

simple soil science



Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and  
Food Quality of the Netherlands

## How the Dutch Ministry cooperate and use research in the process of Nitrates Directive implementation

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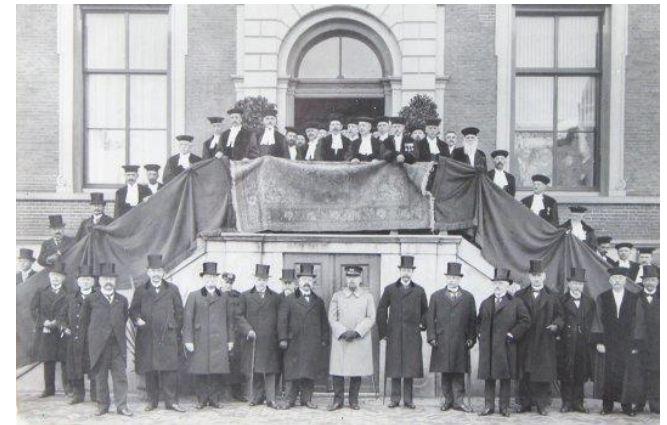
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## Use of scientific research in policy development

- Expert committee of fertilizer law (CDM)
- Helpdesk questions to the research institutes of Wageningen University and Research Centre
- Soil Protection Technical Committee (TCB)
  
- Strong connection with Wageningen University and Research Centre
- The first agricultural research department (DLO) founded in 1877 in Wageningen by ministry
- 9 different DLO-institutes were founded
  
- In 1998 Wageningen University and DLO joined forces and Wageningen University and Research Centre started





## Expert committee on fertilizer law (CDM)

- Expert committee of fertilizer law, started on request of the ministry in 2003
- Chairman and secretary are positioned at Wageningen University and Research Centre + 8 members of different universities + adviser of Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency
- CDM advises the ministry on proposed changes in the manure policy: on request and by own initiative
- The CDM is independent and reports are published in public within 3 months
- To fulfill the tasks, often an expert group is formed



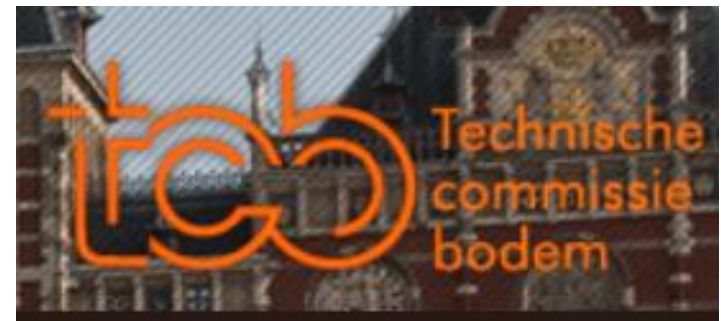
# Helpdesk questions Wageningen University and Research Centre (WUR)

- Yearly budget is allocated for research
- The ministry can ask all type of smaller research questions via the helpdesk
- The counterpart at WUR takes care the question is put at the right place



## Soil Protection Technical Committee (TCB)

- Advise of TCB is obliged for changes in the Dutch Soil Protection Act, where part of manure policy is allocated
- Provides recommendations on technical and scientific aspects of soil policy
- Independent Scientific Committee
- Composed of a chairman and two experts. Secretary is positioned at the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water works.
- Research is been carried out by a private research institute (CLM)
- The TCB will stop when new Dutch Environmental Act is in place





## Additional

- Public-private cooperation research:
  - Funds allocated for this type of research. Private parties & government formulate research projects – university and private research institutes do research.
  - Program of funding is outlined by the Knowledge and Innovation department of ministry. Ministry part of steering committee.
- Pilots initiated by private sector with research institutes / university
  - Best are incorporated in 6<sup>th</sup> NAP and facilitated by ministry
  - In 7<sup>th</sup> NAP new pilots will be taken up.
- Research of universities for which exemptions of law are needed
- Results are used by policy makers for redesigning manure policy and writing future NAP's



## Cows & Opportunity's

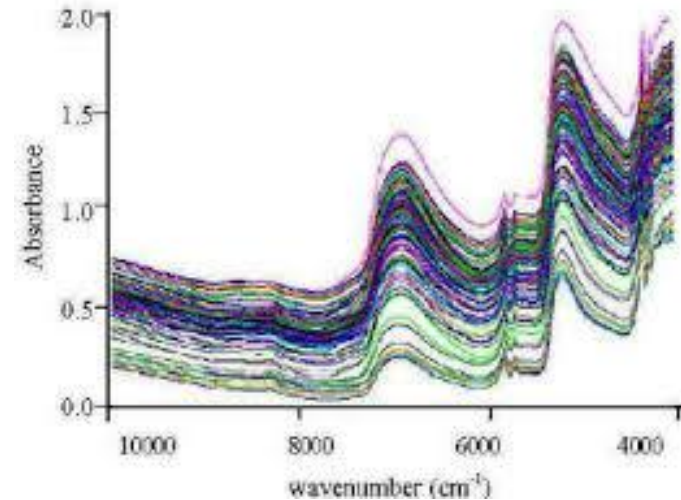
- Koeien en Kansen/ Cows & Opportunity's
- Ministry and sector together
- 15 practical farms and 1 research farm, since 2000
- Supervised by researchers and agriculture advisors
- Testing the measures of the future
- Good for environment and economy





## Near Infra Red Sensor project

- Applying NIRS on manure to know content
- Together with Laboratories, control agency and transport companies
- Design a fast and accurate tool for nutrients in manure
- Could help farmers in better fertilization
- Could help government in reliable control
- Could help intermediates in cheaper transport
- Work together for future tools







Thanks for your attention