

# The state of manure management and biogas in Germany

## A recent survey of biogas plant operators (2020)

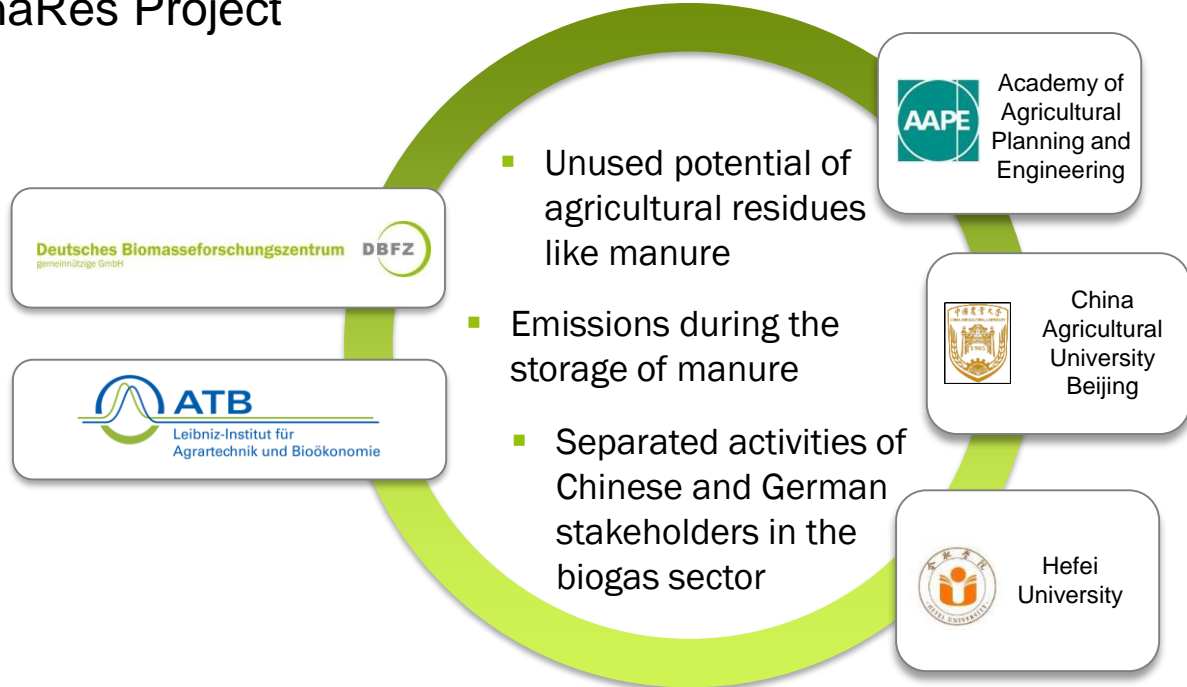
**Britt Schumacher, Nadja Rensberg, Walter Stinner**



# Challenges in China & Germany

Scientists are facing challenges

➔ ChinaRes Project



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and Agriculture

by decision of the  
German Bundestag



# ChinaRes Project

Duration: November 2017 – July 2021

Funding: Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture

Funding code: 22025816

With support from



Federal Ministry  
of Food  
and Agriculture

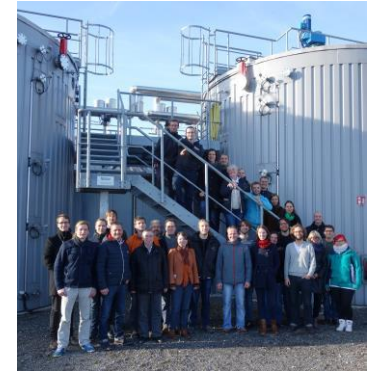
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We are fostering the utilization of agricultural residues & emission reduction in the biogas sector in China & Germany via

- Identification of best-case plant concepts (barn, manure management and biogas plant)
- Identification of barriers for the energetic use of agri-residues
- Development of technical concepts for a better design and a coordinated operation of barn and biogas plant
- Comparison of results of China - Germany
- Networking activities amongst Chinese and German stakeholders

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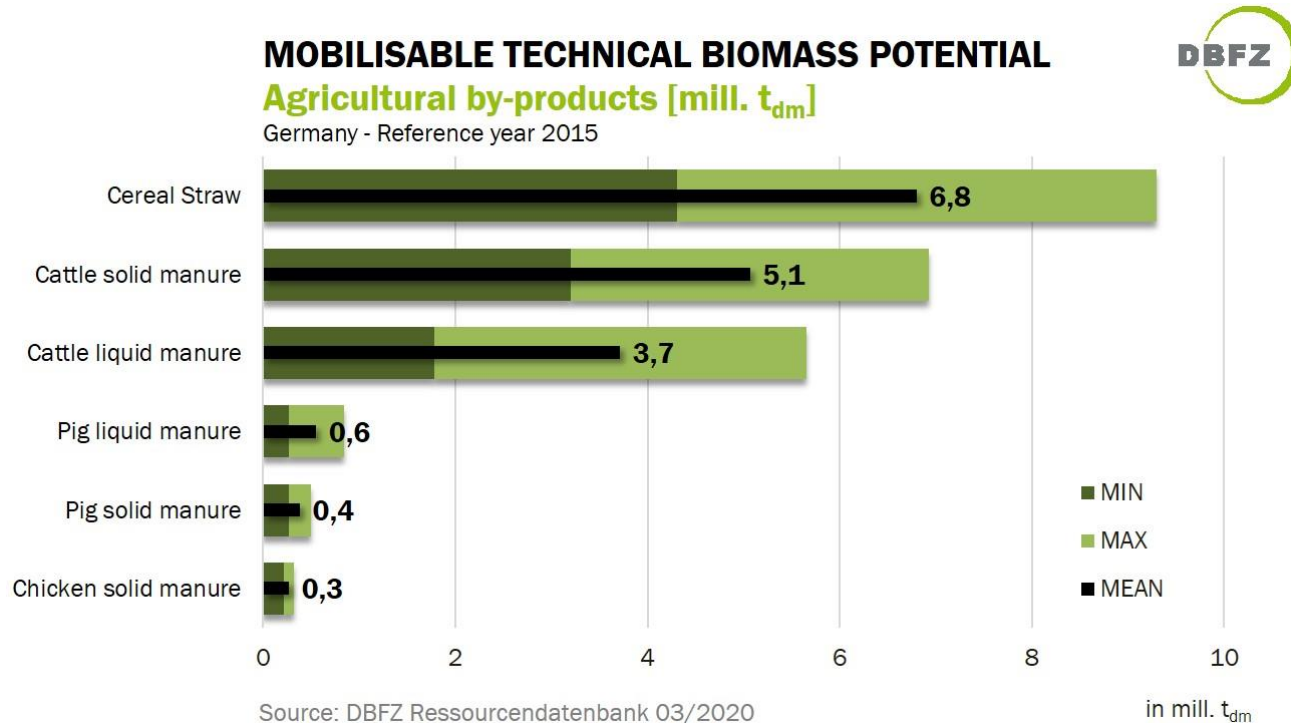
Have a look at:

