

European beef farming systems classification

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European beef farming systems classification

Objectives:

- *define a classification of main EU Beef Farming Systems. (reference to existing typology and zonage)*
- *implement it on European data as a test and give an overview of the involvement of each BFS in the beef production and its main characteristics.*

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A classification useful to:

- *understand and deal with the diversity of farms*
- *describe the main characteristics of each system and its importance in the whole population*
- *illustrate the implication of the systems in land use and production*
- *propose representative systems to make economic analysis possible.*

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Methodology

- *Bibliography. (1st proposal of : Chatellier – Perrot (Inra-French Livestock Institute), integration of a European zonage)*
- *Definition of criteria : useful for characterization and easily available*
- *Test on database: FADN 2004 (1)*
- *First analysis : involvement in production and land use.*

(1) Included in evaluation of beef extensification payment (DG AGRI)

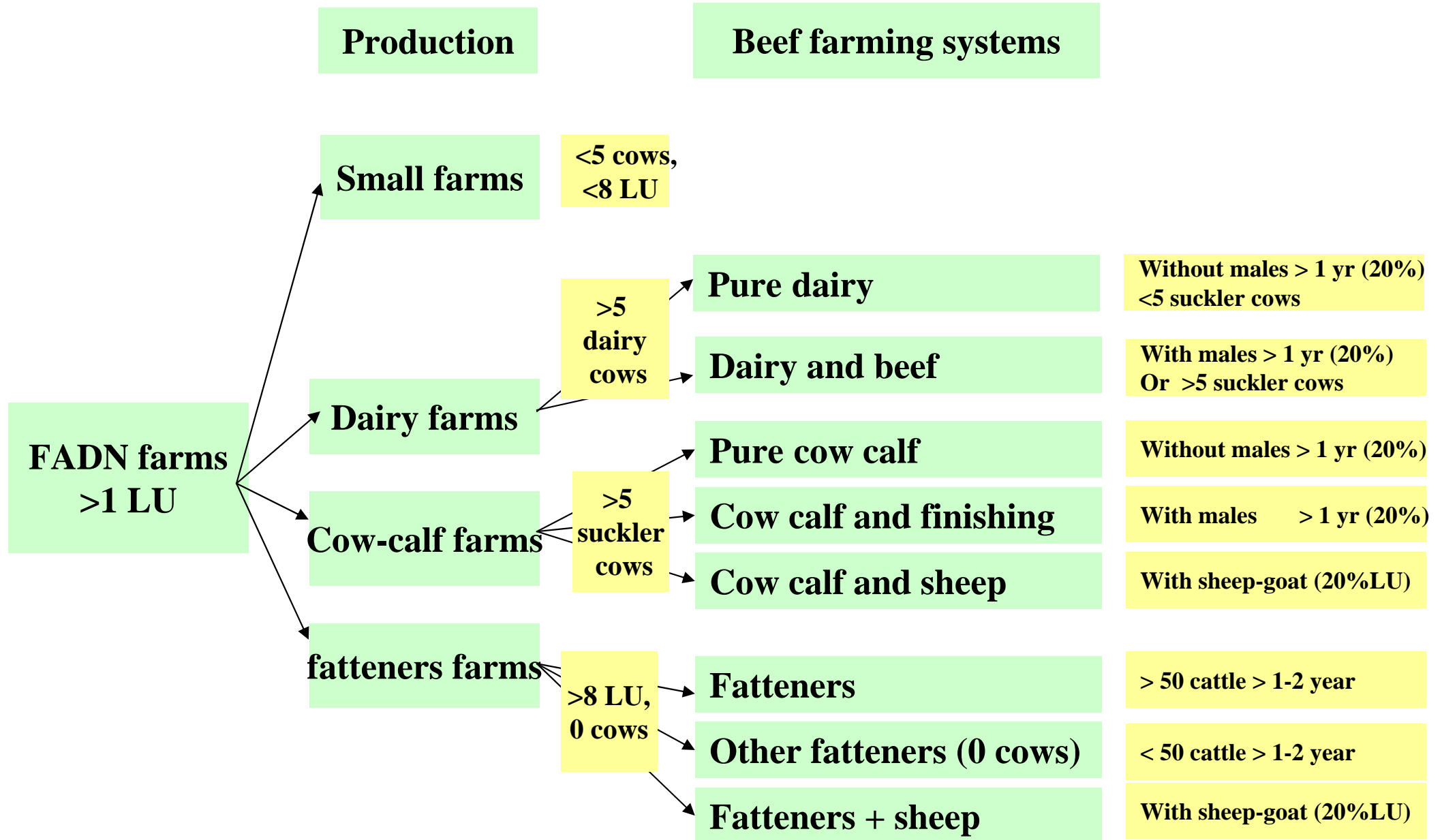
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Criteria to distinguish

- *the type of farming –degree of specialisation in beef enterprise.*
- *the type of cattle enterprise :*
 - *Dairy enterprise*
 - *Cow-calf (or suckler-cow) enterprise*
 - *Backgrounding (or store cattle) enterprise*
 - *Finishing (or fattening) enterprise*
- *the location of each system, relevant to the agronomic potential of the area.*
- + *Other criteria available to describe farming systems and their management*

