



AUSTRIAN COUNTRY REPORT

- IEA Task 37 Meeting,
Tulln/Vienna 15-16 Nov. 2012

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Status of Biogas in Austria

(R. Braun, 2008)



Substrate / Plant type	Number of plants	Mio. Nm ³ biogas per year	% Percentage
Landfill	62	45 - 100	21
Sewage sludge	134	75 - 100	26
Agricultural plants (including co-digestion)	350	121 - 182	45
Industry (including anaerobic wastewater pre-treatment)	25	9 - 14	3
Plants from municipalities and waste associations	15	15 - 18	5
TOTAL	586	265 - 414	100

Current Biogas Feed-In Tariffs in Austria



Economic Support Data:

- Feed-in tariffs in Austria

From 2010 onwards just 3 instead of formerly 5 categories

18.5 Cent / kWh up to 250 kW_{el}

16.5 Cent / kWh from 250 - 500 kW_{el}

13 Cent / kWh above 500 kW_{el}

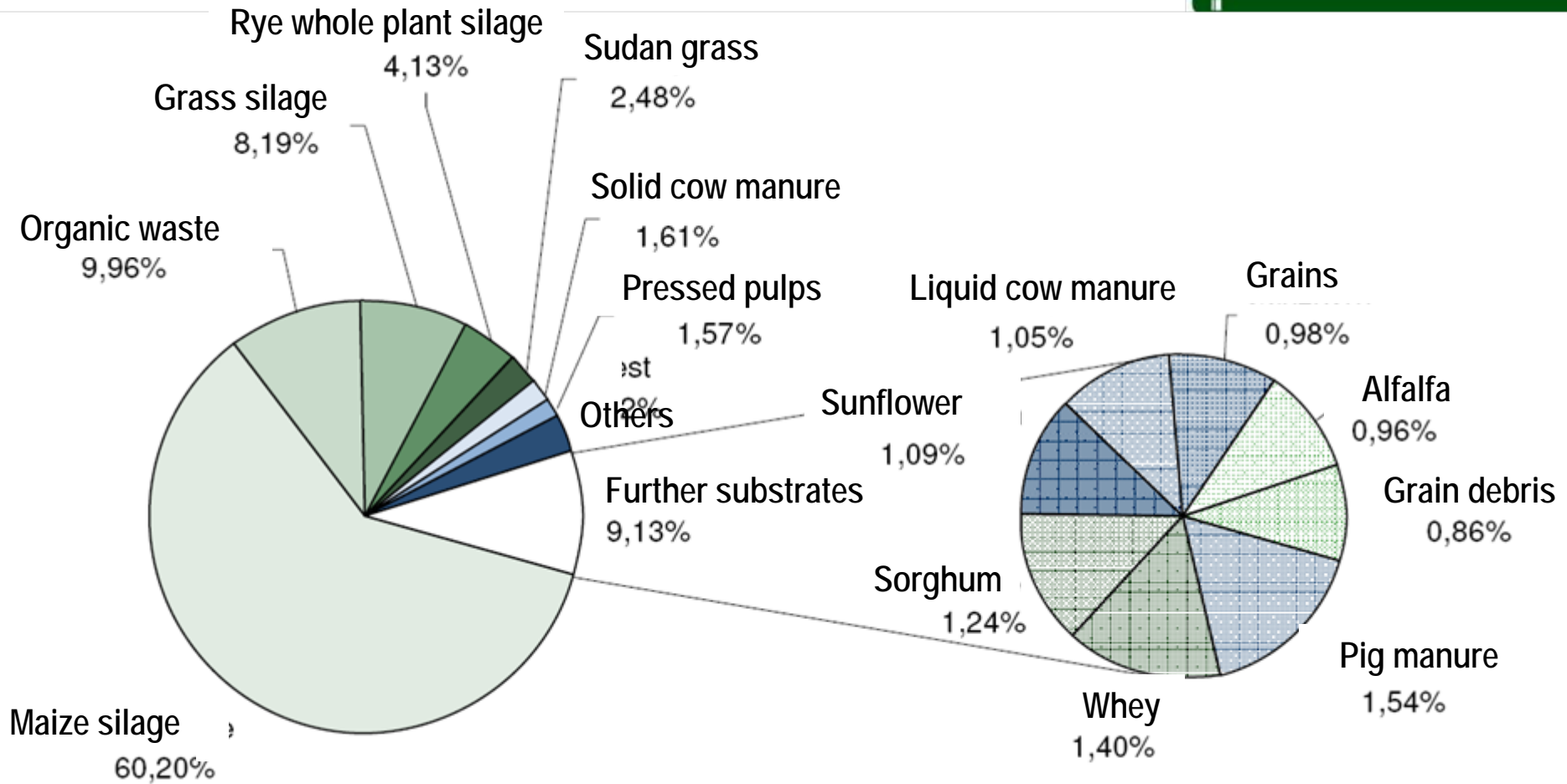
+ 2 Cent / kWh if biogas is upgraded

+ 2 Cent / kWh if heat is used properly

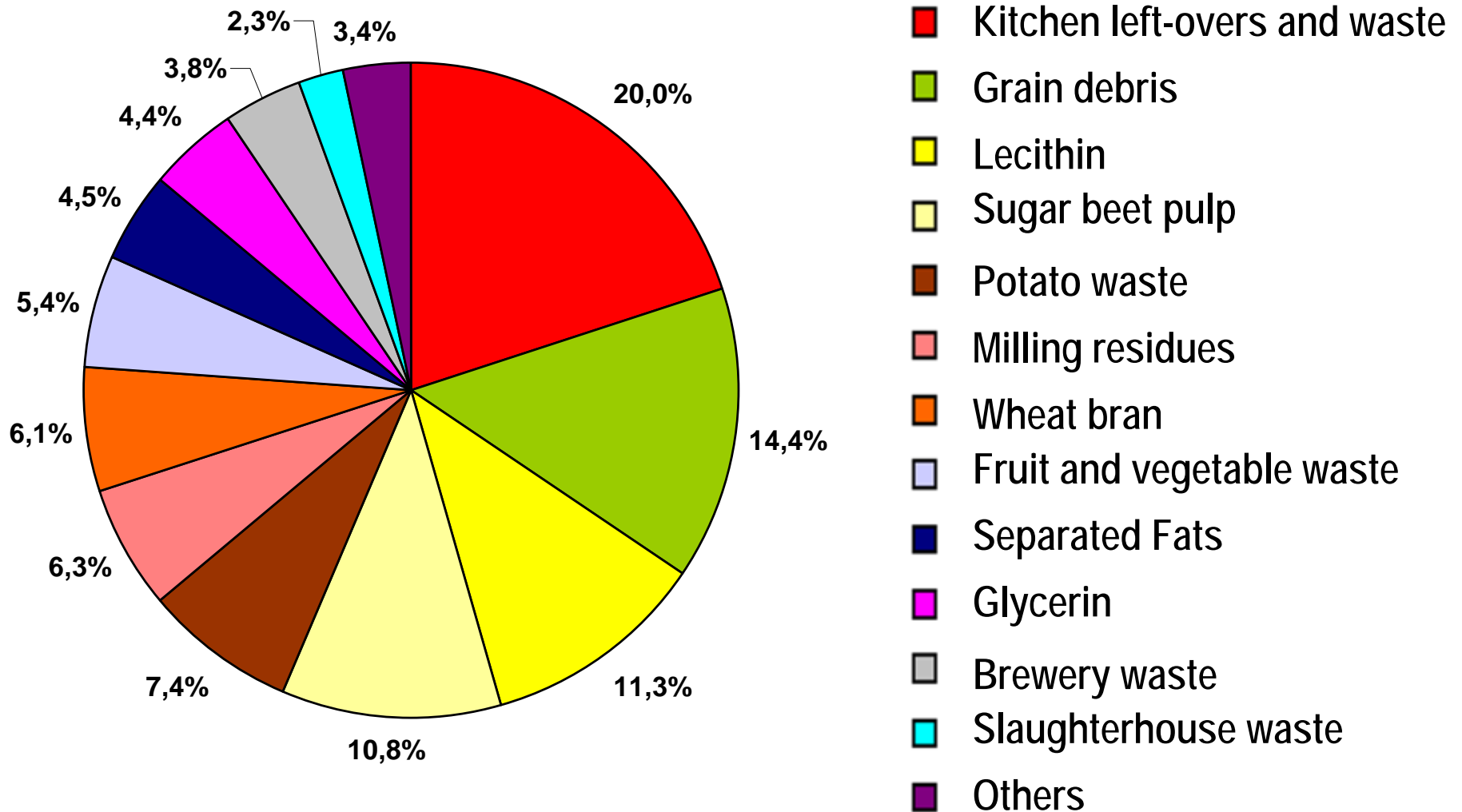
- Investment grants in Austria

Depend on local conditions

Composition of the Substrates in 200 Biogas Plants Based on Energy Content (E-Control GmbH)



Composition of the Organic Waste in 40 Austrian Biogas Plants Based on VS Content (Laaber et al. 2007)



Biogas-Upgrading Plant Inventory



Summary of Up-grading Plants in Austria:

Plant / Location	In operation	Technique	Capacity (raw biogas)
Bruck / Leitha	Since 2007	Gas permeation	180 Nm ³ / hr
Pucking	Since 2005	PSA	10 Nm ³ / hr
Leoben	Since 2009	Amine	140 Nm ³ / hr
Linz	planning		
St. Margarethen am Moos	Since 2007	Membrane	25 kg CH ₄ / hr (300 bar)
Eugendorf	Since 2008	Blend of Methane (80 %) and biogas (20%)	22 Nm ³ / hr
New plants: Güssing (gas station), Wiener Neustadt (gas grid)			

Note: a full up-grading plant list for the country will be needed in order to up-date the plant list on the website