<https://www.dbfz.de/projektseiten/chinares/projekt>

# **Agricultural biomass potential in Germany**

## **Top 6**

# Mobilisable technical biomass potential in Germany (mass-related)

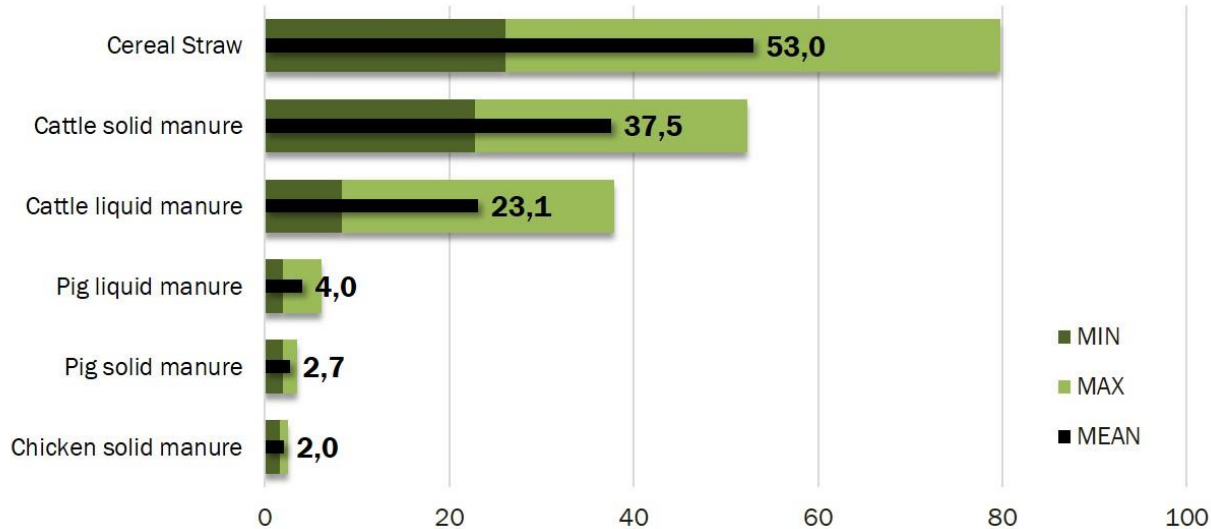


# Mobilisable technical biomass potential in Germany (energy-related)

## MOBILISABLE TECHNICAL BIOMASS POTENTIAL

### Agricultural by-products - Biomethane [PJ]

Germany - Reference year 2015



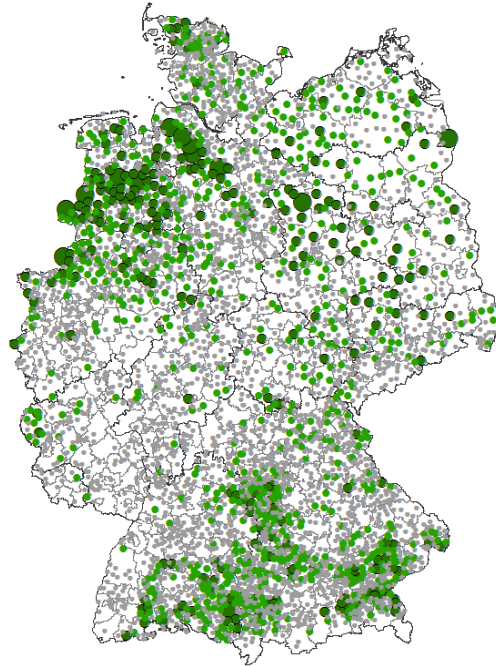
Source: DBFZ Ressourcendatenbank 03/2020

in PJ Biomethane

# **DBFZ biogas database & DBFZ biogas plant operator surveys 2020**

## **Basic data (reference year 2019)**

# Biogas plants in Germany (2019)



biogas production plants  
[number]



biogas production plants 12/2018  
database: DBFZ database, state 2020



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Biogas plants (2019): ~9,100 plants

- ~ 8,900 on-site electricity conversion of biogas
- ~200 upgrading to biomethane
- focus on northwest and southern Germany

Installed electrical capacity

→ 5.9 GW<sub>el</sub>

Gross electricity production



→ 31.9 TWh<sub>el</sub>

Heat supply

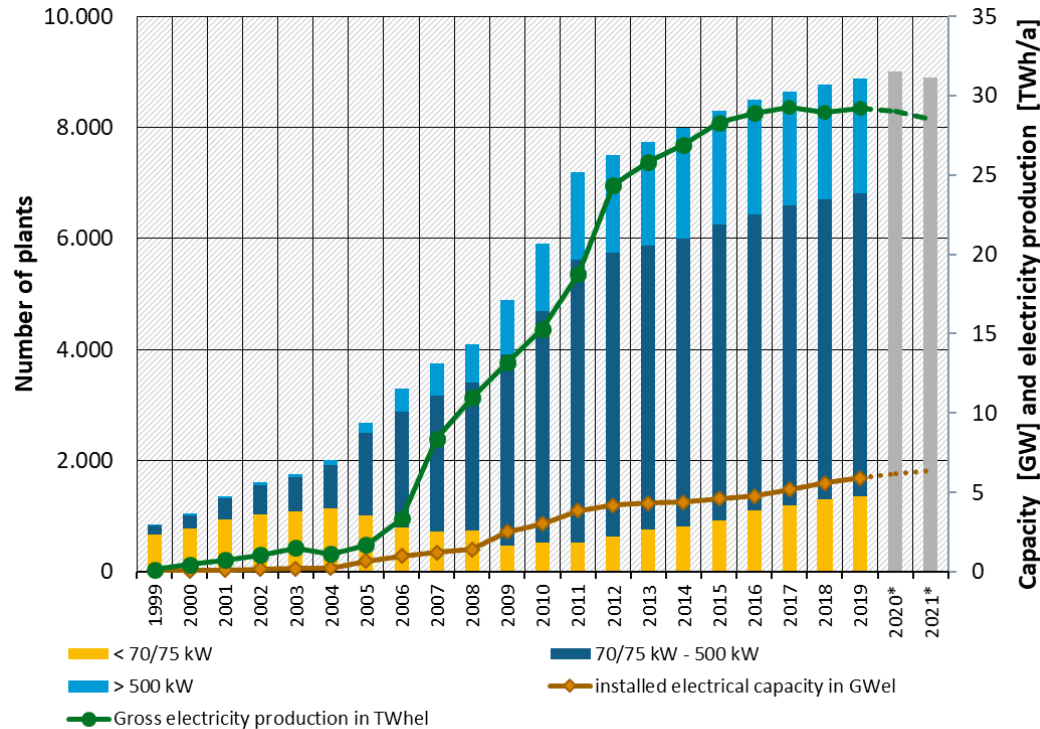


→ 19.3 TWh<sub>th</sub>



# Development of biogas plants

## Installed capacity and number of plants



- no significant increase since 2012
- **Predominant: capacity expansion of existing plants** (motivated by flexibility supplement/premium)
- New construction limited to manure-based small-scale biogas plants (< 75 kW<sub>eI</sub>) and few other plants for biowaste digestion

Database: BNetzA, AGEE-Stat, database DBFZ, small scale manure based biogas plants up to 75 kWel from 2012 shown in category „70/75kW“; installed electric capacity and electricity generation according to AGEE-Stat (BMWl 2020), \*estimation DBFZ, DBFZ 5/2020.

