Agriculture - Economic Opportunities and Risks in the Enns Valley

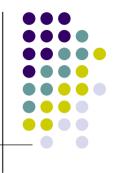
Workshop and Discussion:

"Economic potential of agriculture in Alpine Areas"

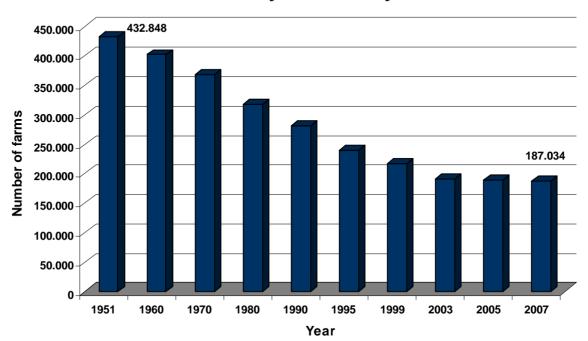








- Totally 187,034 agricultural and forestry enterprises in 2007
 - 169,079 farms with agricultural area
 - 17,346 farms with solely forestry area

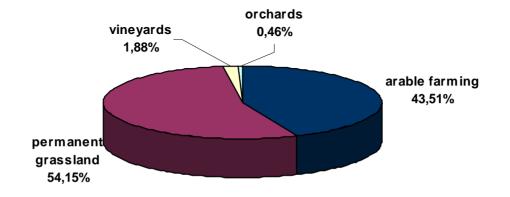


Source: Grüner Bericht 2009

Structure of Area



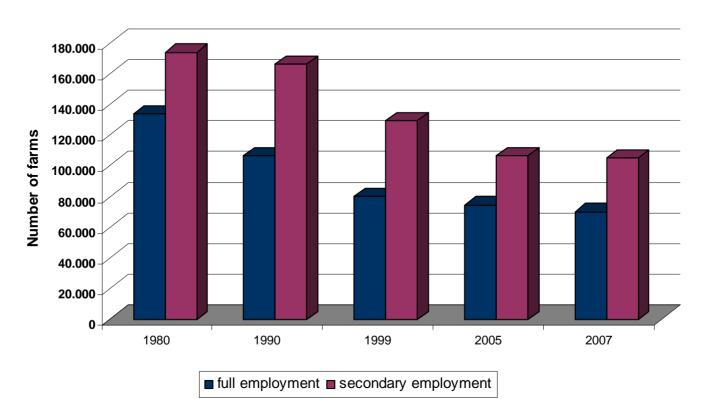
- Totally 7.56 million hectares area
 - 3.19 million ha agricultural area
 - 3.34 million ha forestry area
 - Average farm size is 18.9 hectares of agricultural area







- Types of employment:
 - 37.5 % full employment
 - 56.0 % secondary employment



Animal and Milk

Animal production:

- Cattle population 2.0 million animals
- Pig population 3.06 million animals
- 333,000 sheep and 62,500 goats



• Milk production:

- 42,079 dairy farms amounted up to 2.72 million tonnes of milk (average milk yield per cow: 5,150 kg)
- Producer price in 2008 was 37.51 cent per kg milk
- 8,000 tonnes of sheep milk and 17,200 tonnes of goats milk were produced

Organic farming



Number of subsidized organic farms in 2008
 19,961 = 14.7 % of all

- 382,949 ha of agricultural areas (not including alpine pastures and moutain meadows) = 16.3 % of all
 - 157,530 ha under arable organic farming
 - 220,746 ha grassland
- 21 % of all Austrian dairy farms produce 16 % of total milk production

Mountain farms



- **68,355 mountain farms** with MFC-points in 2008
 - Cat. 1: 31 %
 - Cat. 2: 42 %
 - Cat. 3: 18 %
 - Cat. 4: 9 %
- Average agricultural area: 14.0 ha
- 72 % of dairy farms are in mountainous areas
- ~ 67 % of total milk production
- Decreasing milk quota when handicap increases (74 tonnes at MFC Cat. 1 to 29 tonnes at MFC Cat. 4)

SWOT - Analysis



Strenghts

- Open Space
- Regional Identity
- High quality goods
- Tourism
- Organic farming
- Public funds

Weaknesses

- Density of population
- Job situation
- No trademarks
- Trend to migration
- Small farm size
- Farms located in Mountain area
- High production costs



SWOT - Analysis



Opportunities

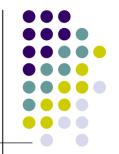
- Marketing strategies
- Organic farming
- Additional income
- Cooperation (between farms and farms:tourism)
- Diversification
- Bioenergy and forestry
- Use of pasture

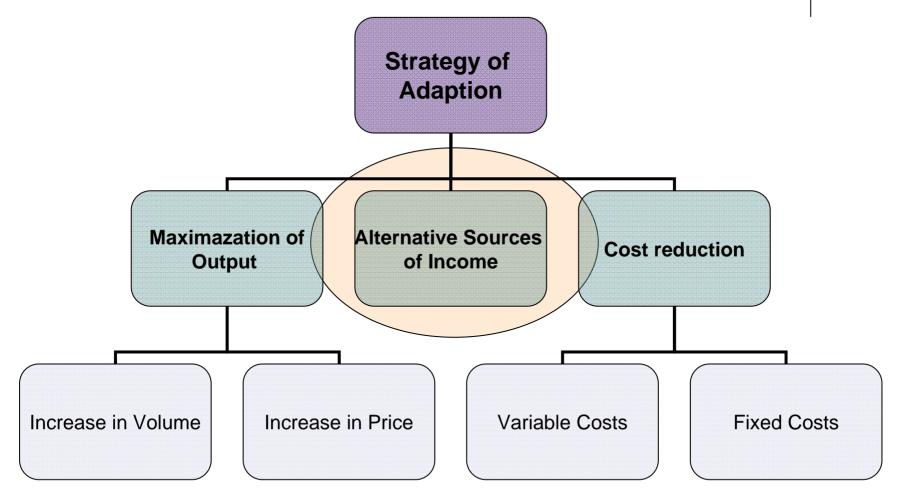
Threats

- Globalisation
- Economic dependence
- Readiness for cooperation
- Decline of protective function of the forest
- Increase of tourism
- Small structured
- Continous succession
- Bureaucracy



How to influence the income





Alternative Sources of Income



- New lines of production
- Additional Income
- Opening of new market segments
 - Organic Farming
 - Forestry
 - Direct Product Marketing
 - Biomass (Composting) and Biogas plant
 - Tourism ("Urlaub am Bauernhof")
 - Etc.