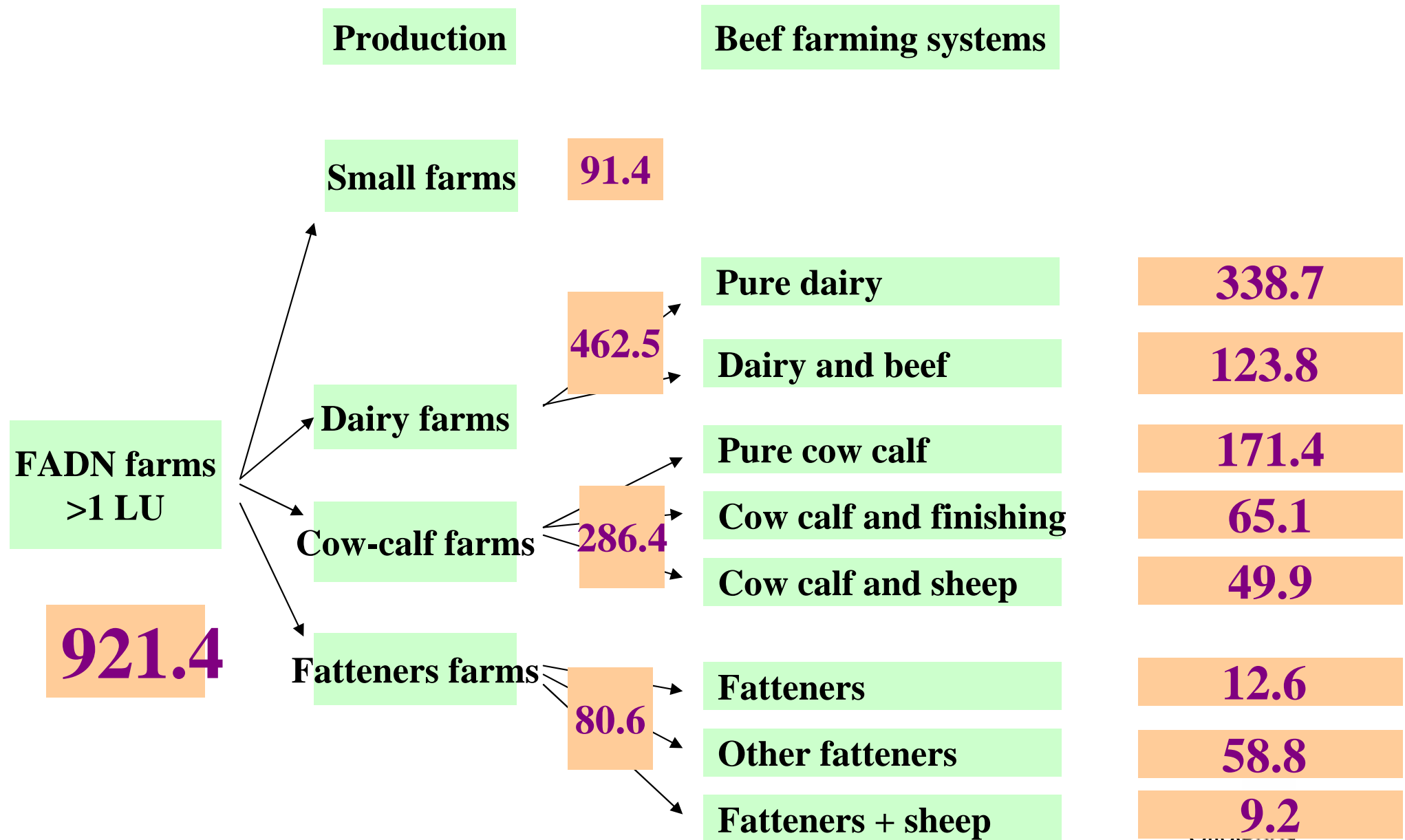
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Classification tree



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Extrapolation EU-25 (in .000 farms)



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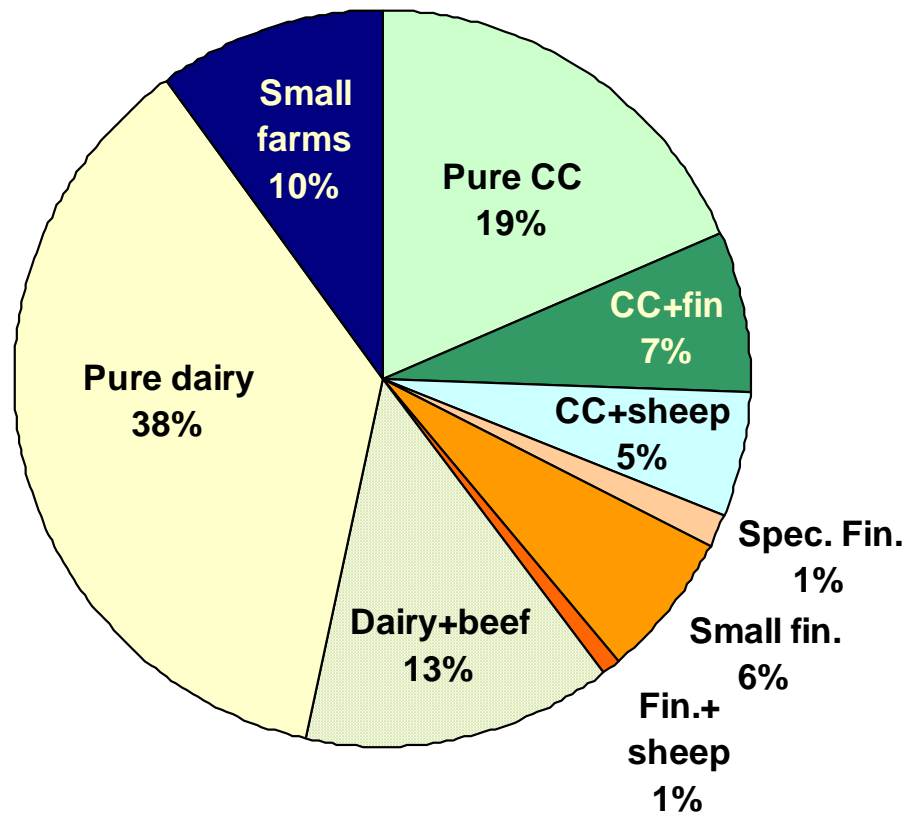
Test on general figures

Beef farming systems	% beef returns	Livestock Unit (LU)	Acreage (ha)	Labour unit
Pure dairy	9%	66.7	56.9	1.9
Dairy and beef	21%	93.6	81.5	2.0
Pure cow calf	53%	47.4	69.7	1.4
Cow calf and finishing	49%	61.4	73.3	1.5
Cow calf and sheep	34%	52.5	151.9	1.7
Fatteners	51%	127.2	94.0	2.0
Other fatteners	34%	31.6	45.9	1.4
Fatteners + sheep	22%	39.5	87.9	1.6

