

Result-based AE payments experiences in the Netherlands

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Result-based payments why?

- Insurance for cost-effectivity
- Maximum flexibility for farmers
 - Minimal prescriptions
 - Own responsibility
 - Chances for professionalism
- Less design responsibility for government



Short historical view (I)

Nineties:

- objectives against management prescriptions
 - Too detailed, too severe, too fixed
 - Not recognizing farmers experiences & knowledge

- Preference to make agreements about goals
 - Numbers per species (meadowbirds)
 - Species numbers (field margins, ditch banks)
 - No rigid management prescriptions
 - Cheaper, not more expensive



Short historical view (II)

Development of result-based approach

- Meadow birds
 - Management systems (a.o. nest protection; mosaic management)
 - Base of payment (payment per nest; total amount more or less the original level);
 - Counting methods (inventory of territories; nests)
- Vegetation (field margins, parcels)
 - Identifying umbrella-species
 - Base of payment (diversity classes; total amount more or less the original level)



Short historical view (III)

Development of result-based approach

- Result based payment from 2000 part of the AE scheme
 - Payment (based on efforts) to farmers
 - Farmers transfer to cooperation
 - Cooperation divides to farmers, related to numbers of nests, number of species (nature results)



Short historical view (IV)

Development of result-based approach

■ Experiences

- Teasing craftsmanship of farmers, but vulnerable
- Complex administration, intensive field work
- Huge overhead (juridical based prove of absence!!)
- Stopped in 2003 (several reasons)



New agri-environmental scheme

planned operational January 2016

- Ecological effectivity
 - Clear goals
 - Adequate spatial scale (area => collectives)
- Professional agri-environmental management
 - Government: goals, criteria (what, where)
 - Collectives: application/offer (how)



Ecological effectivity

goals, criteria, suitable regions

- Goal: AE-susceptible, international important species (67)
- Criteria: four agrarian nature-types (habitat types)
 - Open grassland
 - Open cropland
 - Dry veins in landscape (woody elements)
 - Blue veins in landscape (ditches)
- Each habitat defined in terms of preconditions for the species strived for (presence, terrain conditions, management)
- Distribution maps of each habitat type (suitability maps)

Agrarian nature types or habitats



Open grassland



Open cropland



Dry veins

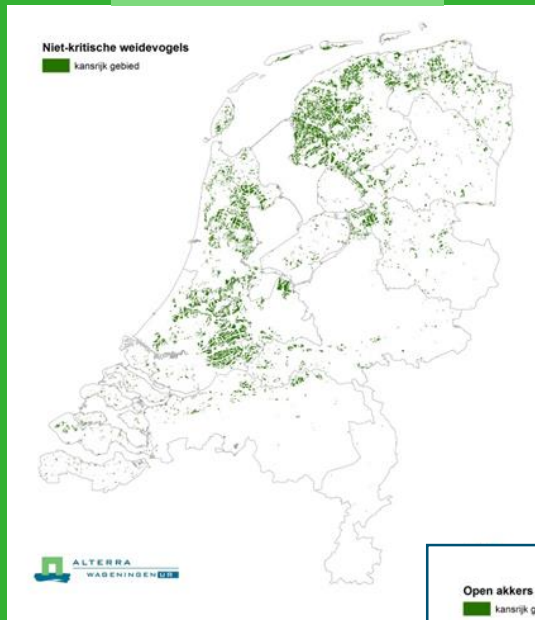


Blue veins

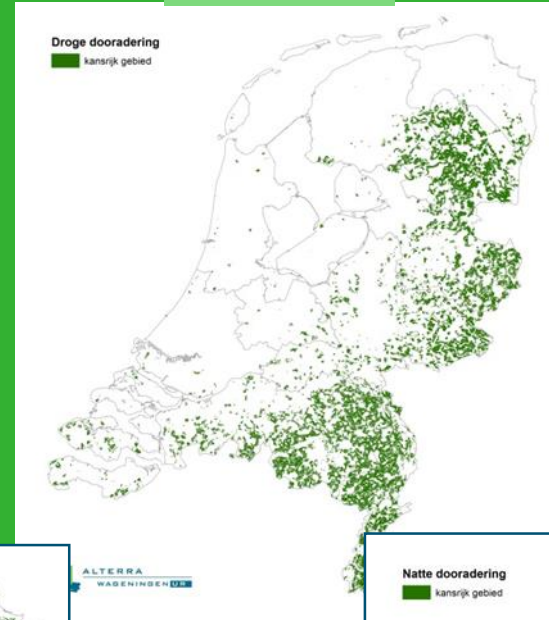


Suitability maps

Open grassland



Dry veins



Open cropland



Blue veins



Result based management within the new scheme?

