

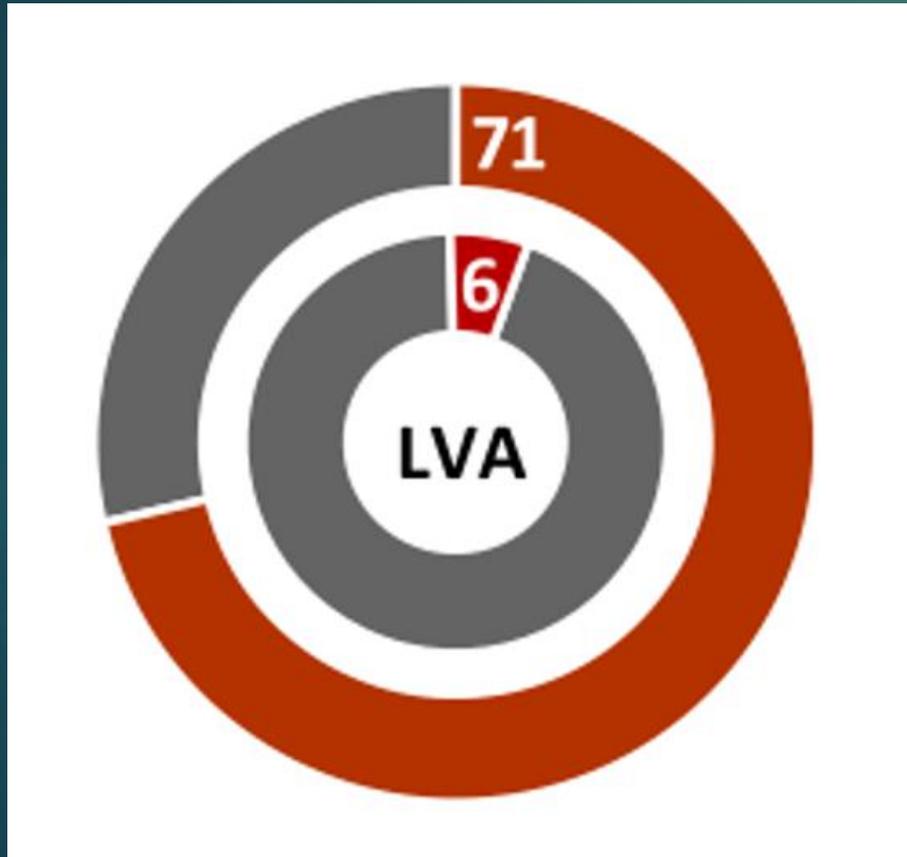
# Potentials for paludicultures on rewetted peatlands in Latvia

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# Why do we care?

Data differ, but emissions are considerable anyway



Organic soil of total agricultural land

Almost all main land use types in Latvia can be found on organic soils - agriculture, forestry, peat extraction and nature protection.

While peatlands cover only 7% of all agricultural lands, their share of emissions from drained peatland in the agricultural and land use sector is almost 30% (BIO4ECO, 2017)

- ▶ Legislation promotes drainage - if land is permanently wet it is not considered as agricultural land.
- ▶ Only the peat mining sector actively promotes rewetting of extracted peat fields.
- ▶ Therefore, in Latvia in terms of the project “Paludiculture in the Baltic states” focused on possibilities to establish paludicultures on extracted peat fields.



