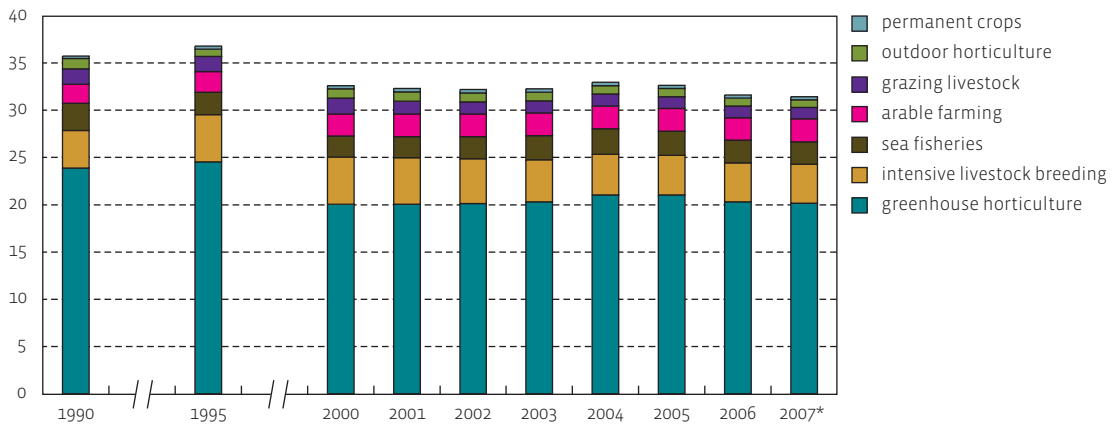


energy consumption (PJ)



Source: Flanders Energy Balance VITO

Decreasing energy consumption in agriculture

The energy consumption in agriculture has since 1990 decreased by 12 % to 31.4 PJ in 2007, while the total energy consumption in Flanders – calculated as the gross domestic energy consumption – has still increased by 35 %. Within agriculture, greenhouse horticulture uses the most energy: 64 %. Next to this, intensive livestock breeding is responsible for 13 %, arable farming for 8 %, sea fisheries for 8 % and grazing livestock for 4 %. In the latter subsector the energy consumption has since 1990 decreased the most (-25 %), which is related to the decrease in the cattle stock. Greenhouse horticulture has also substantially reduced its energy consumption (-16 %), while the subsector is still expanding. This means that the MINA plan 3 (-15 % between 1990 and 2005) target was reached in 2006.

More clean fuels

A remarkable change towards ‘cleaner’ sources of energy is occurring, particularly in greenhouse horticulture. Thus the use of natural gas has more than quadrupled at the cost of the use of coal and heavy fuel oil. In the Flemish Climate Policy Plan the target for greenhouse horticulture is to obtain 75 % of the energy from natural gas or renewable sources of energy by 2013. In 2007 this share was 29 %.

Since 2005 biomass as a renewable source of energy has made its entry in agriculture but the share is still minimal (1 % in 2007).

energy consumption (PJ)	1990	2000	2005	2006	2007*
permanent crops	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
outdoor horticulture	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8
grazing livestock	1.6	1.7	1.3	1.2	1.2
arable farming	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4
sea fisheries	2.9	2.2	2.5	2.4	2.4
intensive livestock breeding	4.0	5.0	4.2	4.1	4.1
greenhouse horticulture	23.9	20.1	21.0	20.3	20.2
<i>total</i>	<i>35.7</i>	<i>32.6</i>	<i>32.7</i>	<i>31.6</i>	<i>31.4</i>