

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Workshop on Industrial Hemp

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The European Union approach to industrial hemp development

By

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The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.



Hemp cultivation in the EU

Policy framework, sector development and future opportunities

United Nations Conference Trade and Development - Hemp workshop

18 January 2023

Outline of the presentation



1. Common Agricultural Policy – new paradigm



2. Hemp cultivation in the EU



3. Development of the hemp sector in the EU

Common Agricultural Policy

2023-2027 start of a new paradigm

Policy framework of the CAP

A European Green Deal

Overarching policy objectives for the EU's green transition.

- No net emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050
- Economic growth decoupled from resource use
- No person and no place left behind

Farm to fork Strategy

Biodiversity Strategy



The new CAP: from centralised to localised

• Existing elements

- Conditional income support for farmers
- Ensuring resilient food production and improving market orientation
- Development of rural areas



• New elements

- More flexibility on local conditions
- Increased ambition for economic, environmental and social sustainability
- Fairer distribution

New elements of the CAP

- National Strategic Plans
- Enhanced conditionality (GAEC)
- Ecoschemes
- Reinforced producer cooperation



CAP measures supporting hemp cultivation

Direct income support

- 'Green box' support
- Payment per hectare, not crop specific.
- Farmers decide on what to grow, when hectares are used to produce hemp max of 0.3% THC

CAP measures supporting hemp cultivation

Coupled income support

- 'Blue box' support
- Fixed amount of ha (13 140 ha in EU in 2022)
- Previous programming period: France, Poland, and Romania
- New programming period: France, Poland, Romania, and Finland (crop premium for hemp oil)

CAP measures supporting hemp cultivation

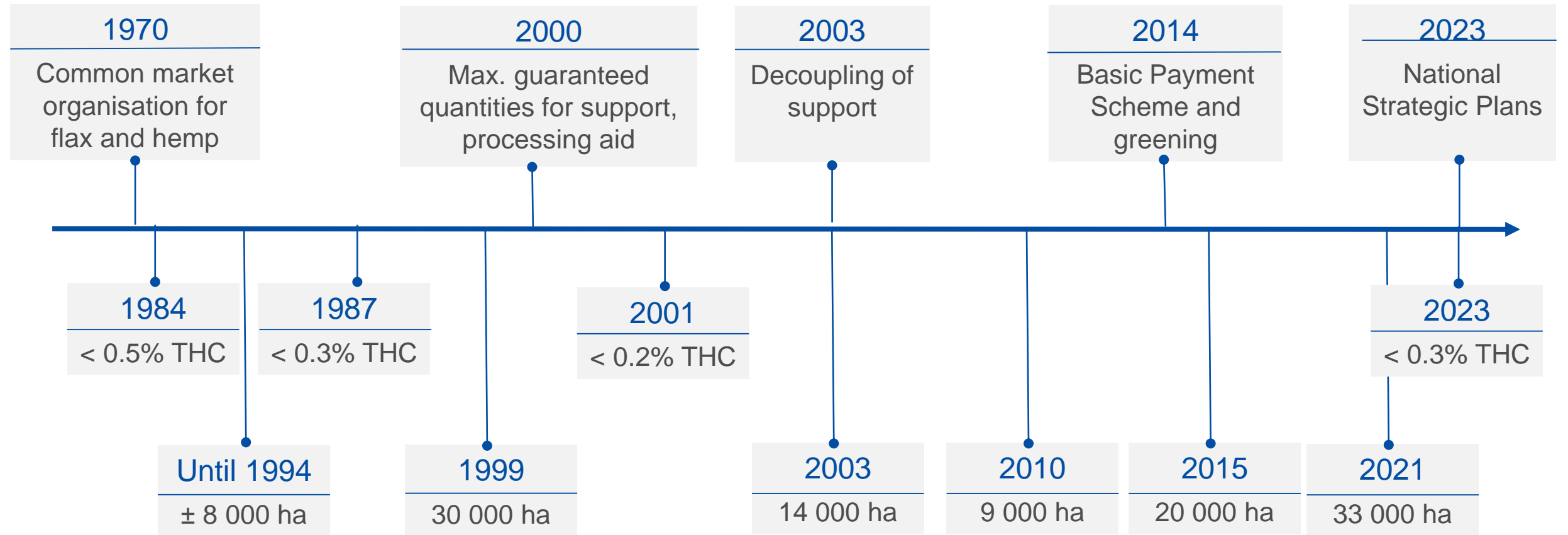
Ecoschemes

- additional support for voluntary environmental measures that go beyond conditionality
- Hemp specific measures (e.g. Belgium, Denmark)
- General measures for arable crops

