












Paludiculture in Zuvintas Biosphere Reserve



- Zuvintas Biosphere Reserve – an area of 8000 ha, with different types of peatlands, habitats etc.
- Around 200 ha of meadows managed, biomass harvested and processed into pellets + reed harvesting in around 100 ha, but restricted due to unfavourable winters
- Other sites in Interreg project **DESIRE** rewetted (~80 ha), biomass used for cattle (fodder, bedding, and afterwards used for fertilization).
- However pelleting is not the solution due to high production costs and requirements for biomass (dryness, processing failures).
- New solutions adjusted to small scale farmers are needed in place, like composting.



Old days paludiculture in Zuvintas before setting up protected area



Grazing nowadays



Pellet production

Klasmann-Deilmann Initiative: Ezerelis peatland: 4 sites 0,5 ha each, were planted with different species.



1 site: reedbed
2 site: sphagnum from harvesting field
3 site: sphagnum farming+cranberries
4 site: Tyoha

Cranberries+others



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TMO mission Berlin

Restoration of deeply drained grassland in intensive agricultural area (Baisogala) as the 1st start up for paludiculture in the Baltics



- Data:**
- Area – 7,8 ha;
 - Peatland type – fen;
 - Peat layer - approx. 0,5 m;
 - Land use – agricultural, grasslands;
 - Ownership – State owned (manager - Institute of Animal Science under the Veterinary Academy of Lithuanian University of Health Sciences);
 - Conservation status – no;
 - Habitats of European importance – no;
 - Status of damage – severely damaged (ploughed, re-seeded)

Improvement of biodiversity status

Rewetting and sustainable management (Paludiculture) of Baisogala site will improve biodiversity status. Restoration of hydrological regime and extensive management will gradually create the conditions for the habitat changes from arable land/pasture to wet meadow communities.

