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The relevance of P-soil analyses on combating P-losses

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Contents



- **Introduction**
- **P-soil analyses – P-contents in the leachate**
- **Methods of P-analysis and P-fertilisation recommendations in CEE countries**
- **Austrian results**
 - P-balances
 - P-status in different regions
- **Summary**

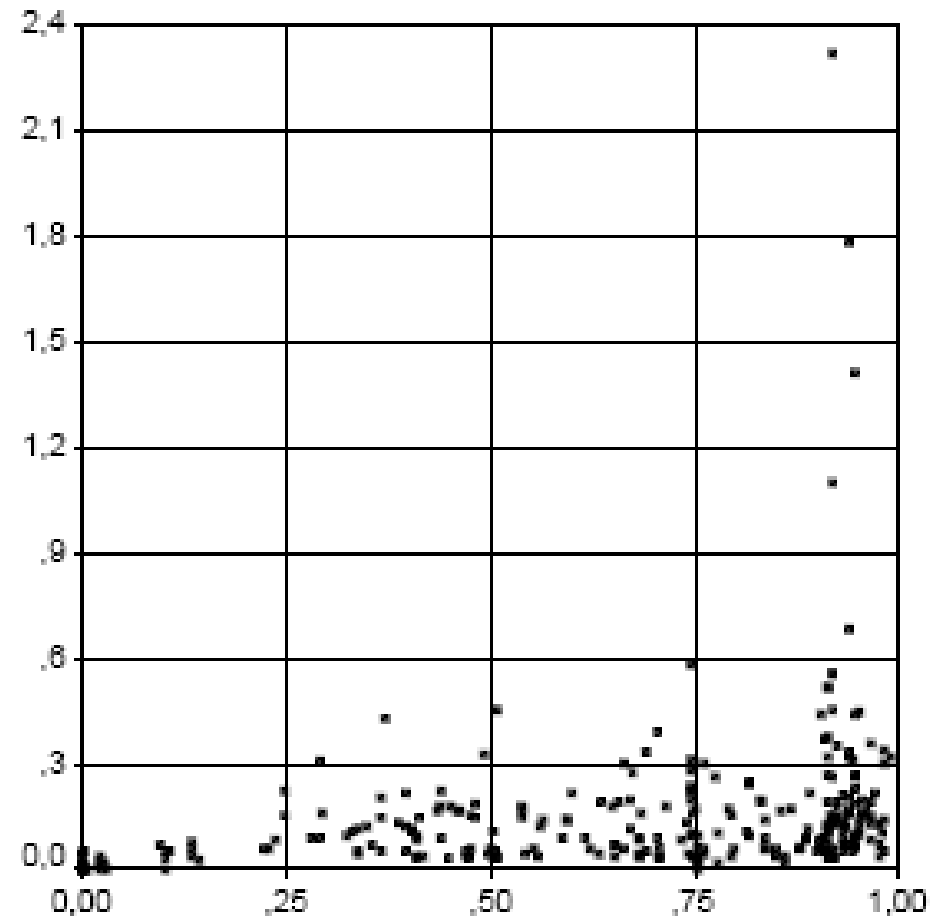
wpa, BAW (2005): „P-losses from agriculturally used areas in Upper Austria“



Results:

High P in the groundwater: areas with high percentage of arable land and acid, shallow soils

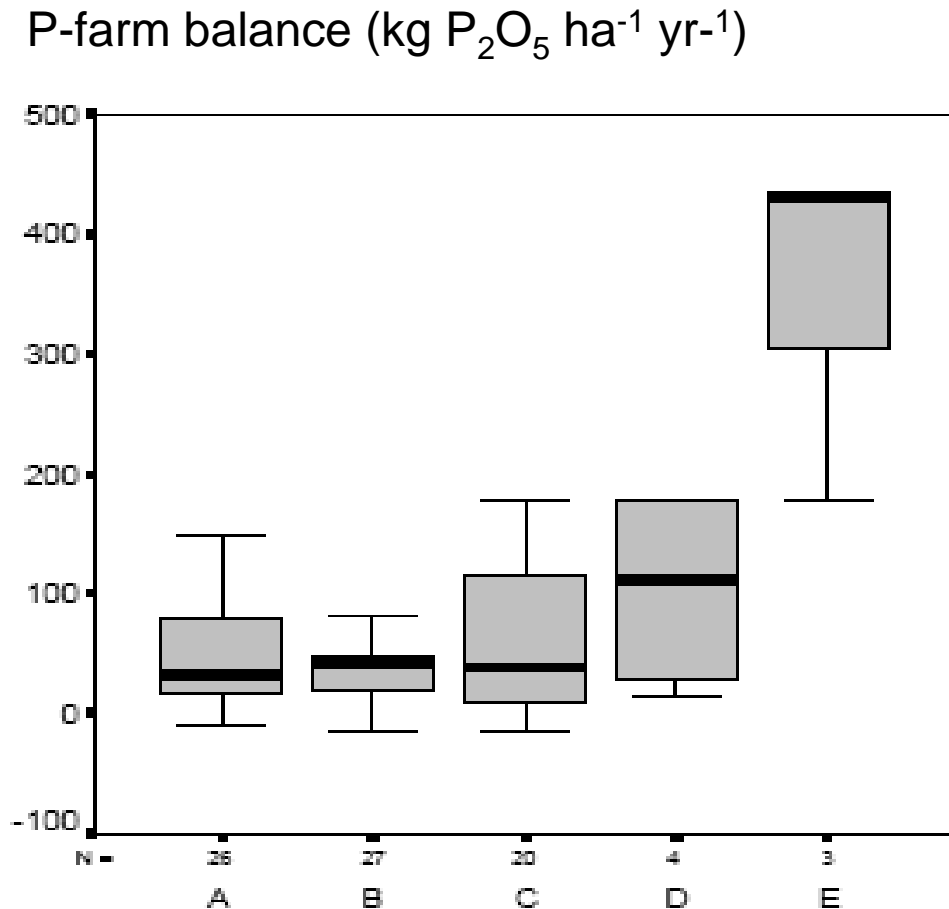
75% quartile $P_{\text{groundwater}}$ (mg/l)



