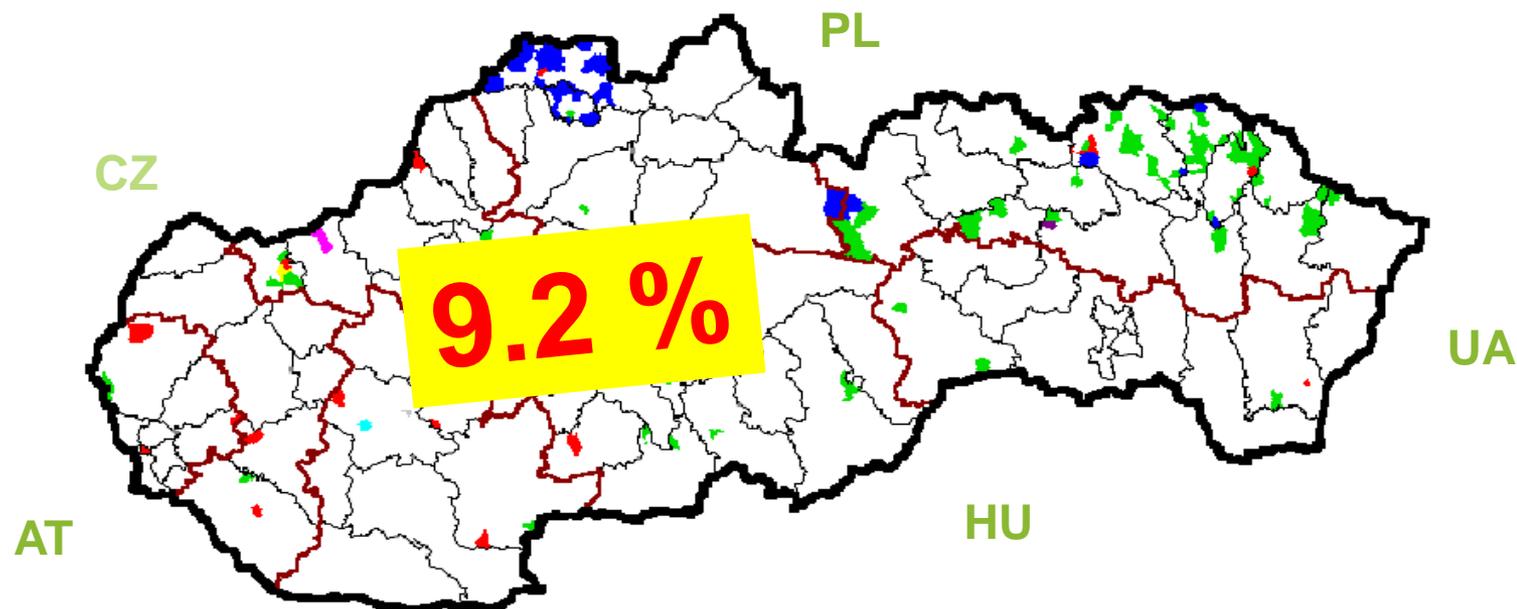


Development and perspectives of organic agriculture in the Slovak Republic

prof. M. Lacko-Bartošová, PhD.



