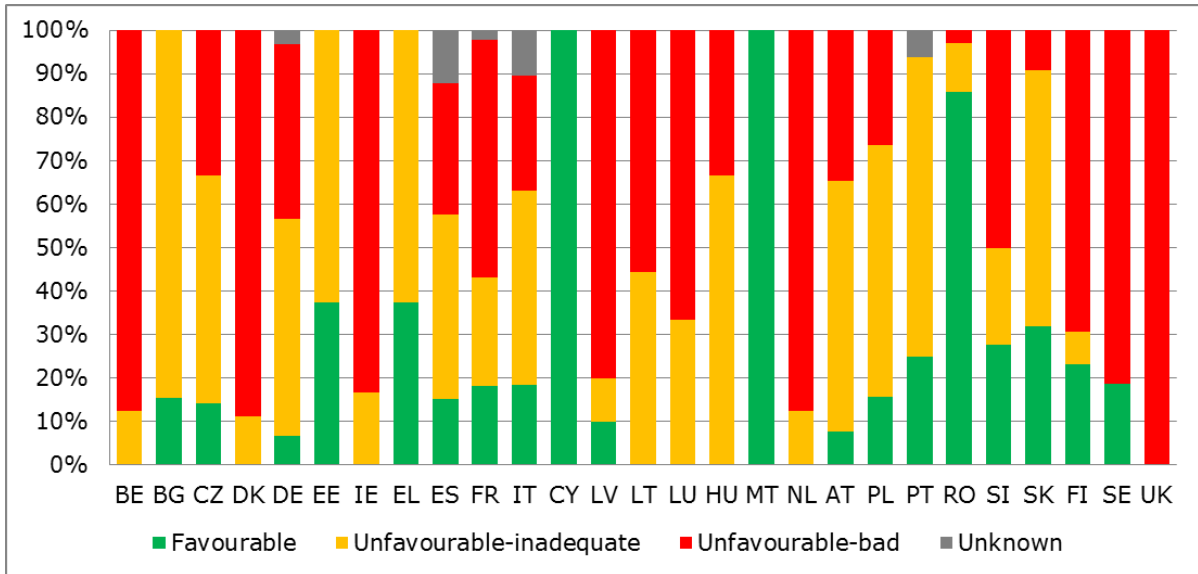
For the reporting round 2007 - 2012 of the conservation status of grasslands, more than 80% of habitats have been assessed as "favourable" in Cyprus (100%), Malta (100%) and Romania (85.7%), while more than 80% of habitats in Belgium, (87.5%), Denmark (88.9%), Ireland (83.3%), Latvia (80%), the Netherlands (87.5%), Sweden (81.3%) and the United Kingdom (100%) have been assessed as "unfavorable-bad".

A significant improvement in the conservation status of grasslands between 2000-2006 and 2007-2012 is registered in some Member States where the share of habitat assessed as "favourable" has increased: Malta (+100% points), Cyprus (+50% points), Spain (+15.2% points) and Czech Republic (+9.5% points). On the other hand, Germany (-6.6% points), Italy (-48.3% points), Latvia (-10% points) and Portugal (-18.8% points) show a decrease of the share of habitats assessed as "favourable".