Percentage arable land

wpa-BAW project: „P-losses from agriculturally used areas in Upper Austria“

- **High P-farm balances** →
high P supply in soils
- **Significant correlation between P in the leachate and P_{ox} , P_{H2O} , P_{tot} , P_{CAL}**



Methods for the determination of plant available P and recommendations based thereon differ to a great extent over all European countries (Neyroud and Lischer, 2003)

Comparison of methods and recommendations in CEE countries by ring test (2008: only soils with status class C - medium)

CEE countries: Ring Test

Austrian Soils:



Austria: P-extraction (“plant available” P) with CAL (calcium acetate/lactate)

	Soil 1	Soil 2
pH_{CaCl2}:	7.4	7.5
CaCO₃(%)	21	16
pH_{CAL}	4.7	4.7

VDLUFA:

$$P_{\text{CAL}} \text{ calculated} = P_{\text{CAL}} \text{ measured} * (1 + 0.83 * (\text{pH}_{\text{CAL}} - 4.1))$$

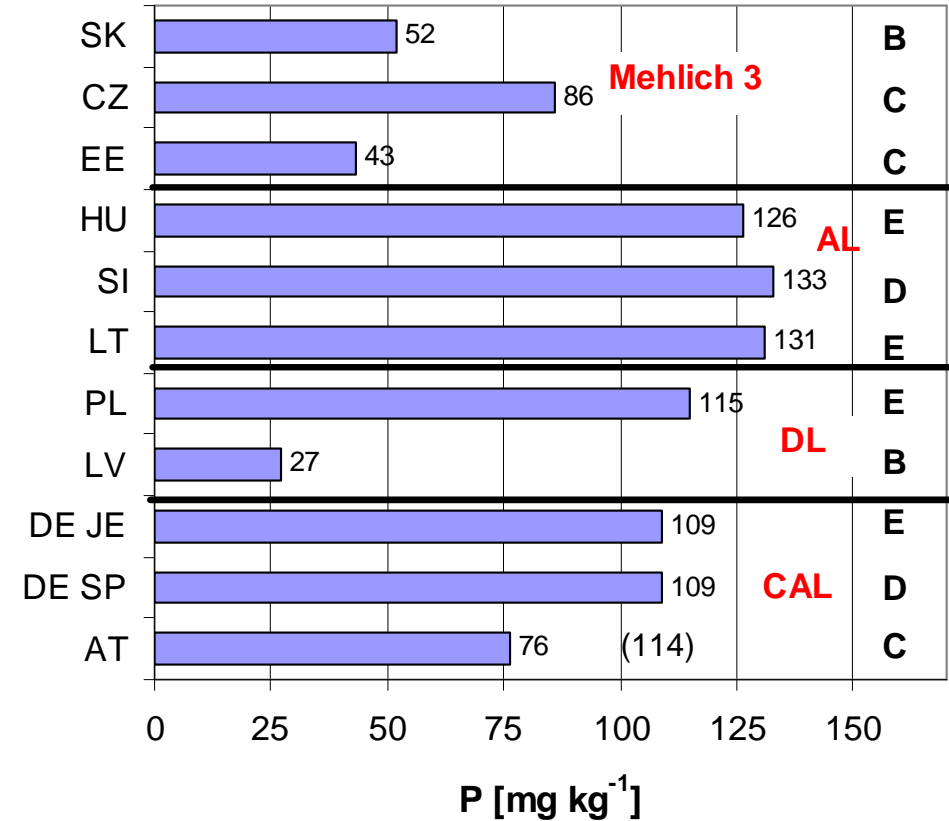
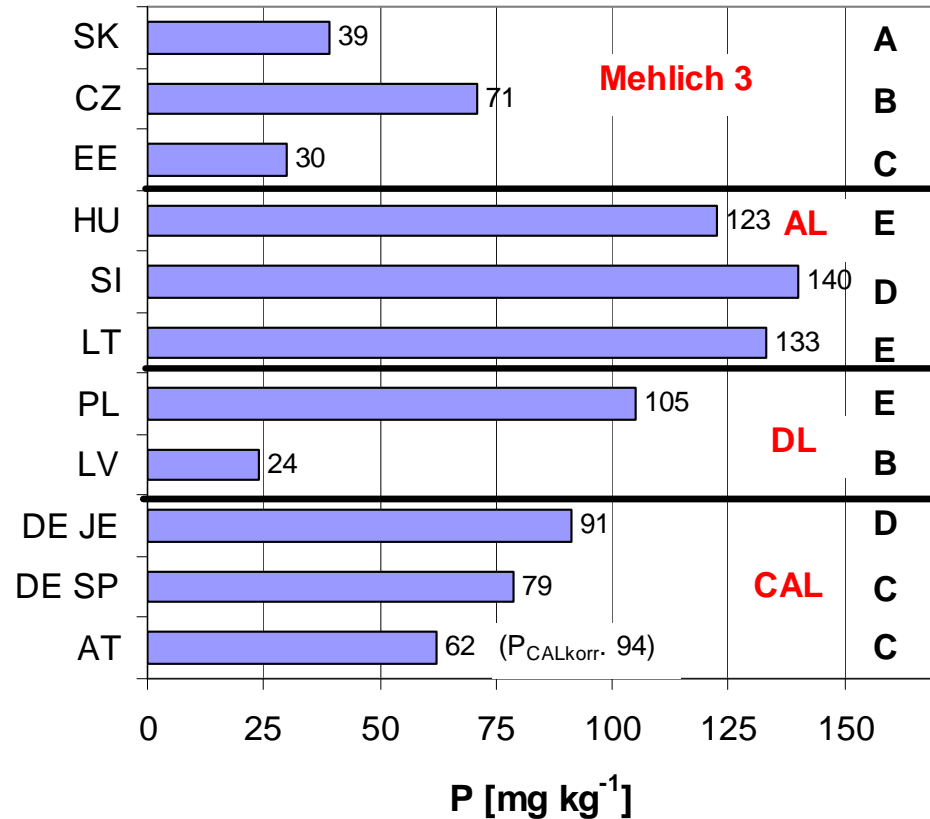
Results

