





# Mapping of Pulses primary production in the EU and Greece

## Introduction

Pulses have many uses as food and feed and often their prices are influenced by cereals' corresponding prices. According to FAO experts in combination with cereals could be a solution to food security, which is a major issue globally today.

From the primary production point of view pulses should be cultivated in combination with cereals as a rotation system, in order to increase the yields and enrich the soil with nitrogen, through plant-microbes' symbiotic mechanisms.

## Pulses Historical Data on a Global and EU basis



It is estimated that 795 million people are undernourished. Thus, food security is a major issue. Pulses can contribute to meet the challenge of food security. For this reason, FAO declared year 2016 as the year of pulses <http://www.fao.org/pulses-2016/en/>.

The total cultivated area the last 5 years in the EU, according to Eurostat, is presented in the following graph:

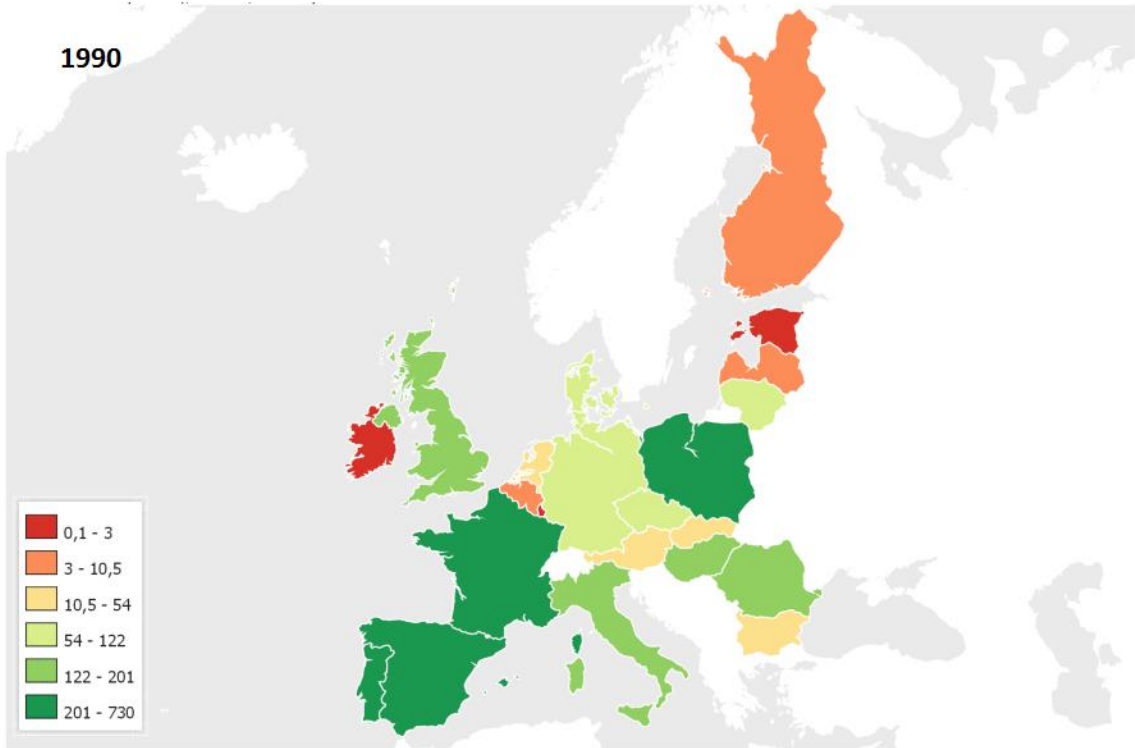




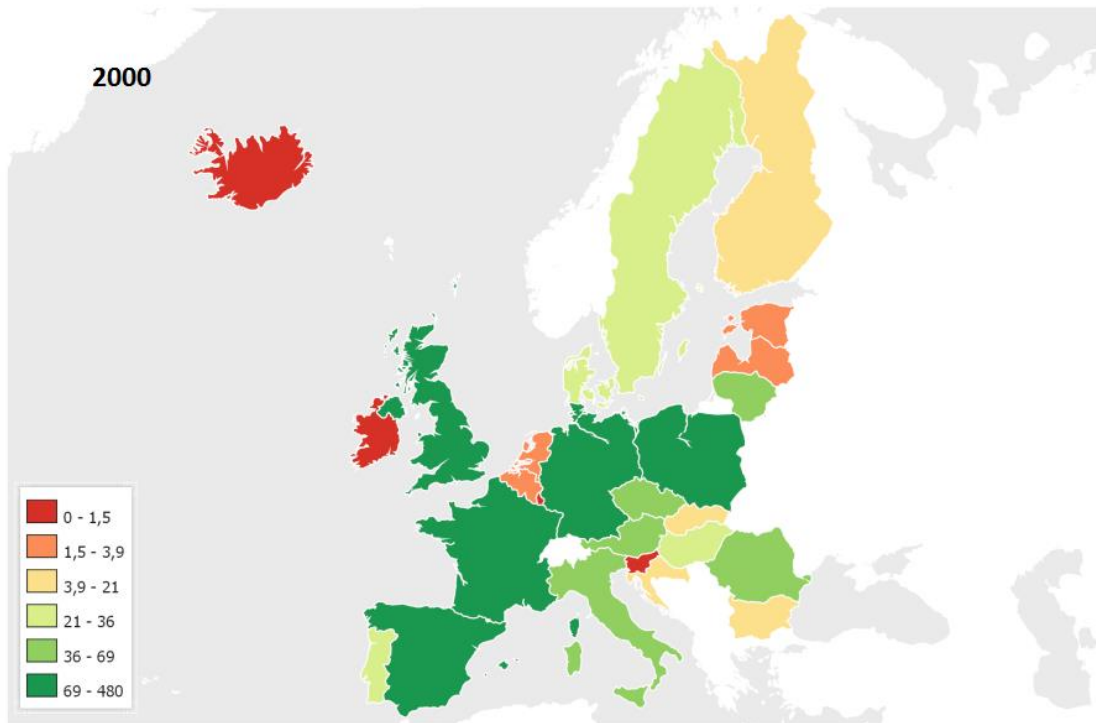




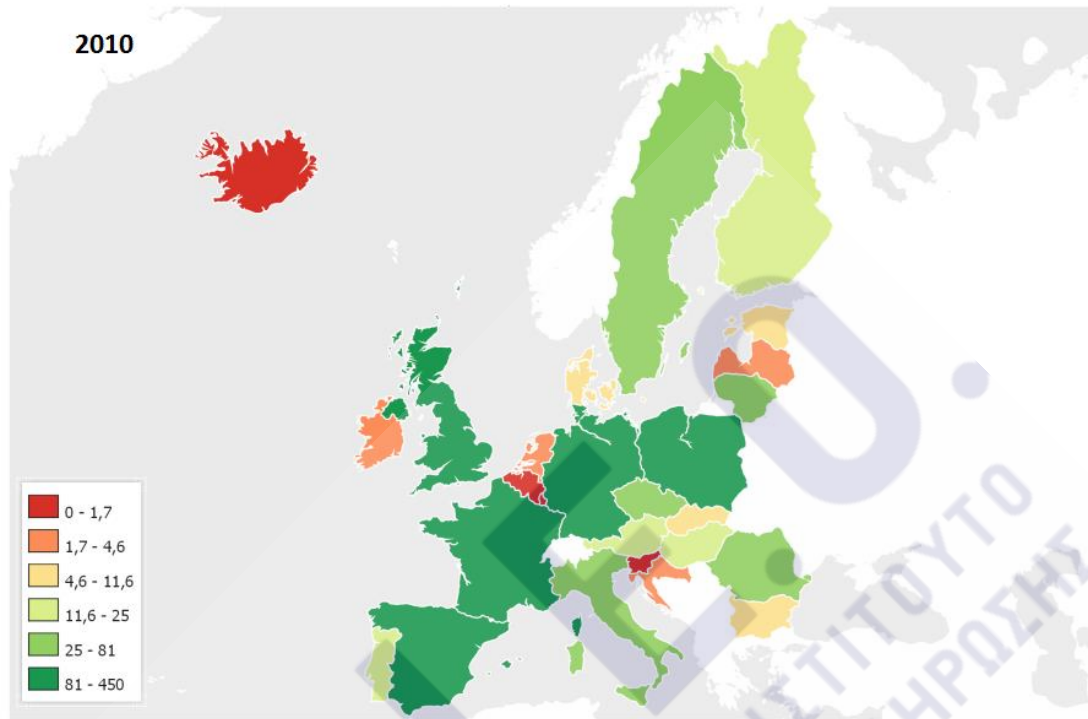
Area (cultivation/harvested/production) (1000 ha)