# Biogas production according to substrate input and type

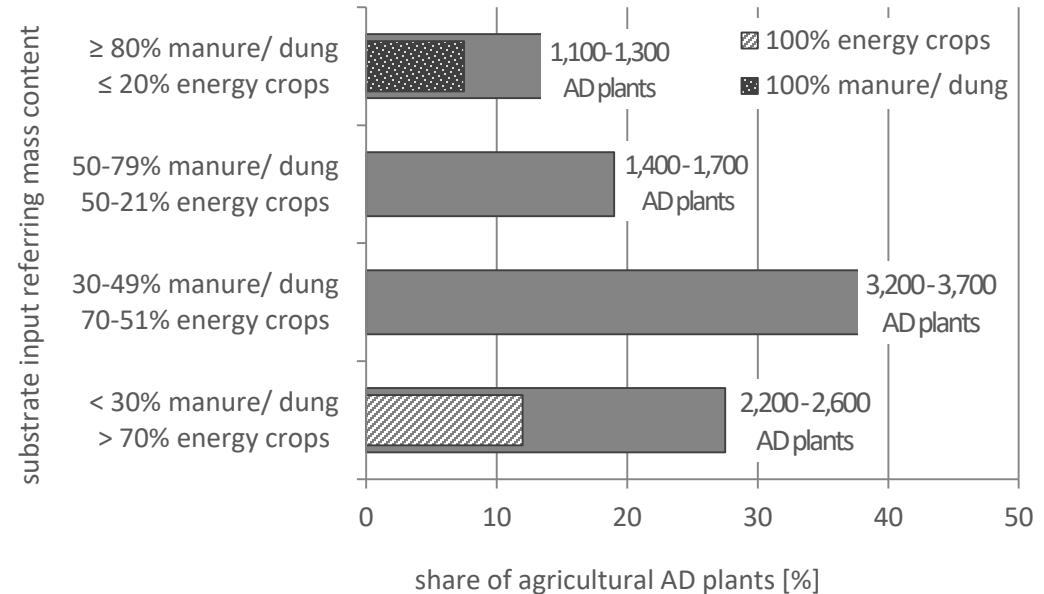


Type of biogas production plant (on-site electricity generation)	Number of plants 2019	Number of plants 2020*
Agricultural biogas plants	approx. 8,550	8,600
thereof small scale manure based biogas plants ( $\leq 75$ kW)	880	925
AD plants based on organic waste/manure/energy crops (share of organic waste $< 90$ %, mass based)	approx. 200	approx. 200
Biowaste plants (share of organic waste $\geq 90$ %, mass based)	137	138
<b>Biogas production plants in total</b>	approx. 8,900	approx. 8,950

DBFZ biogas database 10/2020, \* estimation

# Agricultural biogas plants and feedstock

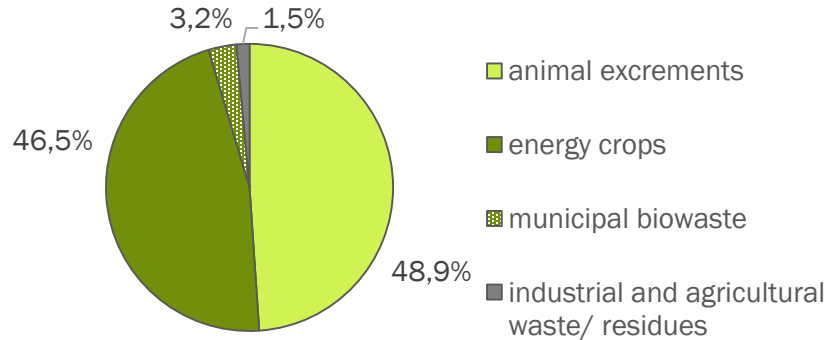
- Very different proportions of animal excrement in the substrate input for biogas production
- About 5,800 plants with a share of > 30% animal excrements
- Biogas plants with share of 51-70% energy crops at substrate input dominate agricultural biogas plants
- In recent years, the construction of new biogas plants has almost been exclusively based on small liquid manure plants



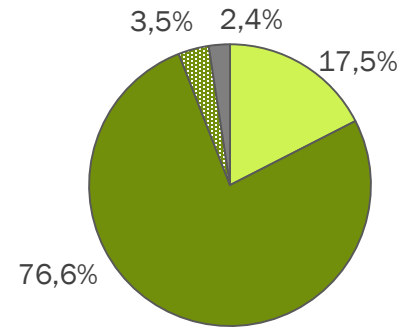
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# Substrate input of biogas production (On-site power generation)

mass-related



energy-related



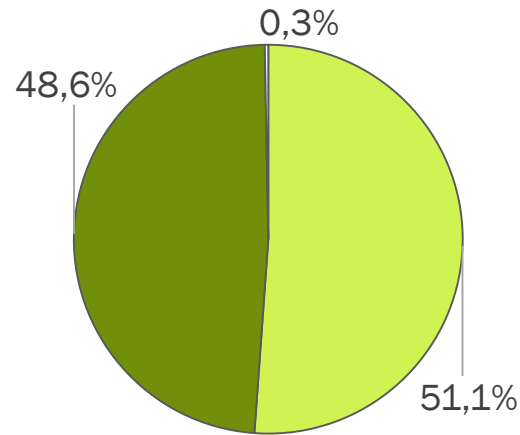
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- Animal excrements and renewable raw materials account for around 95% of the substrate input for biogas production (based on the quantities used)

# Substrate input agricultural biogas plants (On-site power generation)

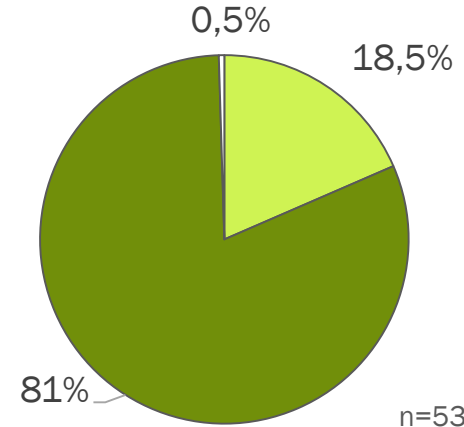


mass-related



- animal excrements
- energy crops
- industrial and agricultural waste/ residues

energy-related

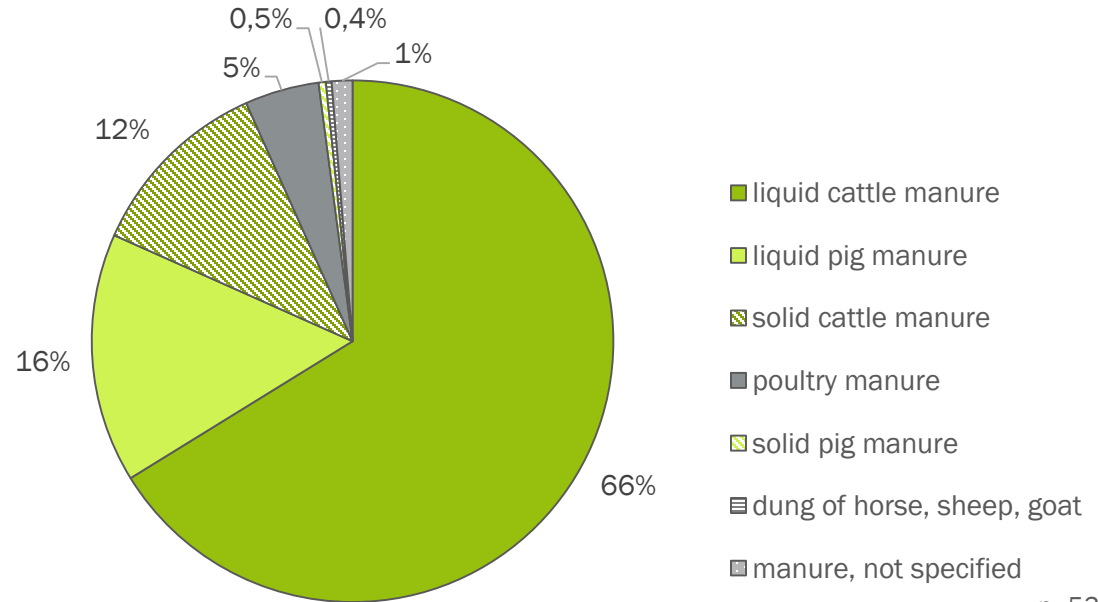


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# Utilisation of manure in agricultural biogas plants