P (mg kg⁻¹) in Austrian Soils 1 + 2



Soil 1

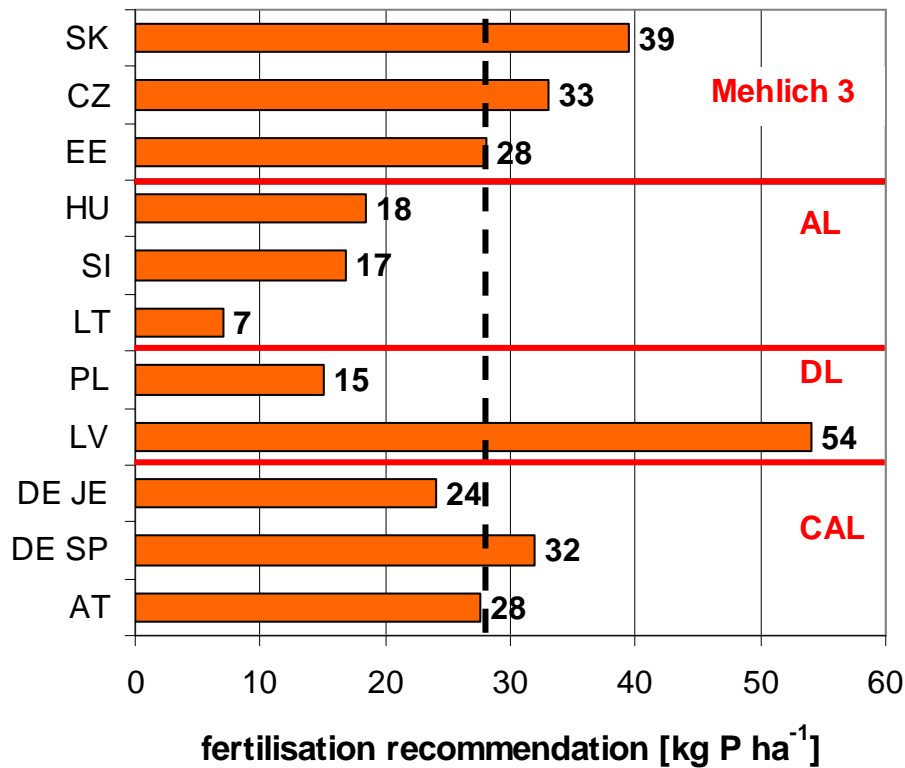
Soil 2



P fert. recommendation (kg P ha⁻¹) winter wheat

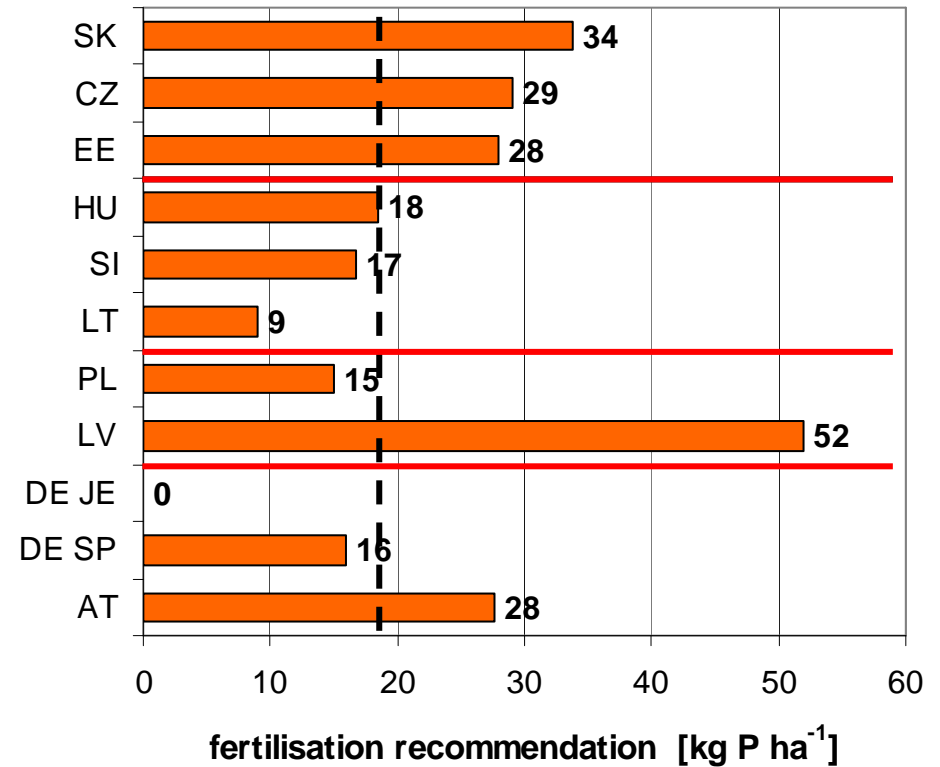
Soil 1

Median = 28