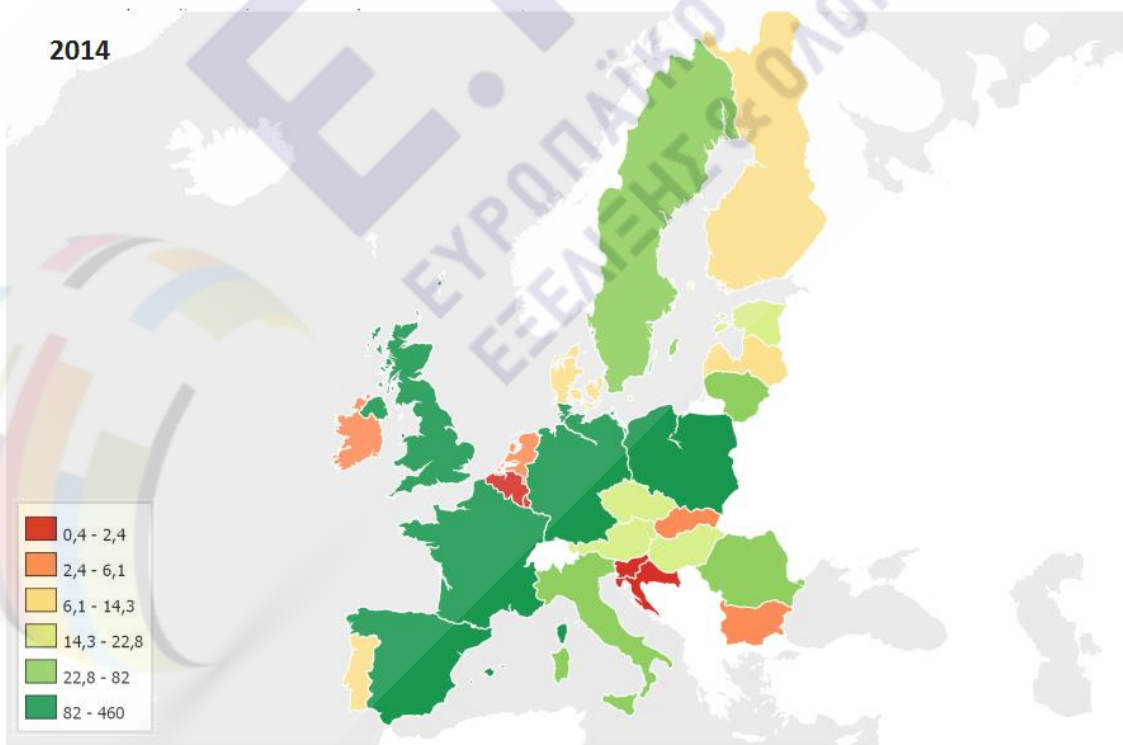
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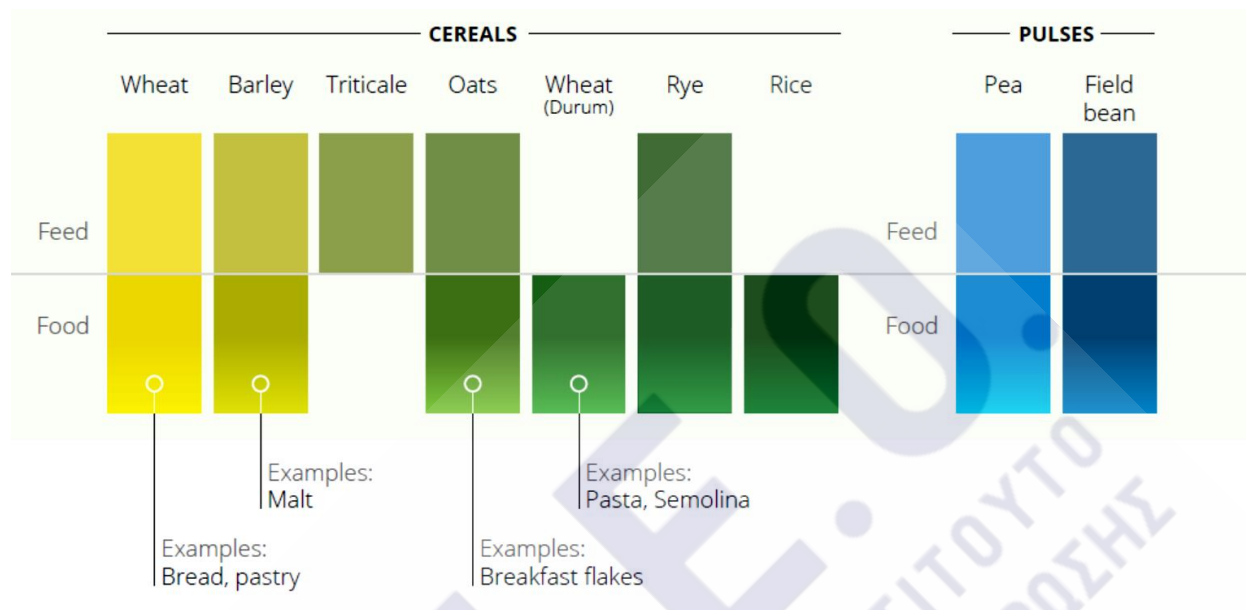


Area (cultivation/harvested/production) (1000 ha)





Seed production in relation to cereals and pulses (Most important crops), is described in the following diagram by the **European Seed Association (ESA)**:



ESA believes that due to the greening measures according to the new Common Agricultural Policy the area of pulse crops is expected to increase.