- Motives still alive
 - Effectiveness
 - Flexibility
 - Professionalism
- How to concrete?
 - Contribution to quality of habitat

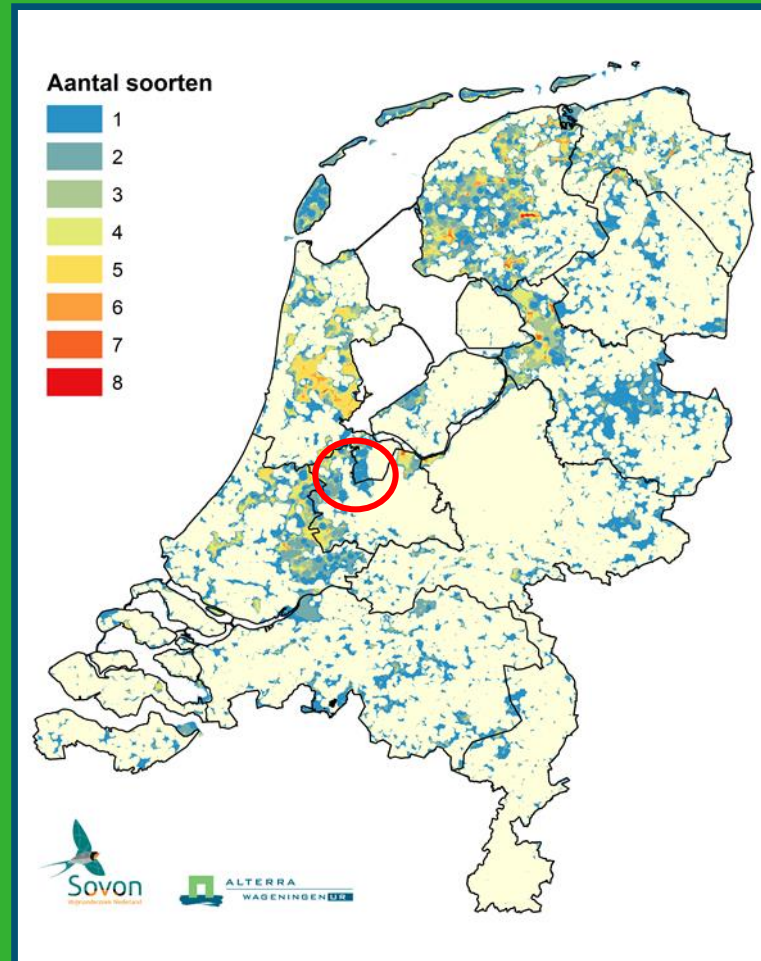


Habitat suitability

- (Potential) presence of species
- Preconditions of the terrain
- Support of suitability by management

