



Photo: Uwe Neave

How to deal with agricultural destruction and high predation pressure

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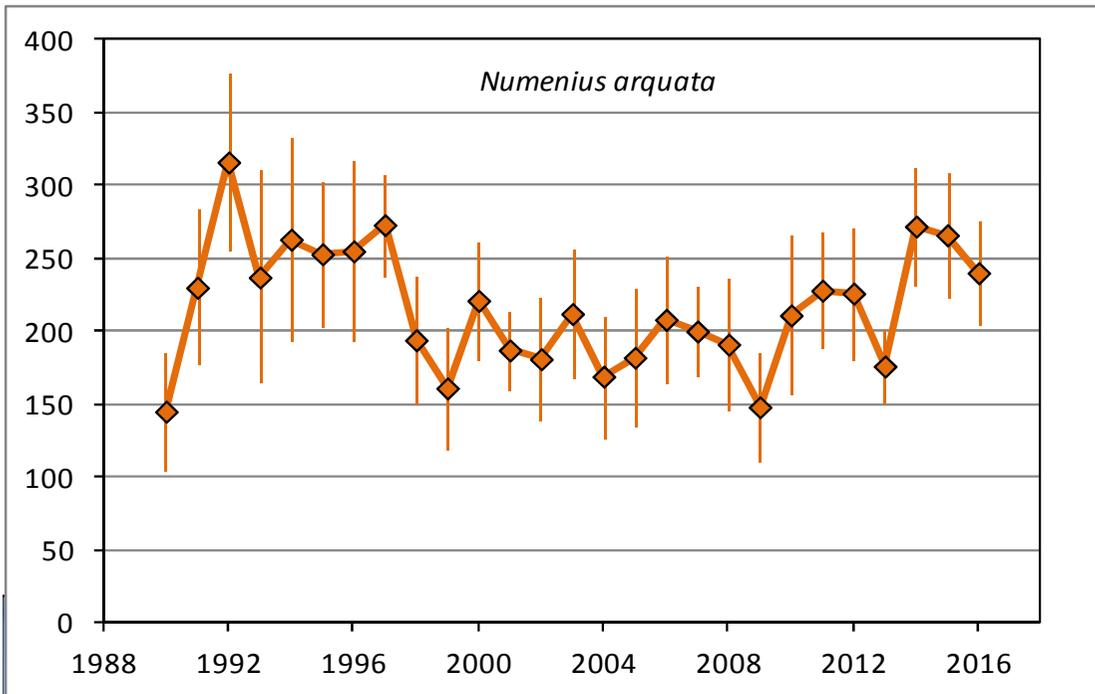
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Study site