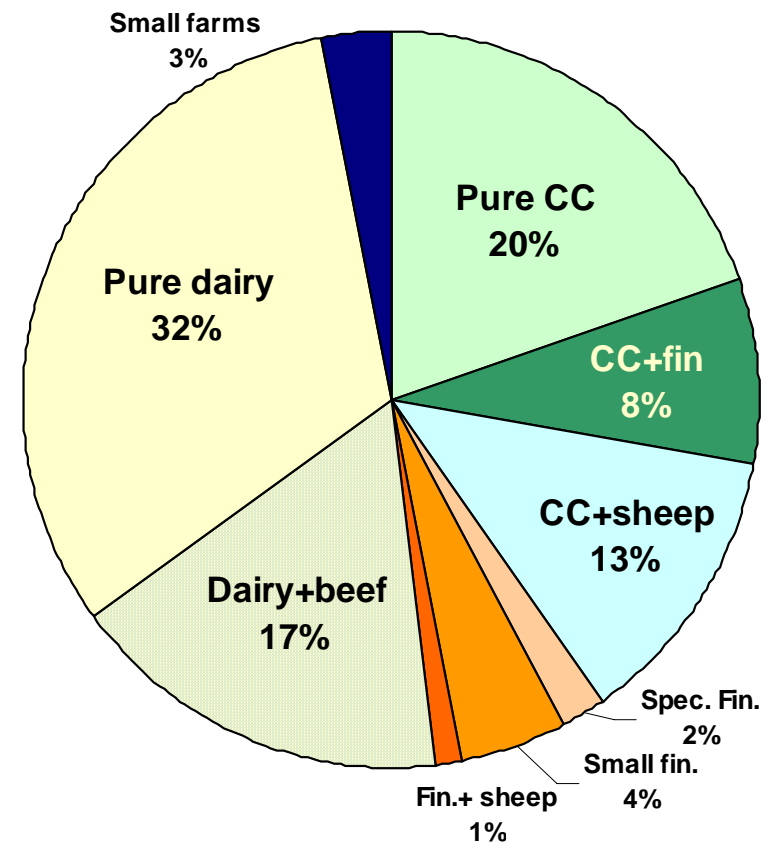
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Involvement of BFS in the land use

Farms



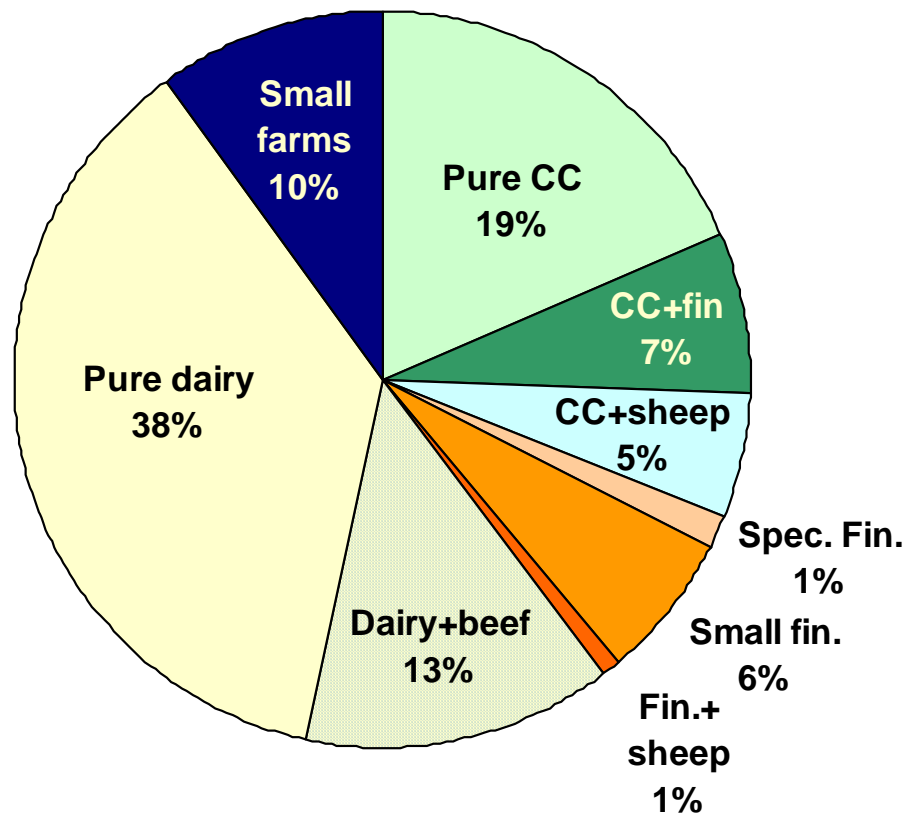
Land use



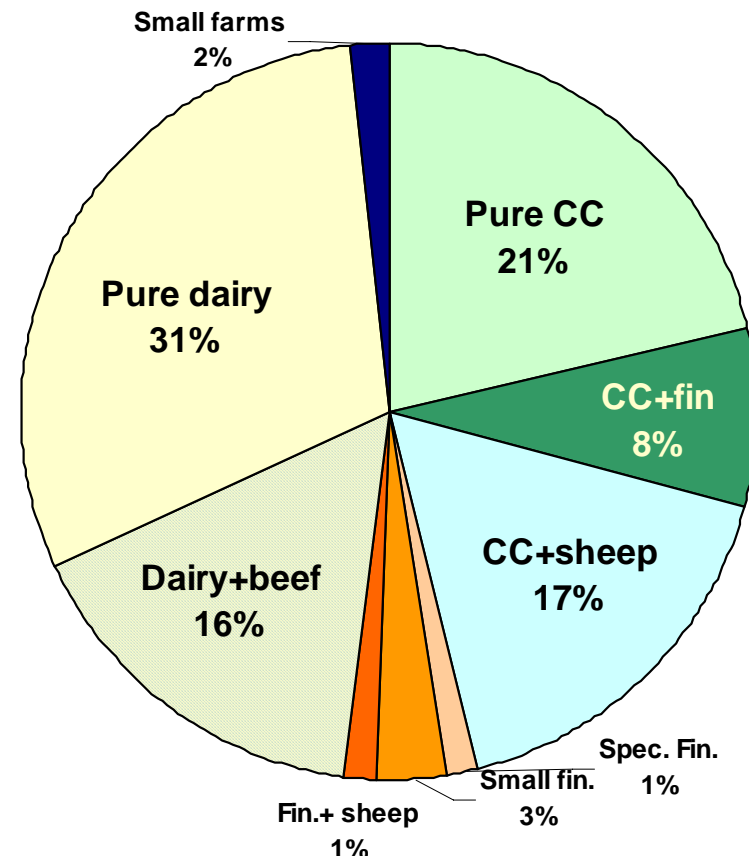
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Involvement of BFS in the grass land use

