

Nitrogen policy plans

Analysis and response by LTO

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1. Conservation and restoration for conservation goals N2000

Policy intention of the agricultural ministry

Financial agreements in revision Nature Pact:

- Acceleration, intensification of recovery measures,
- Improve hydrology in and around nature reserves
- Increase nature management fees,
- Accelerated acquisition and layout of the Nature Network of the Netherlands
- New forest to compensate for tree cutting as a result of Natura 2000 management plans. Forest strategy connection

Position and actions of LTO

- Area process necessary: involve agriculture in the start-up phase for joint elaboration of measures where possible.

Starting points:

- Maximum use of agricultural nature management or nature management
- Integrated approach



2. Spatial integration of nature and agriculture

Ministry of Agriculture

- Joint Nature of Government and provinces programme.
- Spatial exploration of nitrogen, finished before the end of 2020: which spatial interventions for more nature-inclusive areas
- NOVI development of integrated rural area program
- Exploration of a more active land policy, (land bank) for the purchase, exchange and depreciation of land for nature and (extensive) agriculture
- Exploration instruments WILG and Environmental Act

Actions LTO

- Focus on an area-oriented approach, based on clear process agreements, elaboration frameworks and involvement.
- Spatial translation required
- Instruments WILG (land consolidation) needed
- As well as financing farmlands for extensification etc.
- See also LTO presentation on area-oriented approach



3. 50% of the N sensitive N2000 areas will have N deposition below the critical deposition values in 2030

Ministry of Agriculture

- Extensive and wide range of source measures, of which the individual measures add up to approximately 103-180 mol / ha / yr in 2030 (agriculture will have to supply 120-125 mol), which means approximately 26% reductions of emissions

Positions LTO

- Own LTO future-focused document on achievable nitrogen targets for agriculture 2030
- Coordination with third parties: chain, NGOs, Delta Plan.
- Nitrogen implementation program
- Clarity and substantiation of HR art.6 paragraph 1/2/3 measures



4. More extensive and organic business operations

Ministry of Agriculture

- Research possibilities with the sector for the system of input and output control, in which farmers are encouraged to reduce nitrogen deposition in conjunction with other tasks.
- Conversion fund:
- Conversion track: temporary relief of cash flow
- Investment track: making investments more accessible

Positions LTO

- Connecting to existing systems with a more integrated approach, such as the so-called Kringloopwijzer (input-output management)
- Making the conversion fund available to support investments that actually reduce emissions, not only for the frontrunners but also for the rest



5. Insight and clarity among farmers to make the right choices

Ministry of Agriculture

- Regional meetings with provinces
- Universities (of applied sciences) are developing training courses for farmers and business coaches
- Vouchers for training and advice available for farmers

Positions LTO

- Implementation of the Knowledge and Awareness project plan drawn up in collaboration with NEVEDI, based on feed management.
- Is also in line with the derogation decision EU



6. Agricultural source measures (1)

Ministry of Agriculture

- Promote availability of agricultural land for dairy farming for extensivation

Positions LTO

- Stimulating land consolidation processes for strengthening the structure in order to integrate nature and agriculture,
- Strengthening dairy farming linked to land and grazing in
- Deliver a project plan aimed at communication and lobbying.
- Make it feasible, if financing is possible.



7. Agricultural source measures (2)

Ministry of Agriculture

- Investments in livestock housing: low- emission stable measures
- Adjusting animal feed: lower crude protein content in animal feed

Positions LTO

- Integrality, alignment with practice and subsidy scheme available, for the bigger group
- Refining the 2020 feed scheme
- Feed track after 2020 and prepare covenant aimed at decreasing crude protein content in total ration based on including (input-output) and knowledge process.
- This requires a working group drawn by agriculture itself with the Ministry involvement.



8. Agricultural source measures (3)

Ministry of Agriculture

- Increase grazing hours for dairy
- Application of low-emission manure: dilute with water
- Termination scheme for those who quit farming
- Second increase in remediation scheme for pig farming,
- National termination measure

Positions LTO

- Stimulating land exchange (WILG)
- Investment schemes for cow tunnels and crossings.
- Inclusion of development of assurance systems in RAV list
- Knowledge Track Investment scheme for water basins, innovation EC meters, precision application,
- Appropriate compensation for stopping farmers



9. Combating undirected NH₃ purchase (external netting) (1)

Ministry of Agriculture

- Agreements between central government and provinces about advance notification of transaction to the province for transparent consideration in a light area-oriented
- approach in the long term, area plans for the assessment framework for the licensing of external netting
- combating vacancy through demolition and redesignation as a condition for external netting
- To prevent speculation: 3 year realization period

Positions LTO

- Agreements between central government and provinces are important frameworks. Precise regulation of external netting, however, lies mainly with provinces. DG Nitrogen coordinates, but the provinces have different views depending on their own situation.
- It has been agreed that LTO, DG Nitrogen and IPO will still try to elaborate on rules for external netting and the nitrogen registration system



10. Combating undirected NH₃ purchase (external netting) (2)

Ministry of Agriculture

- Offsetting vacant space for legal reporting
- Establishing a deposition bank
- One year opening with government and provinces discuss securities every month
- evaluation six months and adjustments if necessary
- For the summer clarity

Positions LTO

- Inventory of the nitrogen requirement in areas around N2000
- 0 situation for legalizing permits



11. Make grazing and fertilizing permit-free and legalize reports

Ministry of Agriculture

- Goal of 11 mol / yes / yr from the development reserve
- Rejection of enforcement requests
- Customization where the development reserve is no option
- Explore whether and when a regional threshold can be used

Positions LTO

- Close coordination with LNV about MOB legal procedures regarding enforcement
- Solve grazing and applying manure, by legally sound substantiation
- Legalization of reports and PAS permit-free companies, etc.
- It was agreed that DG Nitrogen, IPO and LTO etc. will further analyze and elaborate
- Threshold also for agriculture, Cie Hordijk offers tools



Remkes committee report 8th of June 2020

- Main directions
 - Nature recovery nitrogen sensitive N2000
 - Decrease emissions and deposition



Agriculture

- Preamble:
 - Nitrogen is gamechanger: towards integral transition, combined with other societal tasks
 - Circular agriculture offers perspective: but transition needed

To do:

- Less input of nitrogen in feed and manure
- Better balance in nitrogen
- Circular raw materials, less protein in feed, precision farming, better soil and no chemical fertilizer



Thank you for your attention!