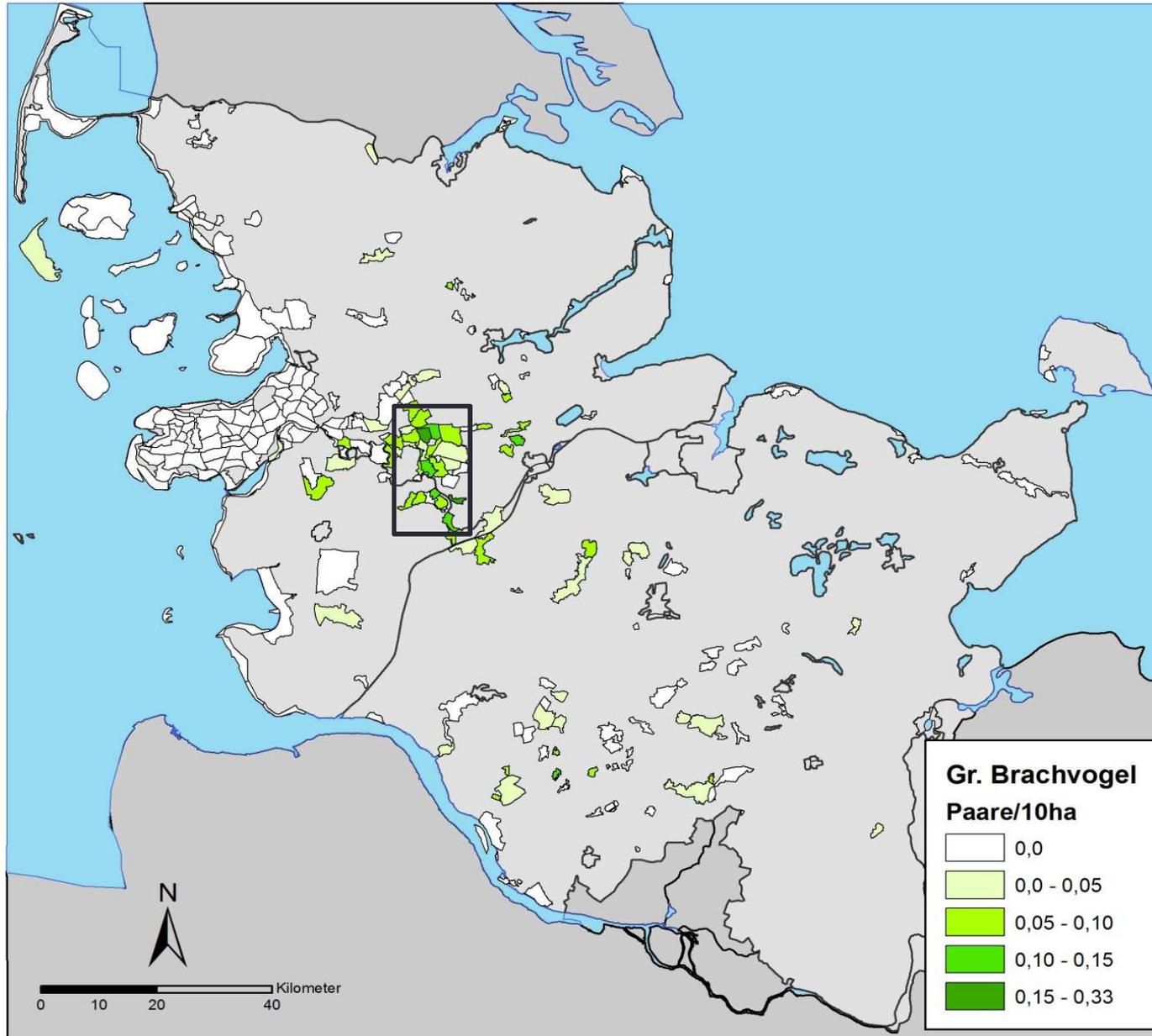
- ~ 20.000 ha lowland (Special Protection Area “Eider-Treene-Sorge-Niederung”)
- 80-100 Curlew pairs
- stable population

Study site



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Project aims: protection plan for sustainability

- Demographic parameters
- Habitat usage
- Population ecology
- Protections measures
 - (1) Agriculture
 - (2) Predation