Farms



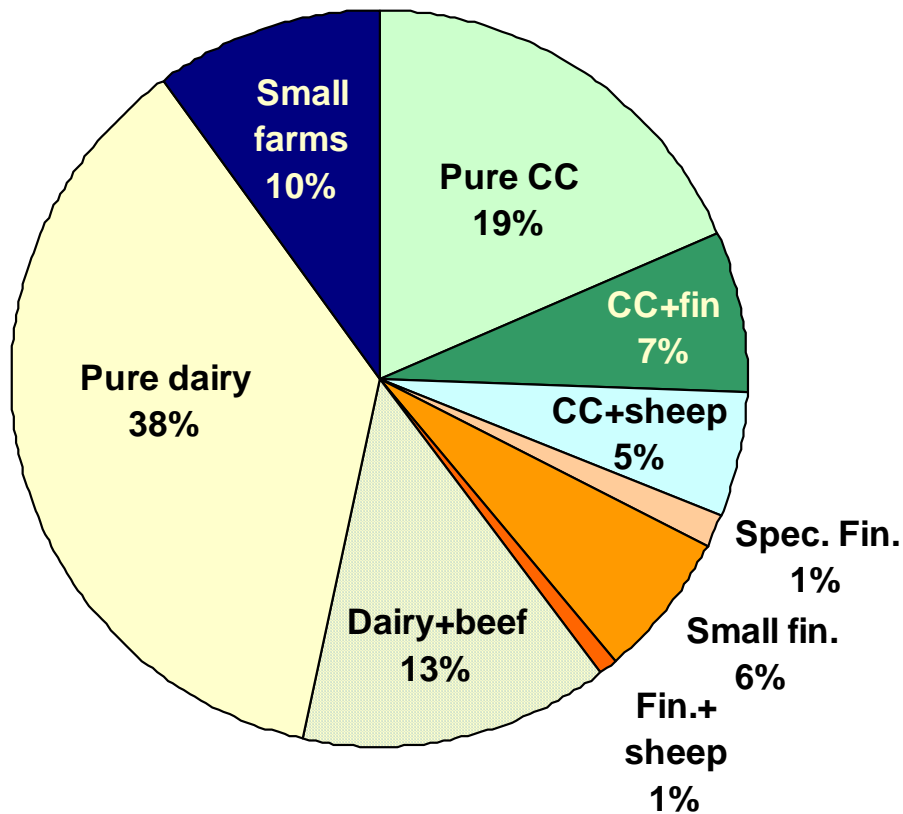
Grass Land use



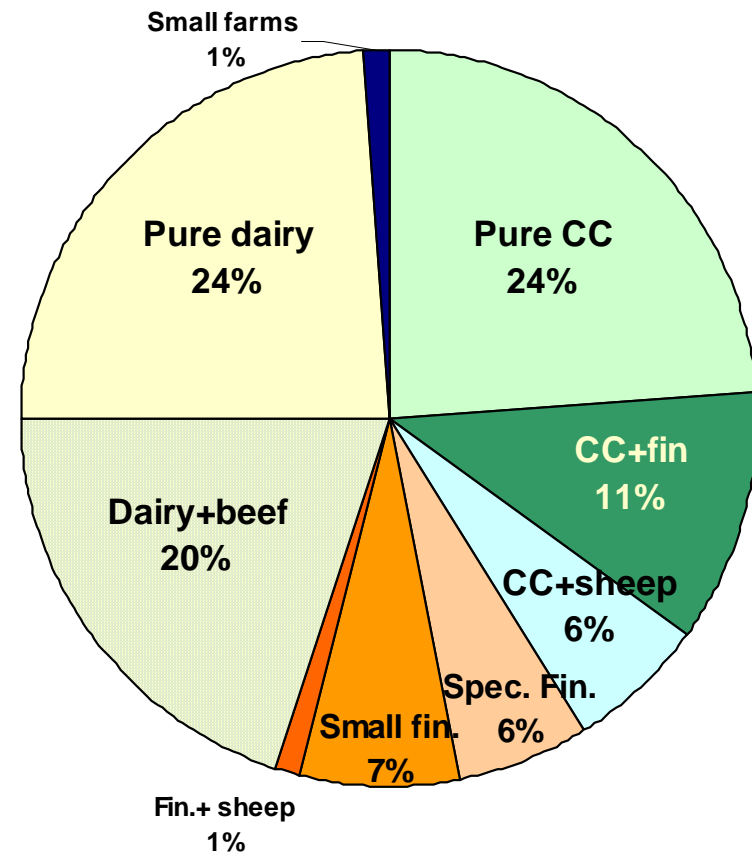
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Involvement of BFS in beef production

Farms



Beef production (in value)