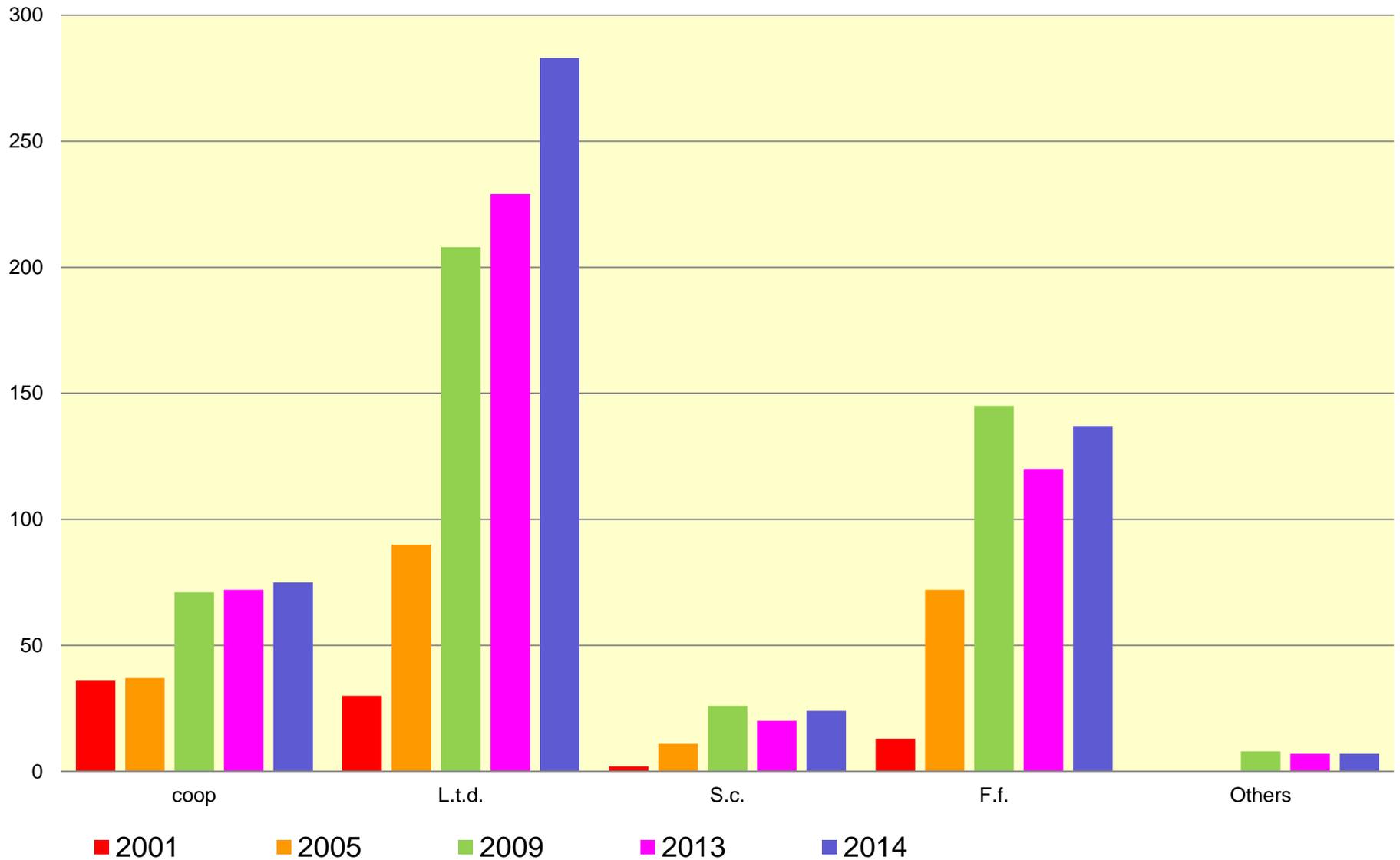
Slovak organic production



Operators in Slovak organic production by performed activities (2015)

- **552 operators in total**
- **416 biofarmers**
- **4 beekeepers**
- **12 wild growing plants collectors**
- **83 food processors**
- **10 feed processors**
- **6 seed producers**
- **97 distributors (operators placing organic products on market)**
- **21 others (labelling, prepacking,...)**
- **21 importers**
- **4 exporters**

