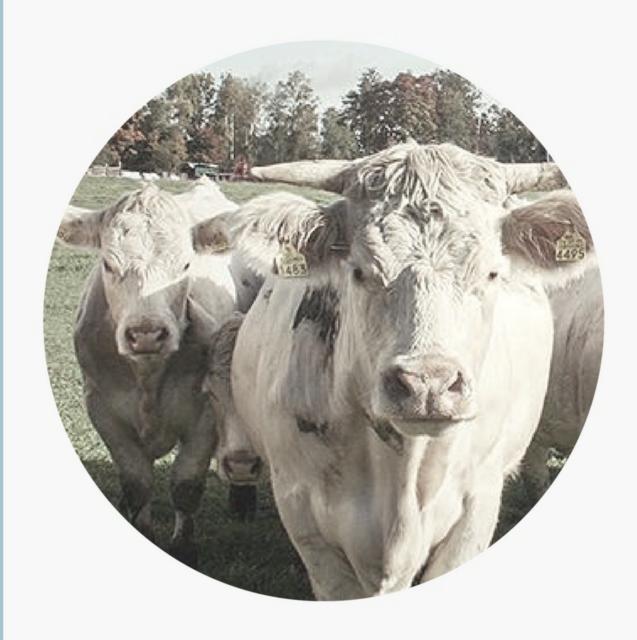


#### **HNV FARMING**

High Nature Value (HNV)
farmland is extensively
managed farmland of high
biodiversity.

HNV farming is present in all European countries, with a diversity of types and extent.





#### **BIODIVERSITY**

The maintenance of High Nature Value farming is a priority for reaching the target of halting biodiversity loss in the European Union by 2020.



### SEMI-NATURAL GRASSLANDS

The conservation of biodiversity in Europe depends on the continuation of low-intensity farming systems. In the Eastern Hills of Cluj, Romania, there is a direct link between the low intensity farming techniques and the rich grassland biodiversity.



### ENDANGERED SPECIES

Many of Europe's most endangered habitat types and species are dependent on farming practices that have evolved in specific regions according to their specific environmental conditions.

# Moorland ponies maintain a variety of habitats and support wildlife #HNVmatters

#### UNIQUE BREEDS

Many traditional breeds are well-adapted to surviving on poor-quality forage. They provide a special service in controlling growth of species that otherwise would take space from other ecologically important vegetation. This results in a species-rich wildlife area.



#HNVmatters

#### RICH LANDSCAPE

The landscape of the Dalmatian Islands, with field margins, hedgerows, stone walls and woodland, is a perfect example of rich landscape mosaic that provides resources for countless number of species - including humans!

## Weathered stonewalls are an important habitat for many algae, lichens and vascular plants

**#HNVmatters** 

#### IMPORTANT HABITAT

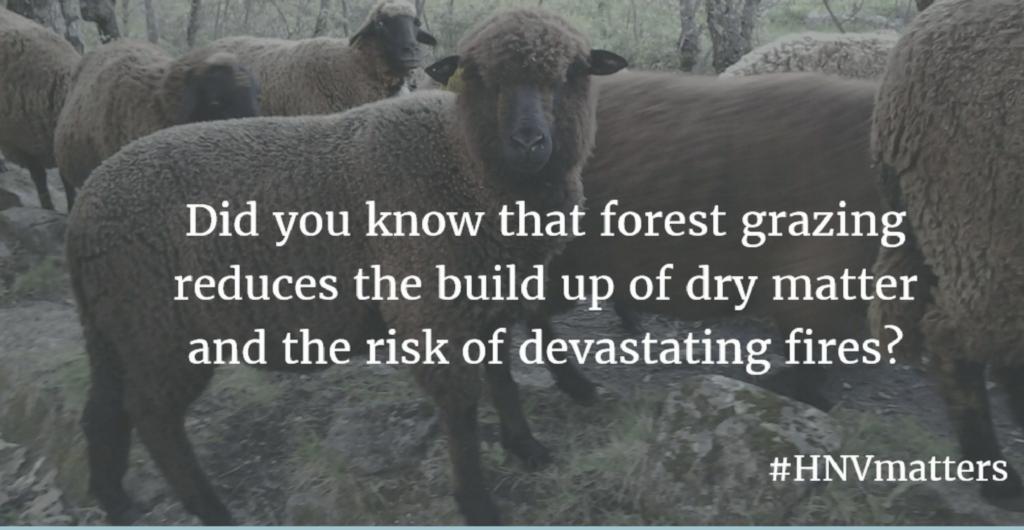
HNV farming areas often include man-made landscape features such as hedgerows, field barns, woodpiles and various stone structures. These elements are important for many species, creating special niches for flora and fauna.