Protection measures

1. Agriculture:

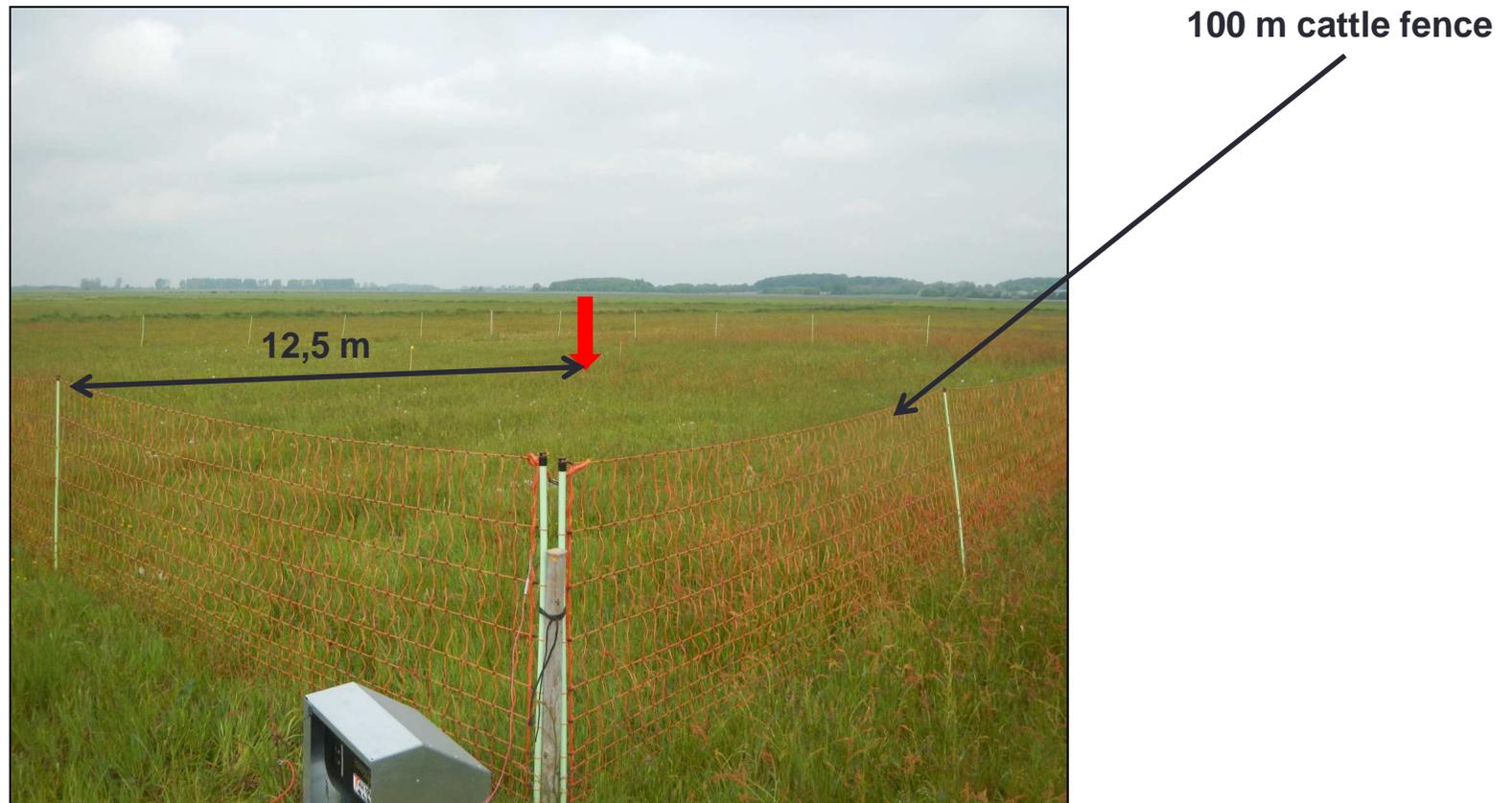
- Voluntary cooperation with farmers
- Nest protection
- Chick protection



Protection measures

2. Predation:

- Single nest protection against ground predators
- No chick protection
- Comparison with nests without protection



Protection measures

2. Predation:

- Single nest protection against ground predators
- No chick protection
- Comparison with nests without protection

**Sample sites: 3.400 ha,
47 pairs**

protection against
agriculture (nests and
chicks) and **predation** (only
nests, 50 %)