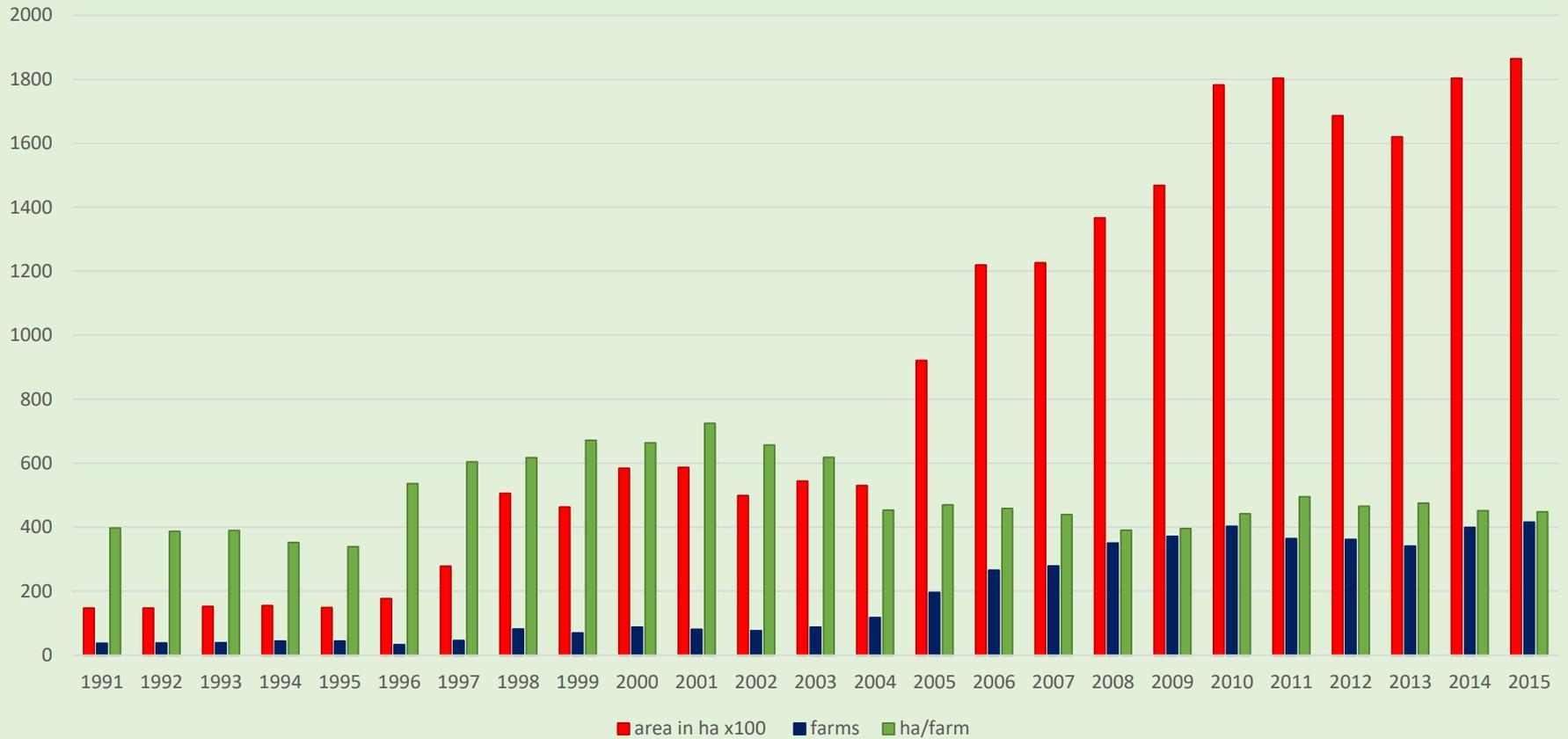
Legal background of organic operators



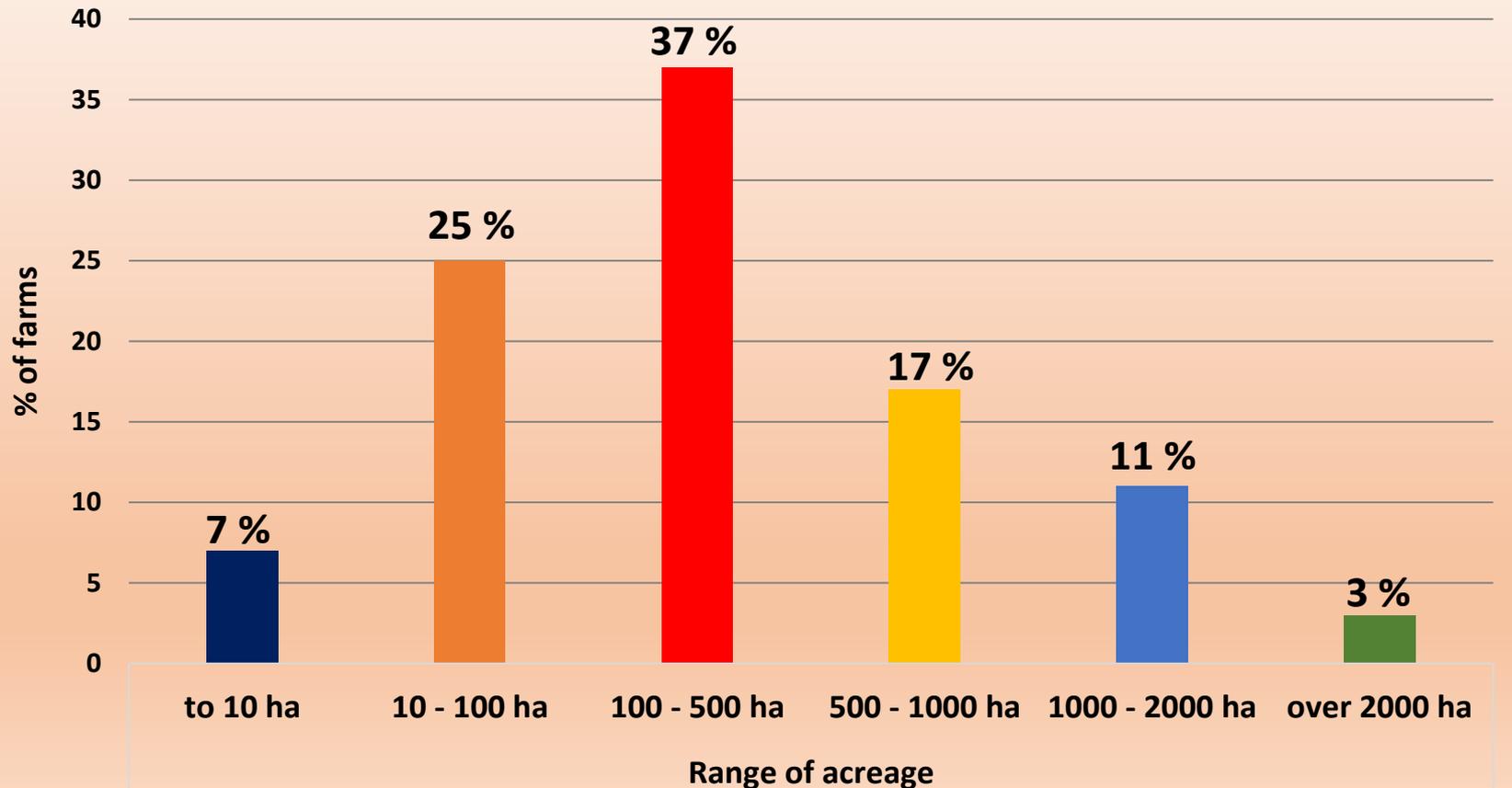
Operators in Slovak organic production by business entity (2015)

Business entity	Total number of operators	Number of farmers	Share of farmers	
			from the total number of operators in Slovakia (%)	from the number of farmers (%)
Cooperative	76	74	13.8	17.8
Ltd.	301	187	54.5	45.0
S.c.	22	10	4.0	2.4
Private farmers	153	145	27.7	34.8
Total in Slovakia	552	416	100.0	100.0