Hemp cultivation in the EU

Regulatory framework

History of EU hemp and the CAP



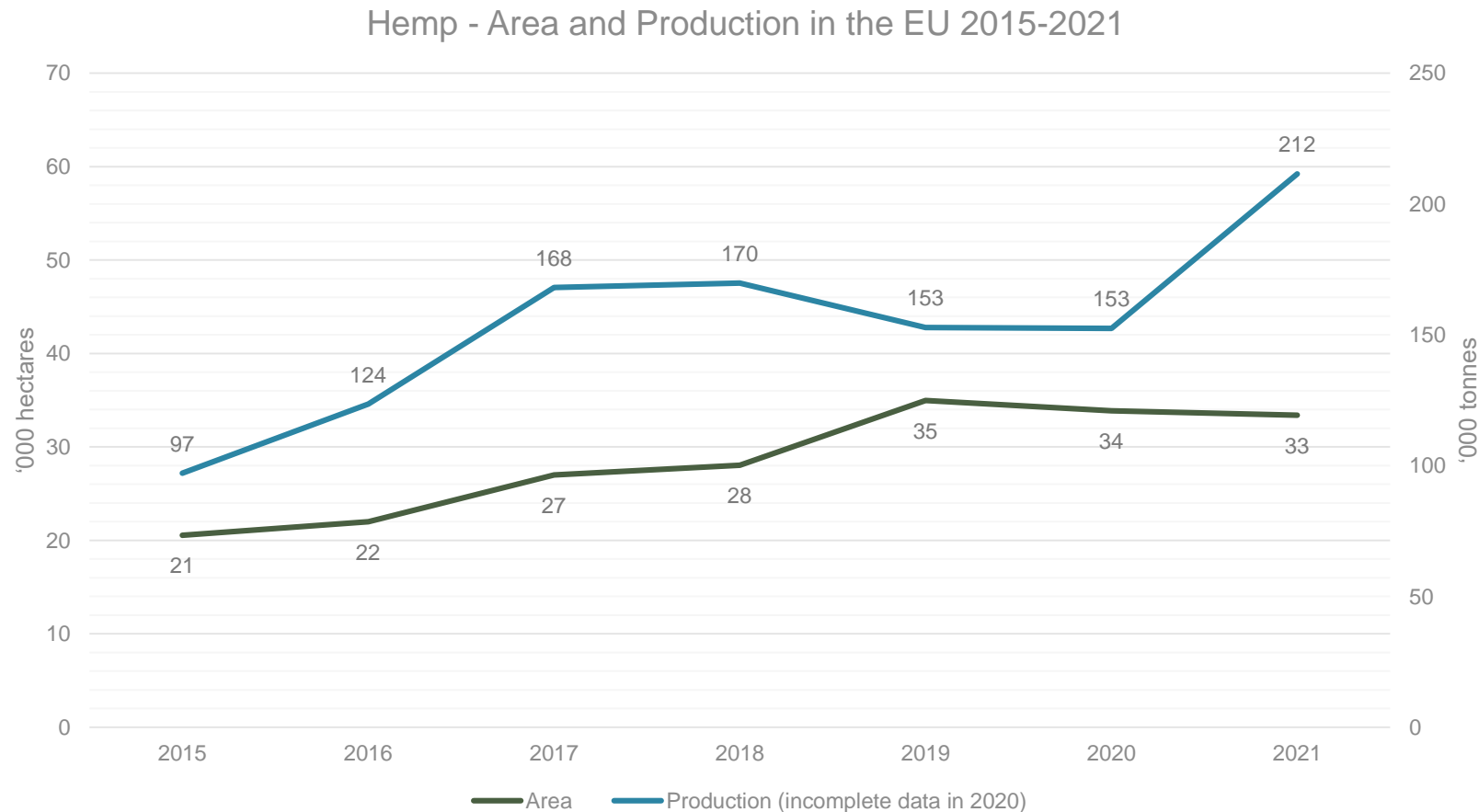


Rules in the EU on hemp cultivation

- Eligible hectares for direct payments: only for hemp production hemp with maximum 0.3% THC
- Varieties listed in the EU common catalogue of agricultural plant species (75 varieties for 0.2%)
- Controls on the field: Checks of THC content of plants
- Member States' rules

Development of the sector

Hemp acreage and harvested production



Source: Eurostat database

Disclaimer:
The European Commission does not collect data on hemp area and production itself. It depends on the input from Member States. Actual figures could be higher.