# Main results of the project

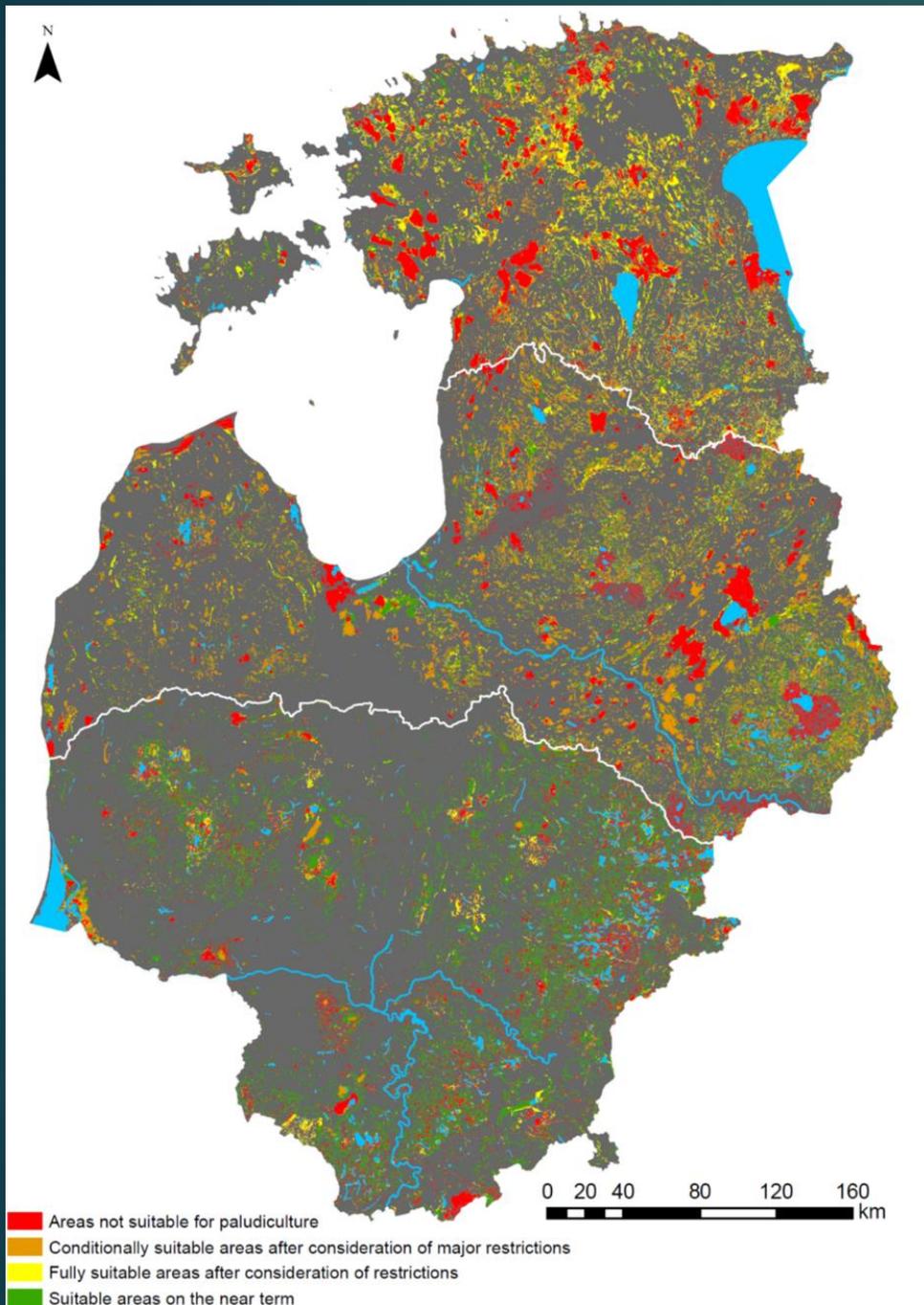
**Paludicultures are listed** “The Guidelines for the sustainable use of peat for the period 2020-2030” as one of the degraded peatland **recultivation** types suitable for conditions in Latvia.