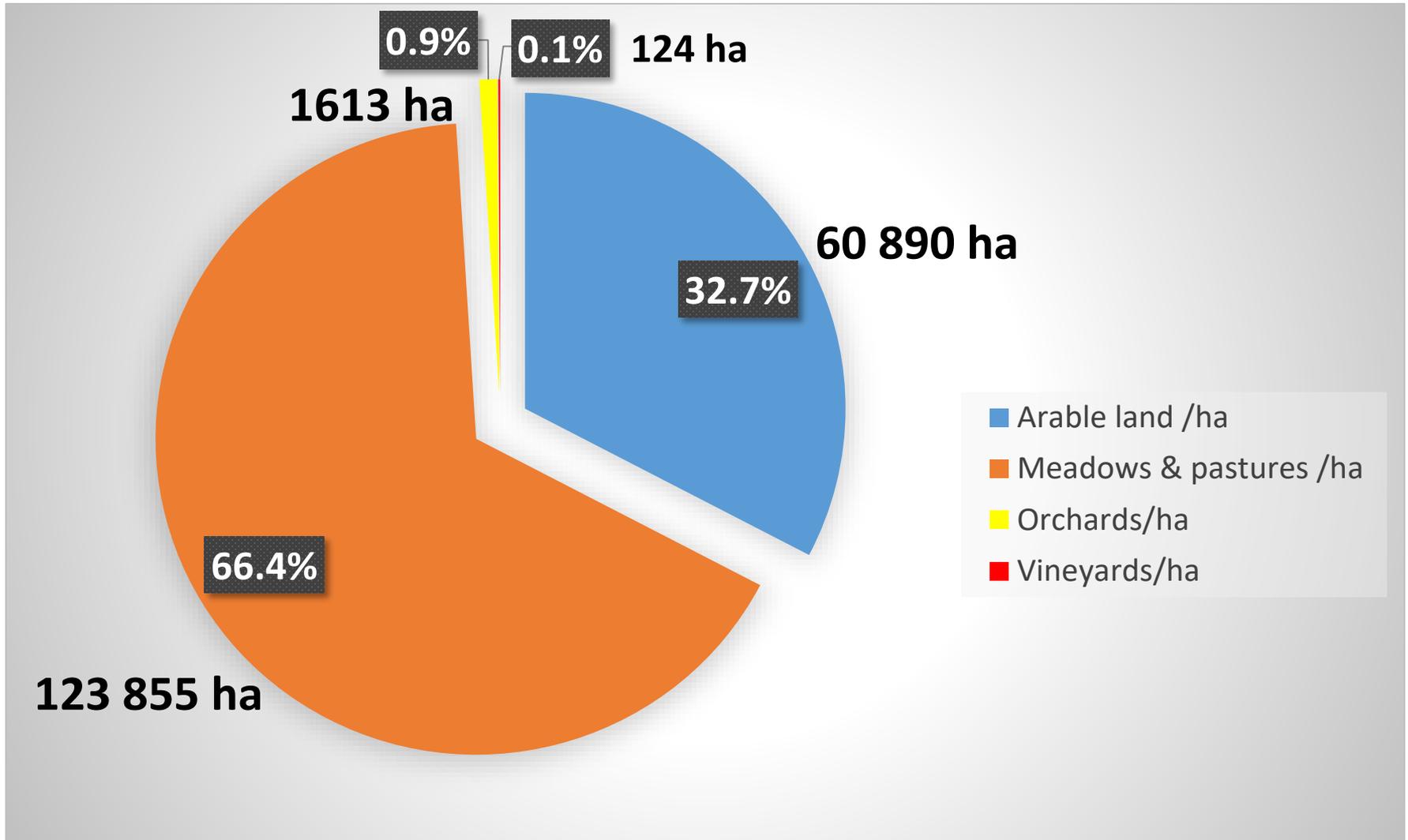
Development of organic farming in the Slovak Republic



Distribution of organic farms by acreage (2015)



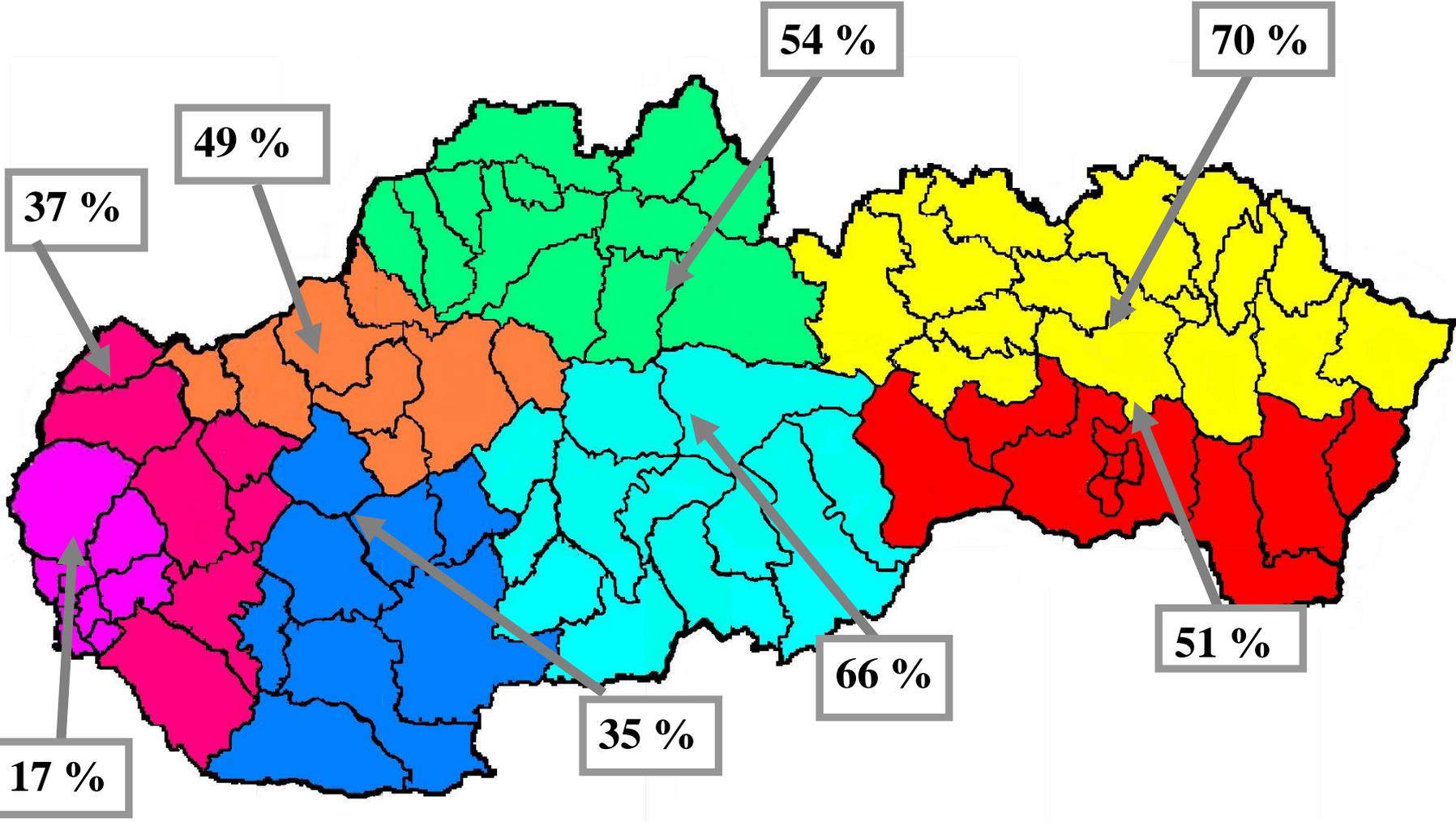
Plant production types (2015)



