

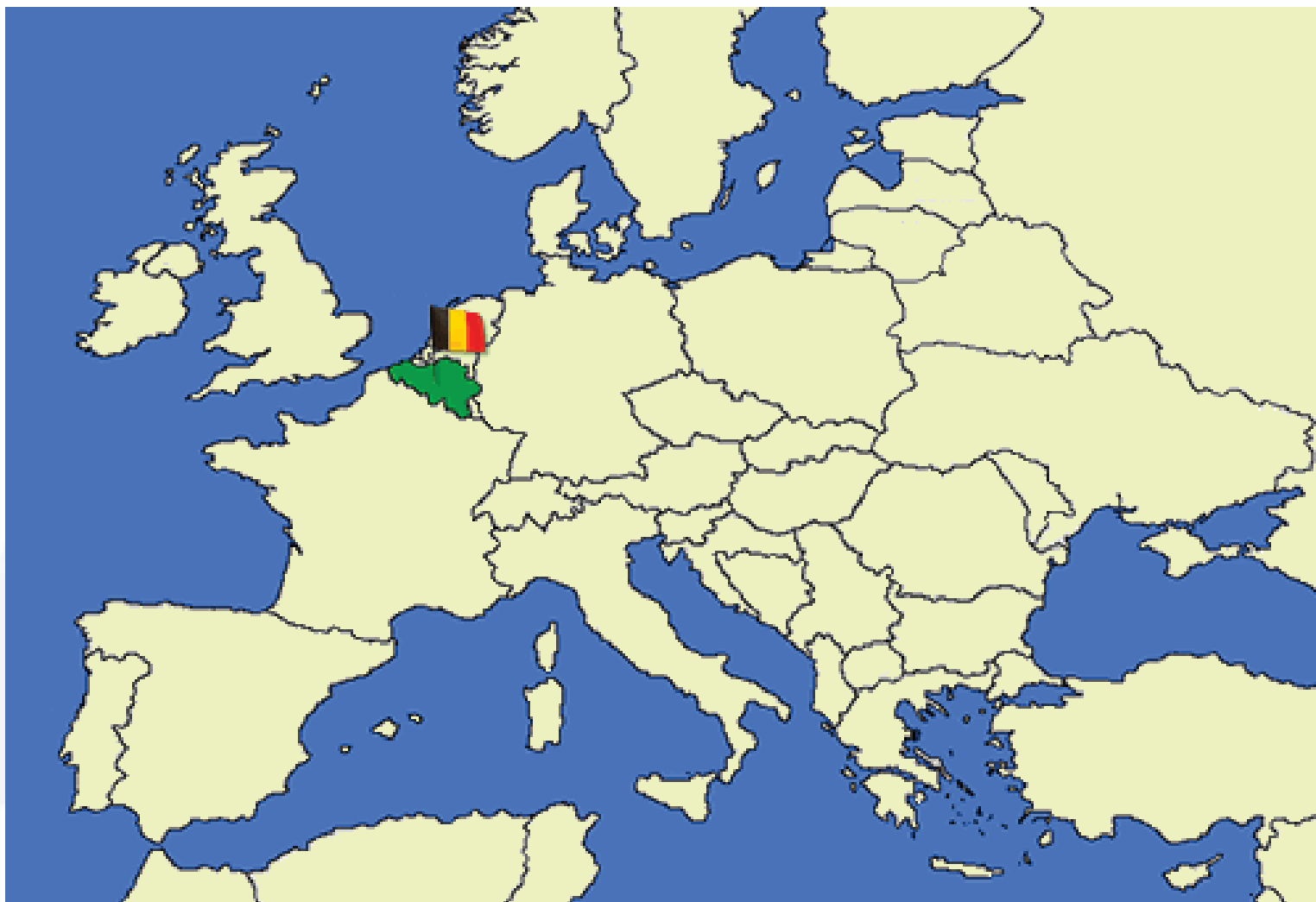
“Agriculture and landscape, a good match!”

East Flanders/BELGIUM



BELGIUM

location



BELGIUM

province of EAST FLANDERS

location



EAST FLANDERS

= one of the five provinces of the Flemish Region

= one of the ten provinces of Belgium

figures

East Flemish agri- and horticulture

- Total area: 298.200 acres
- Area agriculture: 149.000 acres
 - Pasture, grassland and livestock 61%
 - Fields 34%
 - Horticulture 5%
 - ⇒ of which 8% greenhouses, mainly floriculture
- Number of enterprises? About 7500
 - 392 farm products/regional farm products (source: Steunpunt Hoeveproducten)
 - 71 approved farm shops (source: VLAM)
- Trend: A decreasing number of companies, but strongly growing in size
- Economic pillars agri- and horticulture?
horticulture, dairy farming, pig breeding, vegetables production
- East Flanders = province of FLORICULTURE
=> "Gentse Azalea" = recognised as an European regional product



pillars of the Provincial Policy 'Agriculture & Rural area'

