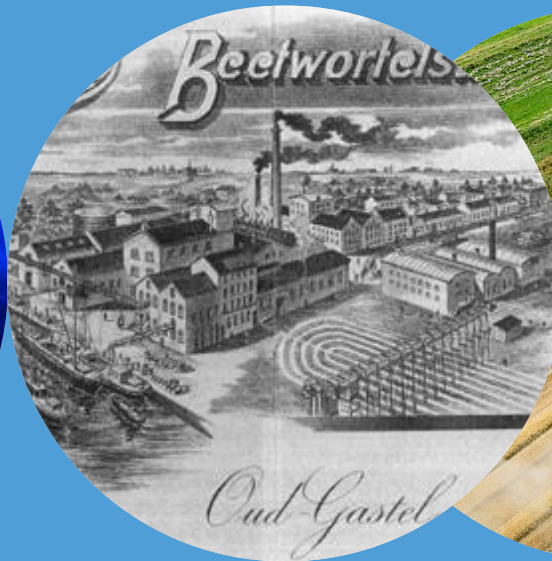


Rural Pluralities in a globalizing world

The redefinition and reshaping of the Dutch countryside in the twentieth century – the rise and decline of a farmer's world

Anton Schuurman, Rural and Environmental History



THE NETHERLANDS



OECD report, 2008

- Is there a Dutch countryside?





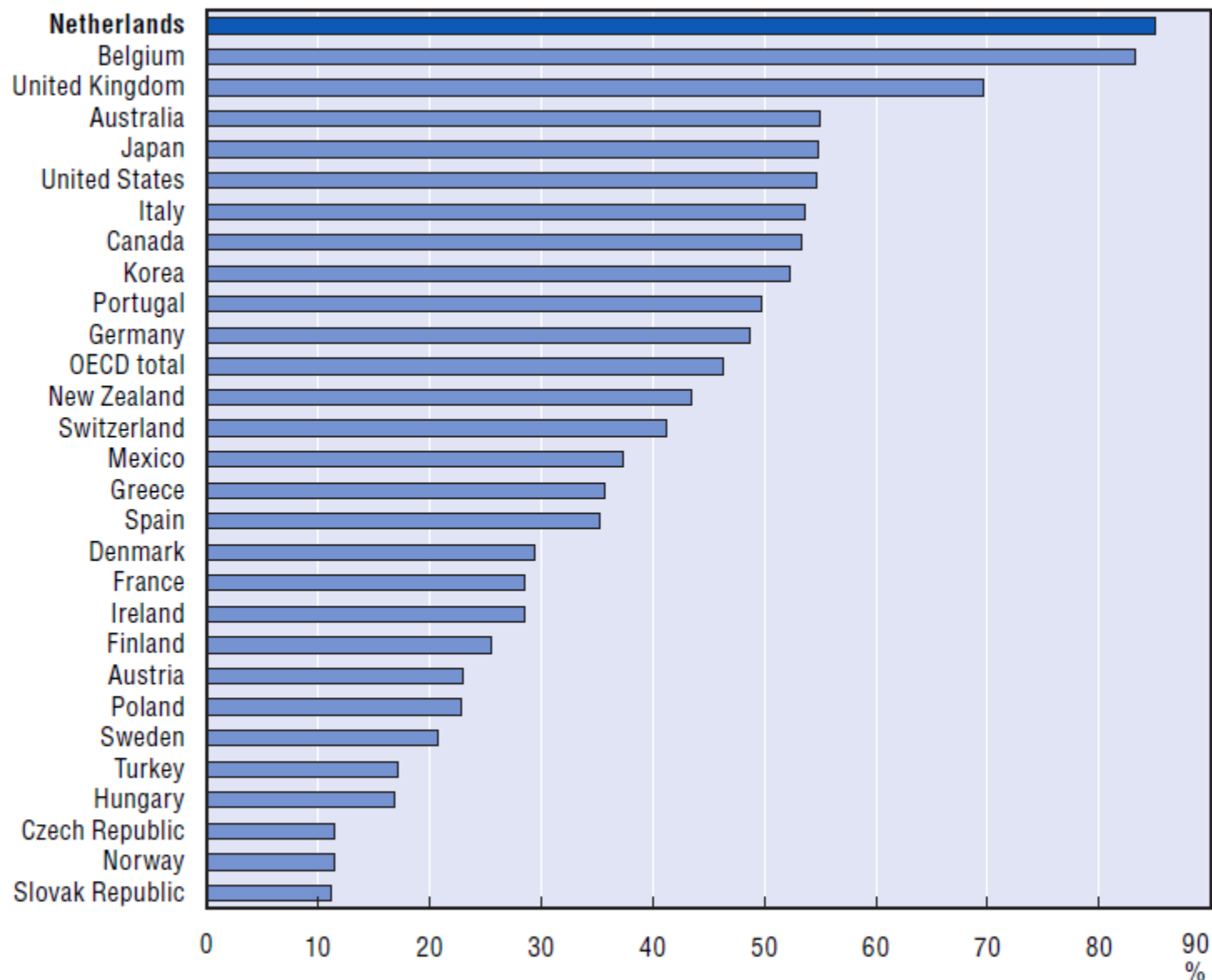
NUTS 2: OECD class 150 inhabitants per km²

■ Predominantly urban

■ Intermediate rural



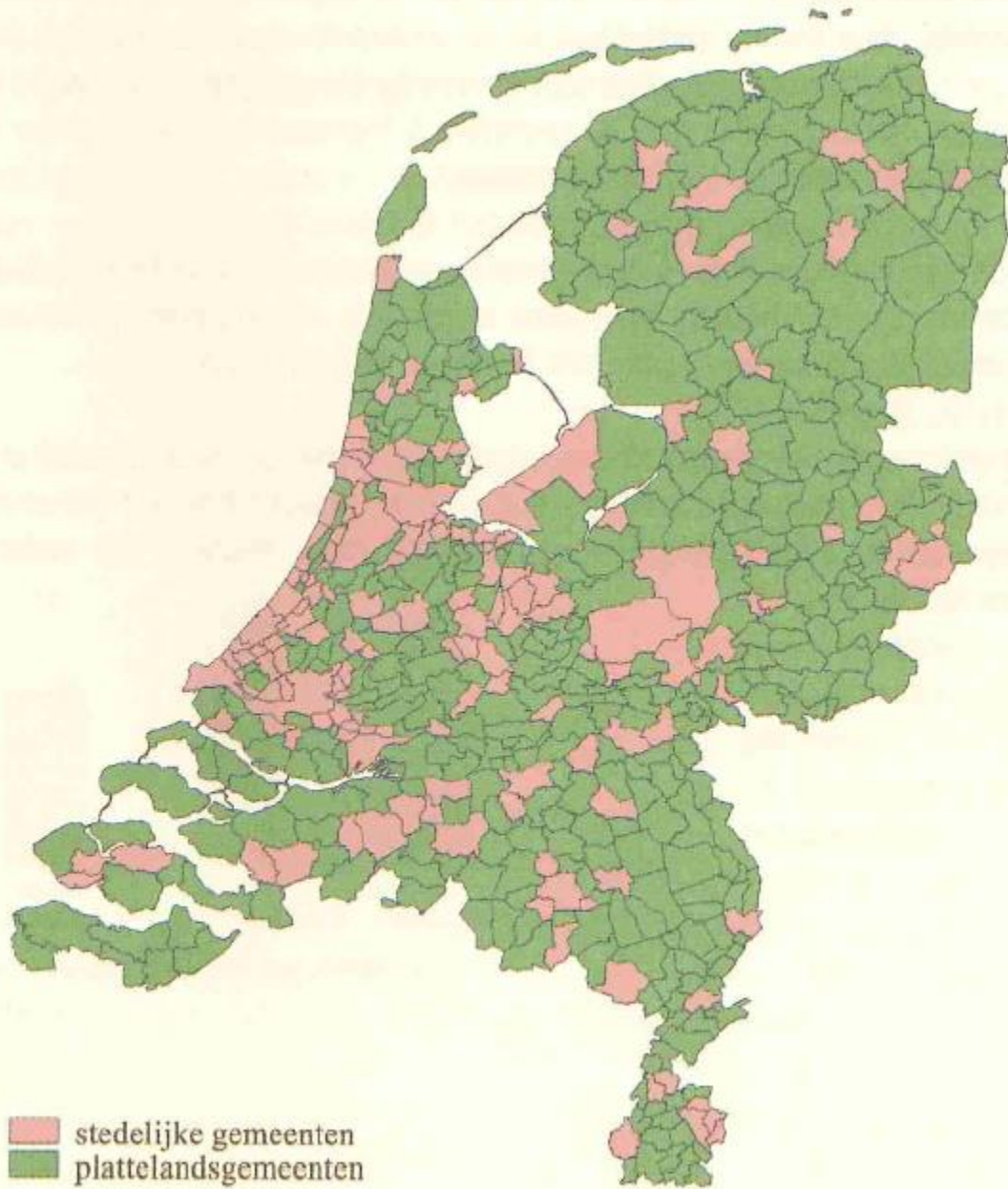
Figure 1.1. Population share in predominantly urban regions
in 2003 (TL3-level)



Source: OECD (2007a), *Regions at a Glance*, OECD, Paris.

- The LEI has no problem finding it

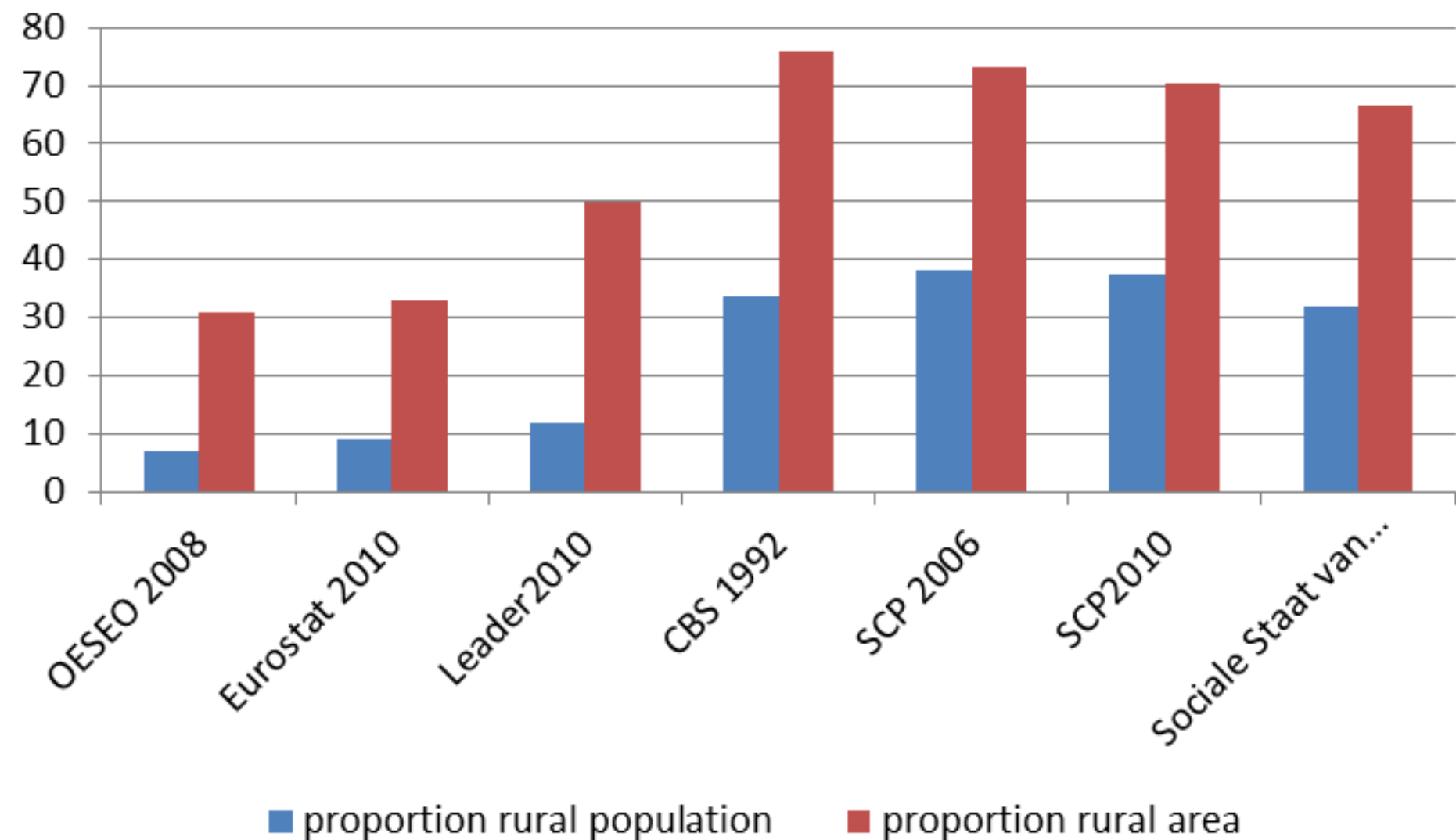


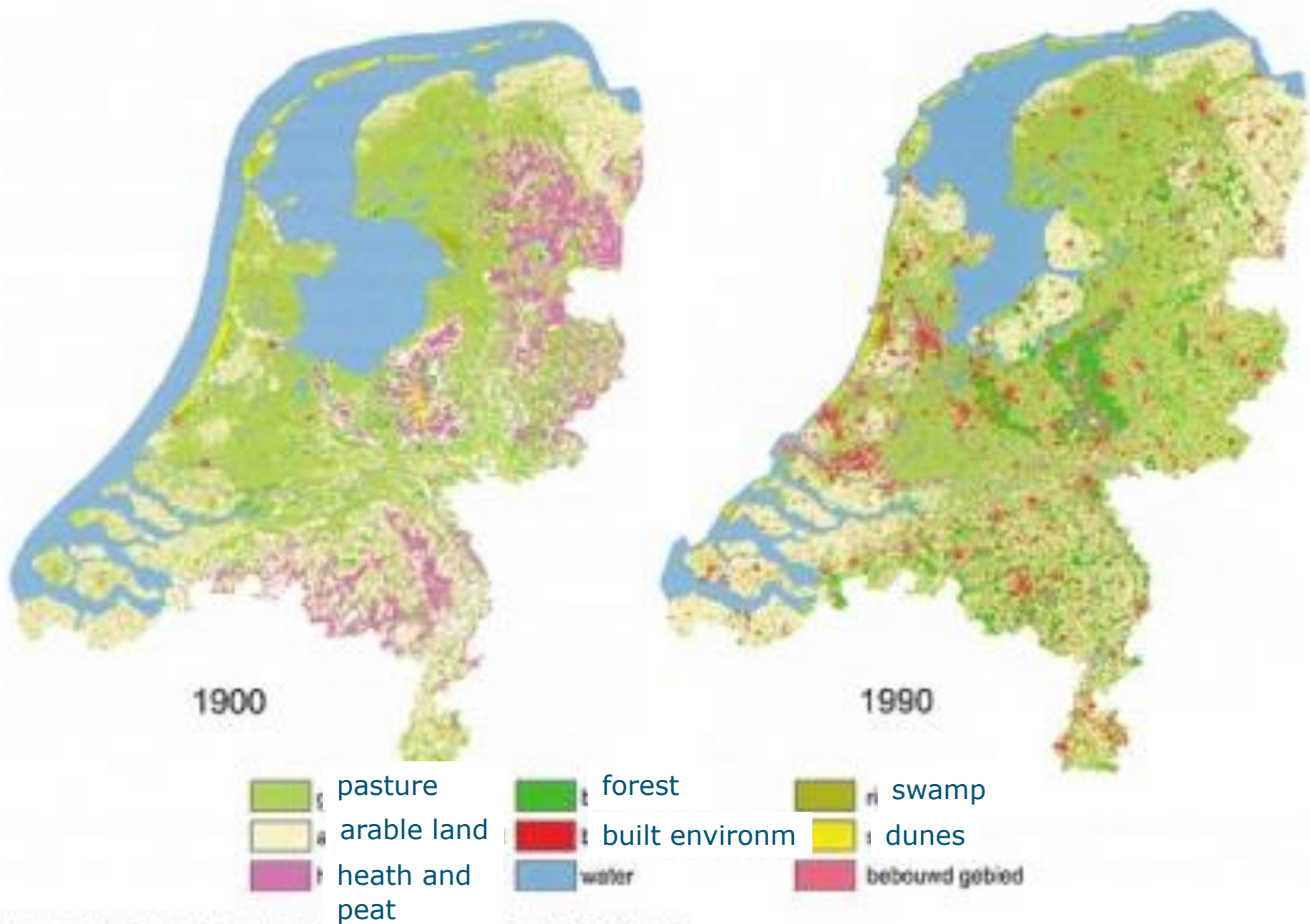


Kaart 2.1 Afbakening Platteland (1998)

