

Land used for bioplastics does not compete with food

Today's feedstocks for bioplastics are grown on arable land. For both today and projections up to 2025, we can demonstrate that land use for bioplastics production is minimal and in no way competing with food (see figures 1 and 2, below). The European Bioplastics Association publishes market size data for the existing and future years on an annual basis. Using these growth rates one can estimate the overall total impact that the bioplastics market has on land use. The data shows that, for example, in 2025 land used for growing feedstocks for bioplastics will account for only 0.02% of global agricultural area, a number which leads to the conclusion that bioplastics are in no way competing with land used for food^{xviii}. This conclusion is supported by various independent reports, including those from the nova-Institute^{xix}, Wageningen University and Research Centre^{xx} and IfBB^{xxi}.

Figure 1 Land use for bioplastics 2020 and 2025

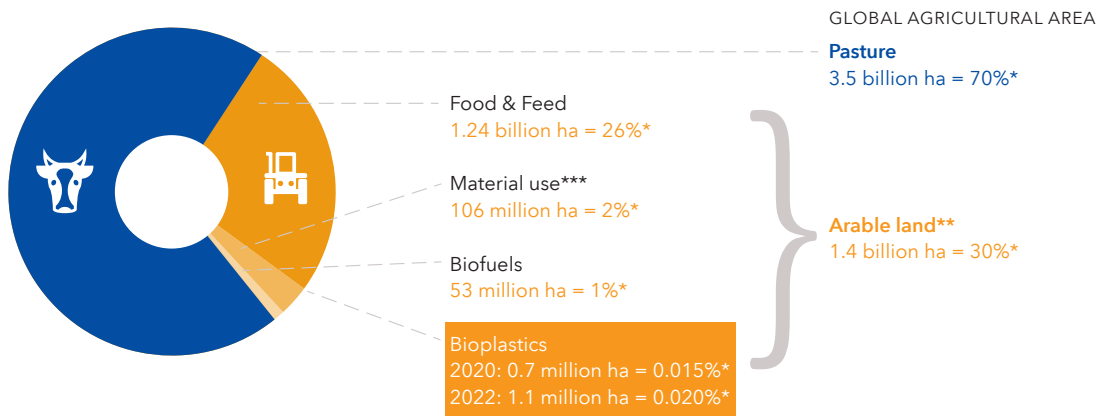
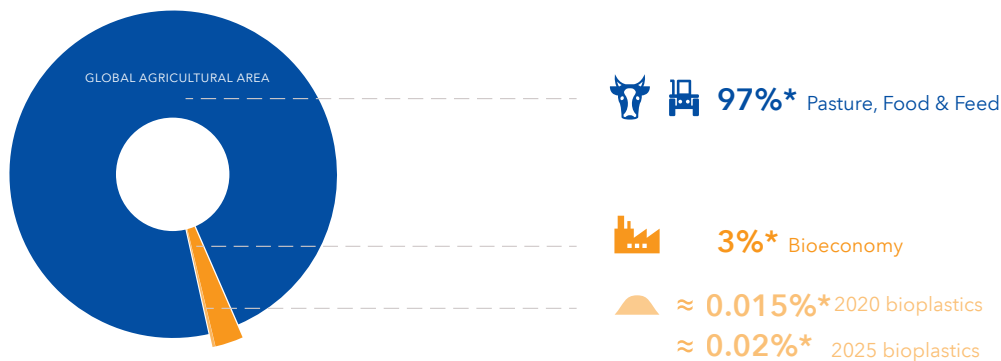


Figure 2 Land use for bioplastics 2020 and 2025



Source: European Bioplastics, Institute for Bioplastics and Biocomposites, nova-Institute
 More information: www.bio-based.eu/markets and www.downloads.ifbb-hannover.de

* In relation to global agricultural area
 ** Also includes approx. 1% fallow land
 *** Land-use for bioplastics is part of the 2% material use