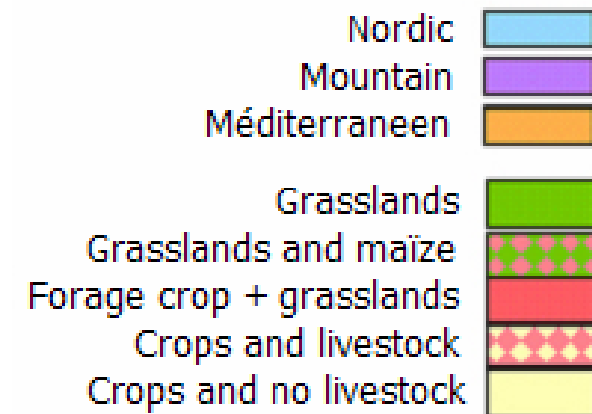
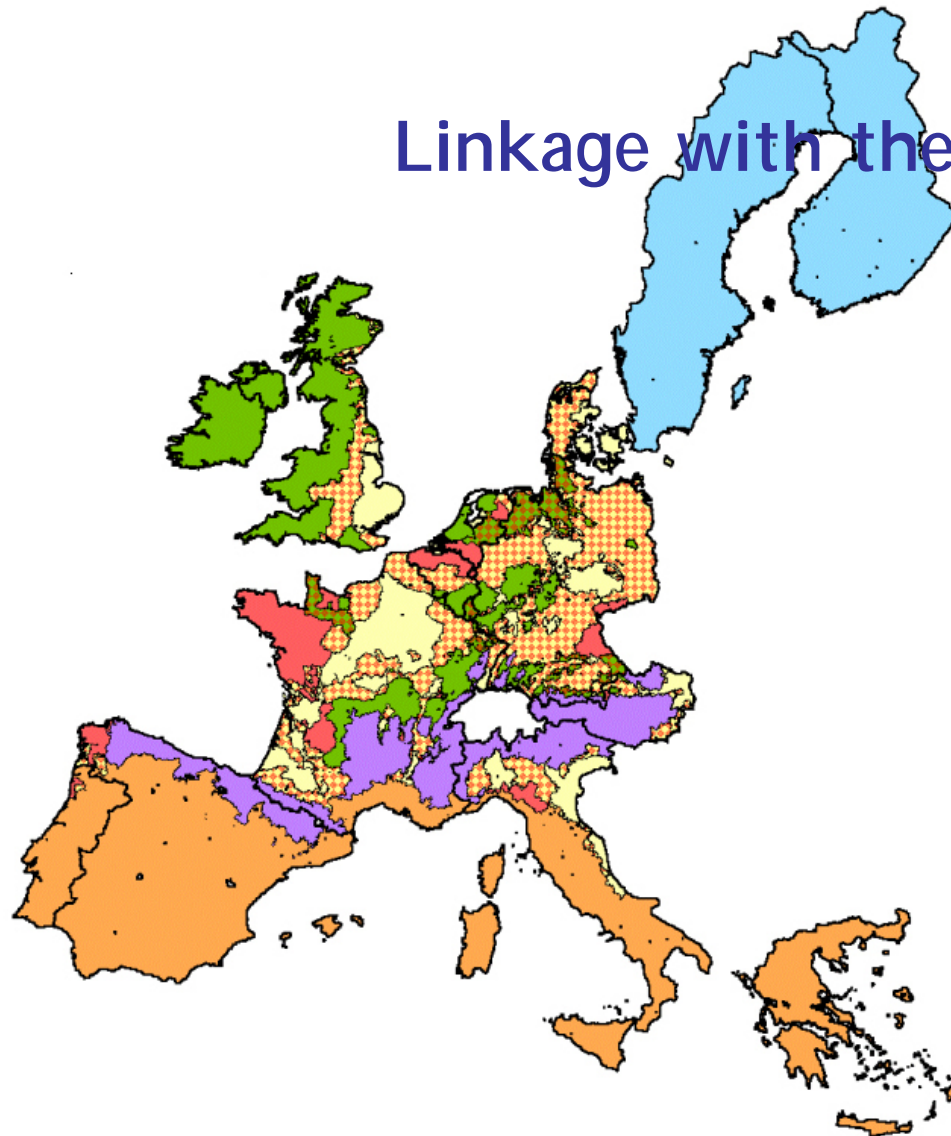
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Linkage with the zoning proposal for EU Livestock regions