According Guidelines:

recultivation plans for degraded peatlands will be necessary for

- **7 870 ha until 2023 and**
- **for 26 232 ha until 2030.**

<http://tap.mk.gov.lv/lv/mk/tap/?pid=40442317&mode=mk&date=2020-11-17>



	# areas	Area EE [ha]	Area LV [ha]	Area LT [ha]	Σ area [ha]
<b>Green</b>	95 656	76 588	111 390	262 690	450 668
<b>Yellow</b>	40 831	14 639	65 781	17 202	97 622
<b>Orange</b>	78 857	282 557	142 936	244 055	669 548
<b>Red</b>	47 702	215 906	194 684	116 960	527 550
<b>Total</b>	263 046	589 690	514 791	640 907	1 745 388



# Existing paludiculture experience in Latvia

# Reed



Reed cutting in Pape Lake Natura 2000 site.

Problem – can't harvest after March 14 (due to bird nesting). Very often that is the best time for reed cutting.

Would be interested to plant reed in extracted peatlands in order to prolong time for reed cutting and plant reed with less leaves.

# Reed canary grass

251 ha in 2018  
Area is decreasing every year



foto: R.Puriš

# Black alder

Covers 3% or 91 000 ha of forests in Latvia



# Sphagnum farming

SIA «Klasmann-Deilmann Latvia»



# SIA Laflora





If we take into account botanical composition of peat...

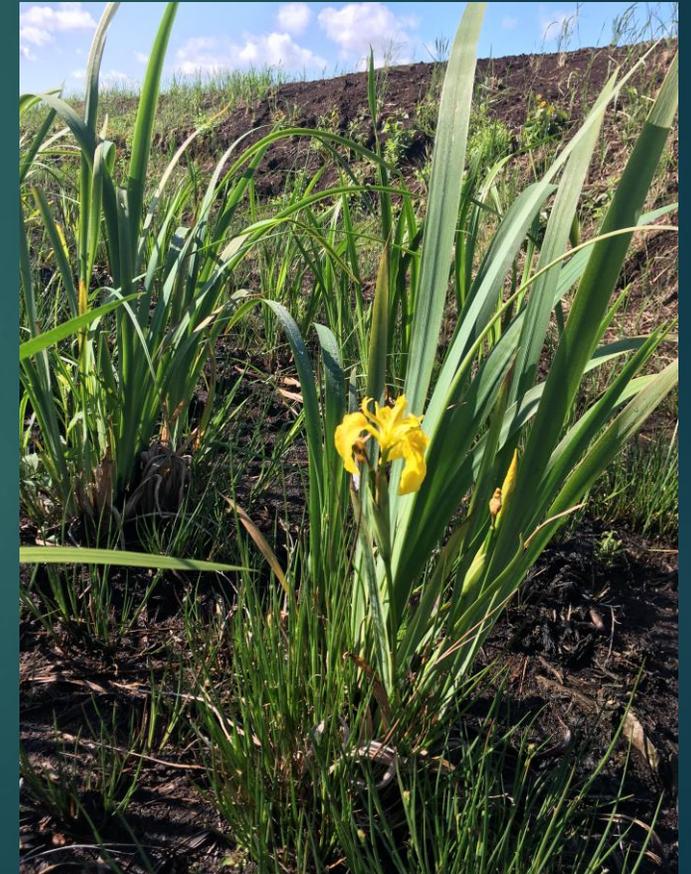


# *Acorus calamus* L. & *Iris pseudacorus*

2019



2020





**1 seedling  
= 1.5 EUR**





**To conclude –**

Potential for paludicultures in Latvia  
is equal to 1 11 000 ha.

**BUT!!!**

The main challenge for that is...

To change centuries-old practice and thinking.

Tode ja oigus (Truth and justice).  
Estonia, 2019



Bog devil – a monument in honor of completing land drainage in Sigulda district, Latvia



VĪRI, KURI VEIDOĀA „Purva velns” ansambli,  
No kreisās: Antons Migliniēks, Valerijs  
Miščenko, Valdis Freimanis un Rihards  
Zvaigznīte. / 1974. g. /



Fortunately (or unfortunately) money can do miracles



Sorry – money and love  
can do miracles ;)

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