## High Nature Value farming produces grass-fed, high-quality, energy-saving pasturemeat and milk

**#HNVmatters** 

#### GRAZING

Grazing is essential to many HNV farming areas. Thus they are a great source of high-quality, energy-saving, local pasturemeat and milk. In Västra Götaland, Sweden, many farming systems are based on the use of permanent pastures and meadows for beef and dairy production.



### ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

HNV farming presents a multitude of ecosystem services, such as reduced risk of wild fires when forests are grazed. In La Vera, Extremadura, Spain, traditional farming systems help reduce the risk of fires and at the same time create a region of outstanding natural and heritage values.

## The world's longest ceremonial stone row is kept visible by grazing

**#HNVmatters** 

#### **HISTORY**

HNV farming does not only support exceptional biodiversity, but in many cases is the key to maintaining a rich cultural landscape. In Dartmoor many archaeological sites of international importance are kept visible by grazing.

Causses & Cévennes, France, is one of the last places where summer transhumance is still practiced in the traditional way, using the drailles.

**#HNVmatters** 

#### **TRADITIONS**

HNV farming is a significant part of national cultural heritage and customs. In Causses & Cévennes, France, transhumance using the draillesthe ancient routes for moving livestock on foot- is a key in maintaining special characteristics of the area.



#### CULTURAL HERITAGE

Meet one the most visible and significant animals of the Burren; the cow. The impact of agricultural traditions such as moving cows to the uplands to graze during winter- is reflected both in the rich flora and fauna of the Burren, as well as in the innumerable monuments of times long gone scattered in the landscape.



## CUISINE AND CRAFTS

Many HNV farming areas are famous for their rich cultural heritage. In the territory of Western Stara Planina, Bulgaria, the famous Chiprovtsi carpets are linked to the farming systems practiced in the area. The tradition of grazing sheep in the mountainous pastures and using local herbs and flowers to color the wool result in these beautiful handmade carpets.

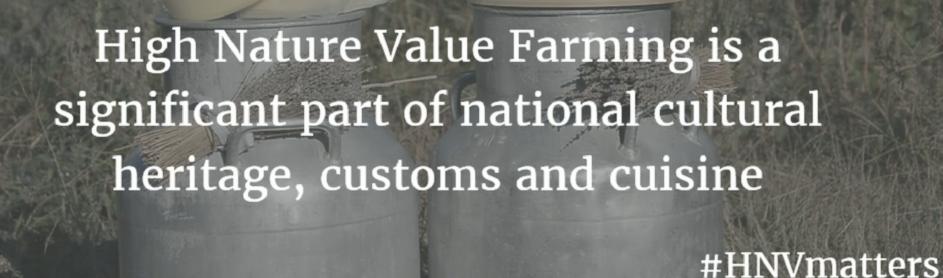


Do you know where your cork stopper comes from?

#HNVmatters

### SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTS

HNV cork oak forests in Sítio de Monfurado, Portugal, prevent desertification and offer a refuge to various endangered species. So you might be supporting endangered species and preventing wildfires while you sip wine- that is if that cork product (or the wine!) is from an HNV farming area.