Bron: CBS, LISA, bewerking LEI

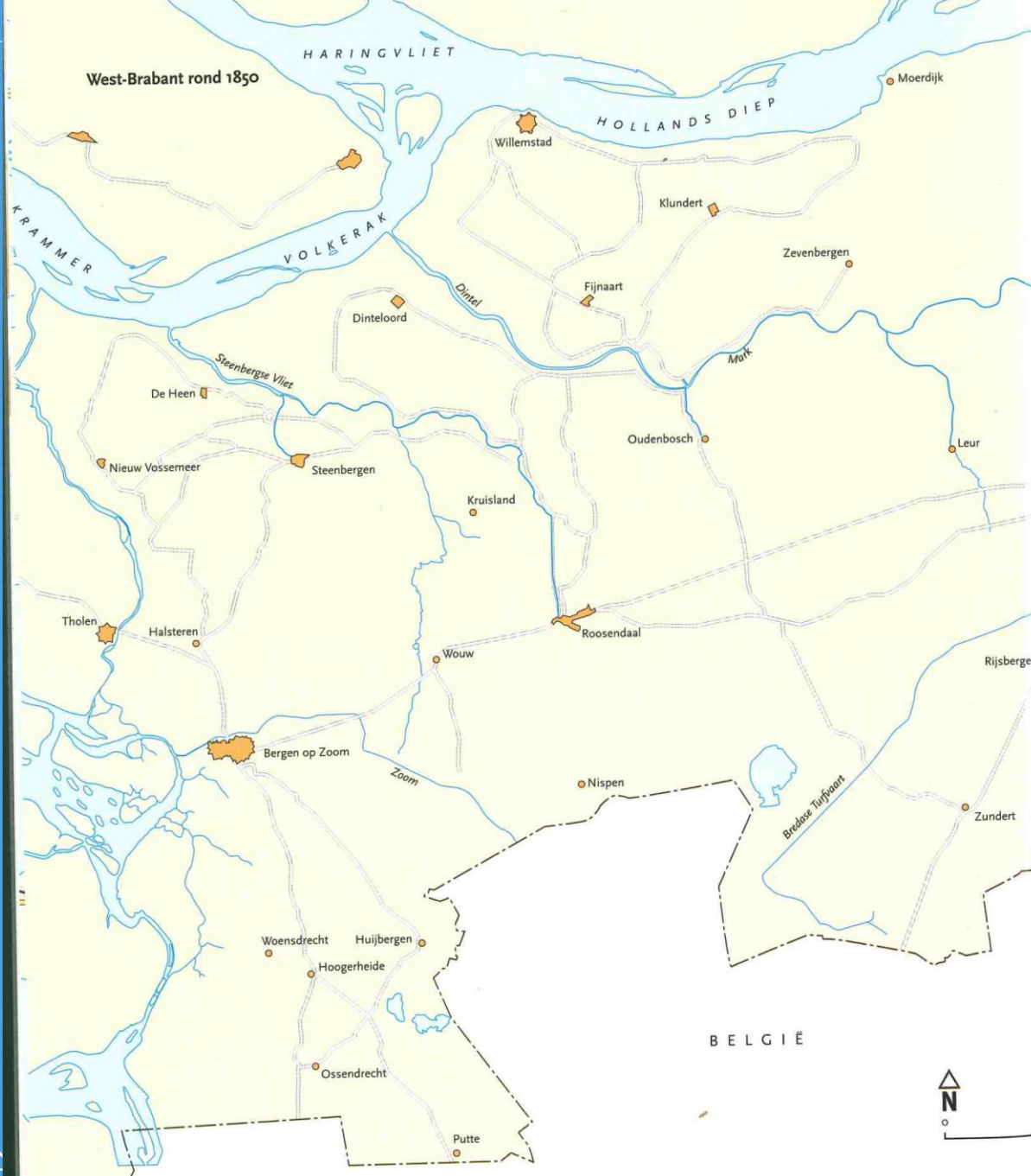
Different definitions of the rural and their consequences



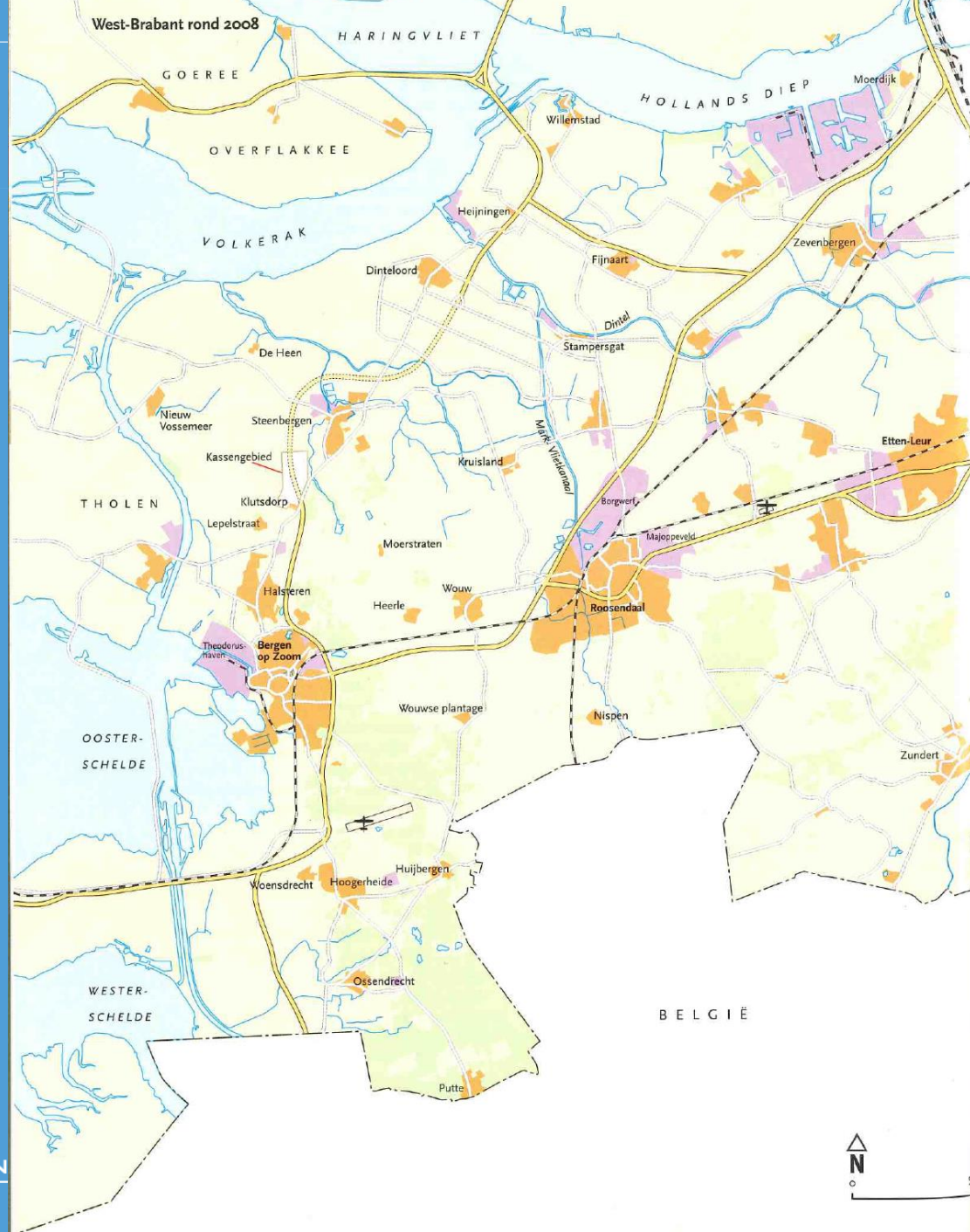


Figuur 1.4. Grondgebruik in Nederland in 1900 en 1990 (Alterra).

West-Brabant rond 1850



WAGENINGEN



Outline

- A paradox: how the Dutch countryside came to be seen as backward
- 1912: Dutch agriculture had become 'modern'
- The small family farm: a blessing or a curse
- 1950, 1960s, 1970s: the high point of simple modernity – Fordist agriculture
- 1950s, 1960s, 1970s: the high point of simple modernity regional development.
- 1980s, 1990s, 2000s: reflexive modernity - beyond the urban-rural dichotomy