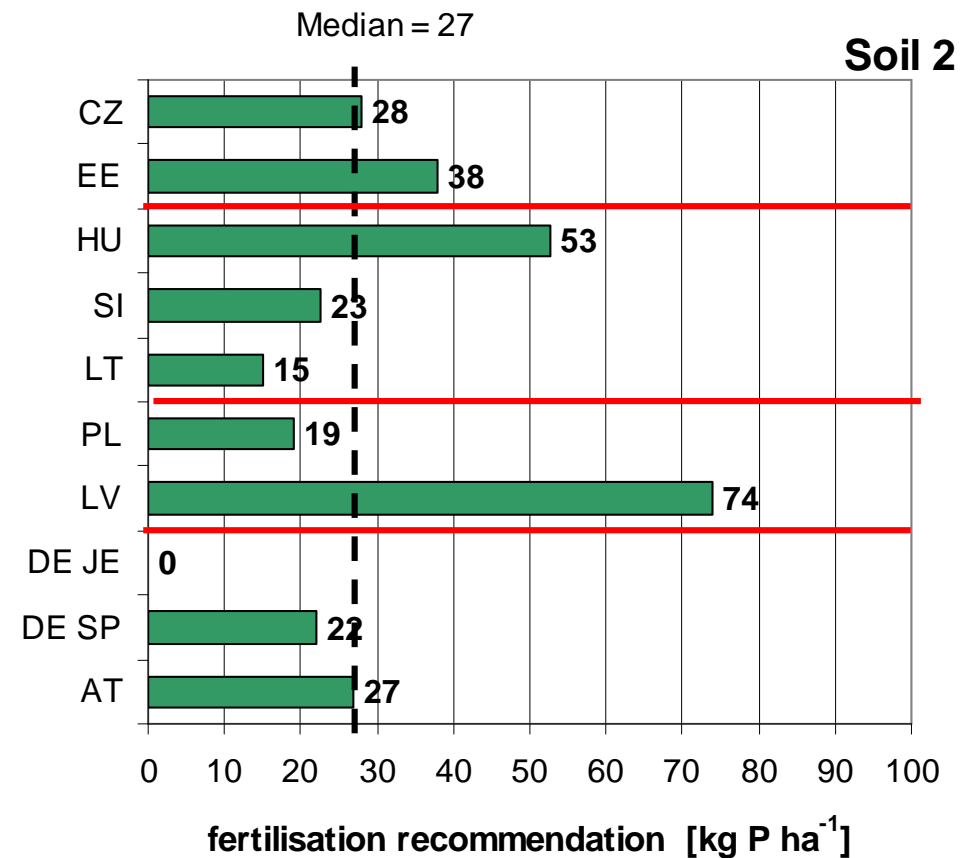
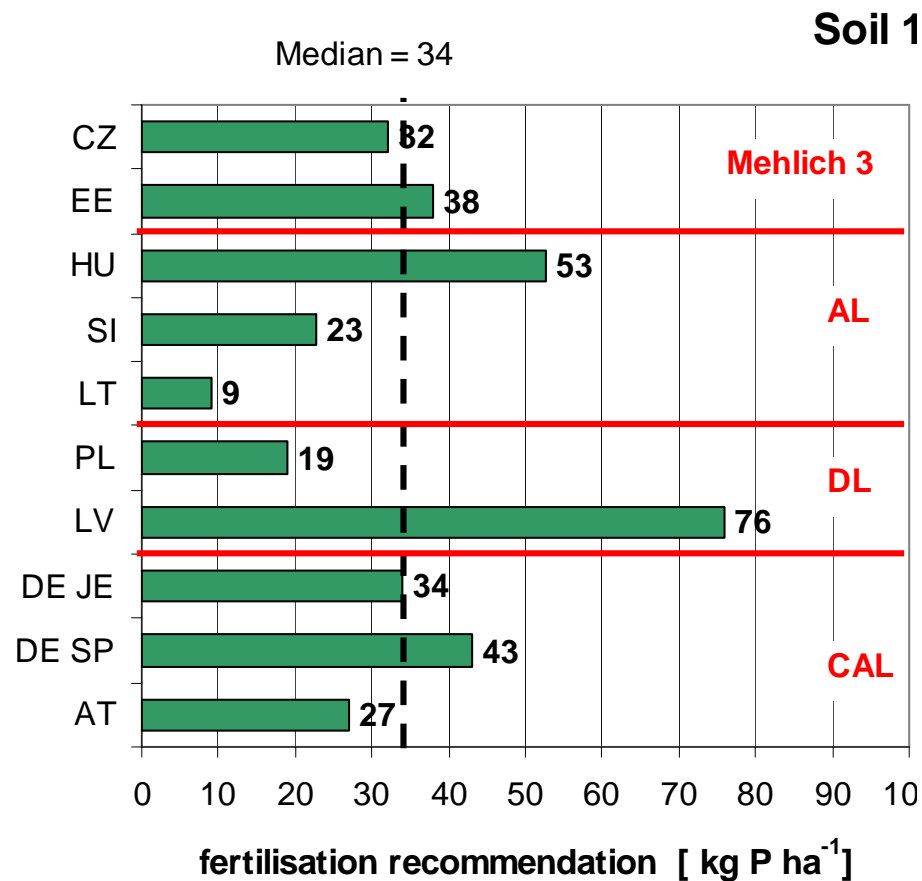


Soil 2

Median = 18



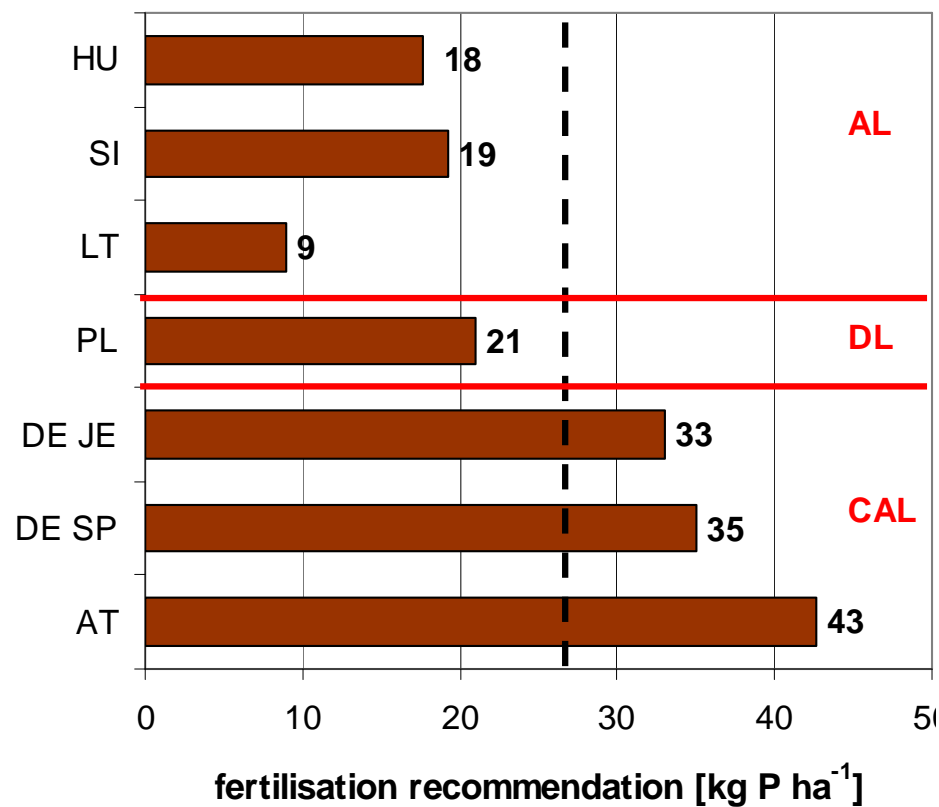
P fert. recommendation (kg P ha⁻¹) winter rape