**Control sites: 5.000 ha,
31 pairs**

protection against
agriculture (nests and
chicks), no fencing

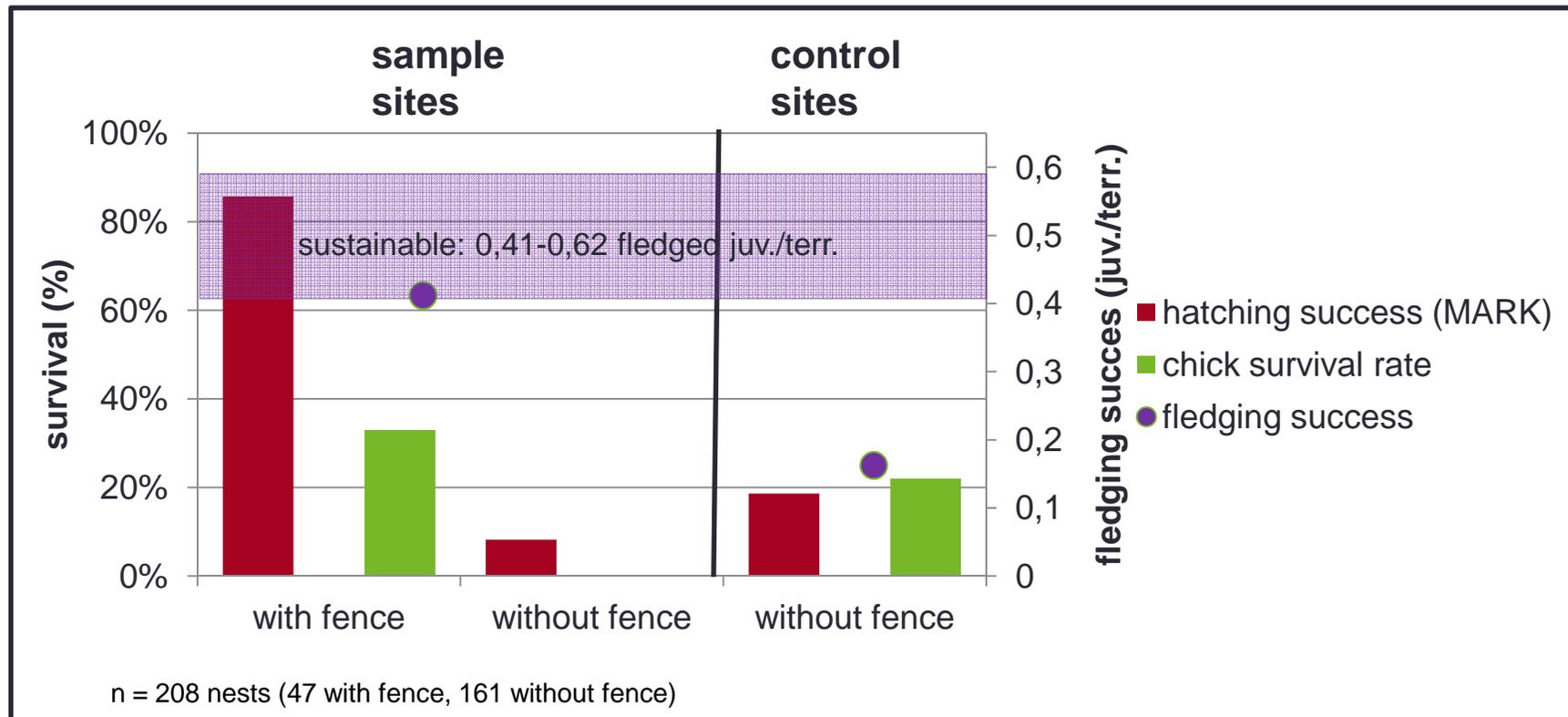
Protection measures

2. Predation:

- Single nest protection against ground predators
- No chick protection
- Comparison with nests without protection



Results 2013-2016



Sample sites (agriculture & predation):

47 ± 14 % hatching success
 33 ± 12 % chick survival
 0,41 ± 0,21 fledging success

Control sites (agriculture):

19 ± 11 % hatching success
 22 ± 4 % chick survival
 0,16 ± 0,03 fledging success

Conclusions

1. Good cooperation with farmers necessary
2. Predation on nests mainly caused by ground dwelling mammals
3. Enhanced hatching success → enhanced fledging success
4. Habitat quality & other factors
5. Time consuming and expensive