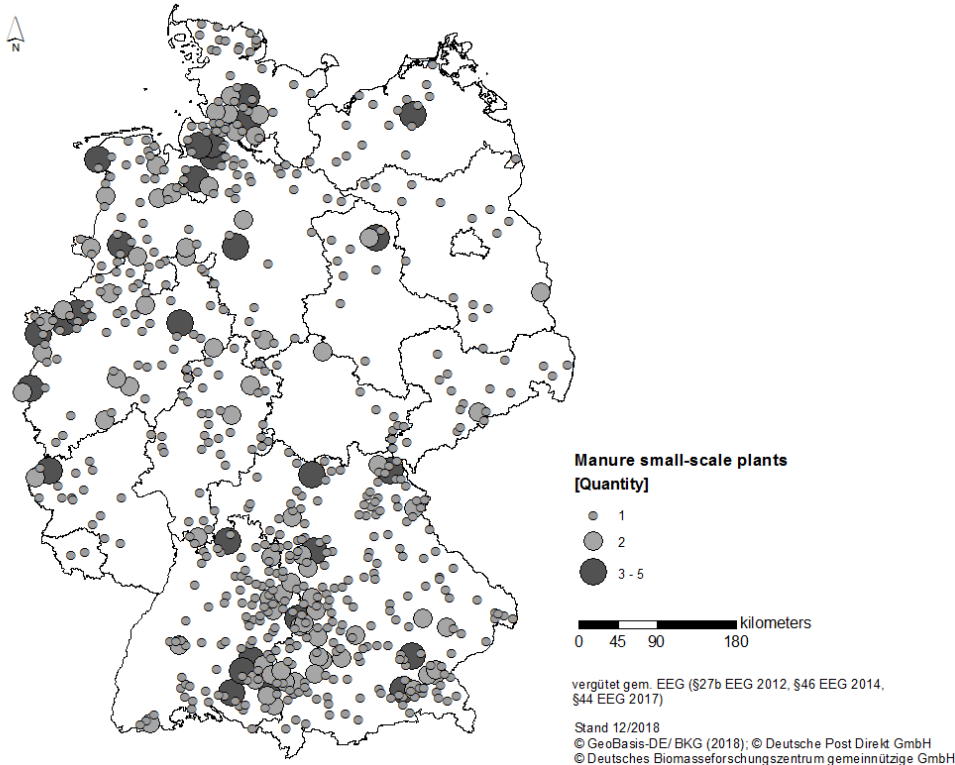
## Mass-related distribution

- liquid cattle manure accounts for around 66% of the quantities of animal excrements used in biogas plants



n=537  
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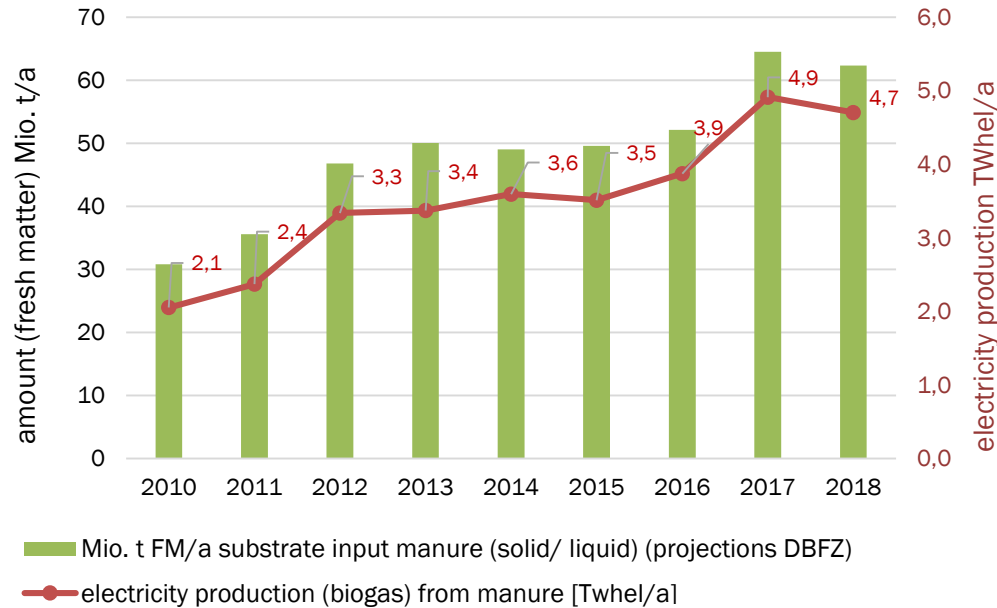
# Small-scale biogas plants - AD of manure



- as of end of 2019: approx. 900 manure-based small-scale plants in operation (remunerated according to EEG\*)
- regional focus of the plants in southern and northwestern Germany

\* § 27b EEG 2012 / § 46 EEG 2014 / § 44 EEG 2017

# Development of manure utilisation for electricity production from biogas in Germany



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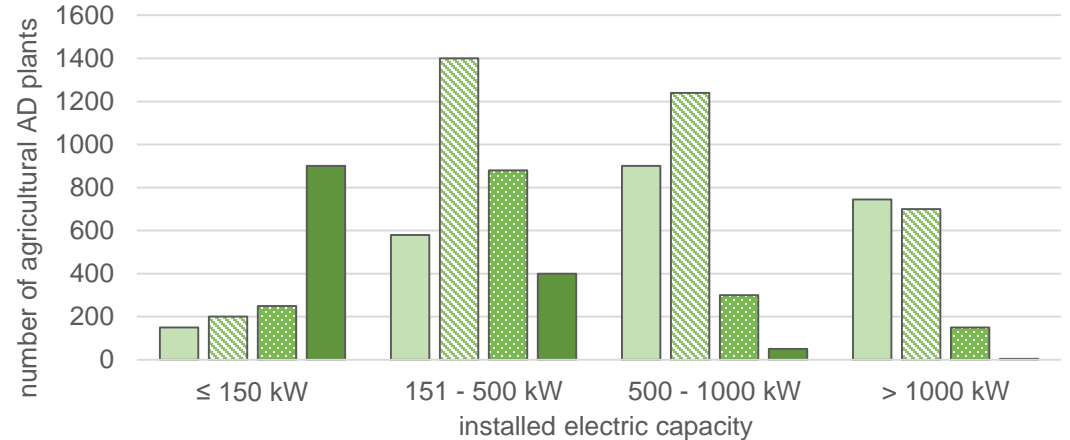
- Electricity production from manure in total about 4.7 TWh<sub>el</sub>/a
- approx. 0.4 TWh<sub>el</sub>/a from manure-based small-scale biogas plants

With about 62 million t/a of manure, about 40% of the available quantities of manure are used in biogas plants.