P fert. recommendation (kg P ha⁻¹) maize

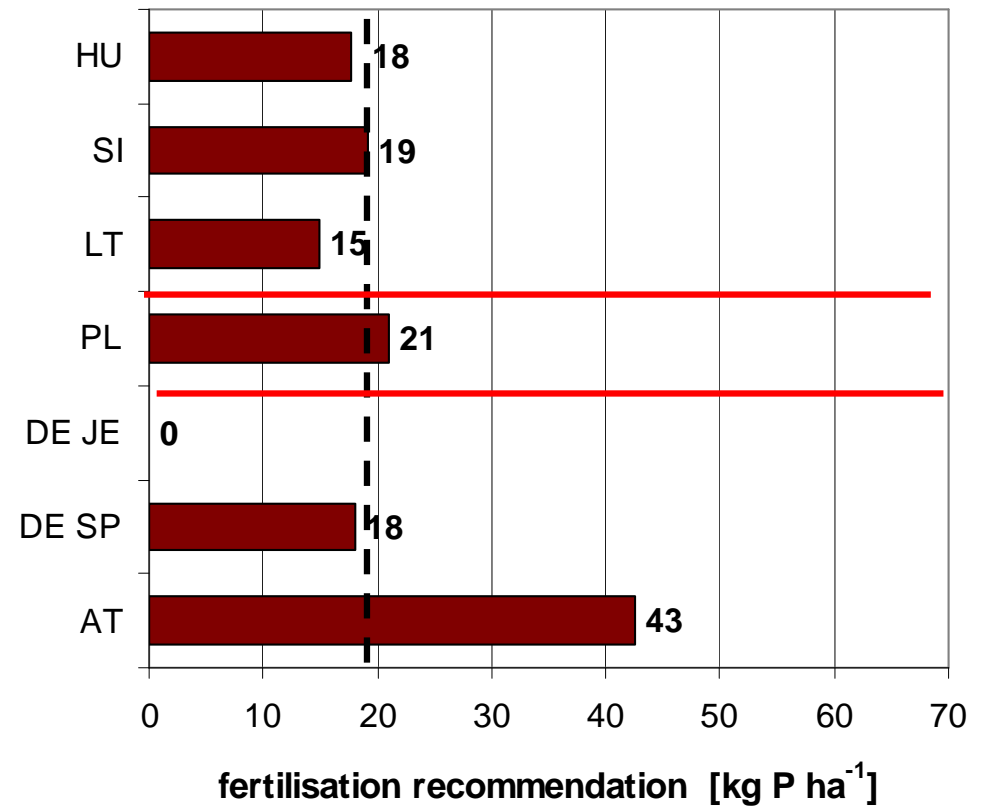
Soil 1

Median = 27

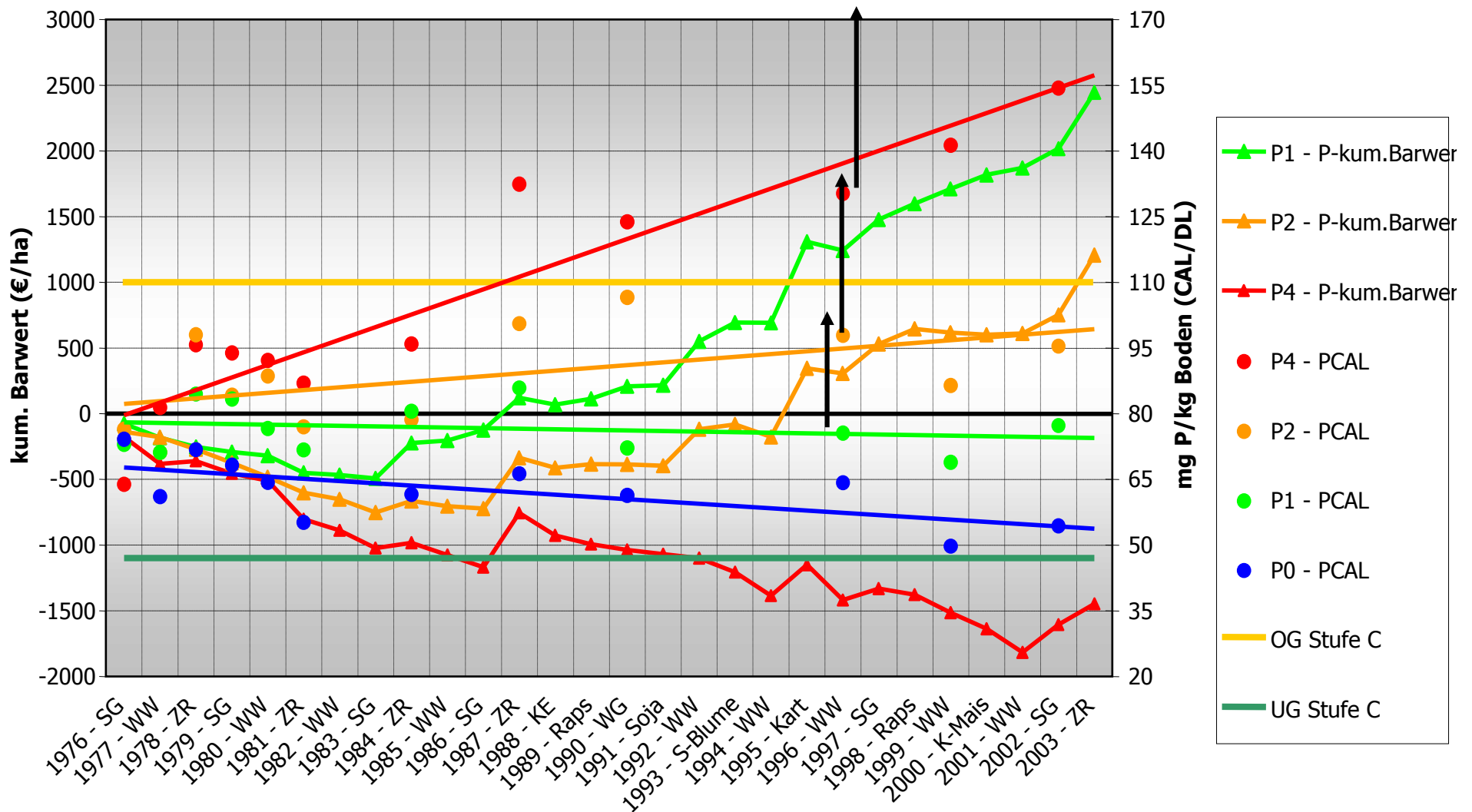


Soil 2