Share of organic vs. non-organic farms in the Slovak Republic

Region	SK farms	Organic farms	Share (%)
Bratislava	542	20	3.69%
West SK	7818	83	1.06%
Central SK	8791	134	1.52%
East SK	6415	163	2.54%
Total	23 566	399	1.70%

Percentage of 100% organic farms (2015)

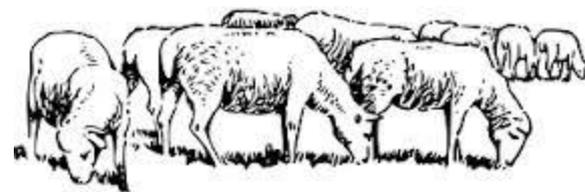


Production types of organic farms (2015)

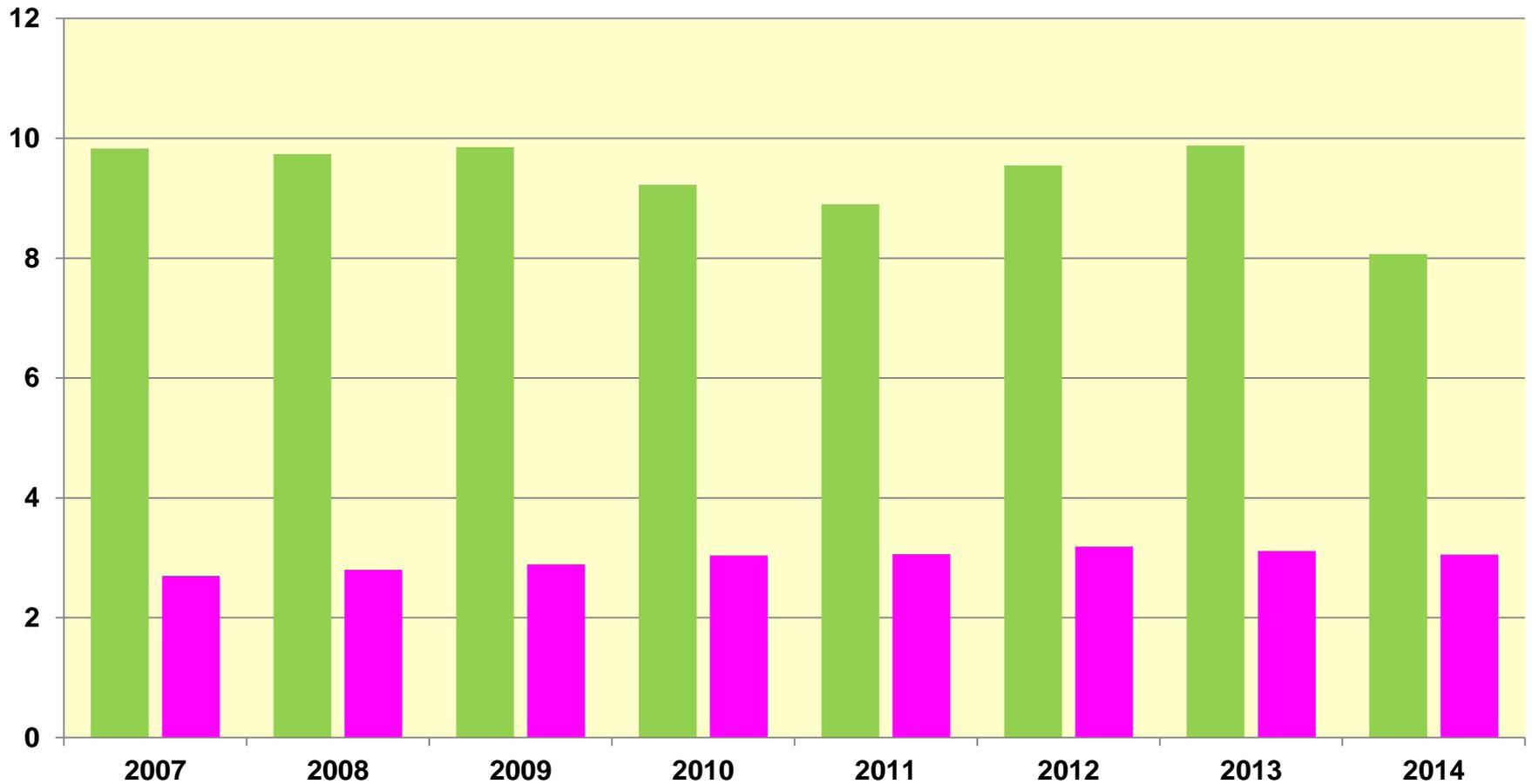
	number	%
farmers	399	100
only plant production	107	26.82