# Agricultural biogas plants and feedstock

- in the power range  $\leq 150$  kW, biogas plants with a high proportion of liquid and solid manure in the substrate input predominate (including manure based small-scale biogas plants)
- with increasing plant capacity the share of energy crops in the substrate input increases



■  $<30\%$  manure, dung /  $>70\%$  energy crops      ▨ 30-49% manure, dung / 70-51% energy crops  
■ 50-79% manure, dung / 50-21% energy crops      ■  $\geq 80\%$  manure, dung /  $\leq 20\%$  energy crops

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# **DBFZ biogas plant operator surveys 2020**

## **Manure management and biogas plants (reference year 2019)**

# DBFZ biogas plant operator survey 2020



- Written survey
- Carried out in spring 2020
- Reference year 2019
- Recording of parameters on biogas plant technology, operation of the plant, substrate input, agricultural business and manure management

Betreiberbefragung Biogas – Bezugsjahr 2019  
Alle Angaben beziehen sich auf das Betriebsjahr 2019. Rückfragen bitte an: biogas@dbfz.de



DBFZ | Vorgauer Straße 116 | D-04347 Leipzig

DBFZ Deutsches Biomasseforschungszentrum  
gemeinnützige GmbH  
Vorgauer Straße 116  
04347 Leipzig  
Tel.: +49 (0)341 2434-459  
Fax: +49 (0)341 2434-133  
info@dbfz.de  
www.dbfz.de  
Bearbeiter:  
Nadja Rindow  
Tel.: +49 (0)341 2434-459  
biogas@dbfz.de

Status	<input type="checkbox"/> in Betrieb	<input type="checkbox"/> z.Zt. außer Betrieb	<input type="checkbox"/> stillgelegt, wann?	
gesamt installierte Leistung	<input type="text"/> kW <sub>e</sub>	Bemessungsleistung	<input type="text"/> kW <sub>e</sub>	
<b>BHKW / Stromerzeugung</b>	BHKW 1	BHKW 2	BHKW 3	BHKW 4
installierte el. Leistung [kW <sub>e</sub> ]				
EEG-vergütete Strommenge in 2019 [kWh/Jahr] (=1.000 kWh)				
BHKW zur Flexibilisierung	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> ja
Satteliten-BHKW	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> ja
Abgasbehandlung	<input type="checkbox"/> nein	<input type="checkbox"/> Oxidationskatalysator	<input type="checkbox"/> SCR Katalysator	<input type="checkbox"/> thermische Nachverbrennung
<b>Direktvermarktung/ Flexibilisierung</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Direktvermarktung (Marktpremie)	<input type="checkbox"/> Flexipremie	<input type="checkbox"/> EEG-Festvergütung	Laufzeit EEG/ Gesamtanlage bis:	<input type="text"/> (Monat/Jahr)
Speicher:	Wärmespeicher	<input type="text"/> m <sup>3</sup>	Gasspeicher	<input type="text"/> m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Eigenstromverbrauch</b>	Menge und Anteil an Gesamtstromerzeugung			
Anlagenbetrieb Biogasanlage	<input type="checkbox"/> Eigendeckung	<input type="checkbox"/> Fremdbiogas	<input type="text"/> kWh <sub>a</sub>	<input type="text"/> % Gesamtstromerz.
weiterer Selbstverbrauch des erzeugten Stroms: nicht Betrieb der Biogasanlage (für landw. Betrieb, Wohnhaus, etc.)			<input type="text"/> kWh <sub>a</sub>	<input type="text"/> % Gesamtstromerz.
<b>Wärmeverbrauch /nutzung</b>	Menge und Anteil an Gesamtwärmeerzeugung			
Eigenwärmebedarf (Fermenterheizung)			<input type="text"/> kWh <sub>a</sub>	<input type="text"/> % Gesamtwärmeerz.
Wohnhaus/ Warmwasser (eigenes Haus, <3 Nachbarn)			<input type="text"/> kWh <sub>a</sub>	<input type="text"/> % Gesamtwärmeerz.
Büro/ Werkstatt			<input type="text"/> kWh <sub>a</sub>	<input type="text"/> % Gesamtwärmeerz.
Stall/ landw. Betrieb			<input type="text"/> kWh <sub>a</sub>	<input type="text"/> % Gesamtwärmeerz.
<b>Externe Wärmenutzung</b>			<input type="text"/> kWh <sub>a</sub>	<input type="text"/> % Gesamtwärmeerz.
Wohnhäuser	<input type="checkbox"/> Wohnhäuser	<input type="checkbox"/> Gewerbe/öffentl. Gebäude	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrie	
Gewerbe/ Handel/ Industrie			<input type="text"/> kWh <sub>a</sub>	<input type="text"/> % Gesamtwärmeerz.
Trocknungsprozesse			<input type="text"/> kWh <sub>a</sub>	<input type="text"/> % Gesamtwärmeerz.
sonstige			<input type="text"/> kWh <sub>a</sub>	<input type="text"/> % Gesamtwärmeerz.
<b>Fermenter   Nachgärer   Gärrestlager</b>				
Fermentersystem	<input type="checkbox"/> Rührkessel	<input type="checkbox"/> Pfropfenstrom	<input type="checkbox"/> Batch/ Garage	<input type="checkbox"/> weitere: <input type="text"/>
Behälter	Anzahl: <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/>	Volumen: <input type="text"/> m <sup>3</sup>	Anzahl: <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> m <sup>3</sup>	

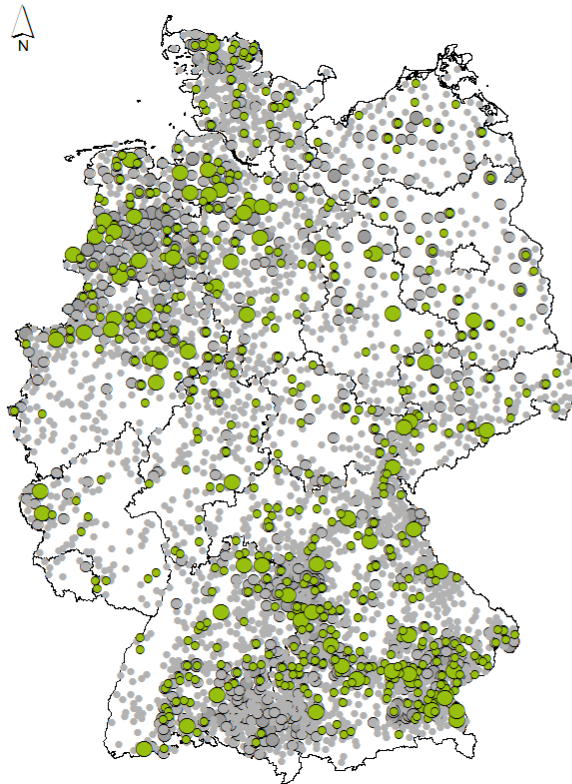
Betreiberbefragung Biogas – Bezugsjahr 2019 Fax an: 0341 - 2434 133, E-Mail: biogas@dbfz.de