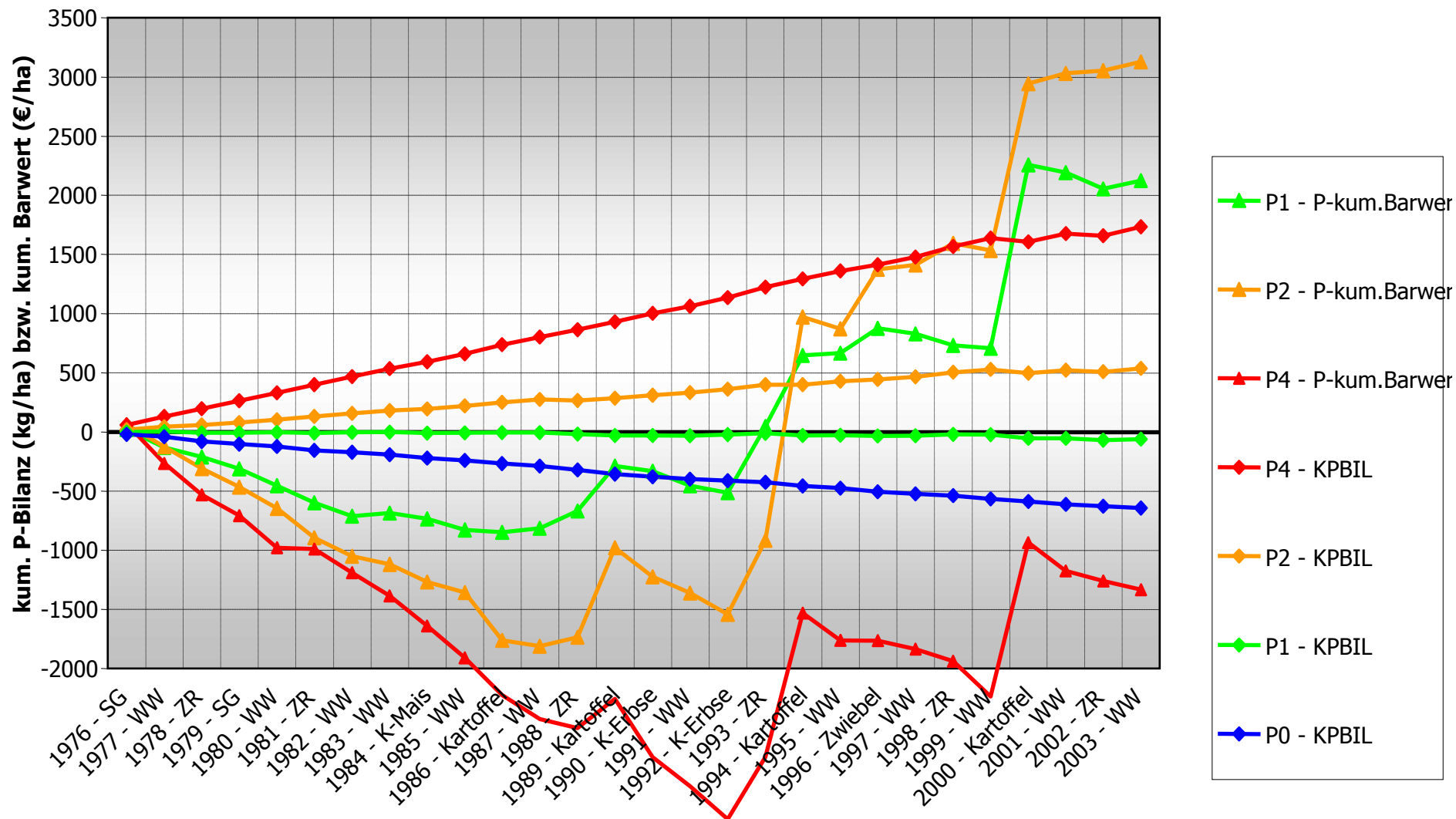
Median = 19



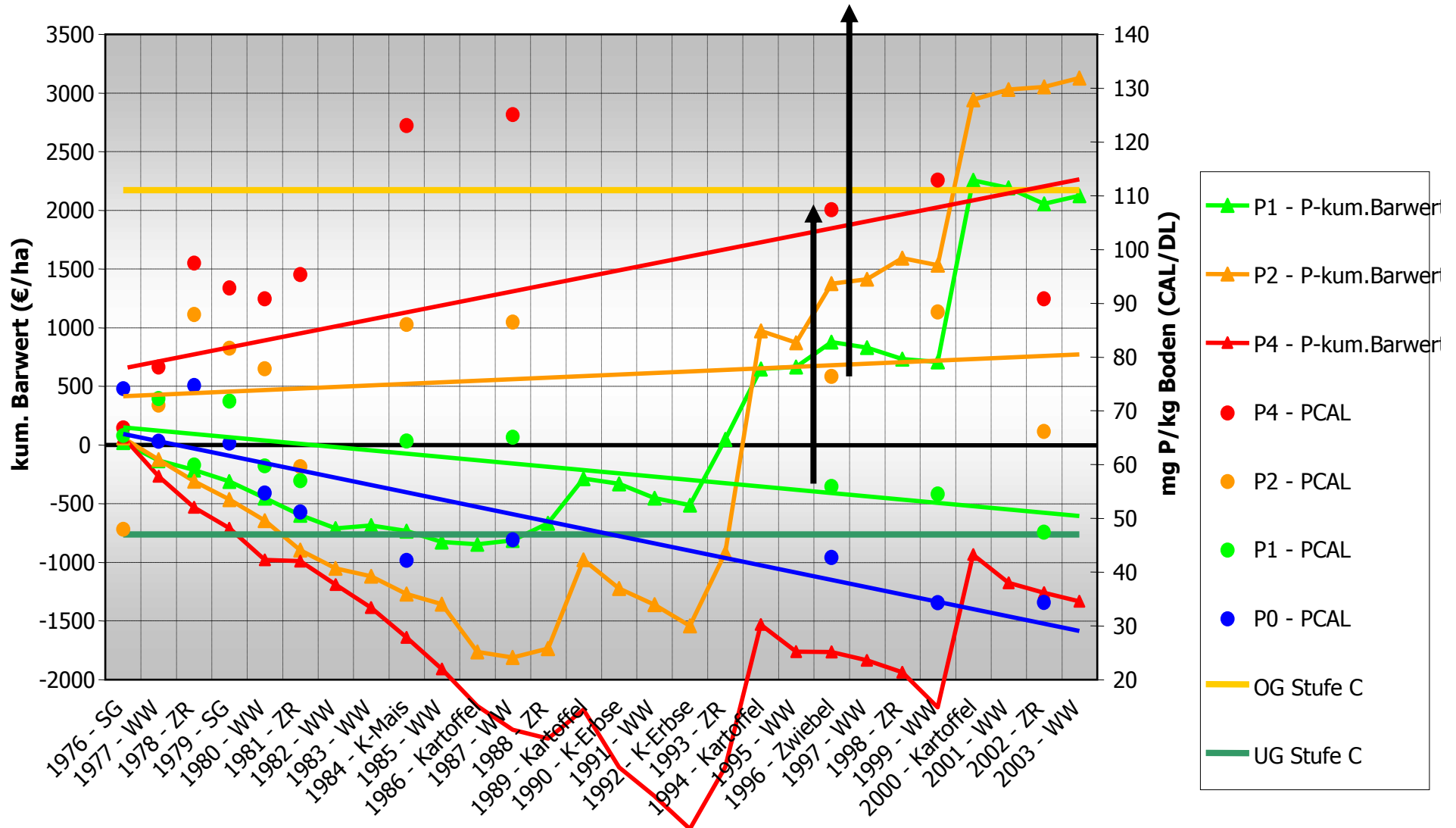
Effect of P-fertilisation on profit and P_{CAL} in Fuchsenbigl (6 yr sugar beet, potatoes, onion) after 28 years:



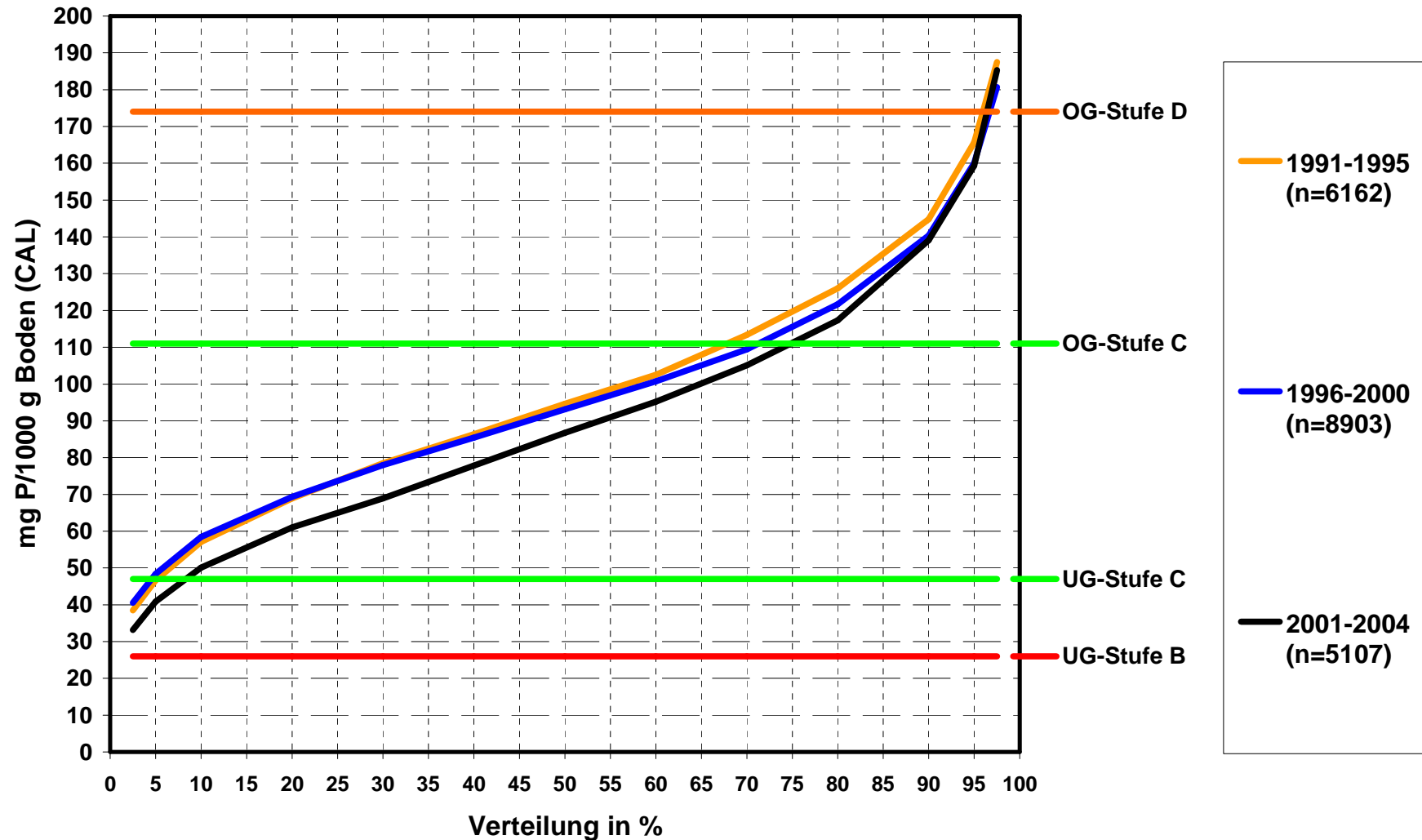
Effect of P-fertilisation on profit and P-balances Breitstetten after 28 years (11 yr sugar beet, pot., onion)



