



STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT – SLOVAK REPUBLIC

2018

25th anniversary of annual reports

AGRICULTURE

STRUCTURE OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

In 2018 the **total area of agricultural land in the SR was 2 379 101 ha**. The greatest parts of this were arable land at 59.17% and permanent grassland at 35.8%. On the other hand, the smallest shares were occupied by hop gardens at 0.02%,

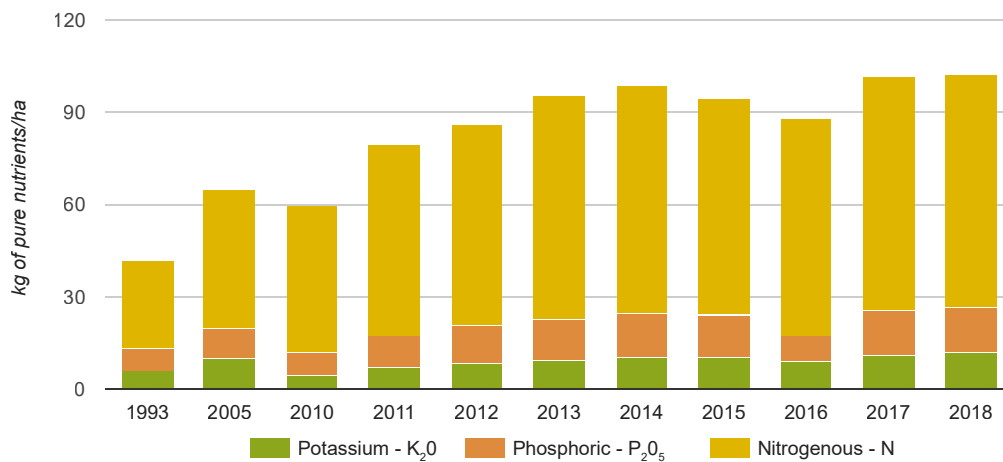
fruit orchards at 0.71%, vineyards at 1.1% and gardens at 3.2%. The land fund trend is characterised by the further loss of agricultural land to the benefit of forests, non-agricultural land and non-forested land.

CONSUMPTION OF INDUSTRIAL FERTILISERS AND PESTICIDES

The **consumption of industrial fertilisers** was 102.4 kg of pure nutrients per hectare of agricultural land in 2018, or 0.6 kg.p.n./ha more than the preceding year. With the changes occurring after 1989 in the agriculture sector, there was a

significant decrease in the consumption of industrial fertilisers in agriculture. Since 2000, however, the consumption of industrial fertilisers has fluctuated and shown a tendency to increase again.

Chart 069 I Trend in the consumption of industrial fertilisers converted to N, P₂O₅ and K₂O

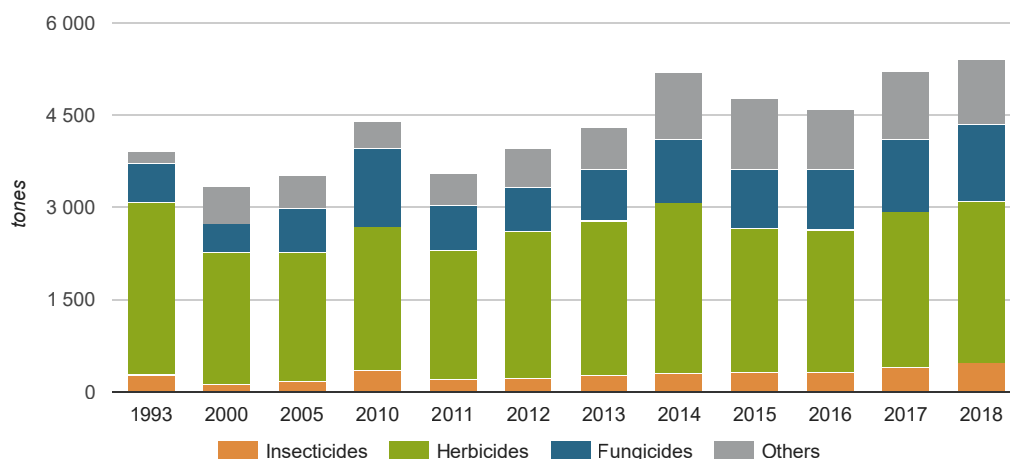


Source: CCTIA

The **consumption of pesticides** grew year-on-year by 191.4 t compared to 2017. In 2018 at total of **5 403.5 t** of preparations to protect flora were applied, of which approximately 2 650.6 t