Meadow birds as an example

distribution om 8 important species



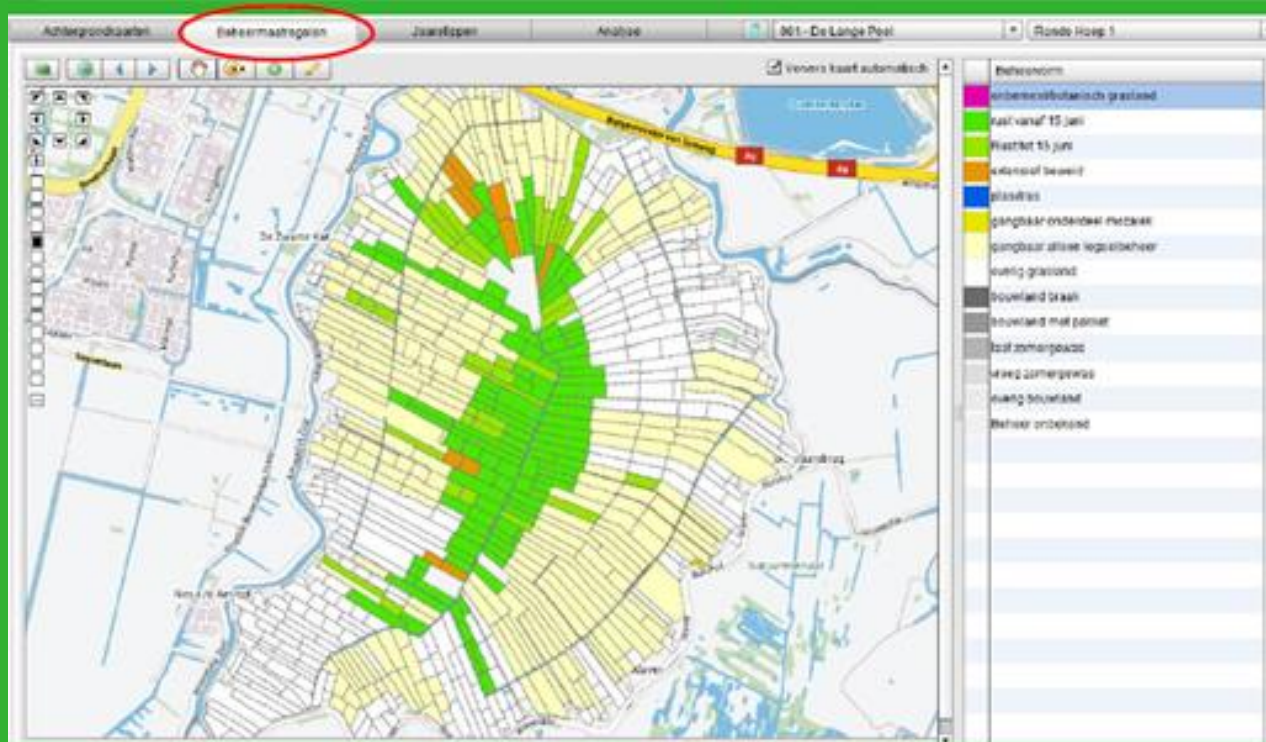
Meadow bird polder Ronde Hoep

neighbourhood of Amsterdam...



Meadow bird polder Ronde Hoep

management: effective for meadow birds?



Basic conditions



Soil humidity



Disturbance by trees etc

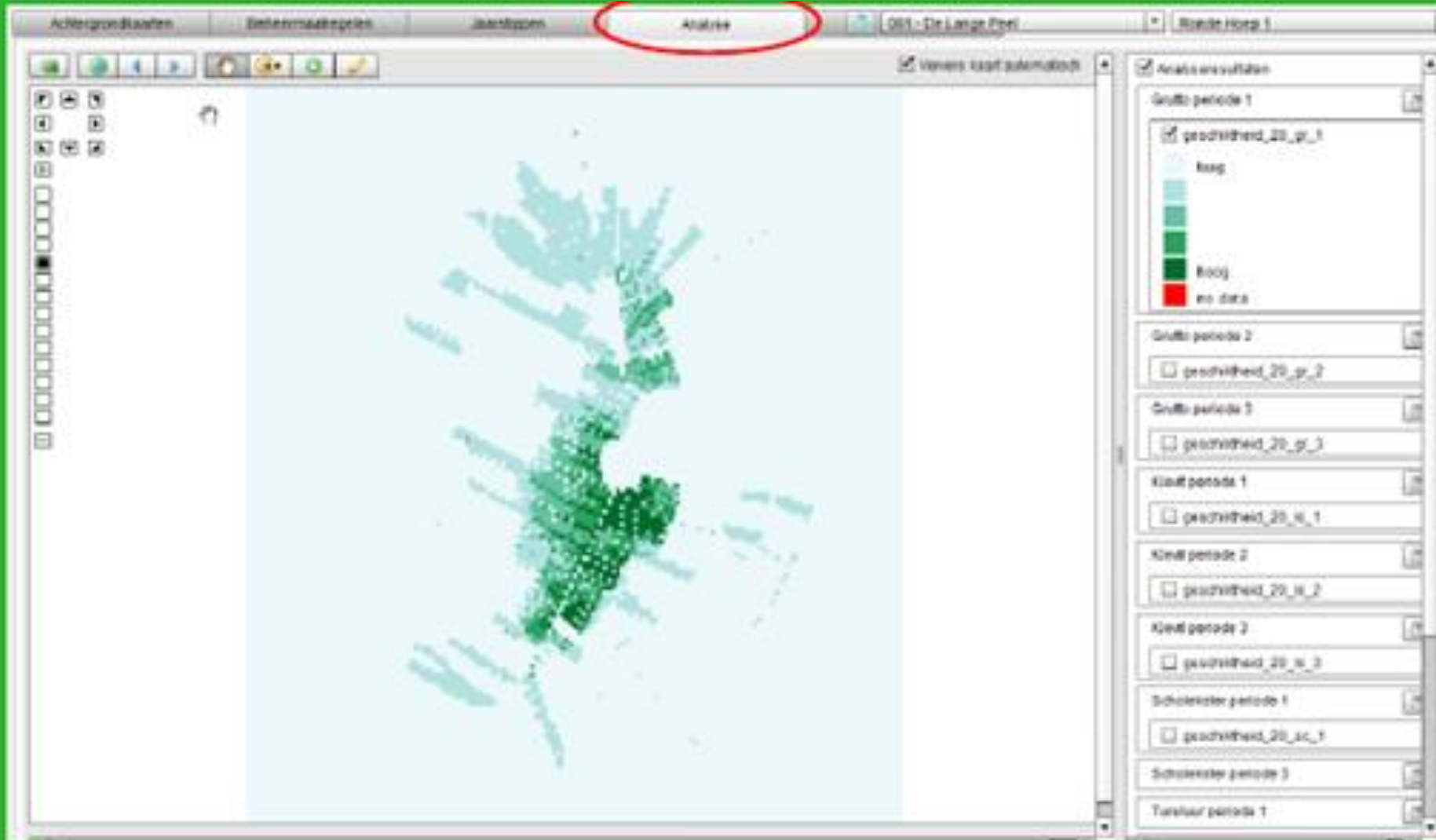


Exploitation intensity



retarded mowing date

Resulting quality as meadow bird habitat



Final result:

Number/proportion of meadow birds with sufficient habitat



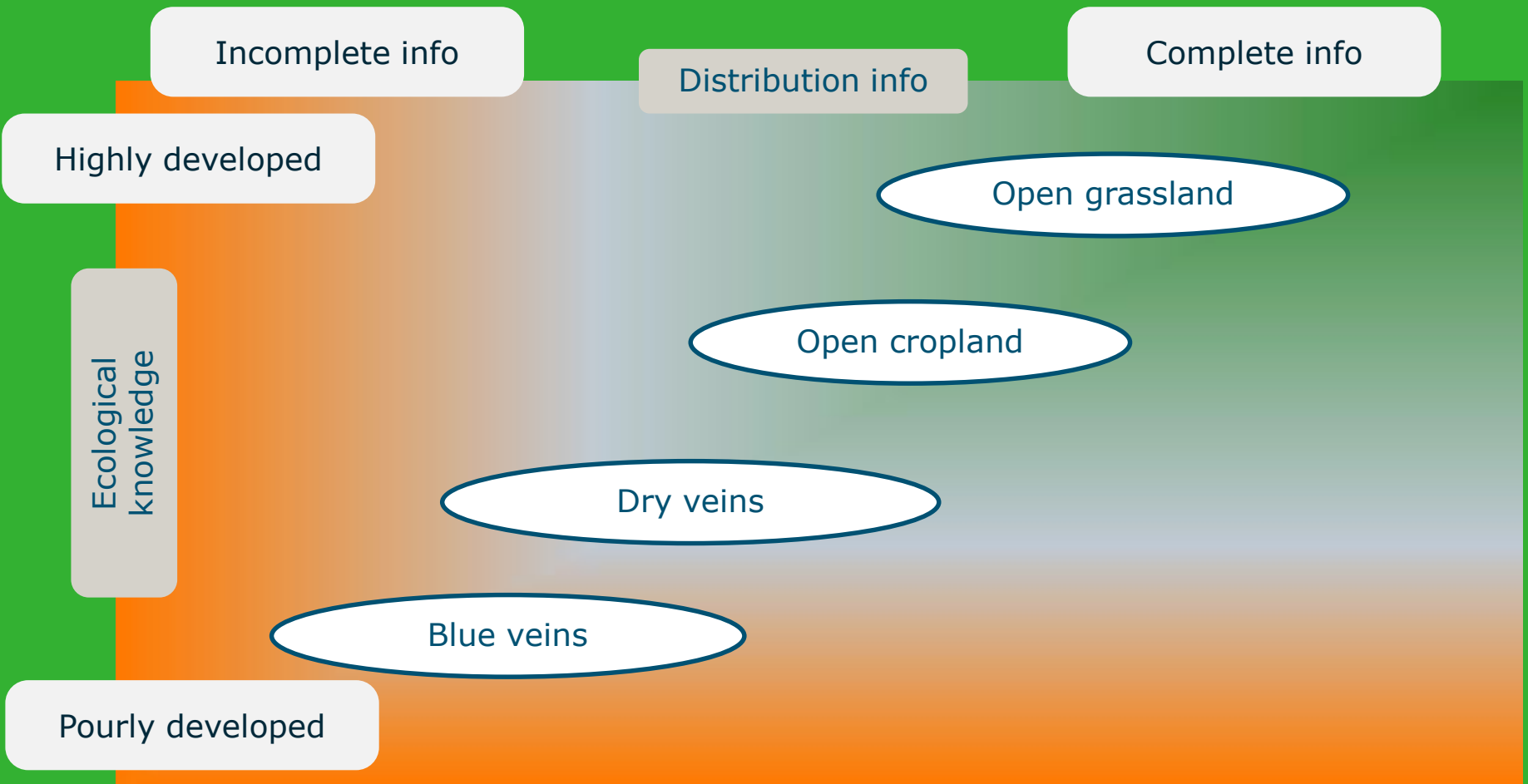
Result based payment

two clues

- Area suitable habitat
- Number/proportion of meadow birds with sufficient habitat



What about the other nature types?



Things to do, challenges

- Put into practice what is known
- Learning by doing, benchmarking
- Monitoring
- Development new knowledge
- Unlock knowledge for all stakeholders
- Fitting in in current conduct of business
- Nature management as part of entrepreneurship
- From governmental support to corporate social responsibility