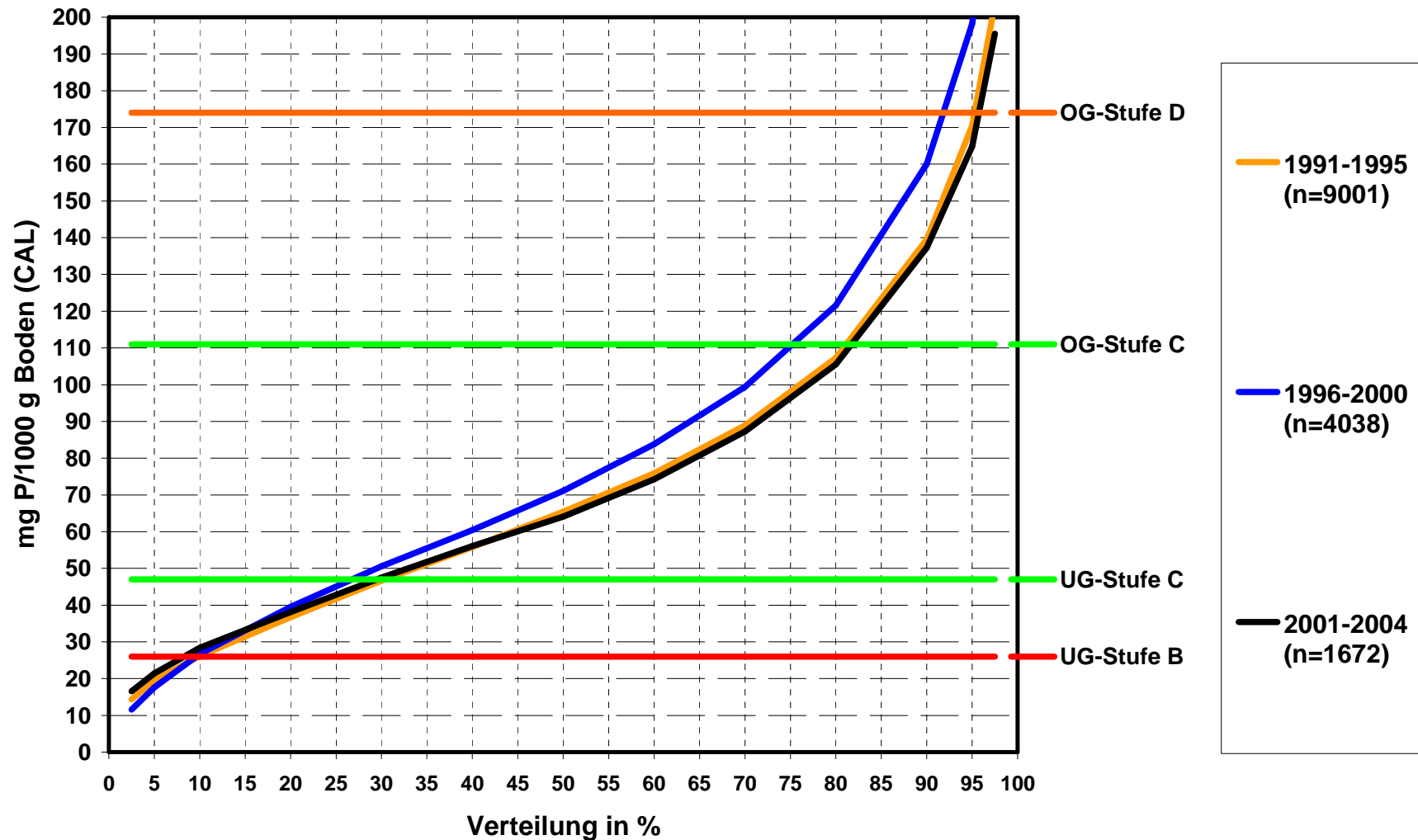
Effect of P-fertilisation on profit and P_{CAL} in Breitstetten after 28 years (11 yr sugar beet, pot., onion)



P-soil nutrient level (CAL) in Marchfeld (1991 – 2004)



P-soil nutrient level (CAL) in the area Wieselburg- St. Pölten (1991 – 2004)



Summary

- wpa-BAW study (2005): extractable soil P (analyses for farmers): valuable tool also to evaluate if high or low P contents in the leachate can be expected.
- Methods and recommendations differ to a great extent over all European countries (Neyroud and Lischer, 2003).
- Evaluation with focus on CEE confirm these former findings.

- **CEEC Ring Test Results 2008**
 - In the CEE countries (AT, DE-SP, DE-JE, PL, SI, HU, SK, CZ, LV, EE, LT) four different methods of soil analysis are used to evaluate plant available P
 - Different results are achieved, also when the same methods are used
 - P-fertiliser recommendations for the same soil and crop vary to a considerable extent

Summary



(Minor) changes of methods may influence P status classes, fertiliser recommendations, P-balances (and the incomes of farmers) to considerable amount and should be based on scientific results



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