Hemp area in EU Member States

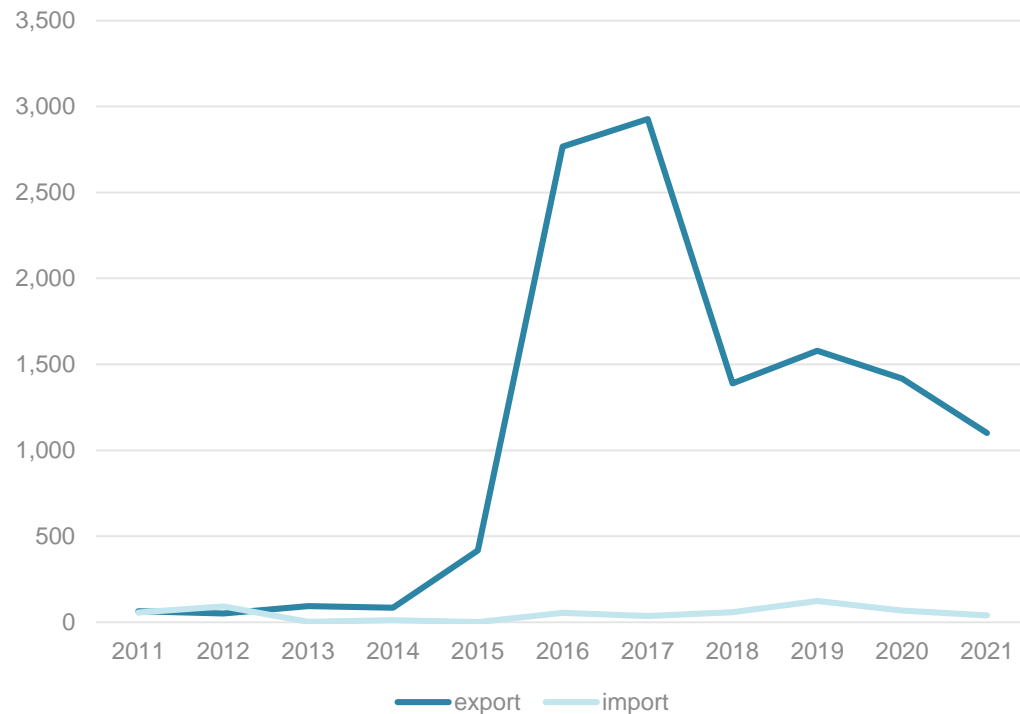
Member State	2015	2021
Belgium	0.38	0.09
Bulgaria	0.00	0.16
Czechia	0.43	0.20
Germany	1.50	4.60
Ireland	0.02	0.04
Greece	0.00	0.13
Spain	0.08	0.46
France	11.78	18.32
Italy	0.53	0.60

Member State	2015	2021
Latvia	0.10	0.00
Lithuania	1.50	0.87
Hungary	0.02	
Netherlands	2.04	1.70
Austria	1.17	1.88
Poland	0.60	2.12
Romania	0.41	0.69
Total	20.56	31.86