Political aims „Austrian Energy Strategy“ by Austrian Ministries of Economy and Environment



- In general: to limit Austrian energy demand to the value of 2005: 1.118 PJ
- By 2015: increase energy from biomass by 100 MW_{el} (also no dependence on atomic energy imports is aimed at)

Main issues concerning BIOGAS:

- Focus on biomethane production from biogas
- Use of biomethane as transportation fuel (Bio-CNG)
- Biomethane shall replace **10% of natural gas consumption (800 Mn. Nm³/yr)**
- Increasing focus on total energy efficiency
- Keep up the strategy to support efficient electricity and heat production
- Biomethane → pushed by stimulating market demand and investment incentives
- Clear and comprehensible regulatory framework will be established

„Energy Strategy 2050 Austria“

by Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology



- Reinforce strengths of Austrian Energy Technology
 - Biogas technology can be considered a strength

- Biogas helps to achieve the following aims:
 - Energy efficiency and renewable energy in Industry
 - Bio-based Industry

- Biogas contributes to the following topics:
 - Biofuels
 - Energetic utilisation of residues
 - Energy efficiency in agriculture and forestry

Current trends in Austria ...



- Due to current high prices for typical biogas feedstocks (e.g. maize) biogas plant operators face substantial difficulties to operate economically
- These problems are more severe for biogas plants which purchase a large proportion of their substrate
- For this reason there is a strong push to make available alternative substrates
 - pre-treatment of poorly degradable materials
 - making waste fractions more available
 - interest in algae as alternative feedstock



Thank you for your attention!

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