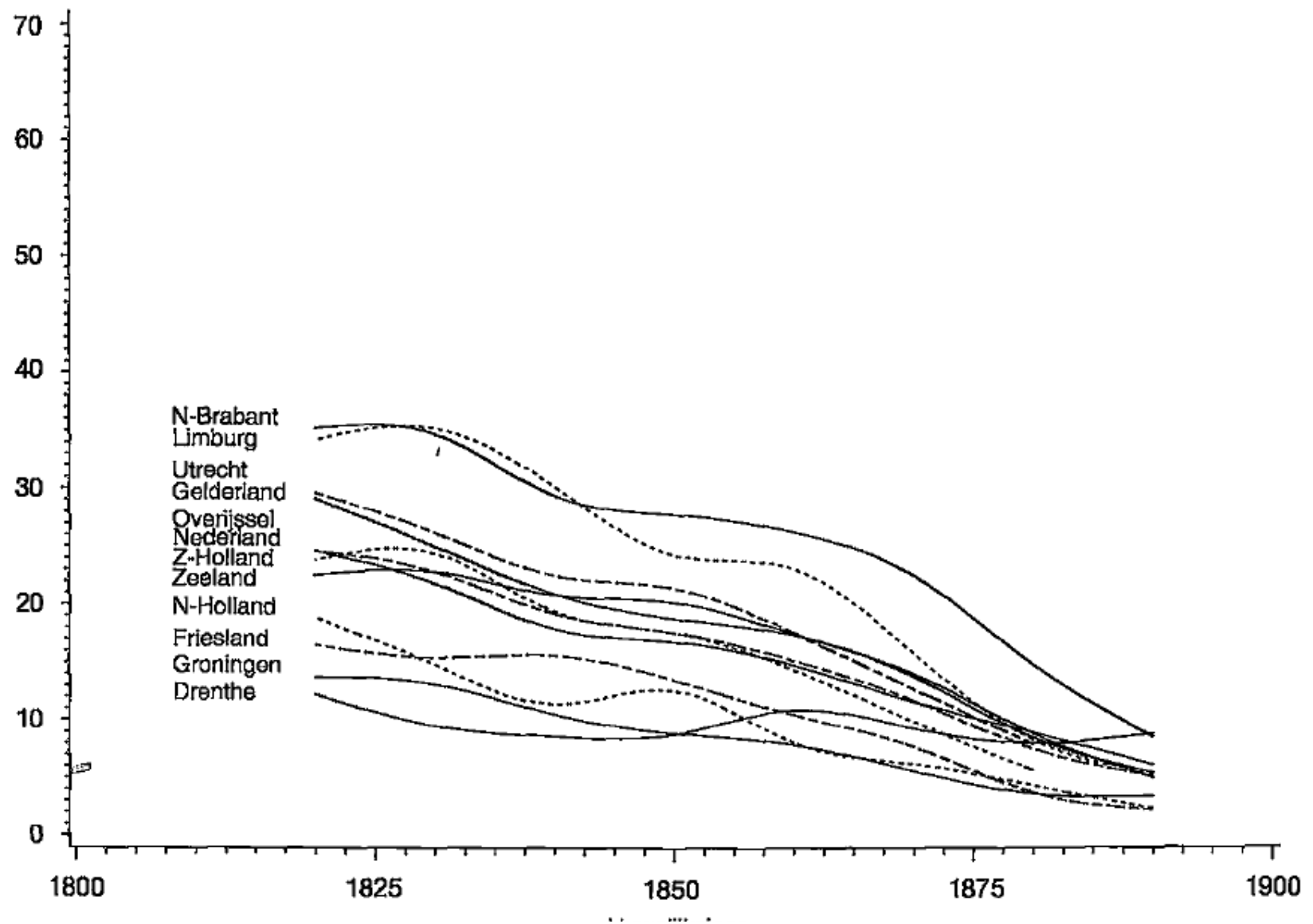


A paradox: how the Dutch countryside came to be seen as backward

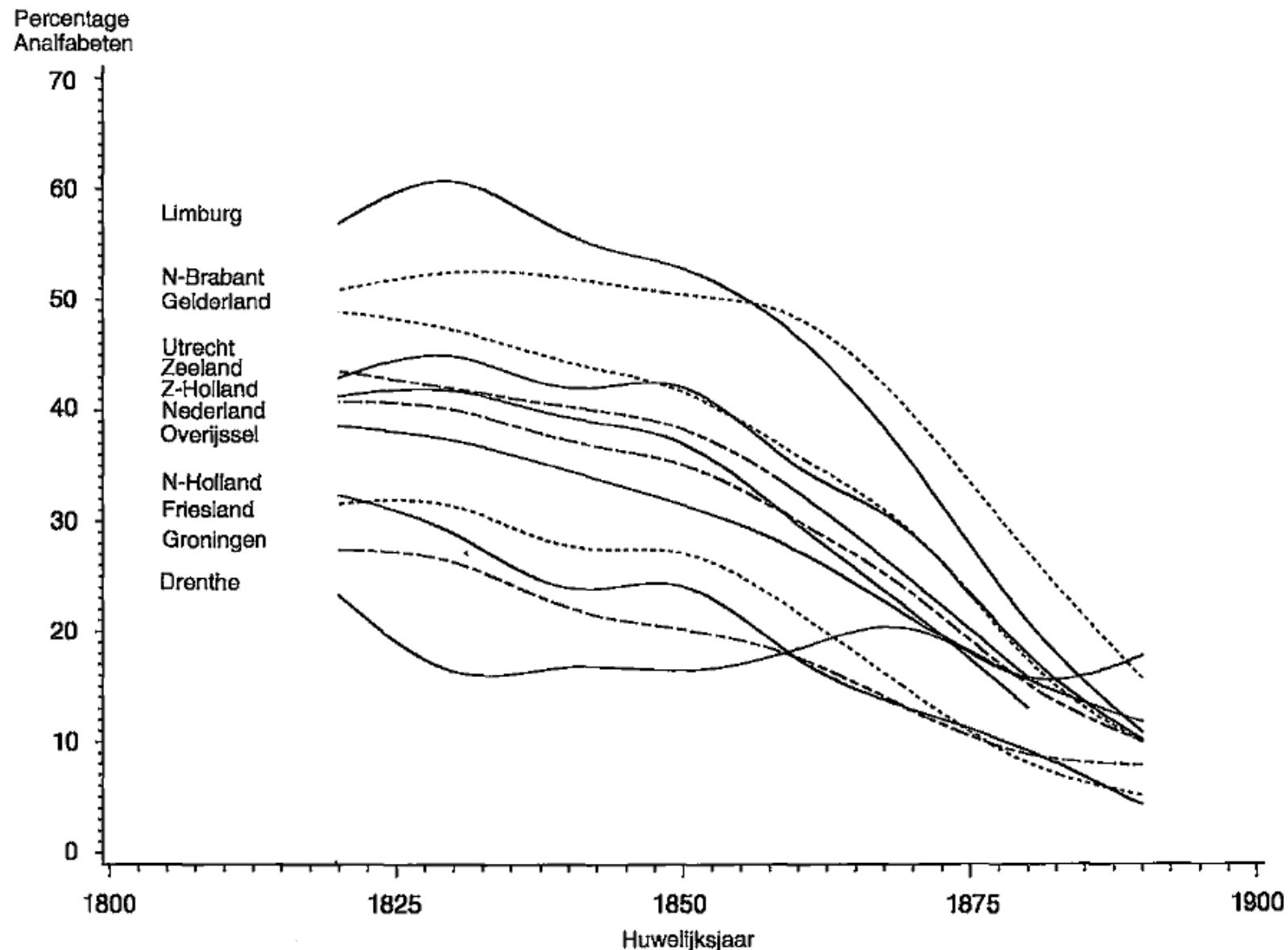
- Metropolitan area
- Beyond Malthus
- health, literacy
- In the midst of early industrializing areas
- Small and open economy
- Strong civil society



The development of illiteracy in the Netherlands, 1820-1890, men



The development of illiteracy in the Netherlands, 1820-1890, women



Noot: De curves zijn afgevlakt met behulp van een 'cubic spline' algoritme (SM20, Zie: SAS INSTITUTE, *SAS/GRAPH Software*, I, 1990, p.416). Bron: VAN DER WOUDE, niet gepubliceerd.

- The growing difference between town and countryside at the turn of the 19th century



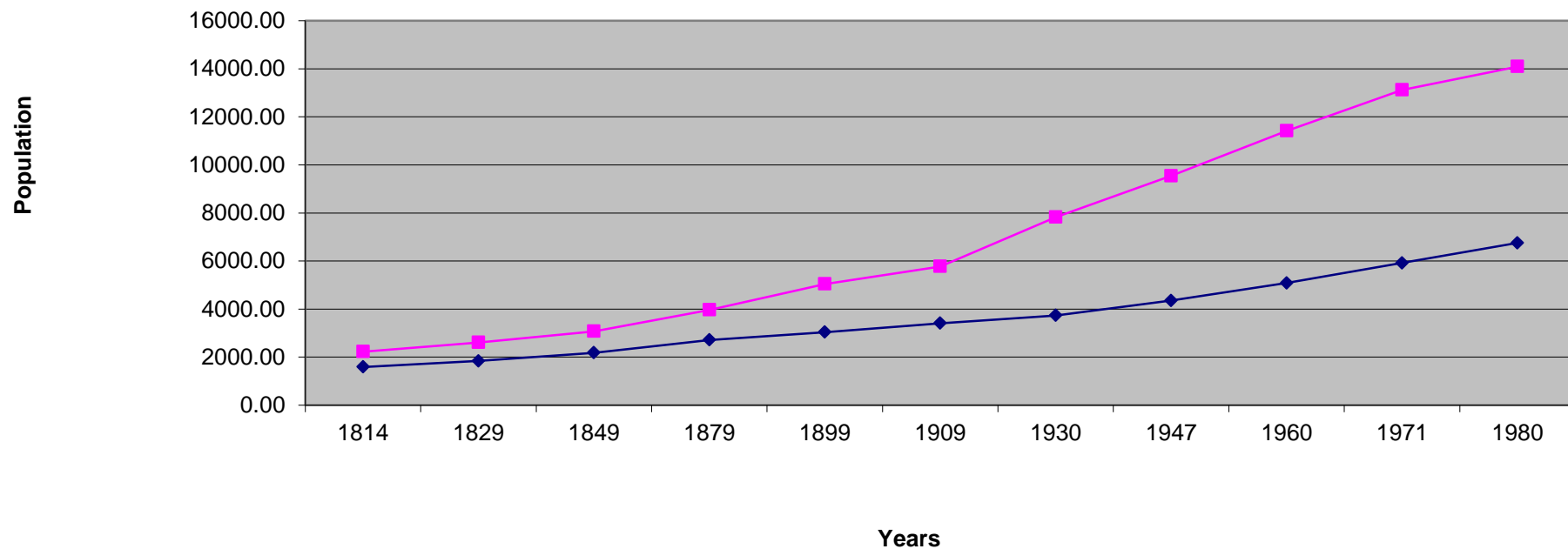
1912 Dutch agriculture has become 'modern'



WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY

WAGENINGEN **UR**

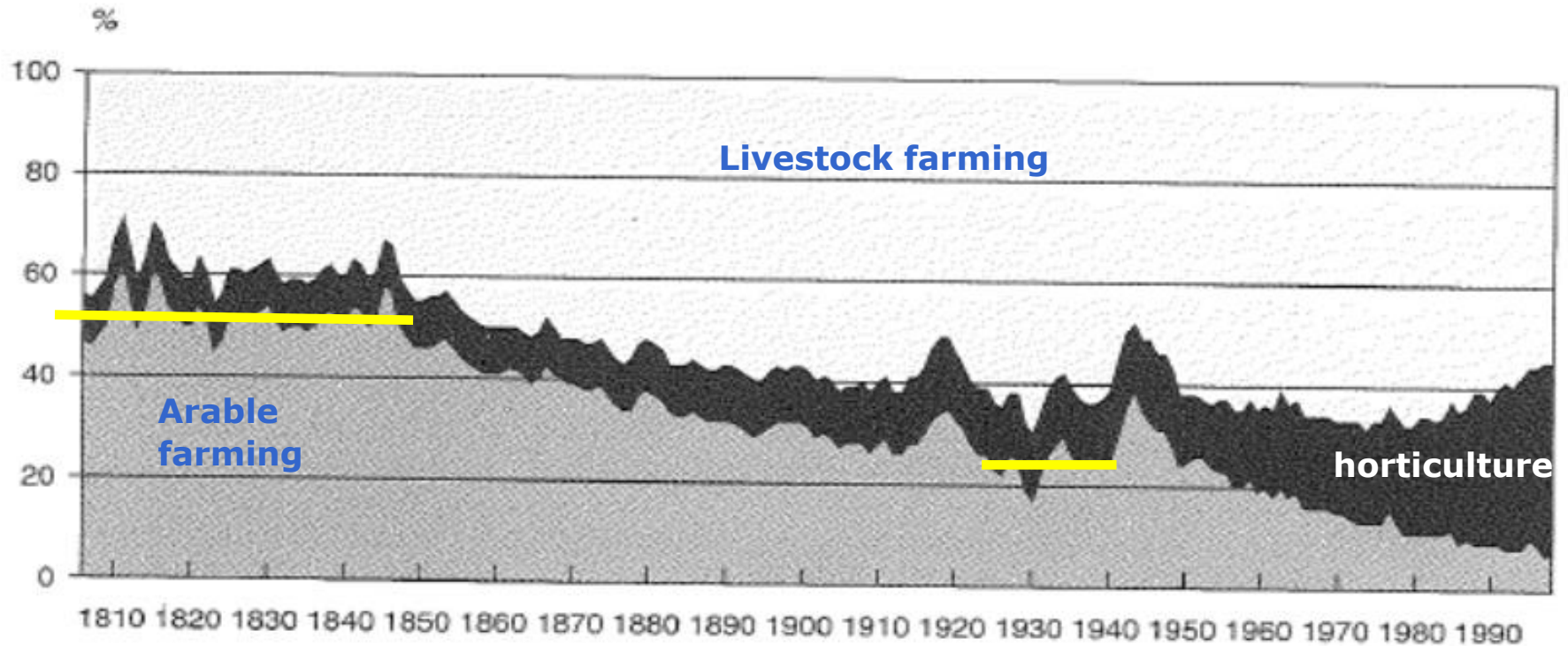
Growth (rural) population in the Netherland in the 19th and 20th centuries



Purple total, blue rural population



Portions of the agricultural sectors in total production



Agricultural cooperatives in the Netherlands, 1877-1937

	Purchase and Selling Societies	Dairy factories	Auctions	Banks
1877	1			
1886		1		
1887			1	
1893	118	74	1	
1896			4	
1898	540	507	7	
1903	648		15	
1907	996	801	63	
1910	1101	814		51
1920	1014	617		141
1924	1586	482		176
1937	1374	409	171	239



Membership National Agricultural Associations

	NLC/KNLC	NBB/KNBTB	CBTB
1905	23301	42865	
1919	68002	83849	
1920	70045	81364	4201
1921	68886	76839	4842
1928	57379	72969	2939
1932	54429	77130	8091
1933	53983	77667	9286
1936	54149	72275	14961
1940	53136	74377	18855

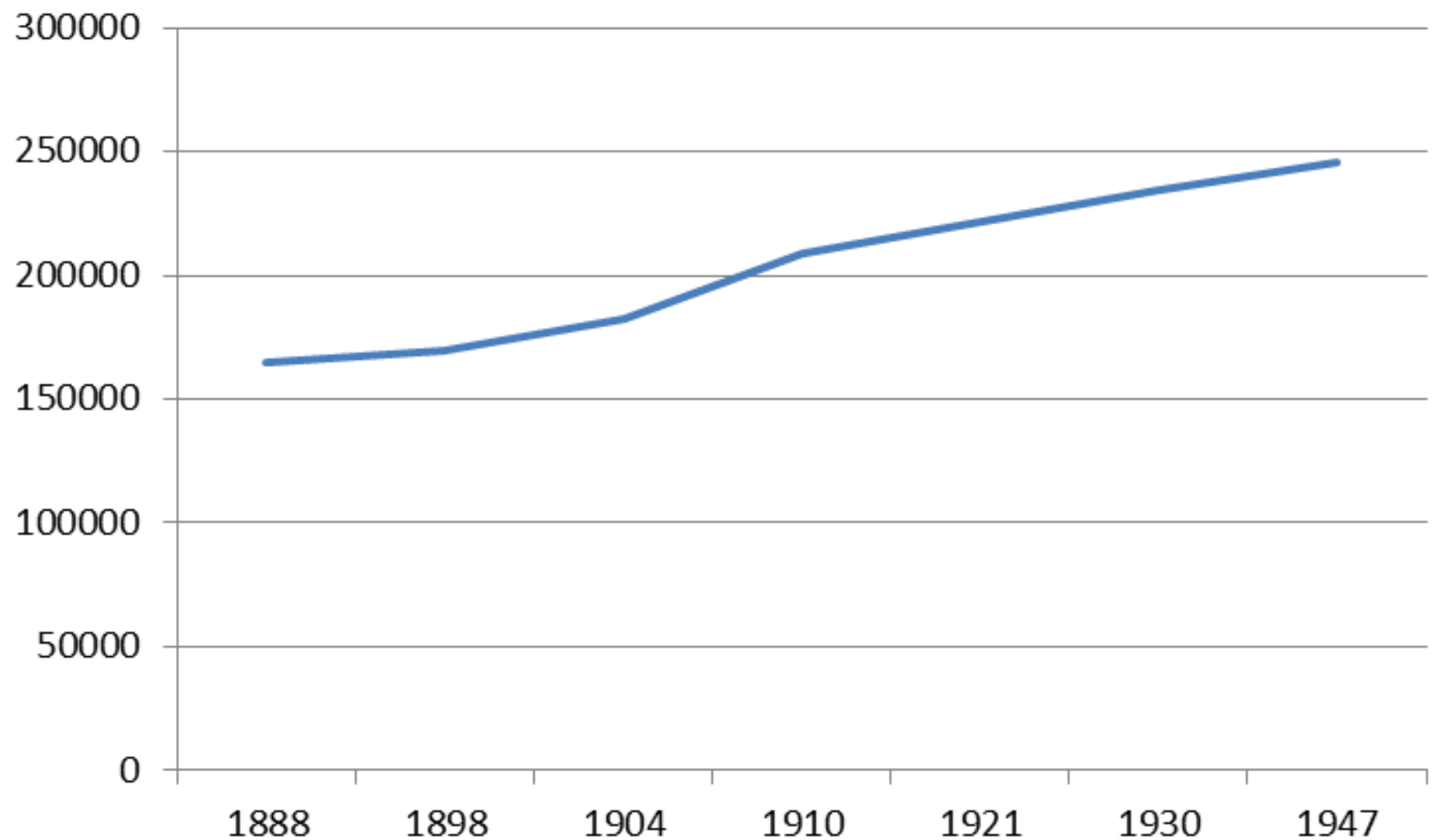
The small family farm: a blessing or a curse?