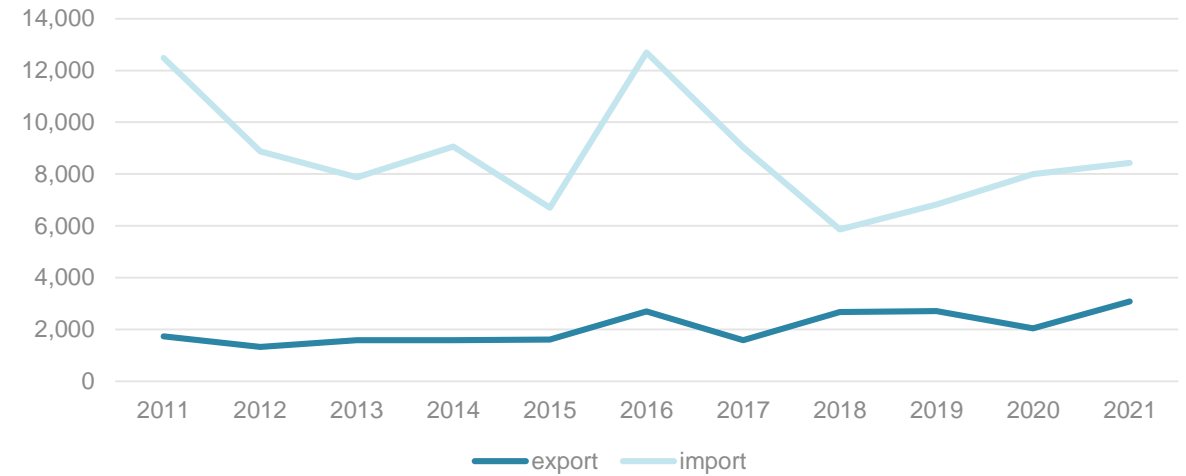
Source: Eurostat database

Imports and exports

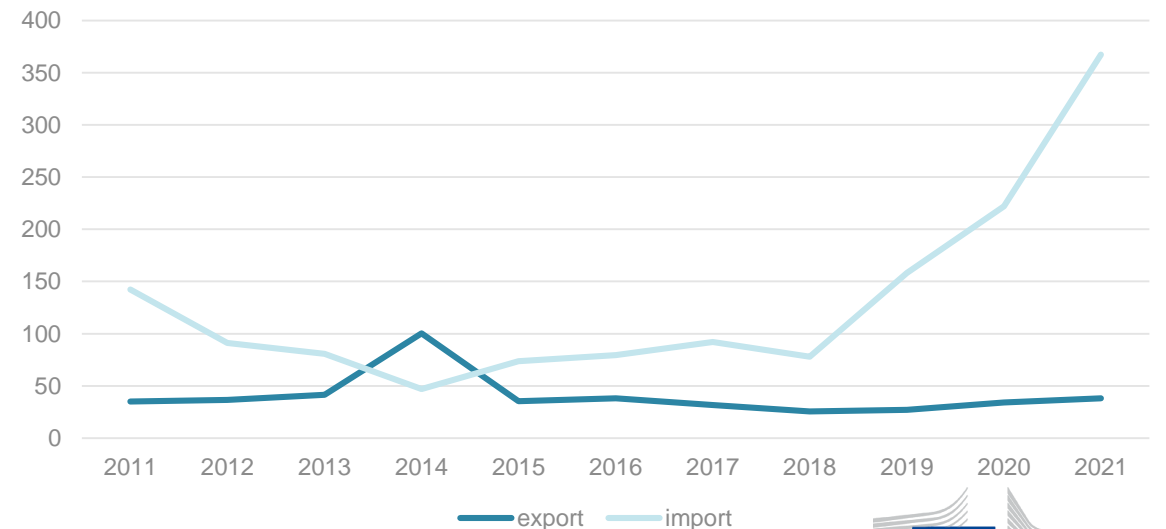
True hemp (CN 530210)



Hemp seeds (not for sowing) (CN 120799)



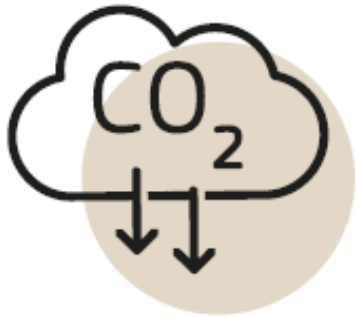
Hemp yarn (retail and non-retail) (CN 530820)



Source: EC Acces2Markets database

Accelerator for development of the hemp sector

Hemp contributes to the European Green Deal targets



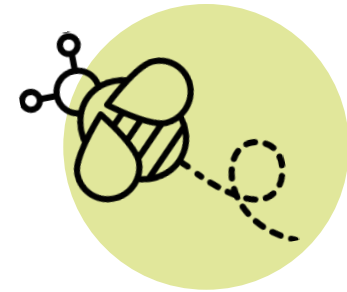
Carbon storage



Healthy soils



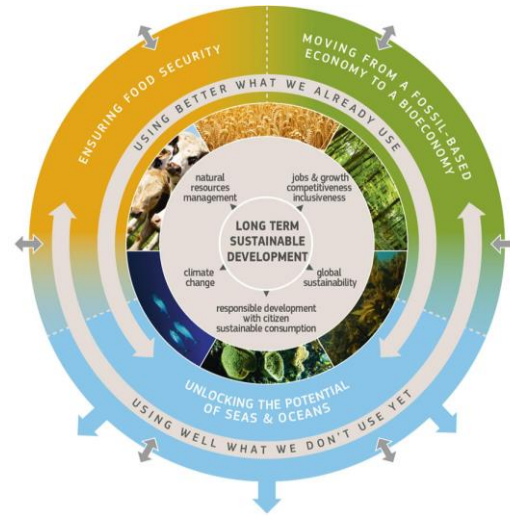
Low pesticide
use



Biodiversity

Other accelerators for the hemp sector

Bioeconomy strategy



Carbon farming initiative



The Commission's 2030 Vision for Textiles



- All textile products placed on the EU market are:
- durable, repairable and recyclable
 - to a great extent made of recycled fibres
 - free of hazardous substances
 - produced respecting social rights

"Fast fashion is out of fashion" – consumers benefit longer from **high quality textiles**

Profitable **re-use and repair services** are widely available

Circular rather than throw-away clothes have become the norm, with sufficient capacities for recycling and minimal incineration and landfilling

Sustainable textiles strategy

Organic action plan

More information



<https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/>



https://agriculture.ec.europa.eu/farming/crop-productions-and-plant-based-products/hemp_en



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Thank you



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