André Pflimlin –

B. Buckzinski - Christophe Perrot –

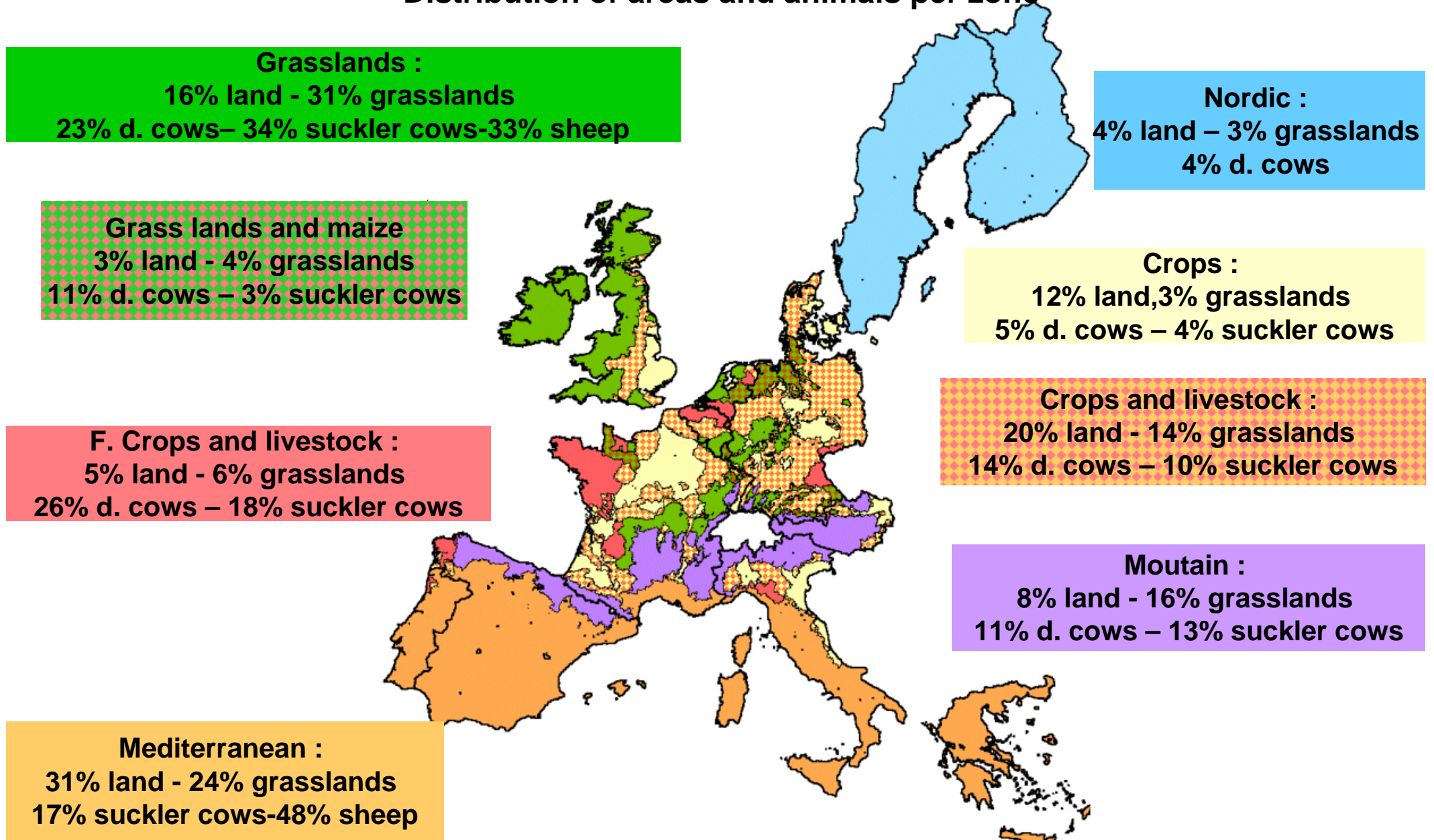
French Livestock Institute -2005



Source : Eurostat – Structure Census 2000 adapted by the French Livestock Institute

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Distribution of areas and animals per zone



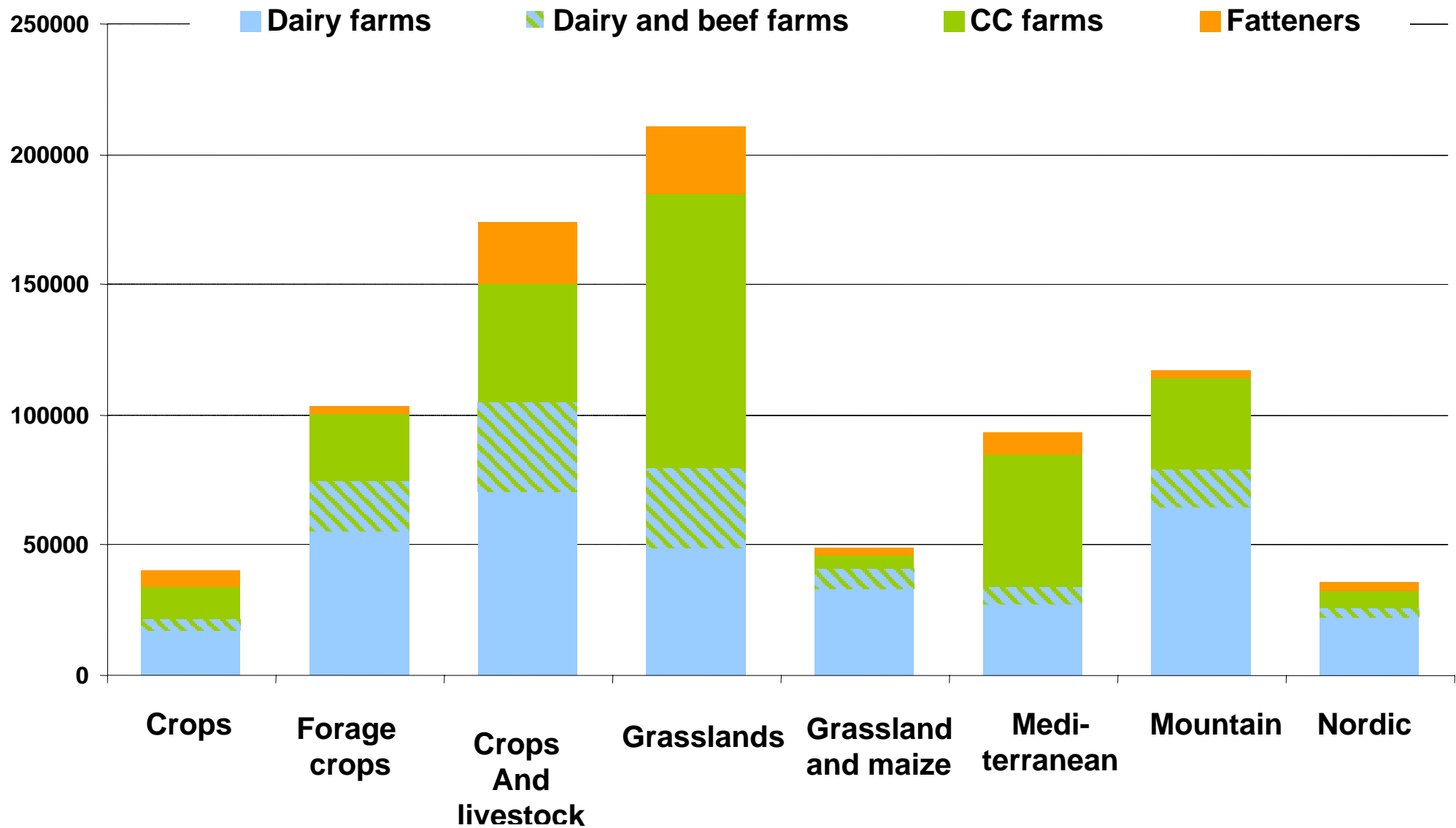
(source :Eurostat - survey by 'Structures 2000'

(Pfimlin-French Livestock Institut)

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Distribution of farms per type and areas



