

Extract from:

Louis-Pascal Mahé, "Do the proposals for the CAP after 2013 herald a 'major' reform?", Policy Paper No. 53, Notre Europe, March 2012.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT REFORM

AMENDMENT I: THE DEFINITION OF ECOLOGICAL FOCUS AREAS SHOULD NOT APPLY TO FARMING UNITS BUT RATHER TO A **SPATIAL GRID**.

AMENDMENT II: OBLIGATION EXCHANGES SHOULD BE AUTHORISED BETWEEN FARMERS TO CREATE ECOLOGICAL FOCUS AREAS ON A **WATERSHED GRID**, BY APPLYING THE AVERAGE RATE OF **7%** TO THIS SCALE AND BY ALLOWING, AS A RESULT, A VARIABLE RATE WITH A LOWER MINIMUM THRESHOLD FOR SMALLER SPATIAL SCALES.

AMENDMENT III: INCENTIVES SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED TO CREATE **ECOLOGICAL CORRIDORS** (THROUGH BONUSES OR OTHER BENEFITS) AND THE CONTIGUITY OF ECOLOGICAL FOCUS AREAS OF SEVERAL FARM HOLDINGS.

AMENDMENT IV: IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE INCENTIVE TO RESTORE FORMER GRASSLANDS THAT HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO CULTIVATED LAND, IN ADDITION TO THE RULE OF NON CONVERSION OF GRASSLANDS, A BONUS SHOULD BE ADDED FOR PERMANENT GRASSLAND SURFACES, IN CONJUNCTION WITH BASIC DIRECT PAYMENTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL BONUSES, AT LEAST IN SENSITIVE AREAS WHERE ARBITRATION BETWEEN GRASSLAND AND CROPS IS RELEVANT.

AMENDMENT V: AN ASSESSMENT OF SLOPING LANDS IN VALLEYS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED AND AN INCENTIVE MECHANISM SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED TO RESTORE THOSE AREAS OF EXTENSIVE LIVESTOCK REARING TO GRASSLANDS.

AMENDMENT VI: PAYMENT CEILINGS SHOULD BE RAISED TO ACCOUNT FOR LABOUR ONLY FOR FARM COOPERATIVES.