<input type="checkbox"/> Nutzung eigener ehemaliger Güllebehälter	<input type="checkbox"/> Nutzung fremder ehem. Güllebehälter	<input type="checkbox"/> Kombination/ beides
Einbringung Feststoffe in BGA	<input type="checkbox"/> Feststoffeinbringung	<input type="checkbox"/> Vorgurbe/ Anmischung m. Gärrest
Gibt es einen nicht gasdicht geschlossenen (offenen) <b>Anmisch-/Vorlagebehälter?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> nein
<b>Abdeckung Gärrestlager und Volumen</b> (Volumen Gärrestlager je nach Abdeckung eingetragen)		
<input type="checkbox"/> m <sup>3</sup> offen	<input type="checkbox"/> m <sup>3</sup> gasdicht (techn.) abgedeckt	<input type="checkbox"/> m <sup>3</sup> abgedeckt, nicht gasdicht
Gärrestaufbereitung vorhanden?	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> nein
<b>Landwirtschaftlicher Betrieb / Güllemanagement und Biogas</b>		
Erntemilch	<input type="checkbox"/> Schieber/ maschinelles tägliches Abschleiben	<input type="checkbox"/> Spaltenboden
	<input type="checkbox"/> eingestreuter Stall mit saisonaler Entmistung	<input type="checkbox"/> anderes <input type="text"/>
Zeit zw. Güllefall und Einbringung in BGA	<input type="checkbox"/> bis 24h	<input type="checkbox"/> bis 7 Tage
	<input type="checkbox"/> länger	
Bewerten Sie Ihre Anlage hinsichtlich genutzter Güllemanagementverfahren als vorbildlich?	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> nein
	<input type="checkbox"/> weiß nicht	
Baukosten der Biogasanlage	<input type="checkbox"/> < 4.000 €/kW <sub>e</sub> install.	<input type="checkbox"/> 4.000 - 8.000 €/kW <sub>e</sub> install.
	<input type="checkbox"/> > 8.000 €/kW <sub>e</sub> install.	<input type="checkbox"/> gemeinsame Einrichtungen Stall/ Biogasanlage
<b>Substrate</b>		
Kreuzen Sie bitte jeweils an, ob sich die Mengenangaben auf Silage oder frische Ernte beziehen.	<b>Eigenproduktion/Anbau</b>	<b>Zukauf/von extern</b>
	Menge [t/Jahr] Frischmasse	Kosten [€/t <sub>w</sub> ] freie BGA
	Menge [t/Jahr] Frischmasse	Preis [€/t <sub>w</sub> ] freie BGA
	Anzahl Zulieferbetriebe	
Gülle	<input type="checkbox"/> Rind	<input type="checkbox"/> Schwein:
Festmist	<input type="checkbox"/> Rind	<input type="checkbox"/> Schwein:
<input type="checkbox"/> Geflügelmist	<input type="checkbox"/> Hühner trockenkot	
Maïs:	frisch <input type="checkbox"/> Silage	
Ackergras:	frisch <input type="checkbox"/> Silage	
Grünland:	frisch <input type="checkbox"/> Silage	
GPS (Hauptfrucht), Art:	<input type="text"/>	
Zwischenfrucht, Art:	<input type="text"/>	
Getreidekom:	<input type="text"/>	
Reststoffe, welche?	<input type="text"/>	
weitere:	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Perspektive nach Auslaufen der EEG-Vergütung</b>		
Was planen Sie nach Auslaufen der EEG Vergütung?	<input type="checkbox"/> Weiterbetrieb der Anlage	<input type="checkbox"/> Stilllegung
	<input type="checkbox"/> aktuell keine Planung hierzu	<input type="checkbox"/> Interesse/Bedarf an Beratung
	<input type="checkbox"/> Teilnahme an Ausschreibungen	<input type="checkbox"/> Eigenbedarf
	<input type="checkbox"/> Aufbereitung zu Biomethan	<input type="checkbox"/> lokale Direktvermarktung
	<input type="checkbox"/> KWK	<input type="checkbox"/> Kraftstoff
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reduktion der Substratmengen/ Gasproduktion	<input type="checkbox"/> ausschließlich Wärmenutzung
	<input type="checkbox"/> sonstiges: <input type="text"/>	
Ist die Hofnachfolge für den Weiterbetrieb der Anlage gesichert?	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> nein
	<input type="checkbox"/> noch ungewiss, Grund <input type="text"/>	
<b>Nachhaltigkeitszertifizierung von Biogasanlagen</b>		
Die Nachhaltigkeitszertifizierung wird Mitte 2021 auf Strom und Wärme aus Biogas ausgeweitet. Haben Sie von dieser Änderung Kenntnis?	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> nein
Haben Sie bereits Erfahrungen mit Nachhaltigkeitszertifizierungen?	<input type="checkbox"/> nein	<input type="checkbox"/> ja
	<input type="checkbox"/> Selbstklärung als Anbauer	<input type="checkbox"/> Zertifizierung der Biogasanlage
Besteht Interesse an einer freiwilligen Zertifizierung der Biogasanlage?	<input type="checkbox"/> ja	<input type="checkbox"/> nein
	<input type="checkbox"/> vielleicht	
Welche Herausforderungen sehen Sie bei der Zertifizierung einer/ Ihrer Biogasanlage?	<input type="checkbox"/> Bürokratie	<input type="checkbox"/> Aufwand/Kosten
	<input type="checkbox"/> fehlendes Fachwissen	<input type="checkbox"/> THG Berechnung
	<input type="checkbox"/> sonstiges: <input type="text"/>	

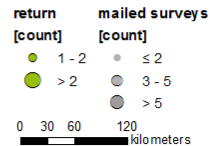
Vielen Dank für Ihre Unterstützung!



# DBFZ biogas operator survey 2020



## Biogas plants



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	Questionnaires [number]
Dispatch	ca. 6,400
Return	630
Response rate	9 %

# Manure removal systems in barn

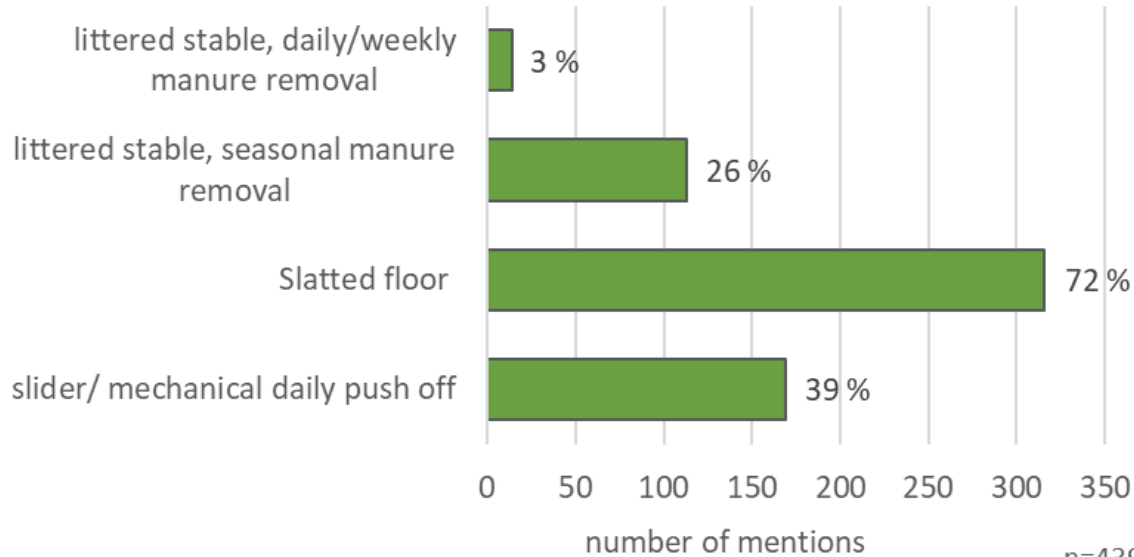
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Slatted floor systems are predominant.