#### FOOD ARTISANS

In spring the rich blossoming flora gives magnificent aromas to milk in HNV farming areas. Thessalia, Greece, like many other HNV farming areas, is the origin of many unique and tasty products. An area where food artisans make products with devotion and traditional expertise.



#### **PEOPLE**

Locally adapted HNV farming types provide much of the rich social fabric and character of Europe's landscapes. Nowadays HNV farms often operate in the most marginal agricultural land, under difficult social and economic realities such as in the mountainous regions.

# High Nature Value farming areas can be magnificent places for rural tourism, full of spectacular landscapes

#HNVmatters

#### RURAL TOURISM

Many HNV farming areas are magnificent places for rural tourism, full of spectacular landscapes and local traditions. There is a need to support rural tourism and communities, whilst protecting nature.

## Abandonment of High Nature Value farming areas often leads to loss of biodiversity

**#HNVmatters** 

#### **PRESSURE**

Many HNV farmers are struggling to maintain their traditional farming activities and way of life. The pressure to either abandon or intensify are threats that potentially lead to the loss of valuable biodiversity - not to mention to the loss of traditions, livelihoods and heritage.

Let's not make the sound of crickets a thing of the past #HNVmatters

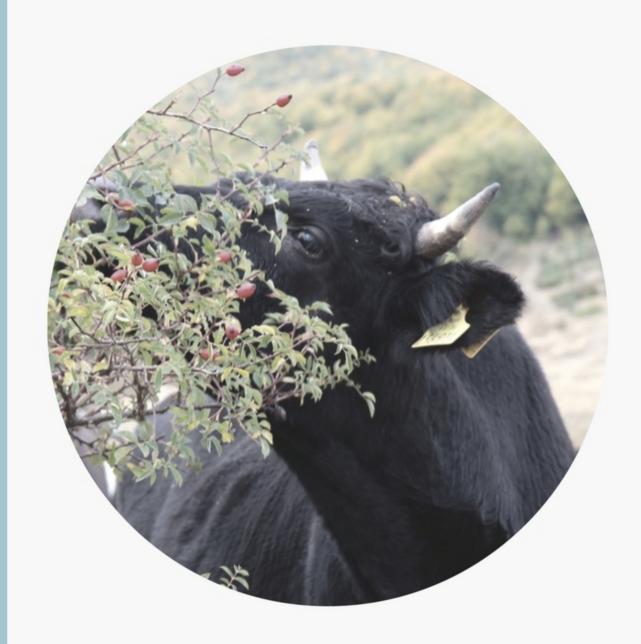
#### **EXTINCTION**

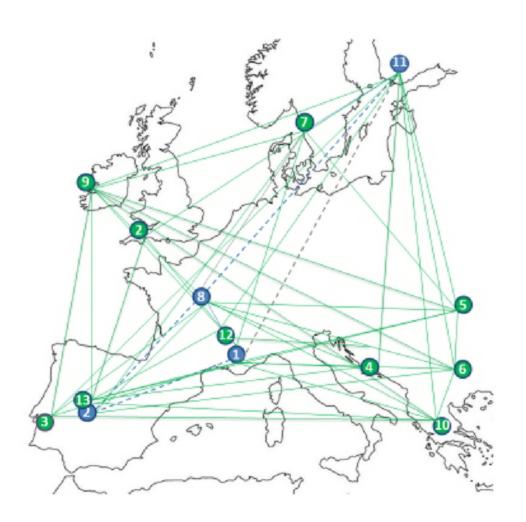
Over a quarter of European grasshopper, cricket and bush cricket species are being driven to extinction by unsustainable agricultural practices. Through helping these species we help also other species, including birds and reptiles, that rely on this group for food.

#### **HNV-LINK**

A Horizon2020 project

Develops and shares innovations that support High Nature Value farming





## 10 LEARNING AREAS

HNV-Link connects 10 areas throughout Europe where HNV farming systems are prevalent



A future of

#### **HNV INNOVATIONS**

HNV-Link



This project has received funding from the European Union Horizon 2020 research and innovations program under Grant Agreement No. 696391t