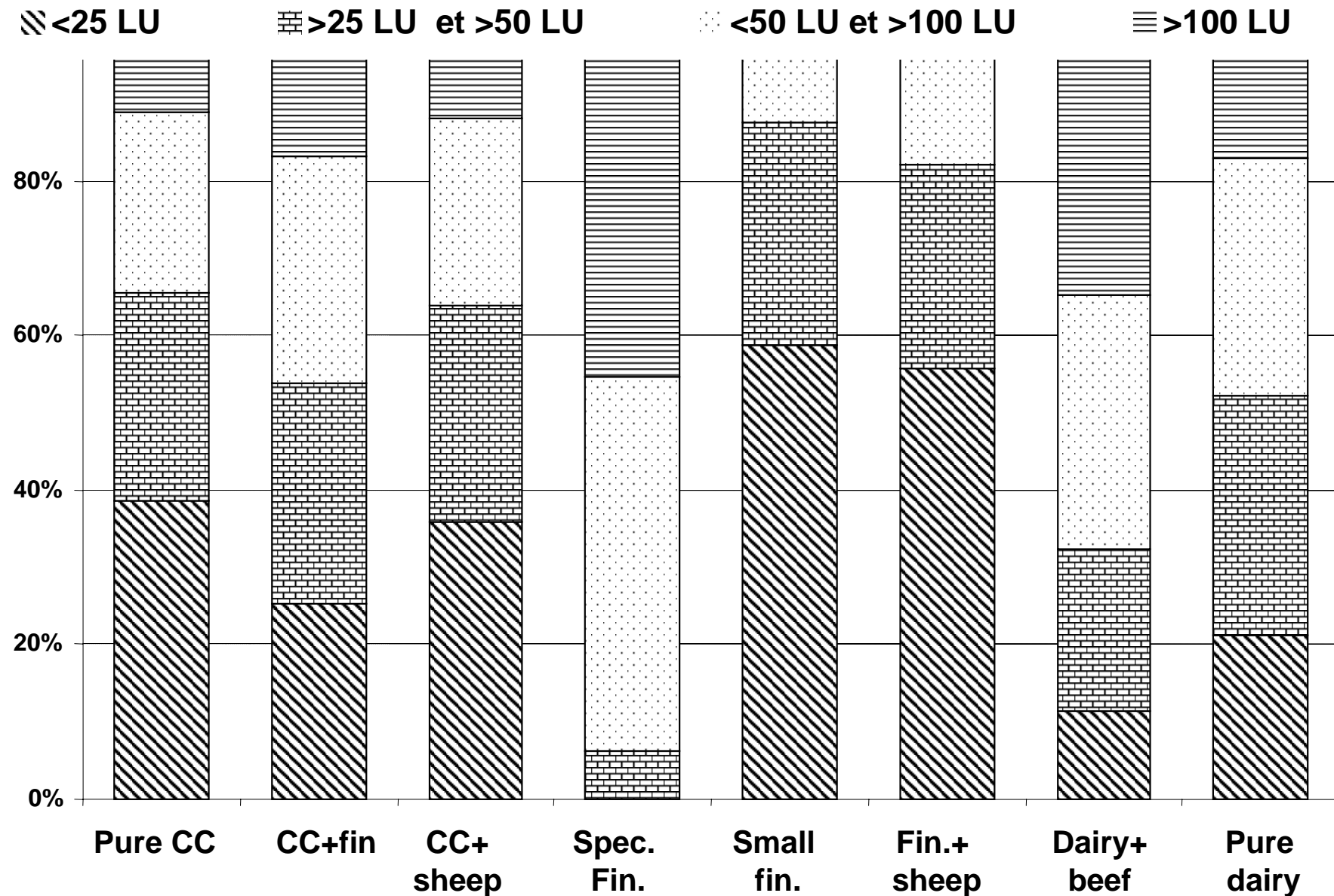
Intermediate results on 2004 FADN

DG Agri from French Livestock Institute

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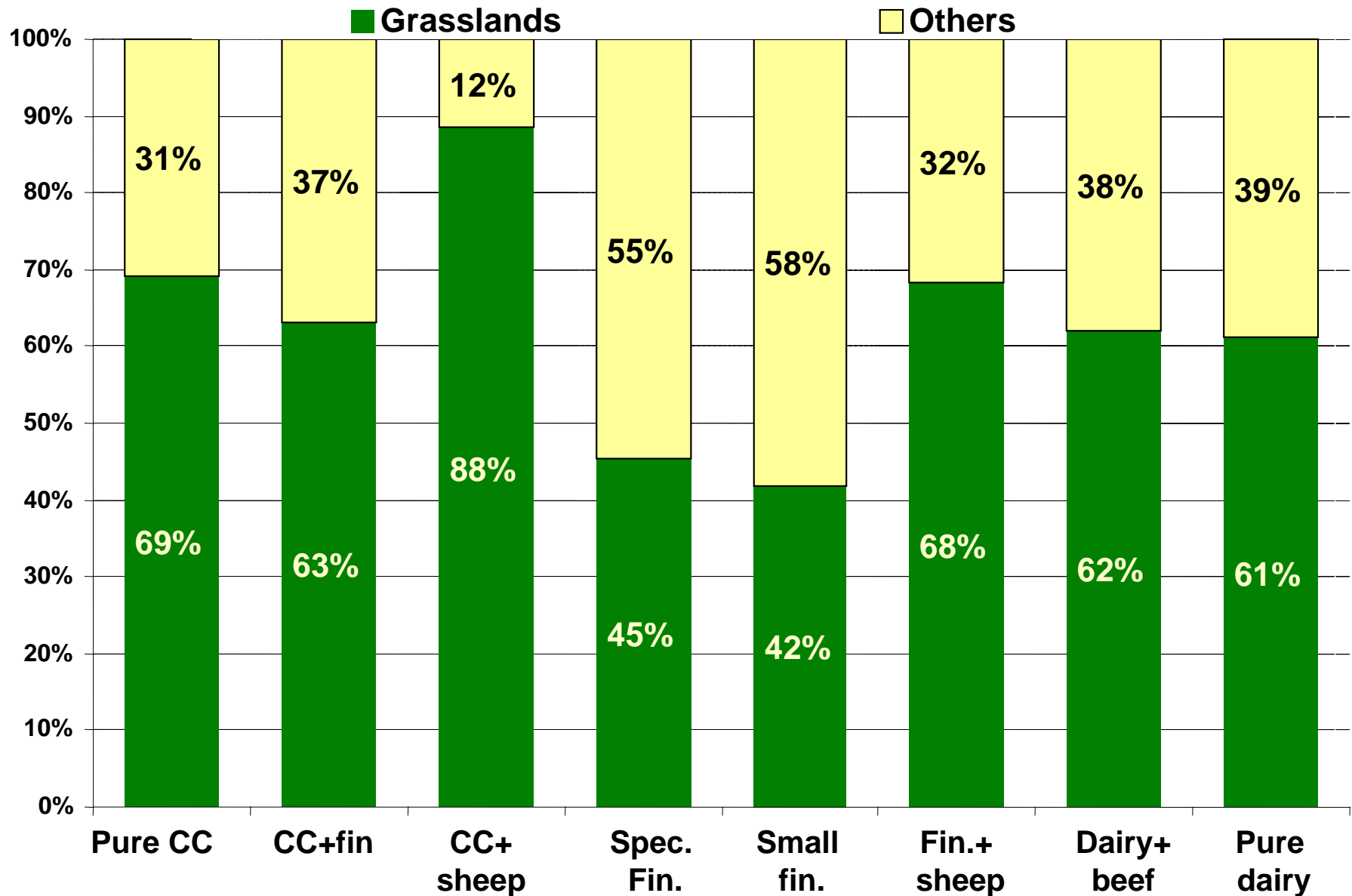
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Size share per type in Livestock Unit