multiple answers possible

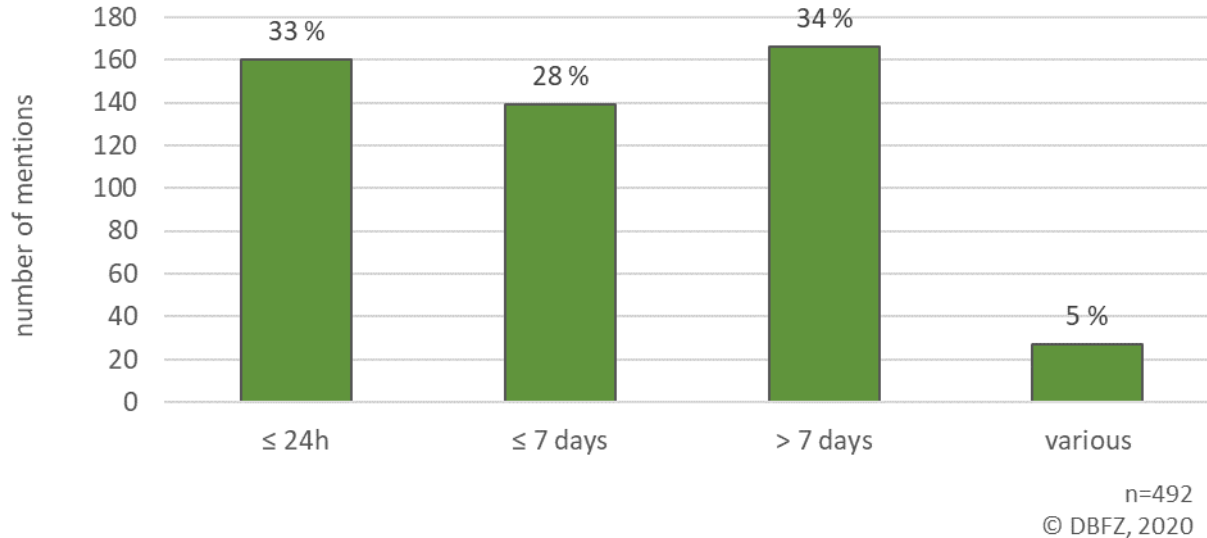
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# Storage period of manure before utilization for biogas production (I)

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Equal distribution of responses on storage period of manure before use

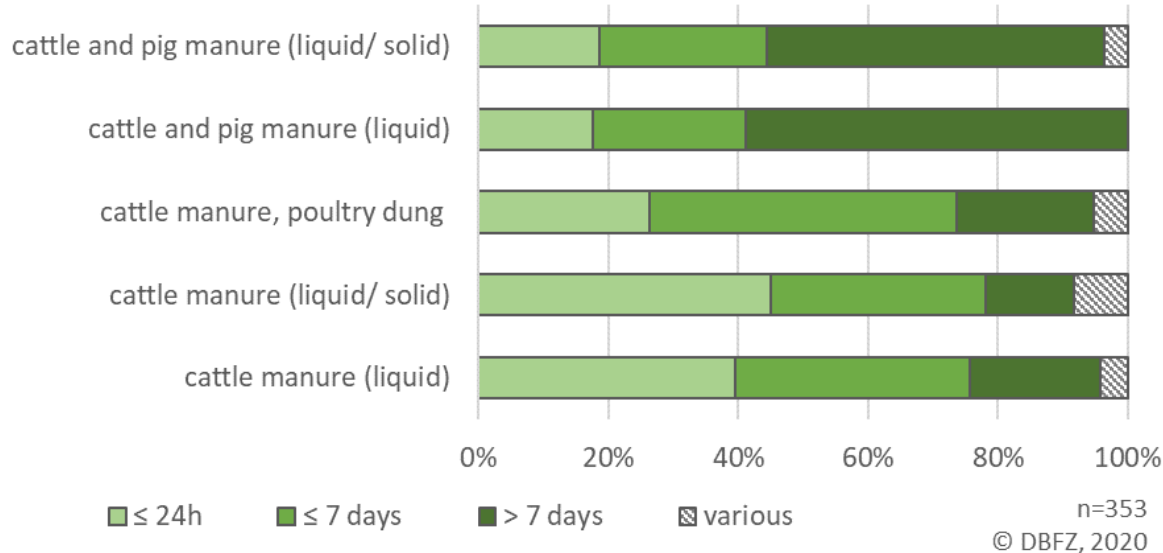
# Storage period of manure before utilization for biogas production (II)

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## Type of substrate and storage period



The feeding of cattle slurry and solid manure into the biogas plant is often faster than other animal excrements.

# Storage period of manure before utilization for biogas production (III)

With support from

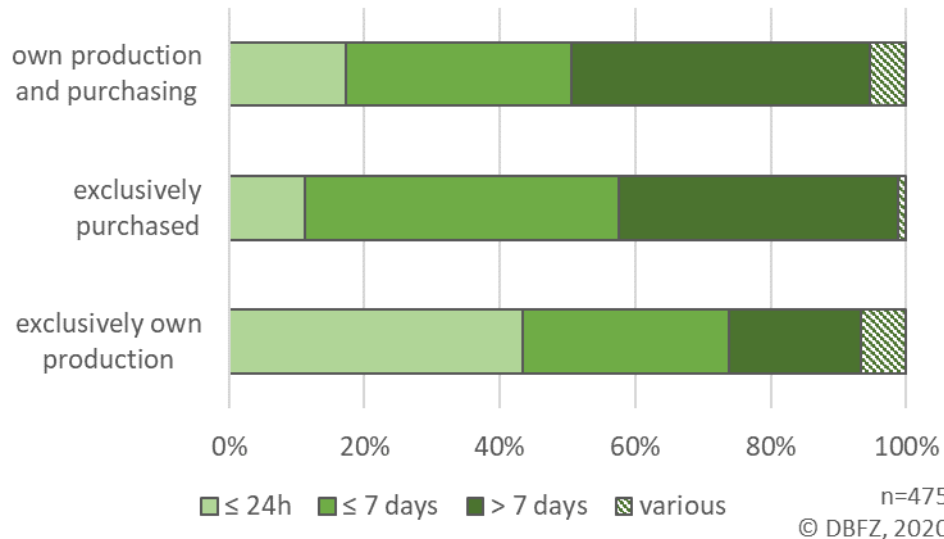


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## Origin of excrements



The storage periods of own manure tends to be shorter than for purchased manure.

Logistic challenge?