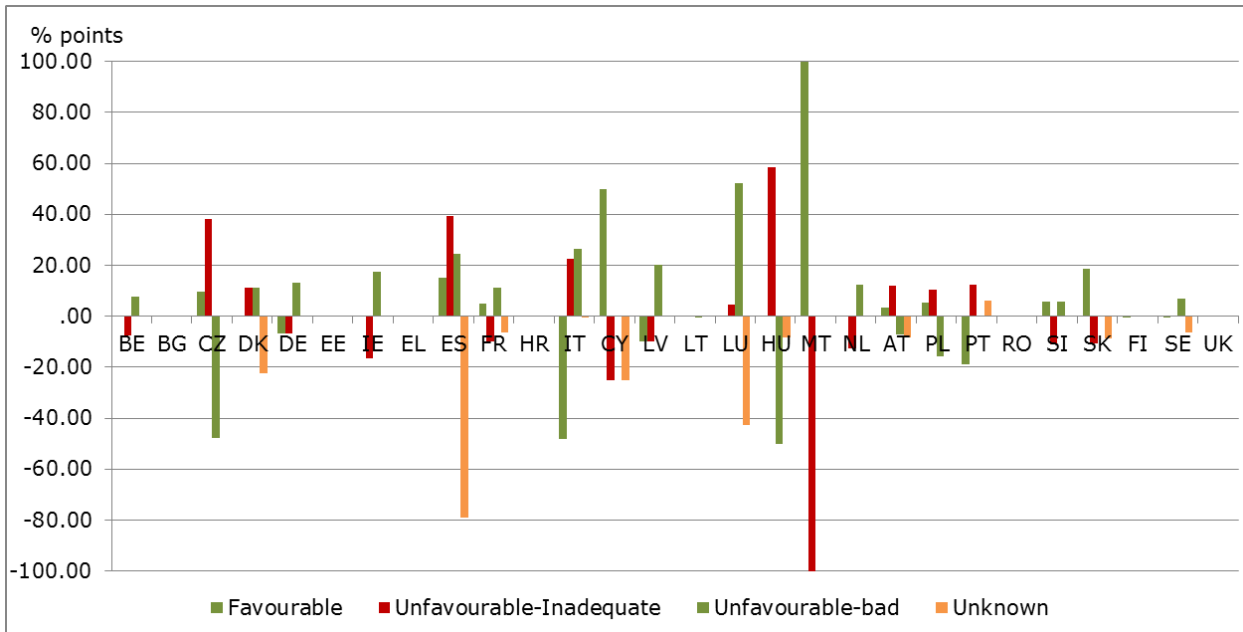
---

<sup>1</sup> Listed in Annex I of Habitats Directives grassland habitats (31 habitats) ([http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm)).

**Graph 1 – Conservation status of grasslands (% of assessments of habitats) 2007-2012**



**Graph 2 – Change in the conservation status of grasslands (% of assessments of habitats) 2000-2006 and 2007-2012 (% points)**



**Table 1 – Conservation status of agricultural habitats (grassland) 2007 - 2012**

Indicator	C.36 - Conservation status of agricultural habitats (grassland)			
	Favourable	Unfavourable-Inadequate	Unfavourable-bad	Unknown
Measurement	% of assessment of habitats			
Source	DG ENV			
Year	2007-2012			
Unit	%			
Country				
Belgium	0.0	12.5	87.5	0.0
Bulgaria	15.4	84.6	0.0	0.0
Czech Republic	14.3	52.4	33.3	0.0
Denmark	0.0	11.1	88.9	0.0
Germany	6.7	50.0	40.0	3.3
Estonia	37.5	62.5	0.0	0.0
Ireland	0.0	16.7	83.3	0.0
Greece	37.5	62.5	0.0	0.0
Spain	15.2	42.4	30.3	12.1
France	18.2	25.0	54.5	2.3
Croatia	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Italy	18.4	44.7	26.3	10.5
Cyprus	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Latvia	10.0	10.0	80.0	0.0
Lithuania	0.0	44.4	55.6	0.0
Luxembourg	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0
Hungary	0.0	66.7	33.3	0.0
Malta	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Netherlands	0.0	12.5	87.5	0.0
Austria	7.7	57.7	34.6	0.0
Poland	15.8	57.9	26.3	0.0
Portugal	25.0	68.8	0.0	6.3
Romania	85.7	11.4	2.9	0.0
Slovenia	27.8	22.2	50.0	0.0
Slovakia	31.8	59.1	9.1	0.0
Finland	23.1	7.7	69.2	0.0
Sweden	18.8	0.0	81.3	0.0
United Kingdom	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0
EU- 28	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
EU- 15	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
EU- N13	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Context indicator	36 - Conservation Status of agricultural habitats (grassland)
Comments on methodology and data	Last update done in 2015; no more recent data available.