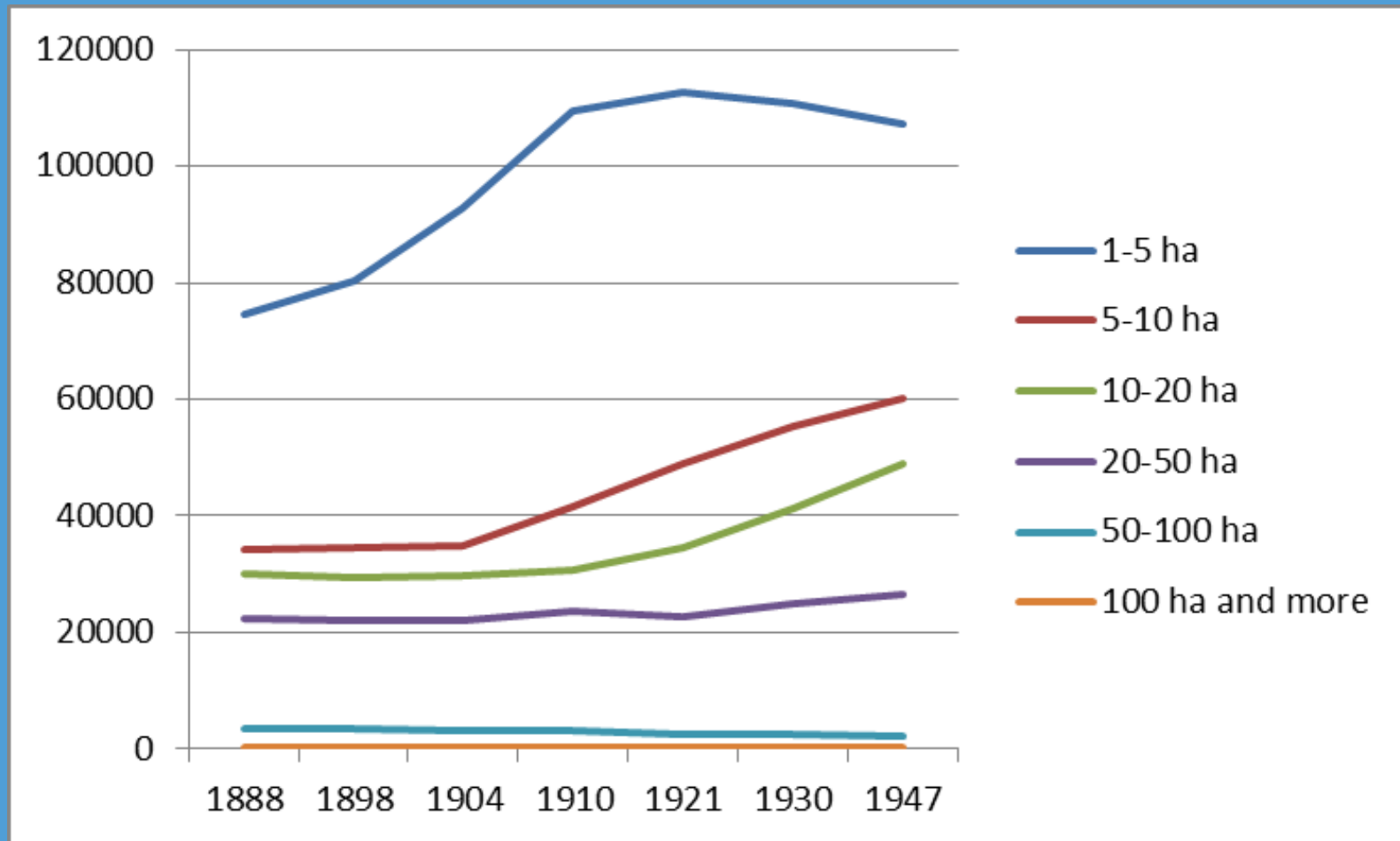
WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY

WAGENINGEN **UR**

Number of farms, 1888-1947

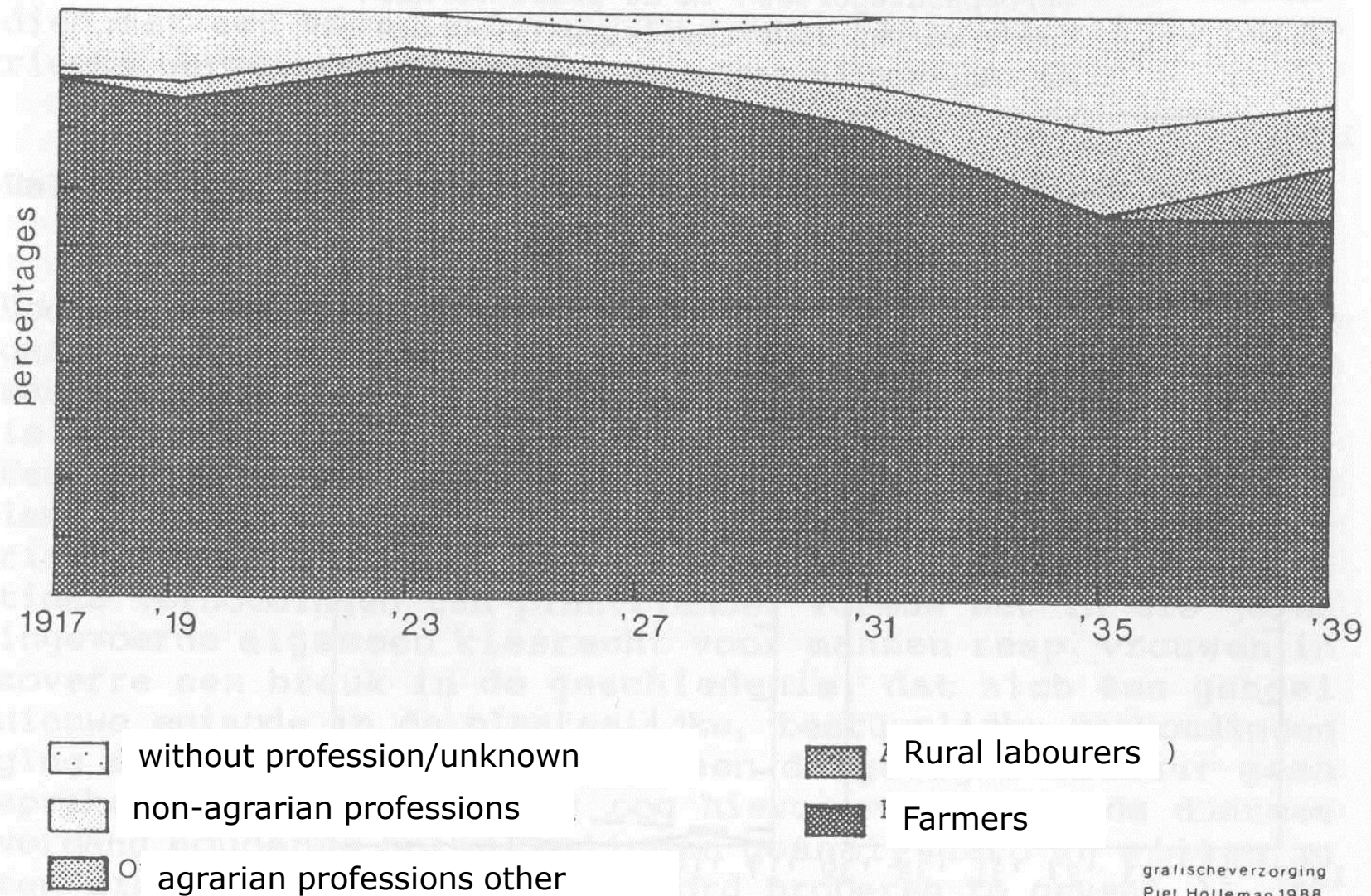


Number of farms, 1888-1948 according to size



Rural municipalities. Occupation of aldermen in municipalities

e
ën



1950s, 1960s, 1970s

Two changes

from simple modernity to reflexive modernity

from agricultural development to regional development



WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY

WAGENINGEN **UR**

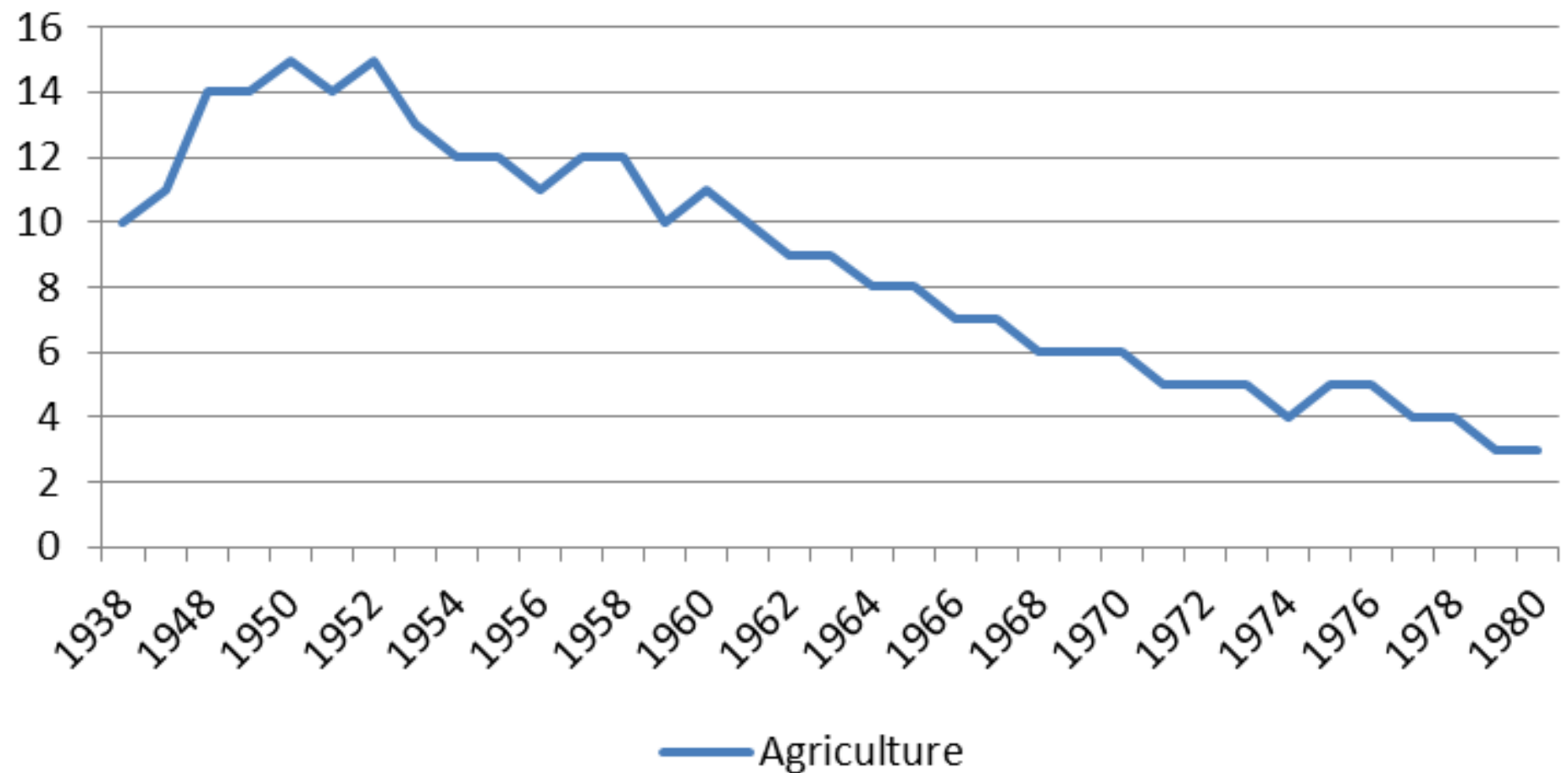
1950, 1960s, 1970s: the high point of
simple modernity – Fordist agriculture



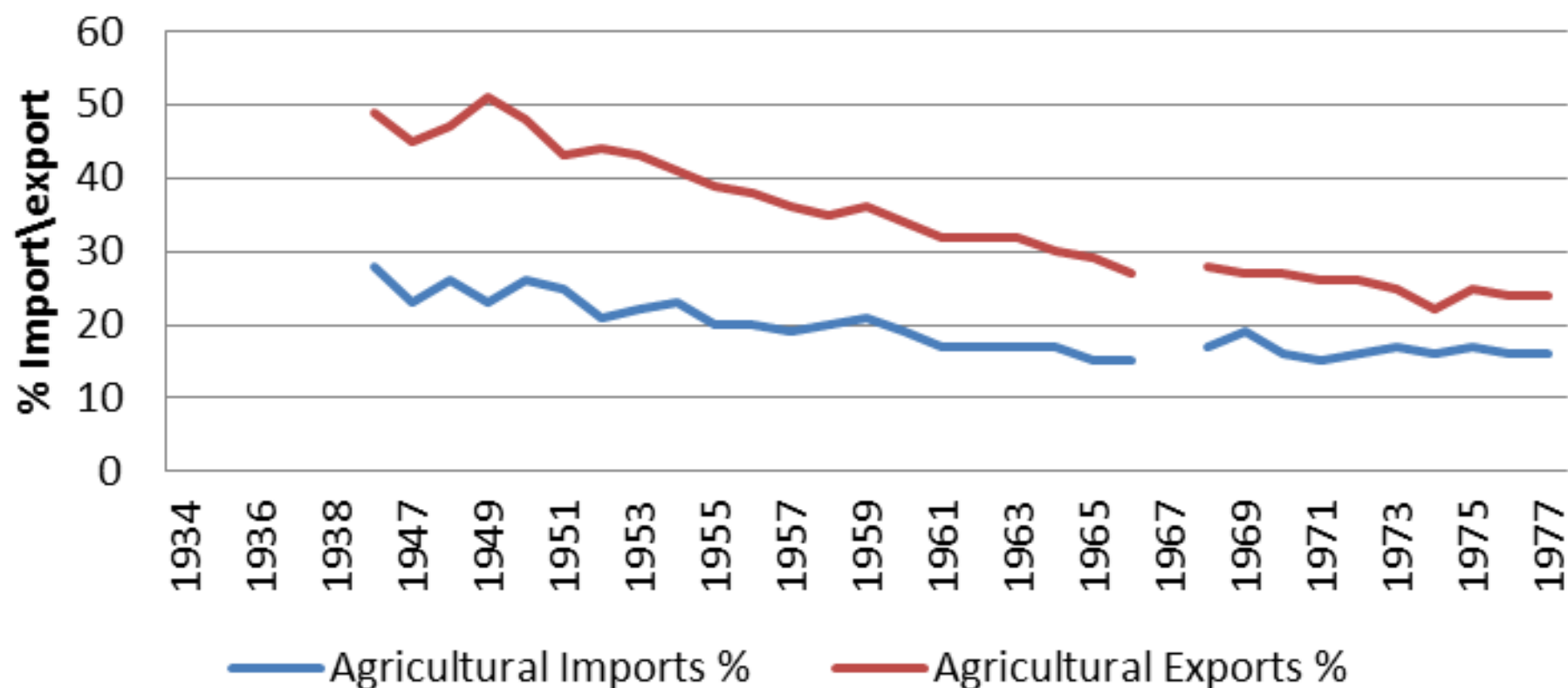
WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY

WAGENINGEN **UR**

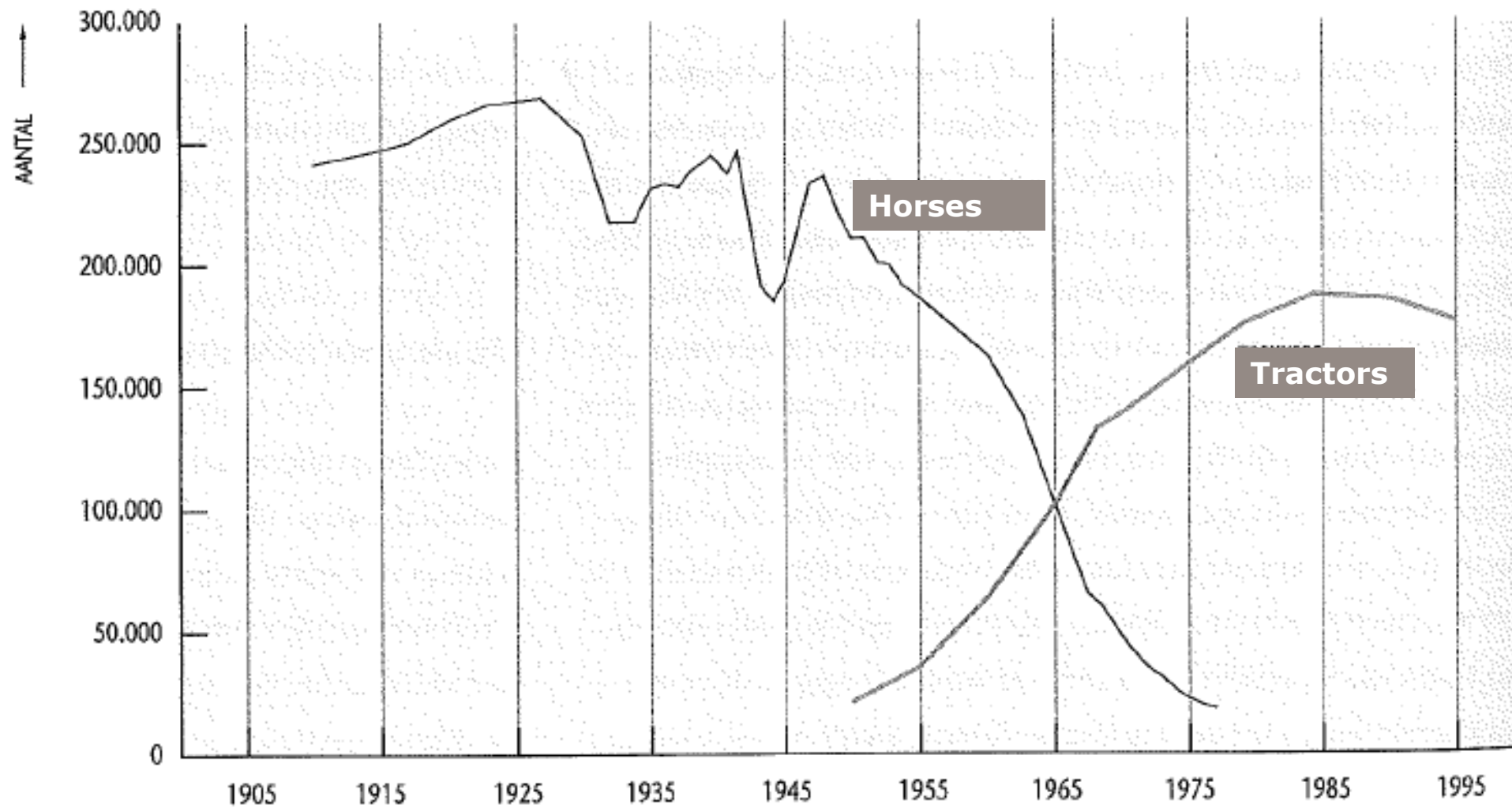
Share agriculture in GDP, 1938-1980

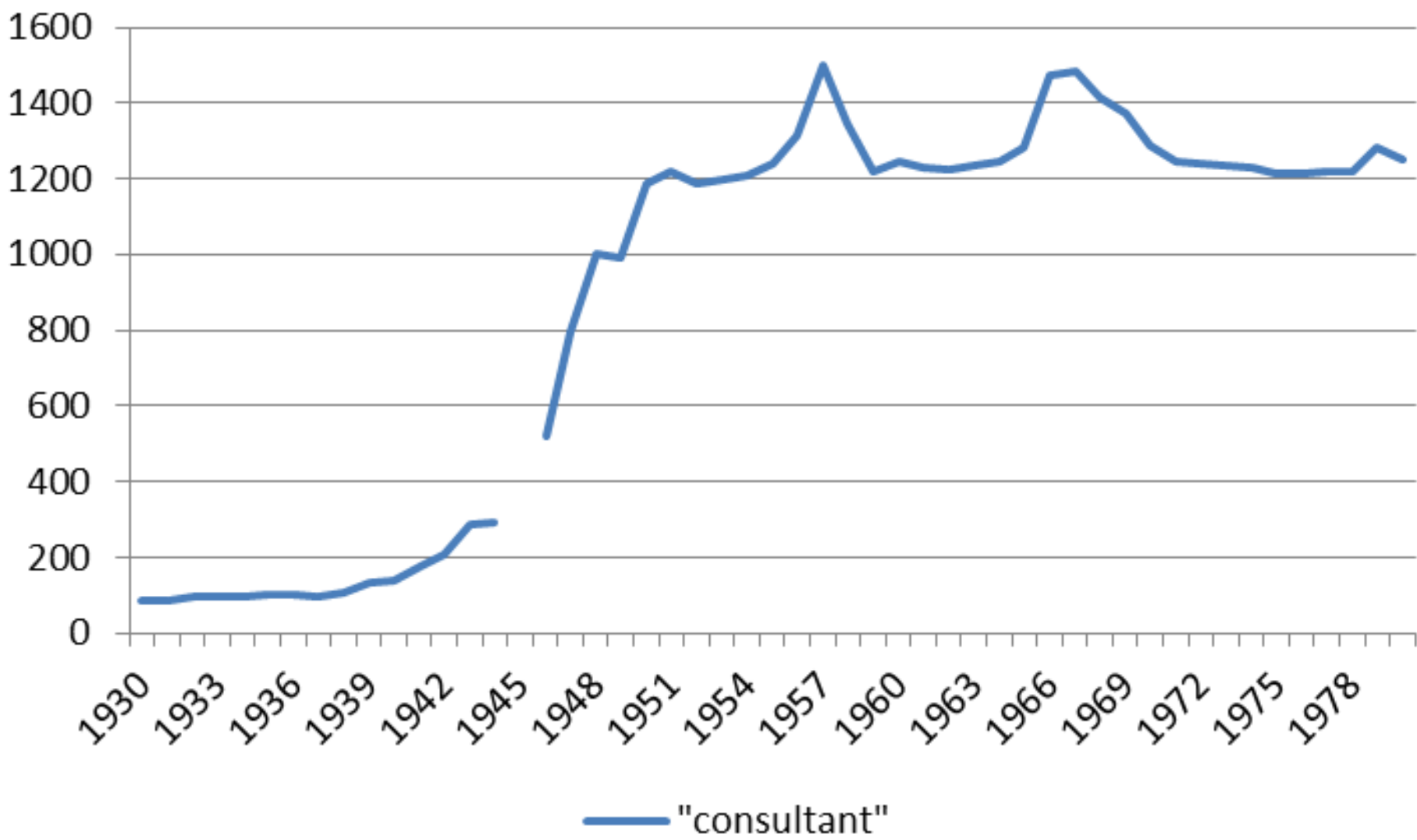


Share agriculture in total imports and exports, 1934-1977



Mechanisation - tractors





in thousands

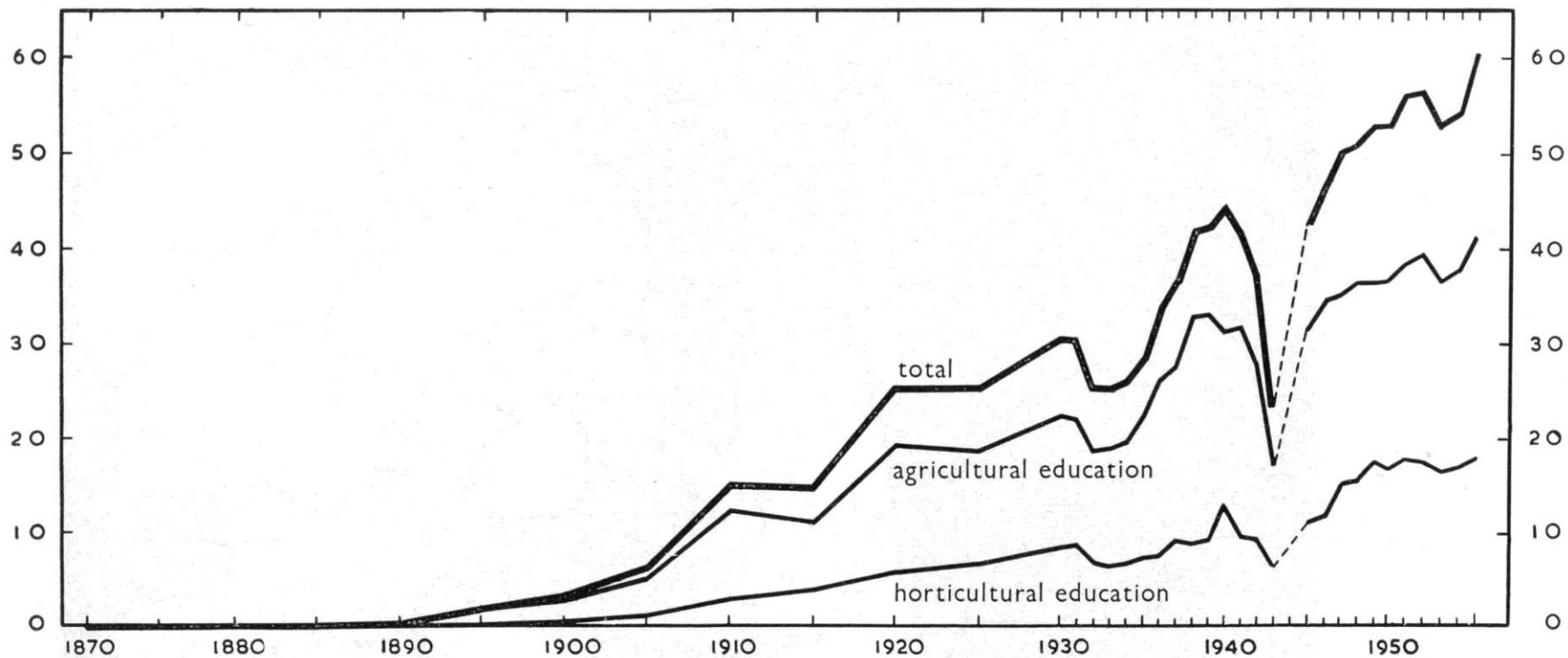
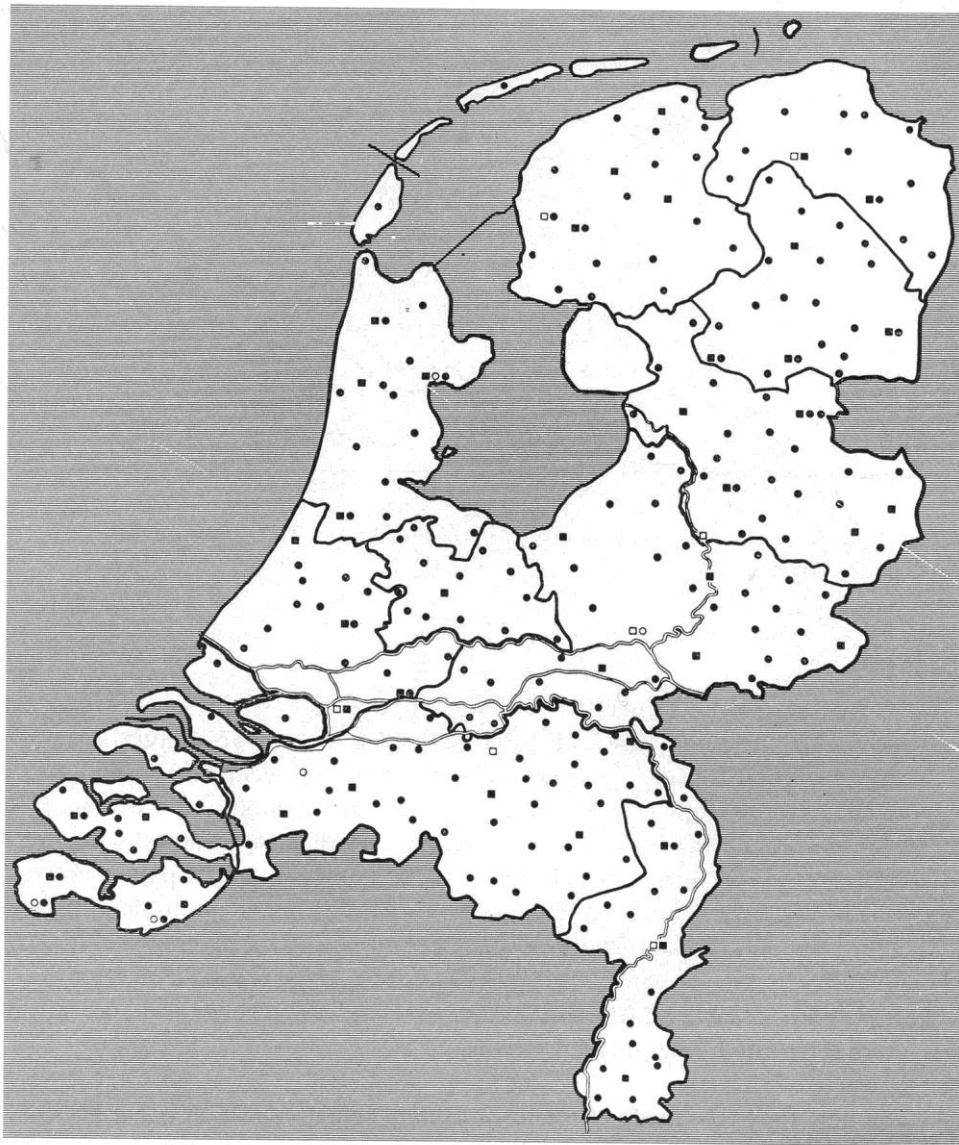


Figure 2. Pupils in agricultural and horticultural education in the Netherlands

Source: C.B.S. Various sources





Map 37. Distribution of agricultural schools, 1954

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| □ Secondary agricultural schools | ○ Agricultural vocational schools |
| ■ Winter agricultural schools | ● Elementary agricultural schools |