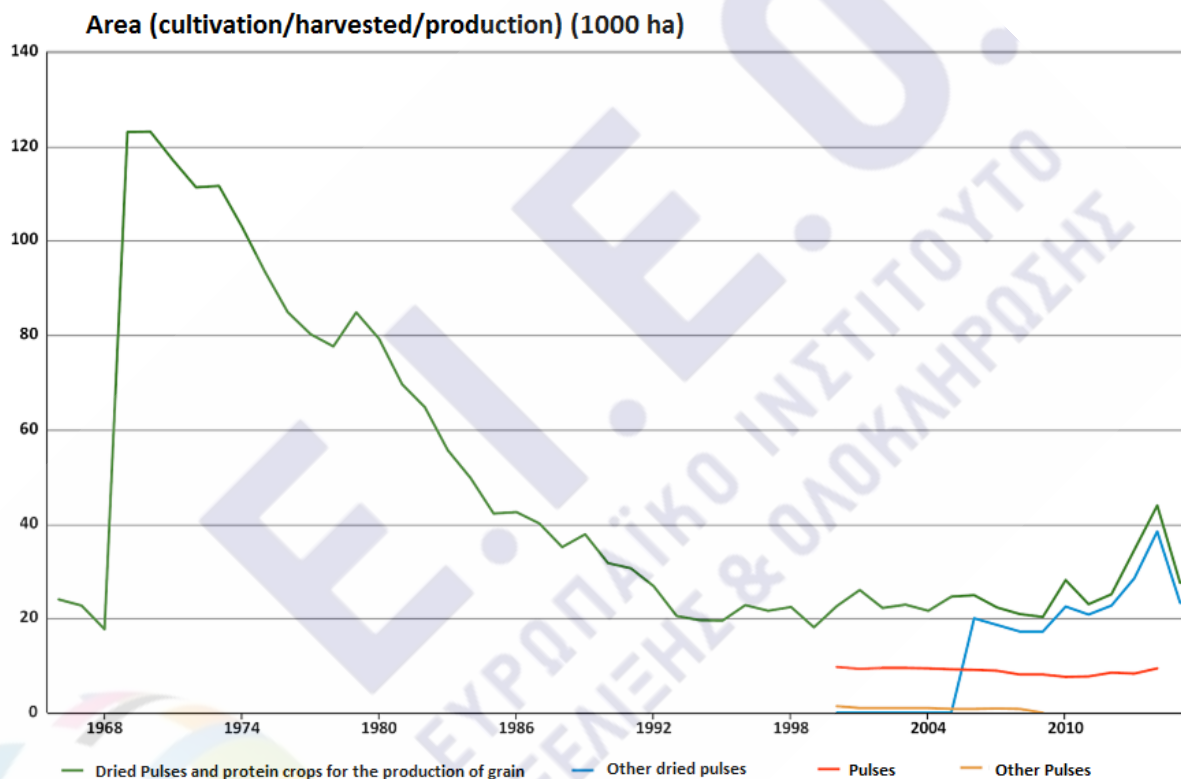
The estimated value of certified seed for sowing of cereals and pulses in the EU28 is estimated at 2.5 billion Euro. The value of commodity production of cereals and pulses in the EU28 is estimated at approximately 40 billion Euro.

Regarding the research targets in seeds breeders according to ESA are targeted improving characteristics such as protein content and specific baking qualities. Additional targets in breeding are abiotic stress factors such as lodging, drought resistance and pest resistance, in order to achieve the general goal of further yield increase in various geographies all over Europe.

## 6 Cultivation and Production of Pulses in Greece

The following graph represents the production of pulses in Greece from 1955 to 2015. It is obvious that there is a huge gap the last 30 years in the production of pulses establishing a potential to develop the sector and increase the cultivation area (Source: Eurostat).

Taking into account that the yields in 1955 were much lower than today someone could imagine the potential to increase the current production.



## References

Data obtained from the Intellectual Output O1 of the Erasmus+ KA2 VET project Green Logistics e-Training in Cereal/Rice Sector.