# Solid substrate supply of biogas plants

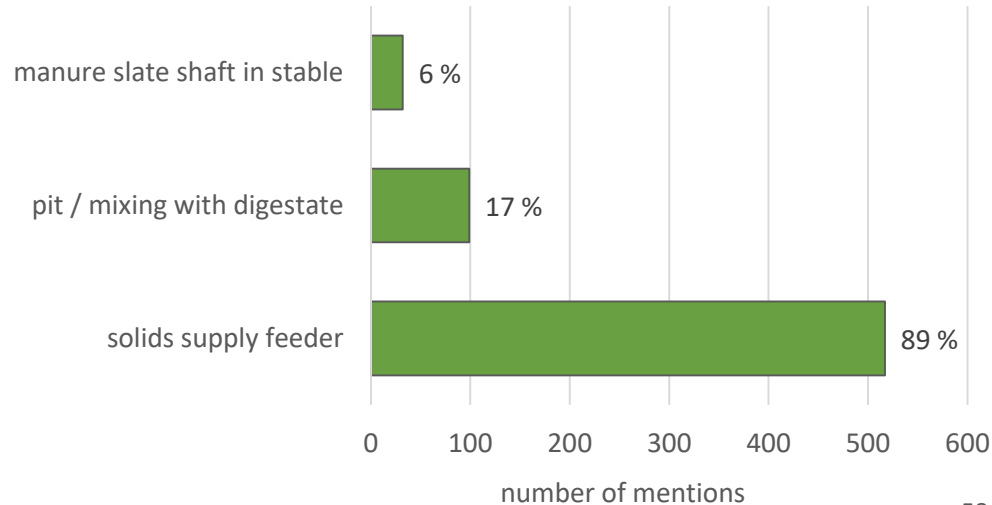
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multiple answers possible

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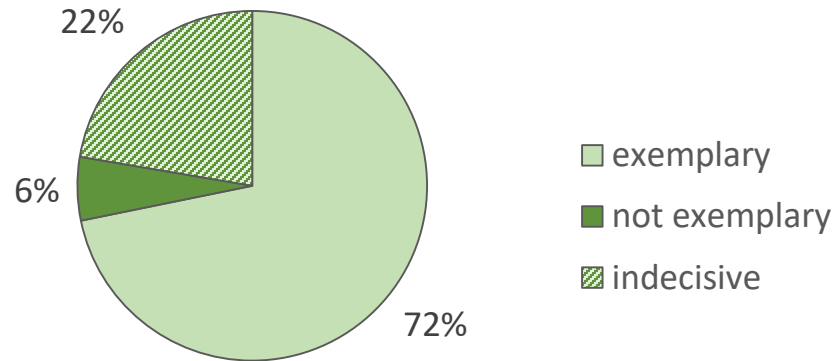
Solids supply feeders are predominant in biogas plants fed with solid substrates.

# Self-assessment about manure management

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n=461

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Most of the biogas plant operators rate their manure management as very good.

# **DBFZ biogas plant operator surveys 2020**

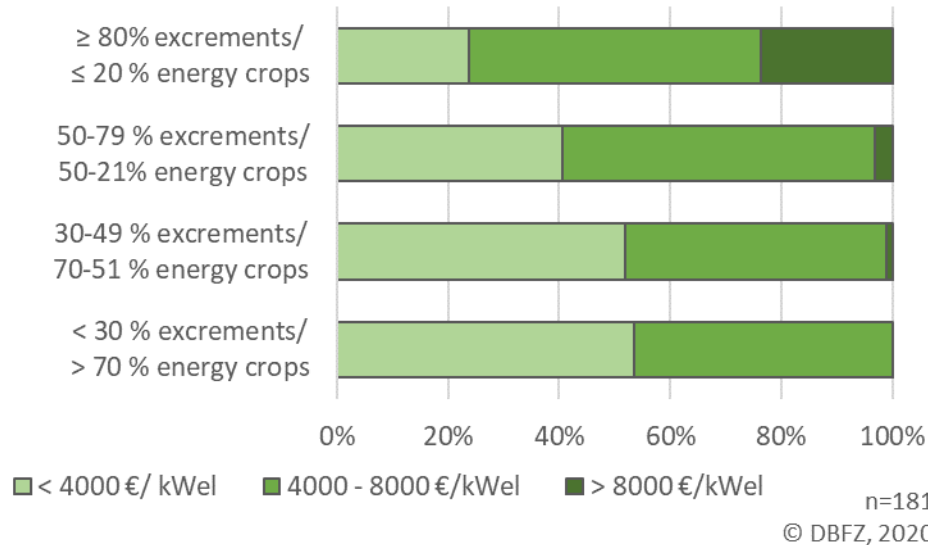
## **Construction costs for German biogas plants (reference year 2019)**

# Relation construction costs and excrement ratio of feedstock

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Construction costs (€/kWel) tend to be higher for biogas plants with a high share of excrements. The low energy density of liquid excrements (low biogas productivity per reactor volume) might be a reason.

# Relation size and construction costs for biogas plant

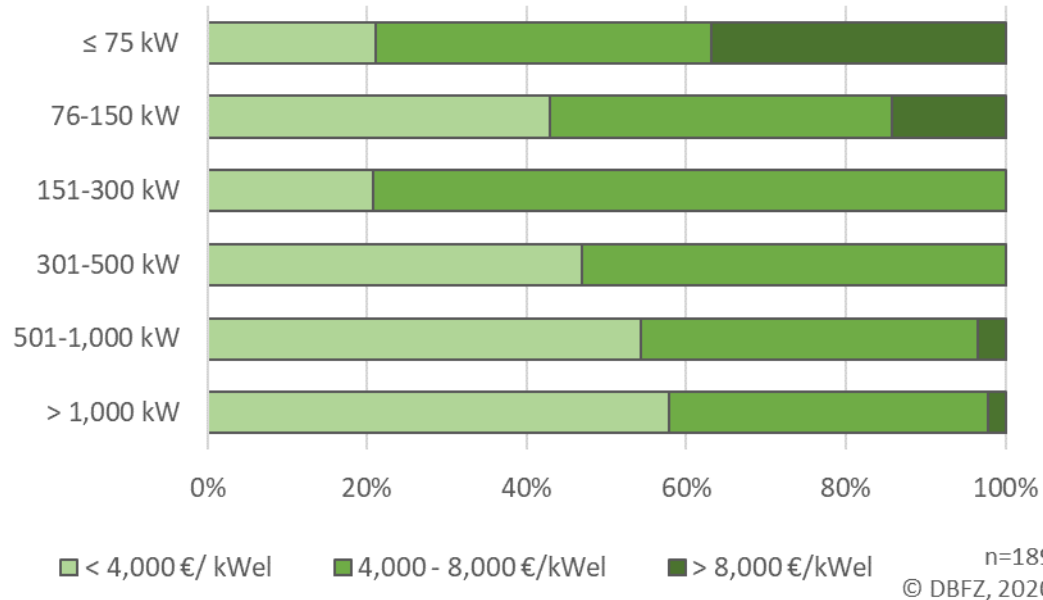
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Construction costs (€/kWel) tend to be higher for small biogas plants. The low energy density of excrements might be a reason.

Addition of crop residues feasible?

# Conclusion - biogas plant operator survey 2020 (data 2019)

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- The storage period of manure in/beside barns before use in biogas plants is up to 7 days in 60 % cases (33 % up to 24 h).
- The storage periods of own manure before use tend to be shorter than for purchased manure.
- Most of the biogas plant operators rate their manure management as very good.
- Construction costs (€/kWel) tend to be higher for biogas plants with a high share of excrements. Addition of crop residues feasible?



## Smart Bioenergy – Innovations for a sustainable future

### Contact person

Dr. Britt Schumacher

[britt.schumacher@dbfz.de](mailto:britt.schumacher@dbfz.de)

Nadja Rensberg

[nadja.rensberg@dbfz.de](mailto:nadja.rensberg@dbfz.de)

Dr. Walter Stinner

[walter.stinner@dbfz.de](mailto:walter.stinner@dbfz.de)

**DBFZ Deutsches  
Biomasseforschungszentrum  
gemeinnützige GmbH**

Torgauer Straße 116

D-04347 Leipzig

Phone: +49 (0)341 2434-112

E-Mail: [info@dbfz.de](mailto:info@dbfz.de)

[www.dbfz.de](http://www.dbfz.de)