Source: C.B.S. Statistiek van het land- en tuinbouwonderwijs, 1954

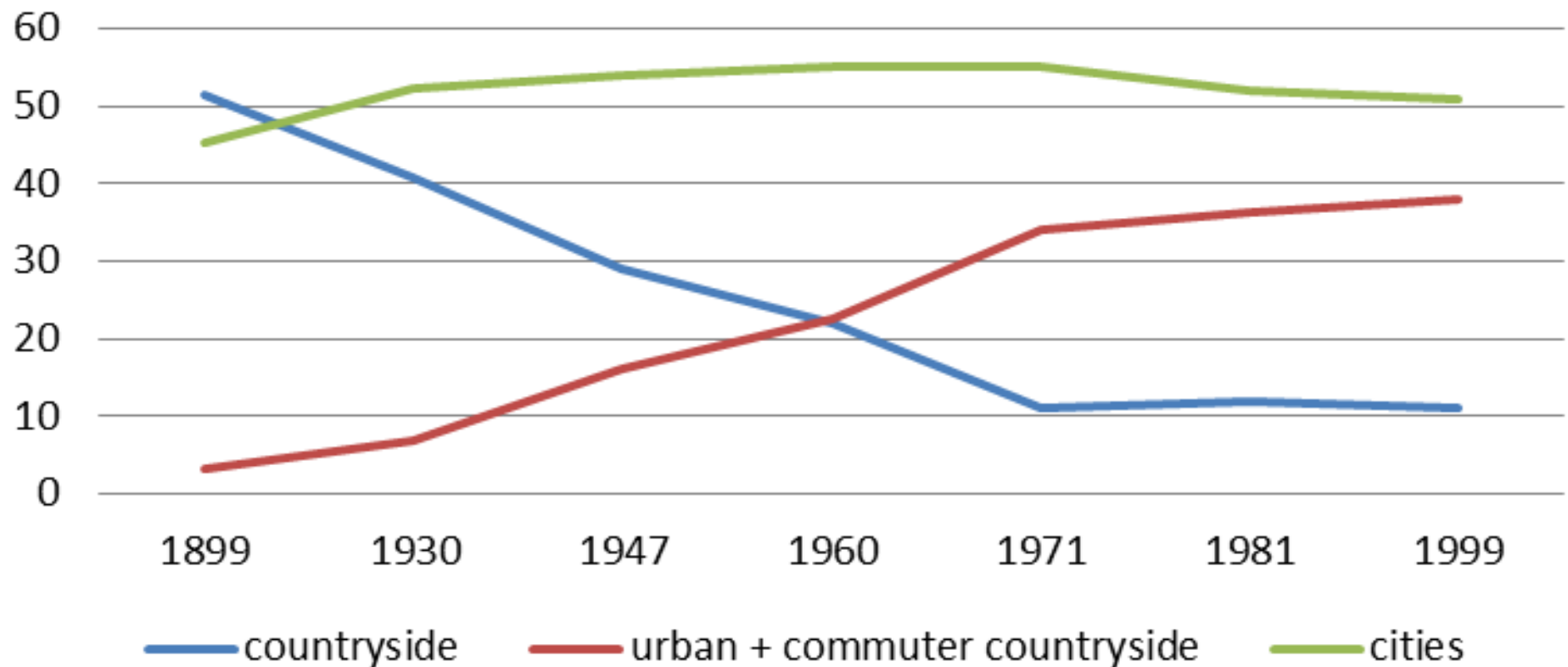
1950s, 1960s, 1970s: the high point of
simple modernity – regional development

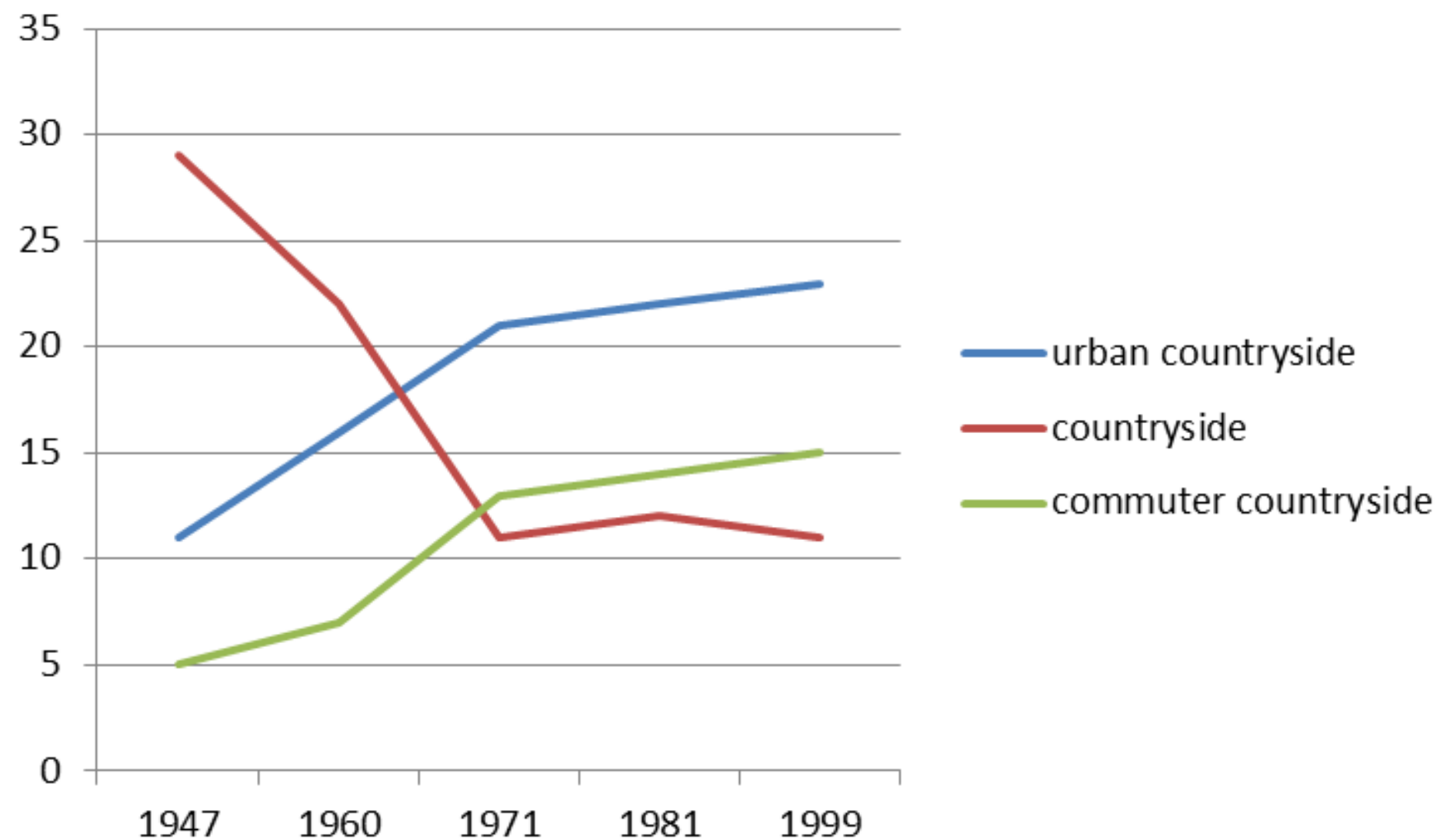


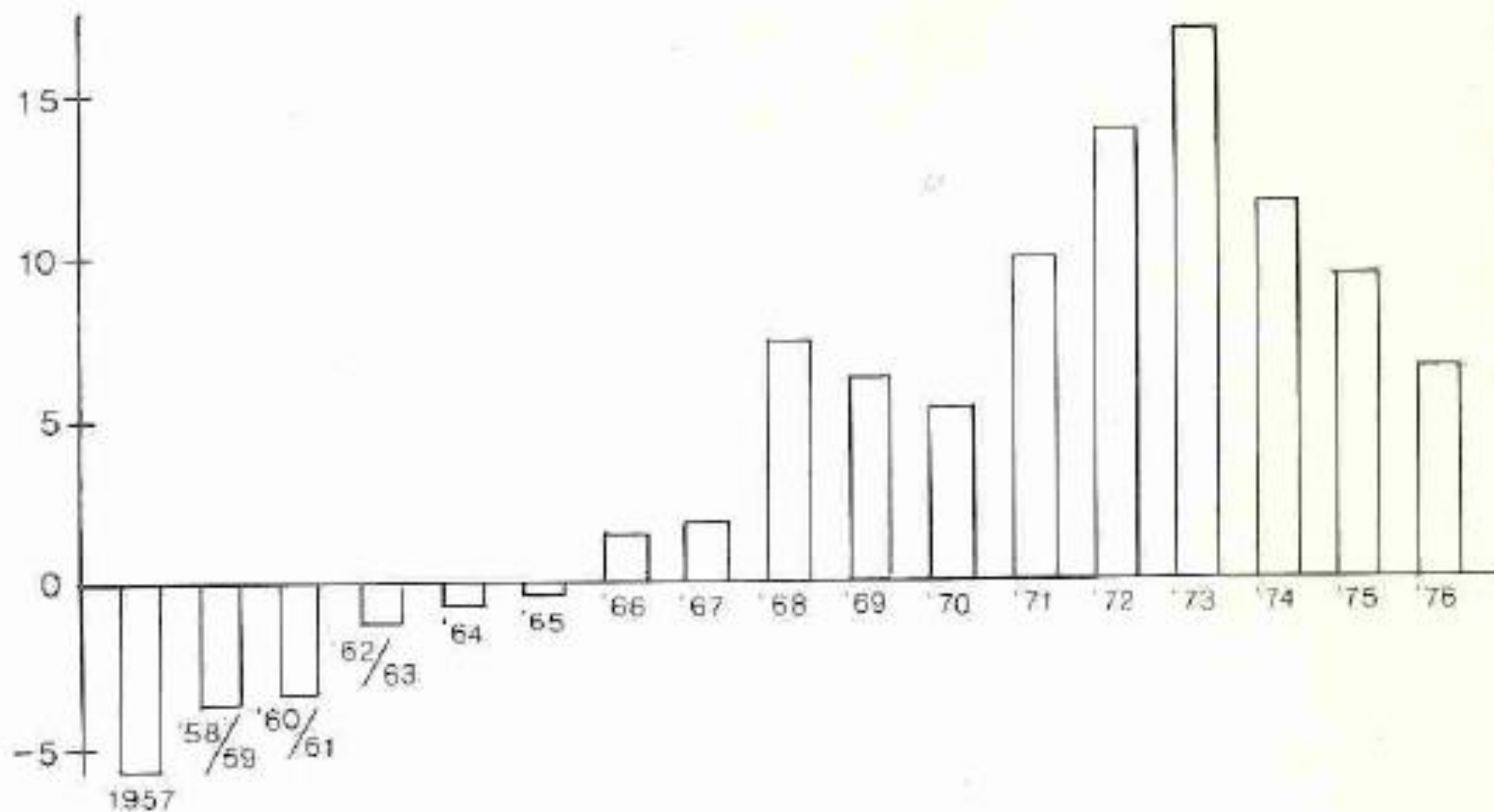
WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY

WAGENINGEN **UR**

proportion people living in specific municipalities



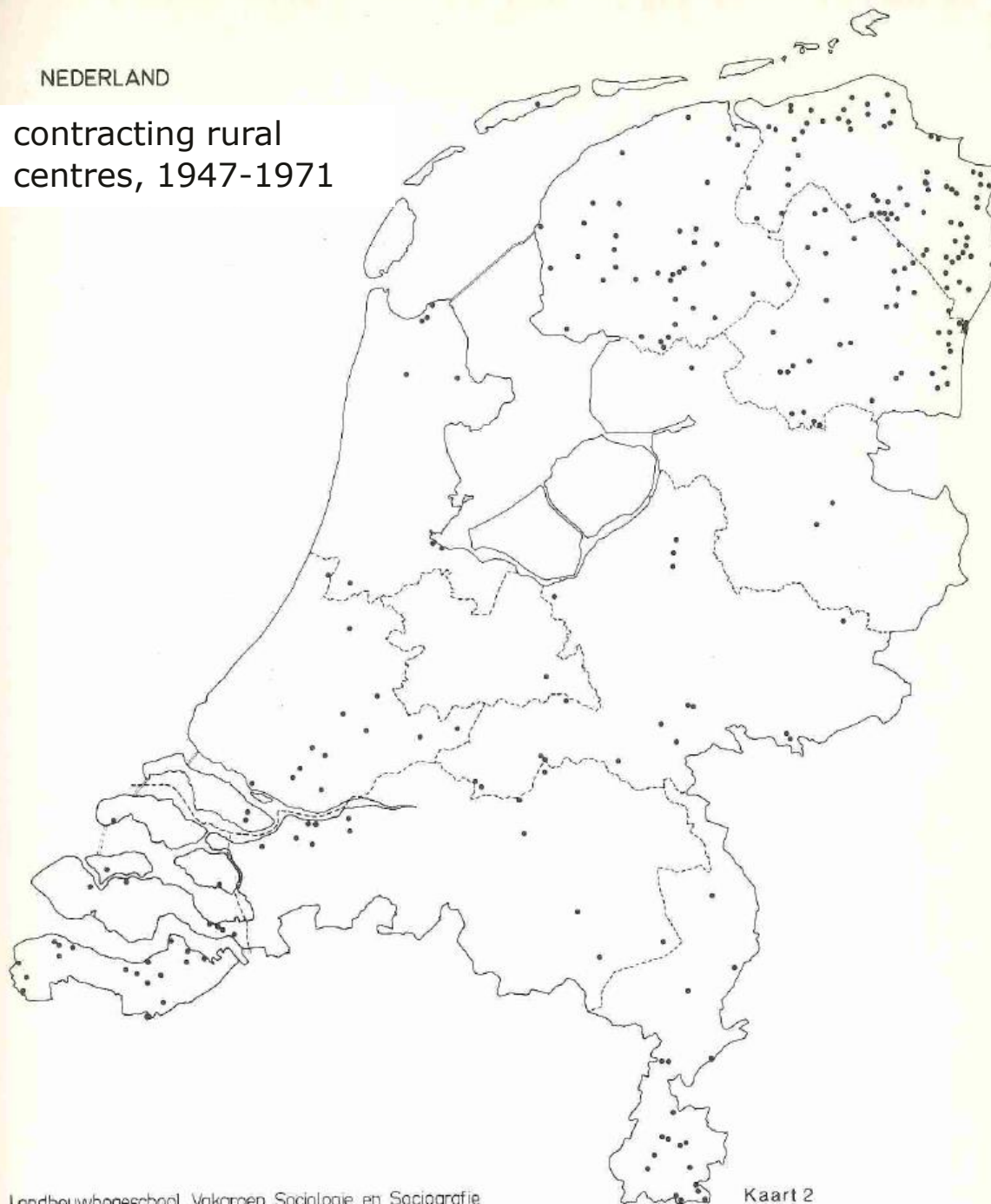




Inland migration balance of rural municipalities, 1957-1976

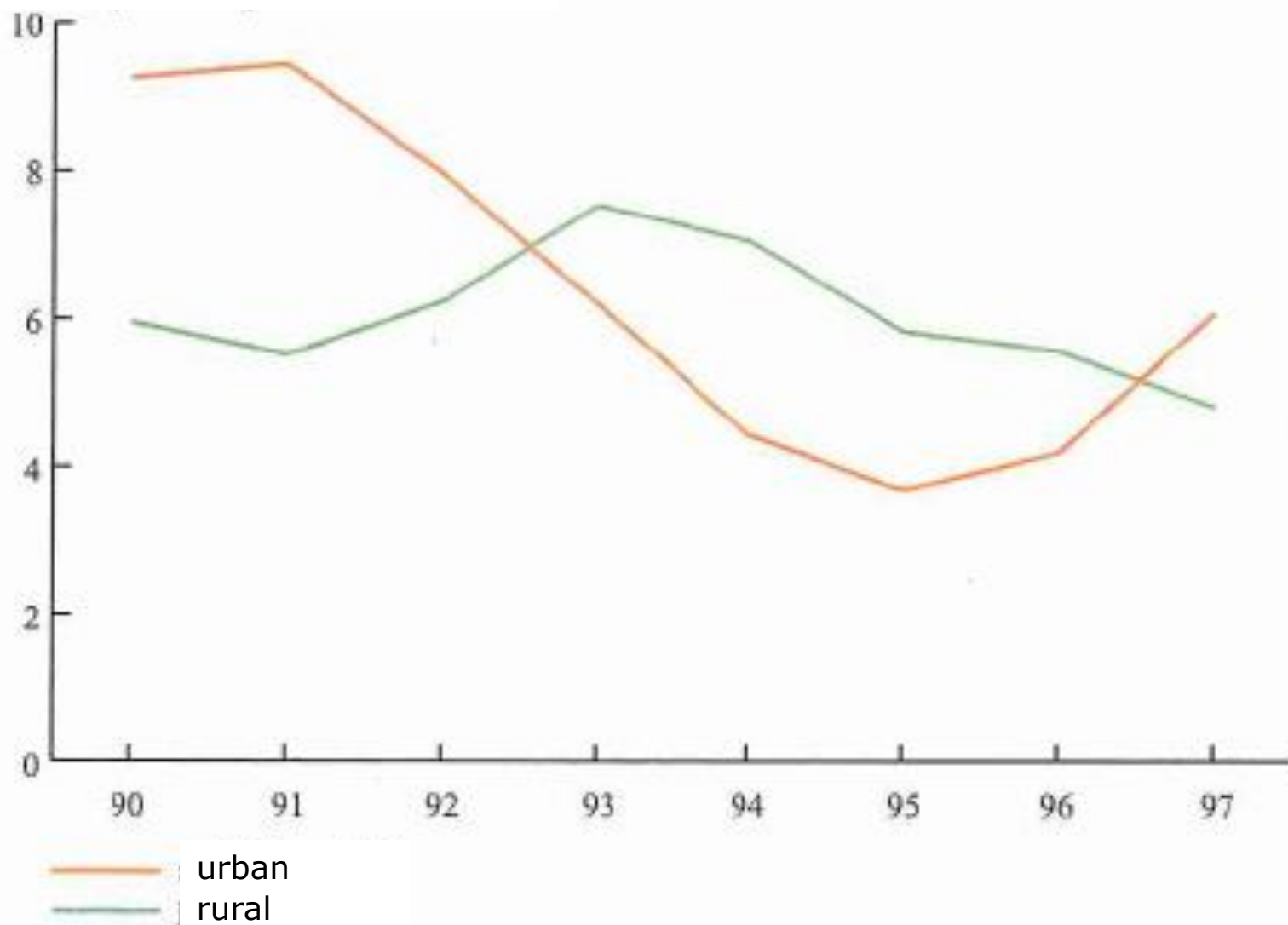
NEDERLAND

contracting rural
centres, 1947-1971



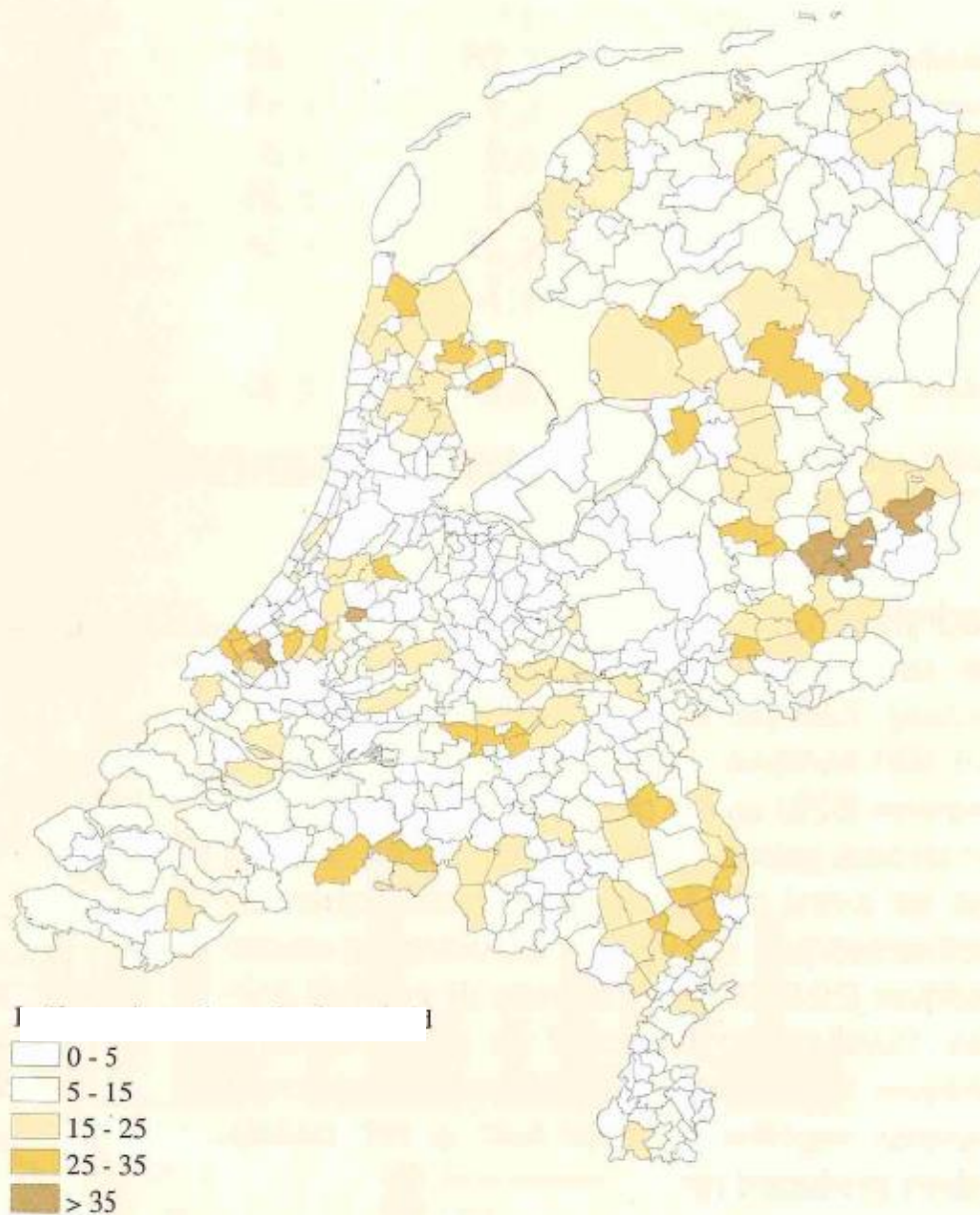
1908s, 1990s, 2000s: reflexive modernity - beyond the urban-rural dichotomy





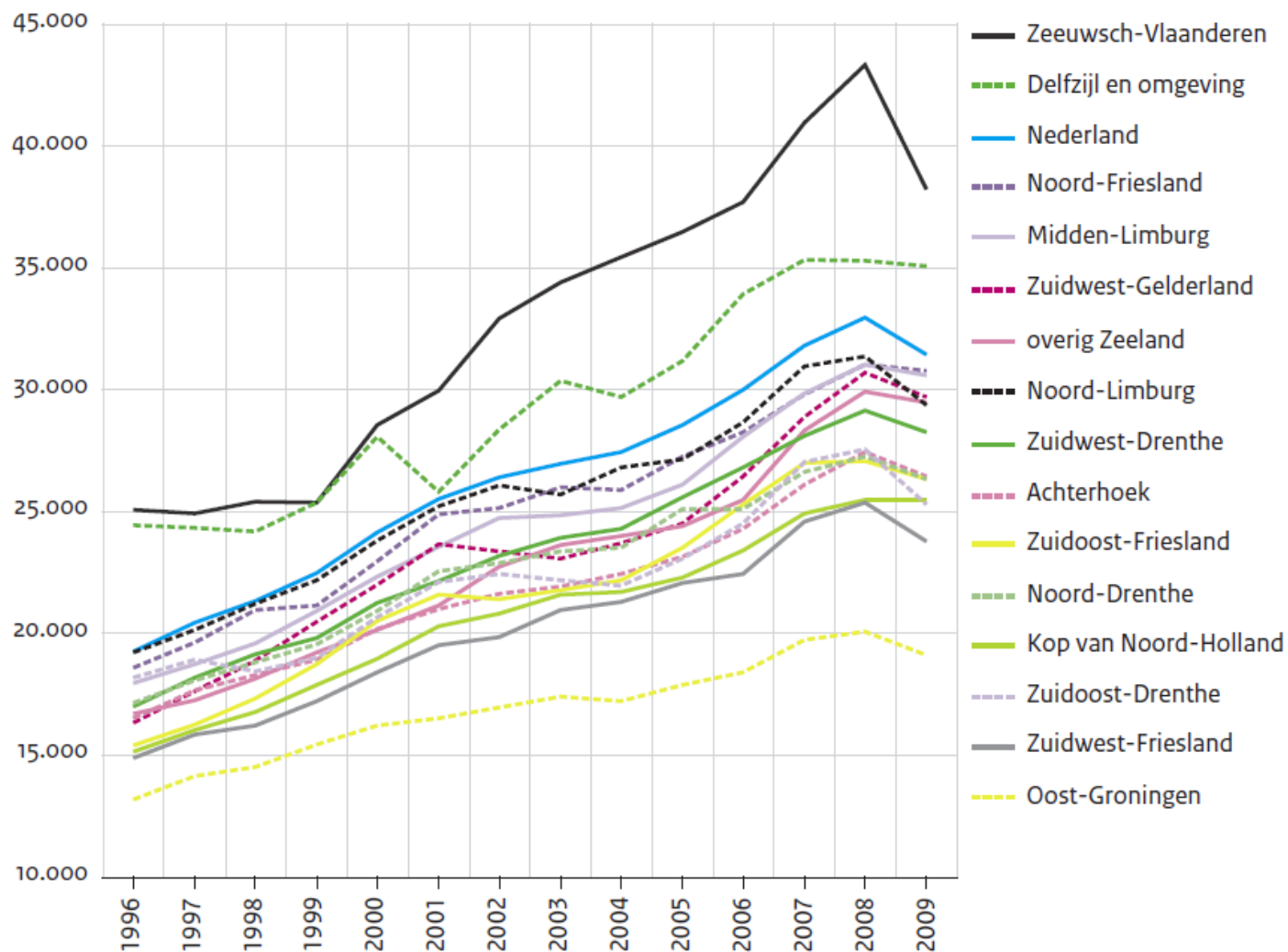
/ Population growth 0/00

Bron: CBS, bewerking LEI



Figuur 2.11

Growth of the economy in rural areas 1996-2009



a Economische groei = groei van het BVP per inwoner.

Bron: CBS (Statline, Regionale rekeningen) SCP-bewerking

2009

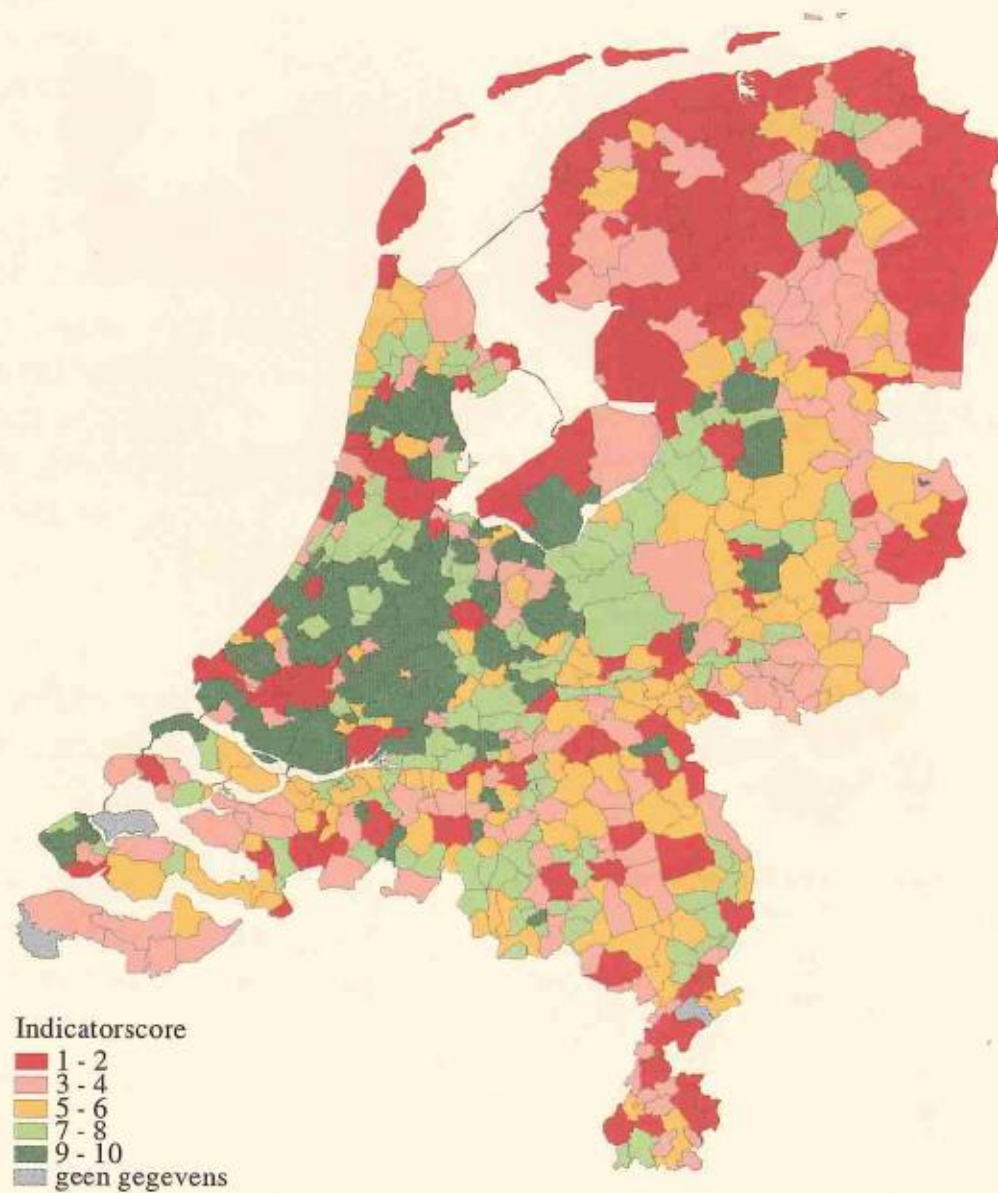
Small, isolated villages
larger, isolated villages
small villages
larger villages
towns



Bron: cas (stedelijkheid 2010) en Goudappel Coffeng (bereikbaarheidskaart) scp-bewerking



WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY
WAGeningen



WAGENINGEN

social and economic vitality

bron: het verspreidingsgebied van de indicator van het OBO



Number of shops x 1000

Percentage of small schools in total of schools

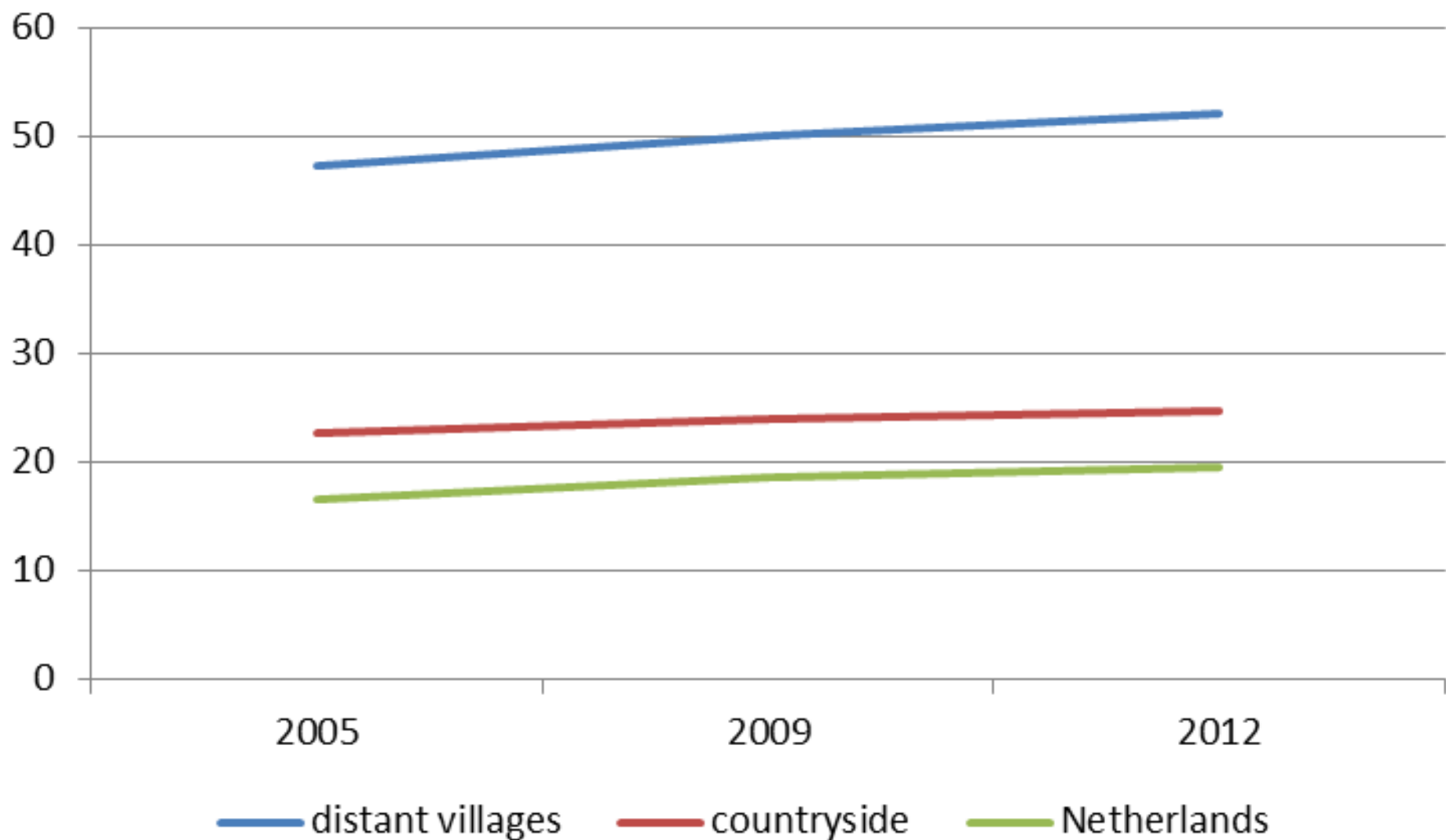
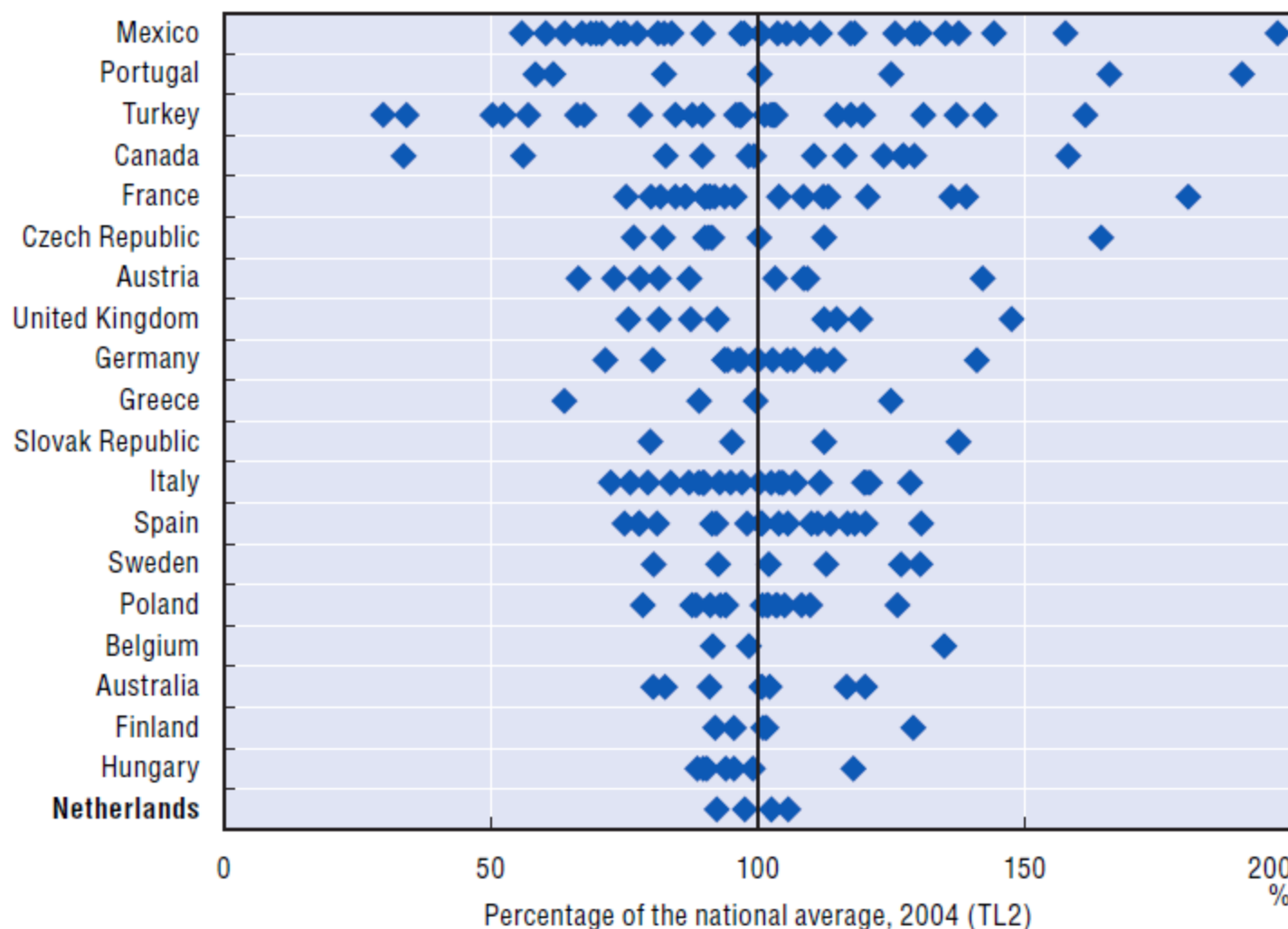


Figure 1.10. Variations in the number of hospital beds per 1 000 population on TL2-level (2004)

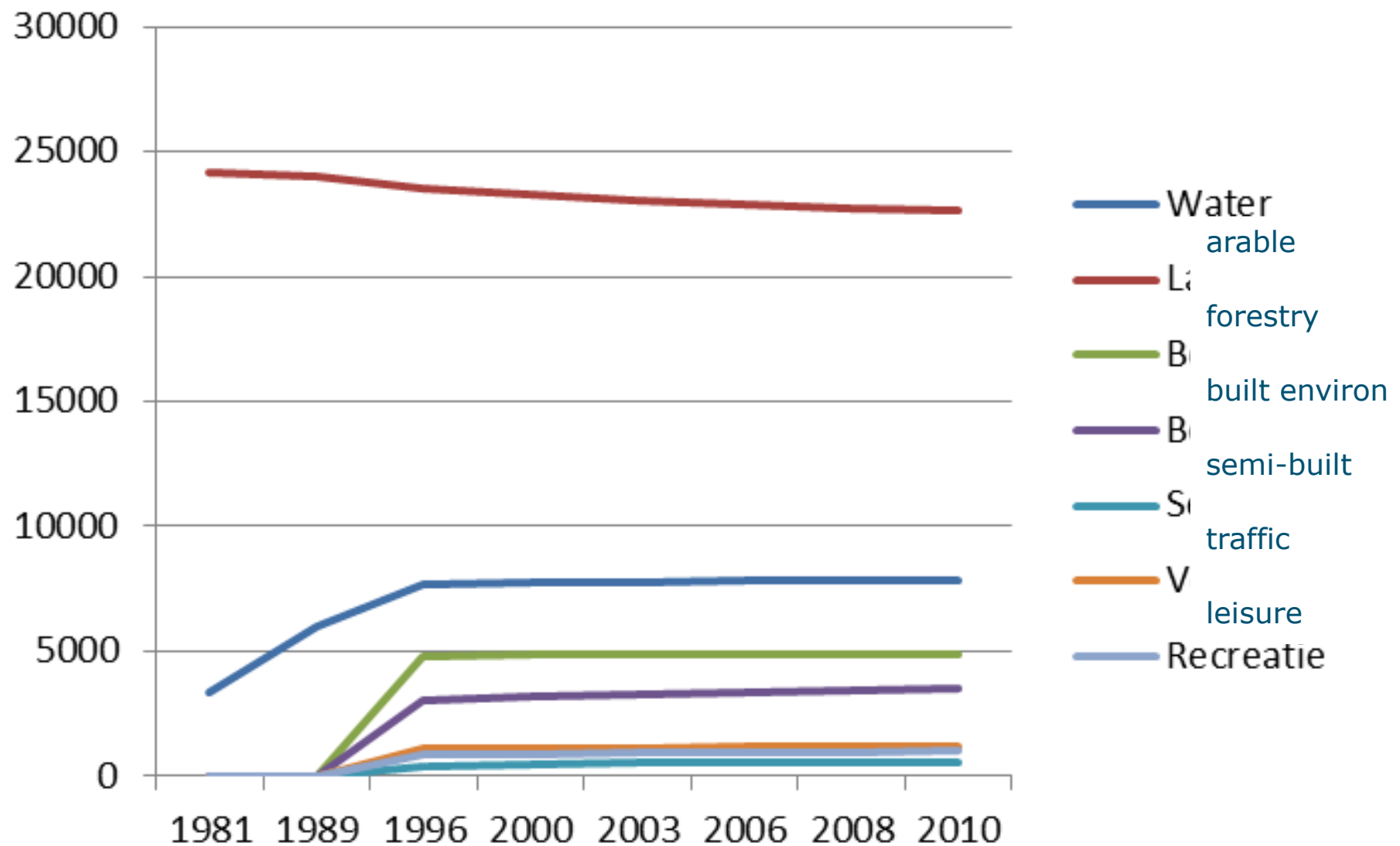


Note: The horizontal axis indicates the number of hospital beds in the different TL2-regions per country, where 100 represents the national average.

Source: OECD 2007a, *Regions at a Glance*, OECD, Paris.



Land use in the Netherlands



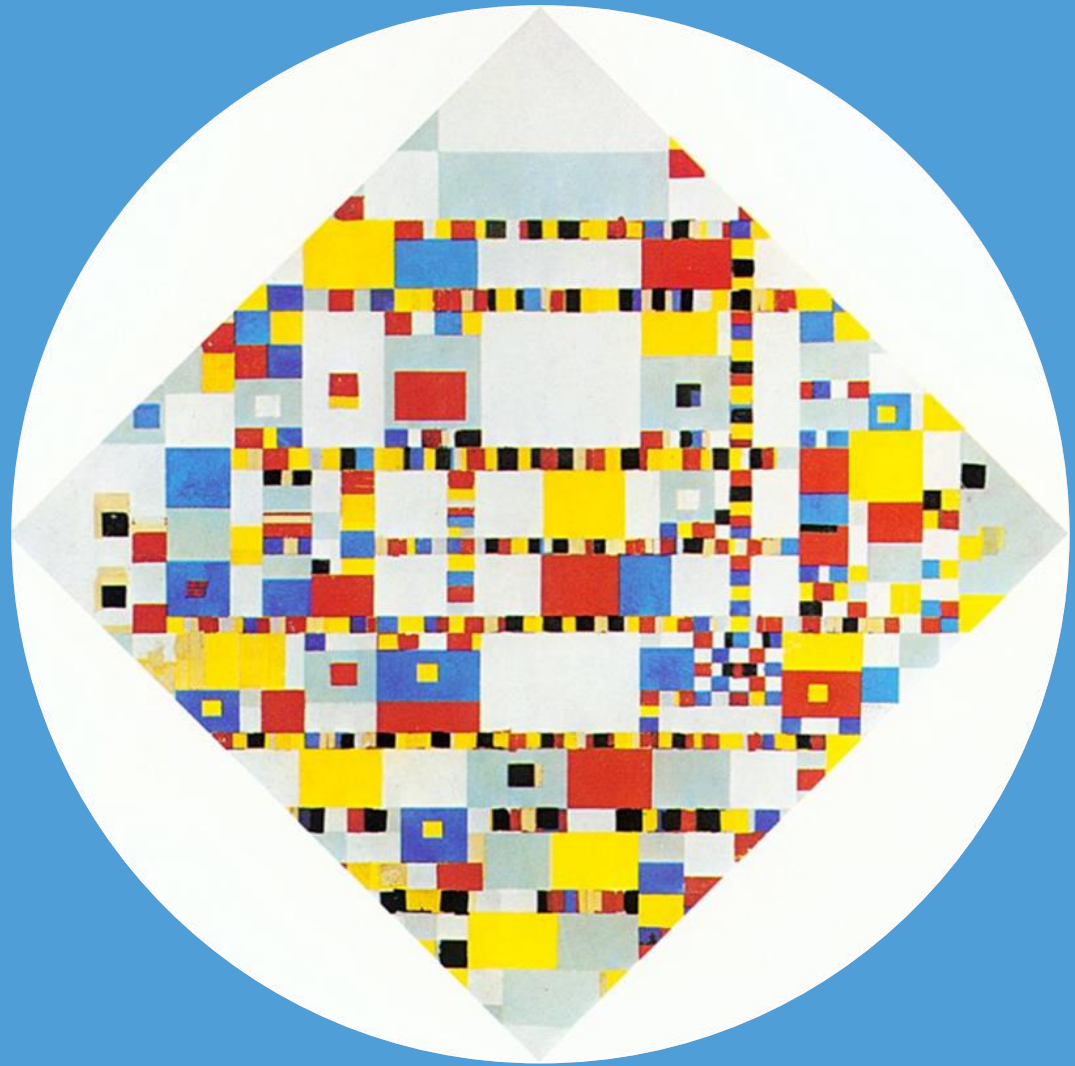
conclusion: beyond nostalgia

The redefinition and reshaping of the Dutch countryside in the twentieth century – the rise and decline of a farmer's world



Thank you

Anton.Schuurman@
wur.nl



Mondriaan – Victory Boogie Woogie
Gift of the Dutch Central Bank to the Dutch people
At the occasion (1999) of transferring monetary
sovereignty to the European Union.



WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY
WAGENINGEN **UR**