- **Amplifying the sustainability of the agri- and horticulture**



- Stimulating agricultural management without losing sight of nature
- Improving the integration of the agricultural companies in the landscape and stimulating proper management
- Promoting integral watermanagement
- Helping to realise the climate- and energy goals

- **Promote development opportunities for the agricultural complex**



- Implementation of the policy plan regarding the greenhouses
- Provide advices and visions

pillars of the Provincial Policy 'Agriculture & Rural area'

Raising engagement concerning agriculture and the countryside

- improve the knowledge about the image of agriculture and the countryside
- ameliorate agricultural education



Optimizing the management of botanical and animal nuisances

- Reducing the impacts of non-native species and rats
- Support of animal shelters



Stimulating innovation & research

- Support innovation
- Subsidize research centres



pillars of the Provincial Policy

'Agriculture & Rural area'

Designing a liveable countryside

- To carry out the Flemish countryside management
- To realise the Integrated countryside management (PDPO)
- To invest in the visual quality of the countryside
- To stimulate local sustainable foodstrategies
- To support the countryside



“Agriculture and landscape, a good match!”

East Flanders/BELGIUM



1. THE AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE, RICHER THAN YOU THINK

‘The countryside: alive and divers’



IN THE PAST

- A lot of regional landscape components
- hedges, hedgerows and ditches = confining livestock, property border, wind-shield, shadow –and woodsupplier.

NOW

- New techniques (barbed wire, draining grounds,...). Agricultural parcels get bigger and more accessible for big machines.
- The man-made cultural landscape is threatened by agriculture, urbanization, expanding company grounds.

**THE LANDSCAPE IS INFLUENCED
BY HUMAN ACTIVITIES**

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1. THE AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPE, RICHER THAN YOU THINK

‘new chances for the landscape and the agriculture’

The agricultural sector is more than just a producer of food!
Nature– and landscapemanagment opens new perspectives:

- *energyproduction biomass
- *marketing the landscape (tourism)
- *agricultural naturemanagement



2. THE EAST FLEMISH COUNTRYSIDE: a short summery

Landscapes in East Flanders

(a combination of natural & cultural elements)

- long history
- distinct identity
- very diverse



Werkingsgebied
regionale
landschappen



Bron: landschapsatlas



Meetjesland

Elongated parcels



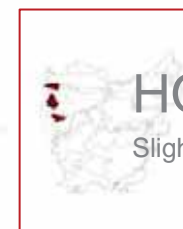
GROTE
DEKZAND-
RUG

sandy, mostly afforested



STRAAT
DORPEN
GEBIED

Tree plantation , floriculture



HOUTLAND

Slightly wavy
closed character



WAASLAND

Round acres,
a lot of low stemmed
fruits
canadapoplars



LEIE
& SCHELDE

Flat, pollard trees



VLAAMSE
ARDENNEN

inliers

Zandstreek : N

Zandleem en leemstreek: Z

2. THE EAST FLEMISH COUNTRYSIDE: a short summery



3. LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

POINTED ELEMENTS



-single tree or shrub



-puddle (in the past: drinking place for cattle and reserve for extinguishing fires)



-farmyard (entrance, courtyard, decoration stables, silo, pile of manure, ...)

-high stemmed orchard (old fruitbreeds)

→ Regional and native plants first!

4. AGRICULTURAL BUILDING AS A PART OF THE LANDSCAPE

FARMS DETERMINE THE IMAGE AND CHARISMA OF THE
LANDSCAPE

-in the past: regional farmbuildings, harmony

-now: attention for AGRICULTURAL ARCHITECTURE
'architecture new stables and silos in harmony with
the landscape'

→ be creative with volume and design
(dark roof = visual minimization)

→ be creative with texture and color (less is more)



5. Landscape integration plan customized for the particular agriculture

TOTAL VISION OF THE LANDSCAPE

attention for

- visual aspects
- ecology
- cultural history
- company organisation
- business economics



6. WORKING TOGETHER

PROFITS OR BENEFITS by taking care of the landscape & nature?

Direct profits

- management agreements (property borders, small landscape elements,...)
- other allowances: local councils, regional landscapes, national orchard foundation, departement of special planning (agentschap ruimtelijke ordening onroerend erfgoed),...



Indirect profits

- energy landscape maintenance
- tourism/recreation
- agricultural natureguide



WORKING TOGETHER IN LANDSCAPEMANAGEMENT: more than a sum!

Contact details

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