of herbicides, 1 235.7 t of fungicides, 456.7 t of insecticides and 1 060.6 t of other preparations.

Chart 070 I Trend in the consumption of pesticides by group



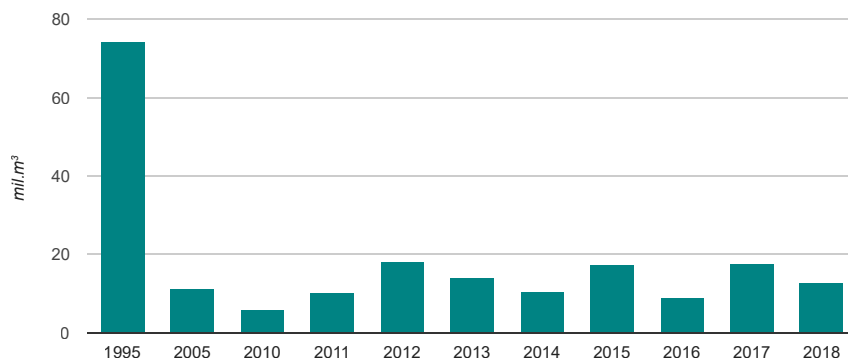
Source: Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic

THE IMPACT OF AGRICULTURE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

The greatest total abstraction of surface water in agriculture is for irrigation, while this depends on the extent and temporal distribution of natural precipitation during

the growing season. In 2018 the total abstraction of surface water for irrigation was 12.95 million m³.

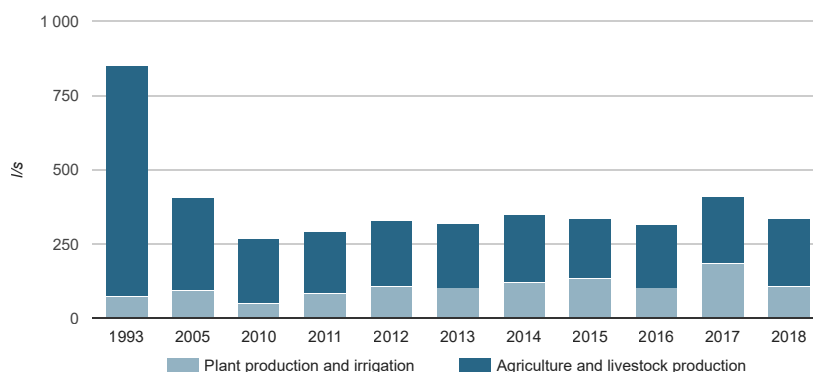
Chart 071 | Trend in the exploitation of surface water for irrigation



Source: Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute

In 2018 groundwater abstraction for agriculture totalled 335.5 l/s.