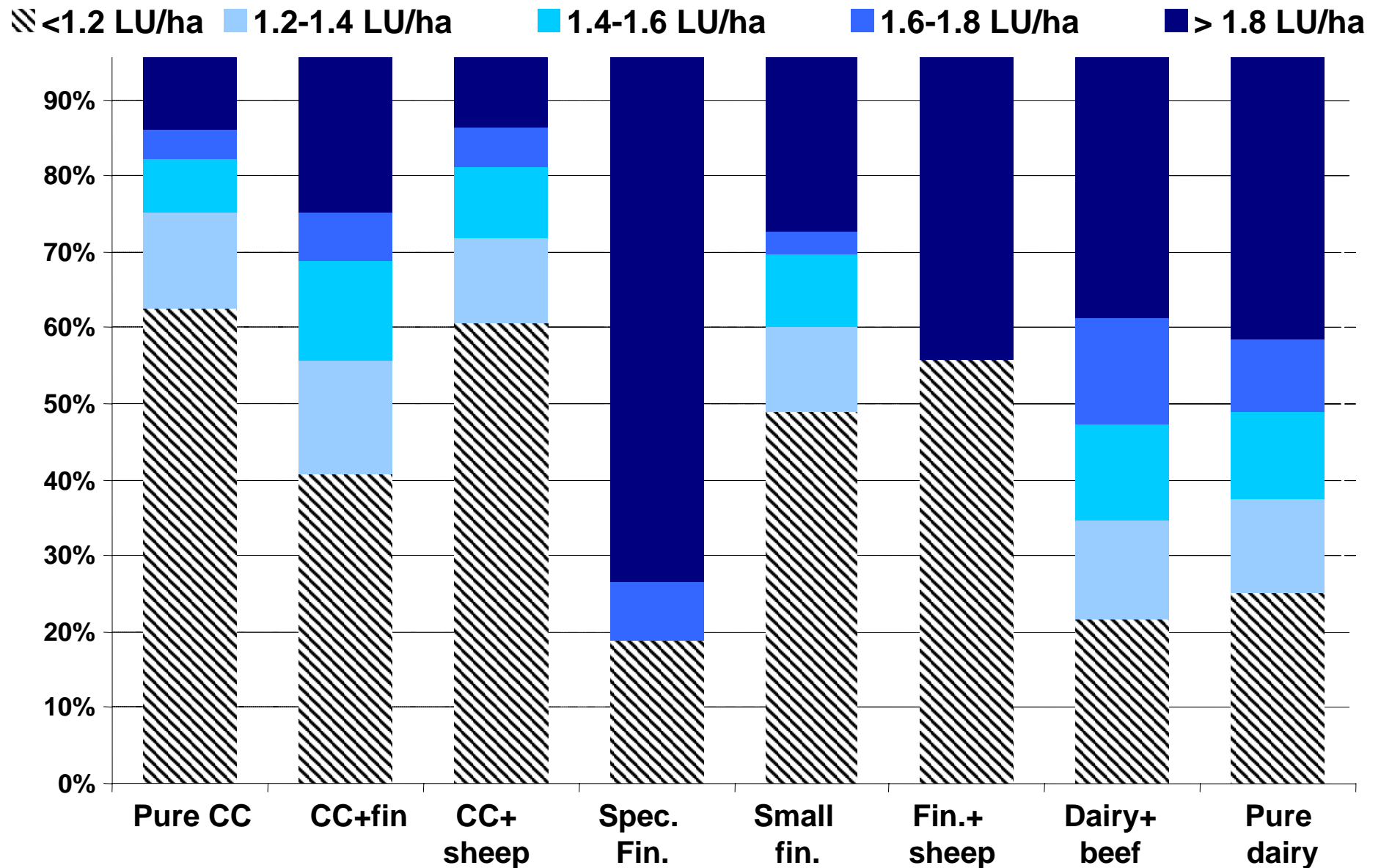
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Grasslands used per type



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Storage rate distribution per type (in LU/ha)



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Main statements

The Diversity of beef farming systems

➤ *Small livestock farms*

Numerous (10% of the total) but only 1% of LU.

Most of them (57%) located in the South of EU.

Contribution to the rural economy and land use.

➤ *Dairy and beef farms*

123,800 enterprises in both dairy and beef

25% of beef producers and 20% of the prod.

: bull fattening from dairy calves (F,G,S..)

steers and heifers production on pastures

in British isles

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Main statements

➤ *The Cow Calf farms*

A third of the bovine farms and the majority of the EU suckler cows.

41% of the land and 41% of the production.

170,000 breeders, specialized, located

in grasslands of North of Europe,

in mountain areas of the South of Europe

65,000 with cow calf and finishing activity.

bull and steer pr. Located in the British grasslands and intensive areas of EU.

49,900 farms with cow calf and sheep producers on British grasslands.

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Main statements

➤ *The finishers*

Few in number but 14% of the EU beef production.

- *12,700 farms specialised in bull fattening. Play a significant role in the beef production of Italy, Germany, UK and Spain.*
- *58,800 farms have medium-sized herds of steers on permanent pastures (British isles)*
- *9,200 beef and sheep farms in same management and location as previous type (British isles)*

THE BEEF TASK FORCE of the EAAP Cattle Network Statements

This work is instructive but needs further expansion (Qualitative analysis, zonage, data and management...)

It gives a good overview of the different beef farming systems found in the EU: place of the suckler cow farms and contribution of the dairy farms.

Diversity of type - Complementarity of prod, and between breeders and finishers

....

Different ways to be competitive