farms with animal production	292	73.18
with cows	231	57.89
with sheep	134	33.58
with goats	44	11.03
with horses	61	15.29
with pigs	10	2.51
with poultry	10	2.51
with laying hens	6	1.50

Number of farm animals in Slovak organic production (2015)

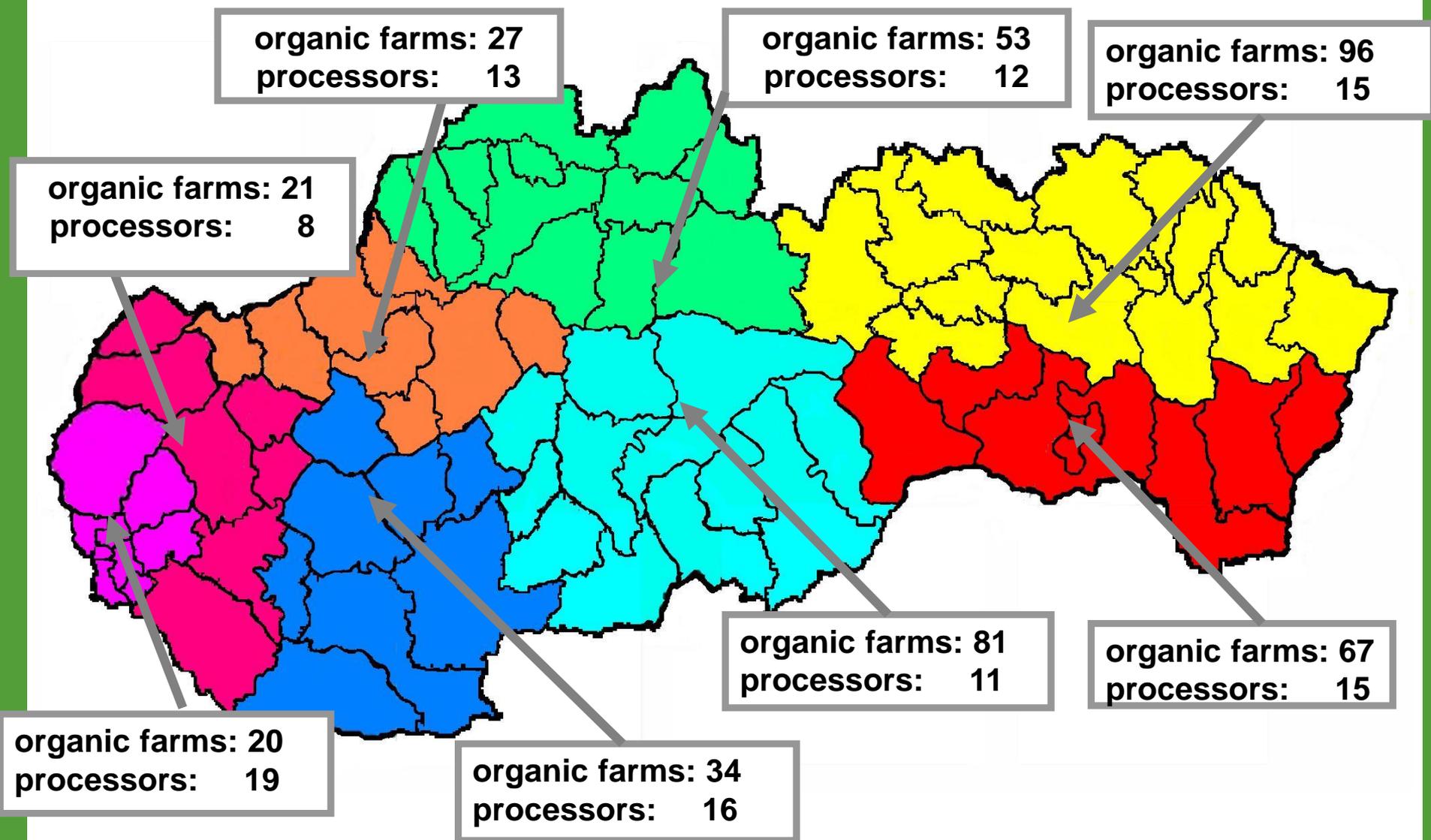
	Cattle	Sheep	Poultry	Goat	Pigs	Horses
Organic production	58 945	97 239	4 110	1 527	503	643
Total in Slovakia	463 500	377 400	12 494 000	35 200	629 500	6900
%	12.72	25.76	0.03	4.33	0.08	9.3