Chart 072 | Trend in the use of groundwater in agriculture

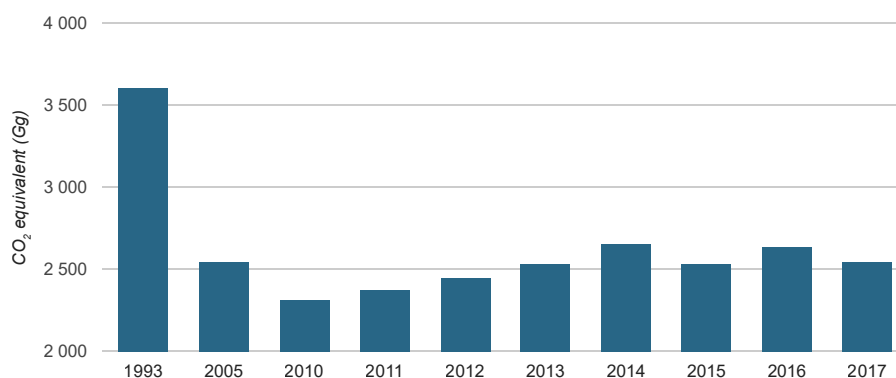


Source: Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute

Agriculture contributed to emissions of greenhouse gases, primarily methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O). In 2017 its emissions expressed as CO₂ equivalent were 6% of all the

greenhouse gas emissions in the SR (not including the LULUCF sector).

Chart 073 | Trend in greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture

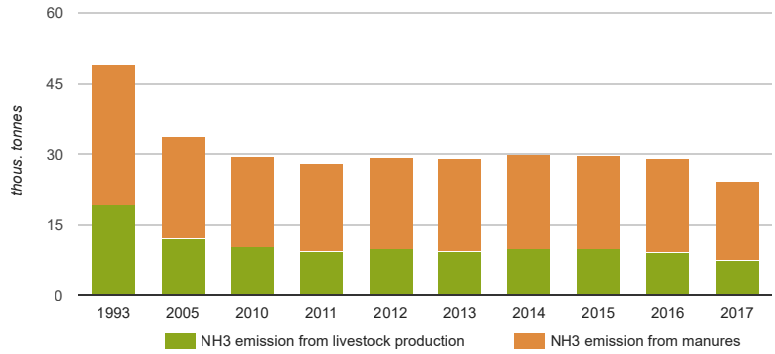


Source: Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic

Note: Emissions determined as of 11 April 2019

Agriculture is the greatest producer of ammonia (NH₃). Emissions of NH₃ have generally fallen since 2000, with agriculture generating 24 044 t in 2017.

Chart 074 | Trend in emissions of ammonia from agriculture



Source: Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute

In 2018 a total of **115 323 m³ of waste water** was discharged in connection with agricultural activities, an increase of

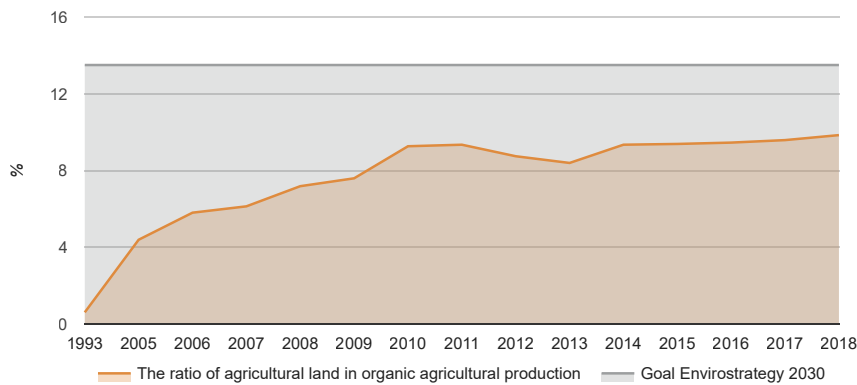
16.7% compared to 2017. In the year in question **508 466 t of hazardous and other waste was generated in agriculture.**

ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

In 2018 a total of **802 entities** farming on **192 143.1 ha of agricultural land**, or 9.85% of the agricultural land fund, was registered in the **organic agricultural production** system. Compared to 2000 this area had increased by 133 803.1 ha.

One of the main targets of Envirostrategy 2030 for sustainable land management is to increase the share of land managed in the organic agricultural production system to at least 13.5% of total agricultural land by 2030.

Chart 075 | Trend in the share of organic agricultural production land to total agricultural land



Source: CCTIA

A comparison of EU Member States from 2017 showed that the SR is in eighth place in terms of the share of land

managed in organic agricultural production.