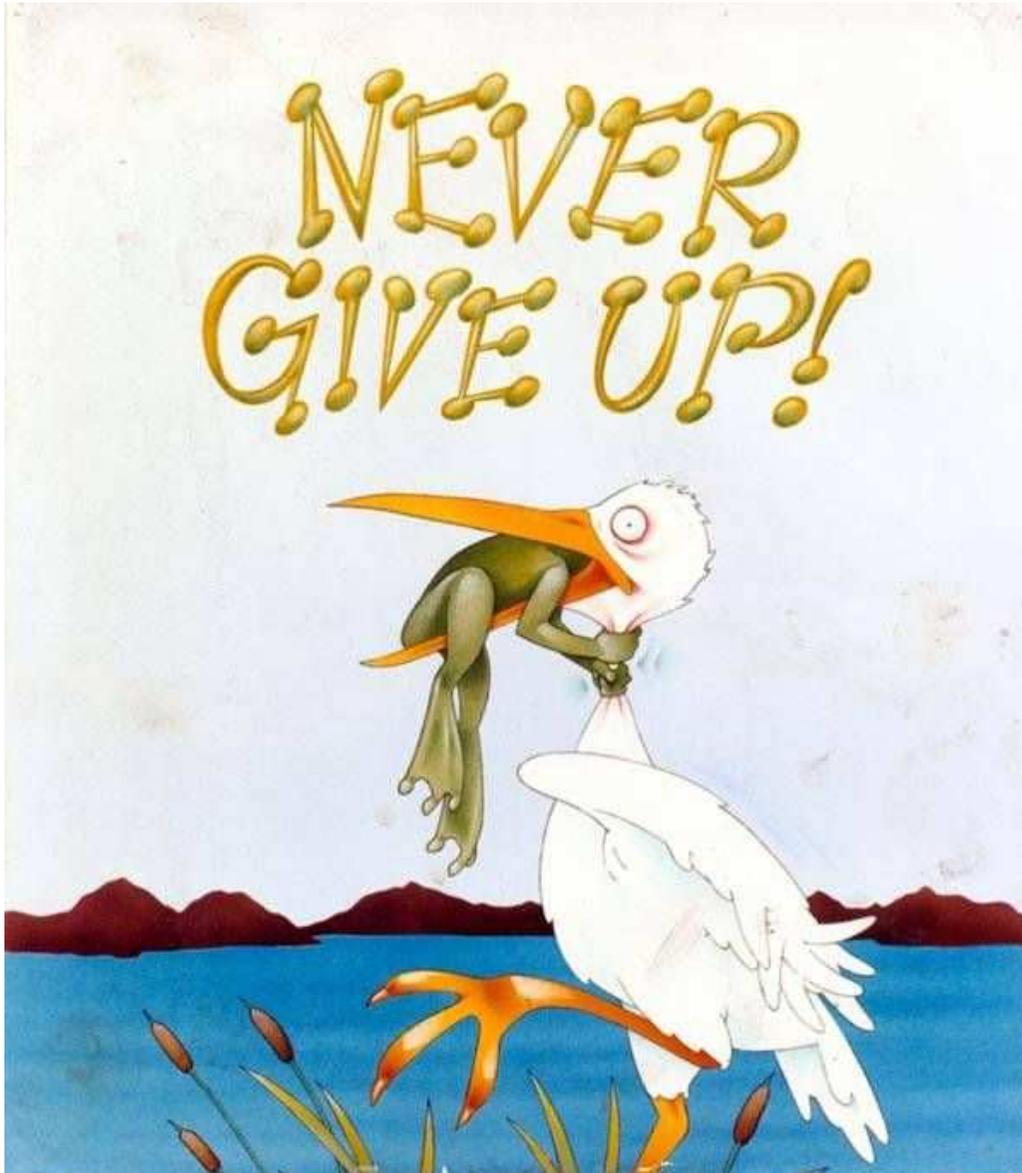


Costs and effort for one nest

Event	Persons needed	Time needed (h)
Fence laying & habituation (+ observing)	2	1,5
Fence installation (+ observing)	2	1,5
Battery change (every 5 days for a breeding period of 30 day)	1	0,5 (3,0)
Fence depletion	2	1,5
Total		9,5 – 12,0

Event	Amount	Costs (€)
Fence	2	~ 75,00
Battery	2	~ 40,00
Spile	4	~ 2,50
Plastic pegs	~ 120	~ 11,00
Hot shocker	1	~ 100,00
Total		~ 374

Thank you and...



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