Sheep calculated as LU per 100 ha of agricultural land in SR (org vs. SR)



The number of organic farms and processors (2015)



Current situation of organic production in the Slovak Republic

SALE from organic farms:

- **23.6 %** of production = 27 218.7 tonnes is sold:
 - * in SR: 66.4%
 - * to other EU MS: 33.6 %
- share of organic sales: 51.4 % in total
50.7% for sales in SR
- utilised organic produce on the farms: **76.4 %**
from which: 80.3 % is processed and afterwards:
 - 15.9 % sold as organic
 - 15.1 % sold as non-organic
 - 69% used at organic farms
 - 95% for feeding purposes of own organic animals

Conclusions

- interest of farmers and increase of organic area is driven by subsidy policy
- implementation of RDP-s after 2004 has enhanced the share of OF in the SR and its stabilisation
- number of organic operators have been increasing (farmers, processors, distributors)
- average acreage of farm is large, 70% of farms within the range 10-500 ha (also over 2000 ha)
- agricultural land – higher share of permanent grassland than arable land

Conclusions

- west-Slovakia region – prevalence of mixed farms; east and central Slovakia – prevalence of 100% organic farms
- organic farming is more attractive in areas with natural constraints
- more than 73% of farms with animal production
- organic processors are concentrated in the western part of Slovakia
- a shift from export based production to home consumption

Future challenges

- to propose consult and adopt Action Plan for the future development of Organic sector in the SR
- to increase competitiveness
 - by investments in physical assets
 - to develop innovative technologies, practices, products...
 - to support cooperation between actors of the food chain (focused on short supply chains)
- to create conditions for development of vegetable organic production
- to increase market opportunities for producers (actions on information and promotion of organic products)
- to initiate information activities in the schools (school fruit, vegetable, milk schemes; under educational aspects of scheme)

- to use the potential of green public procurement for food and catering services
- to support research, innovations and improvements in concrete sectors of plant, animal production, processing, etc. and to allocate financial resources for these activities
- to increase cooperation of farmers, scientists, advisers, e.g. under EIP, increase efficiency of research results and improve sector's performance
- to improve availability and gathering of data in the SR for better analysis of sector development and future needs
- to increase awareness of consumers on specific products and production methods and on the EU organic logo
- to support farmers education and transfer of informations in organic sector, within measures of RDP
- to increase information among farmers and rural actors on the support availability and relevant instruments of CAP