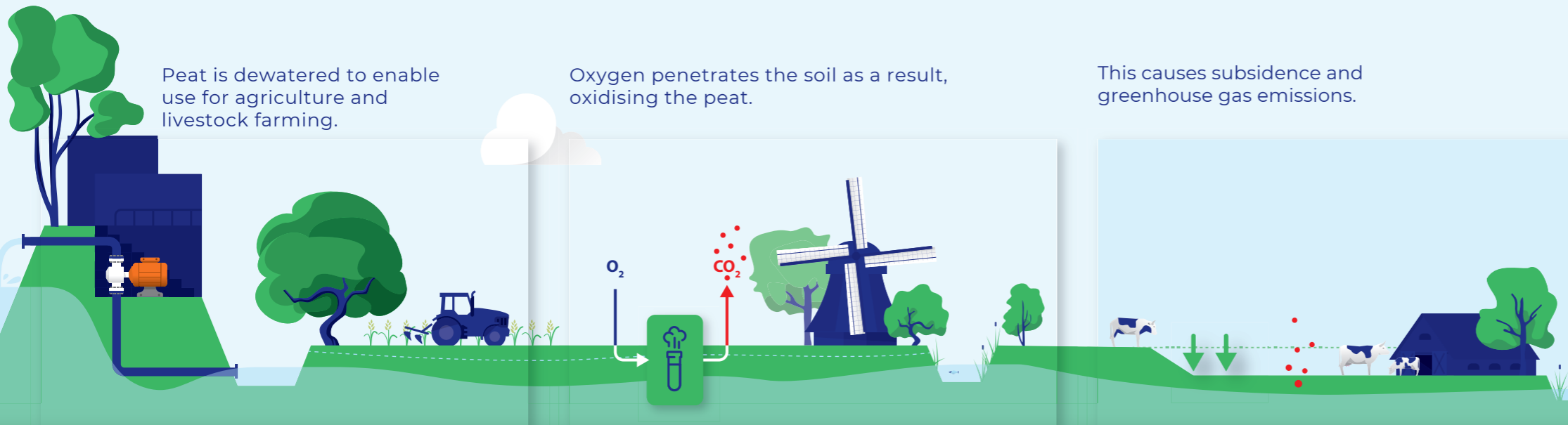


Greenhouse gas emissions as a result of peat degradation

The purpose of the study



Gases that can be produced by processes in peat soil:

CO₂ Carbon dioxide

CO₂ is created when oxygen penetrates peat soil as a result of dewatering.

CH₄ Methane or marsh gas

Marsh gas is released by decaying organic materials under very wet (oxygen-free) conditions.

N₂O Nitrogen (mono)oxide or nitrous oxide

Nitrous oxide can be released under low-oxygen or oxygen-free conditions

Contribution to warming

Assuming the same quantity of gas:

Proportionate contribution to warming:	CO ₂	CH ₄	N ₂ O
	1	25	250

2-3%
of total emissions

Greenhouse gas emissions from peatland are estimated to be around 2-3% of total Dutch emissions.

1 mton CO₂
reduction of emissions by 2030

The Climate Agreement sets a reduction of 1.0 Mton of emissions for peatlands by 2030.

Multi-year research
into ratios, causes and solutions

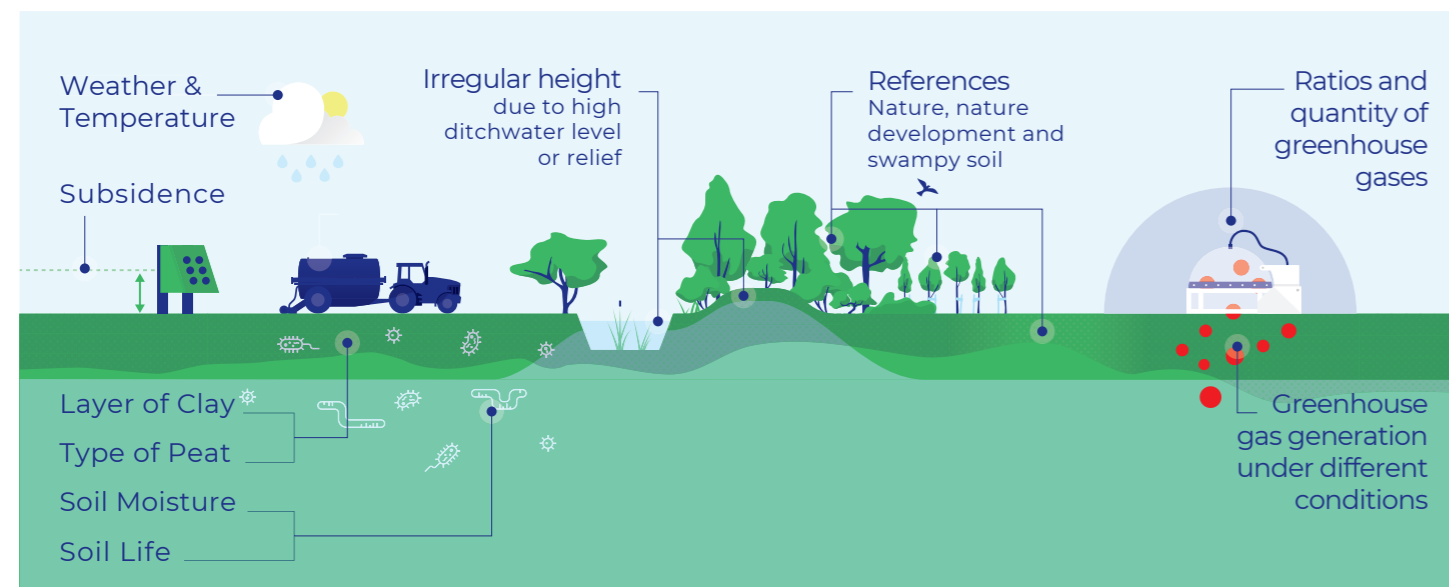
In order to take effective measures to reduce CO₂, we will measure current peatland emissions in various parts of the Netherlands over several years and will investigate possible solutions.



In the Netherlands Research Programme on Greenhouse Gas Dynamics in Peatlands and Organic Soils (NOBV), we examine:

The soil

Physical factors

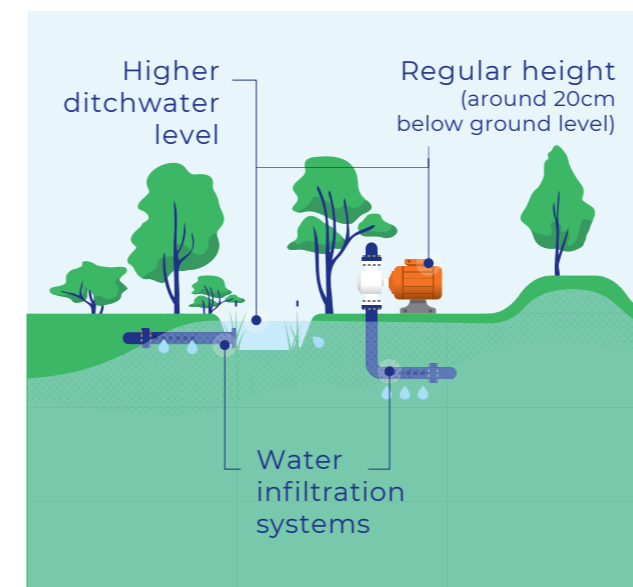


Biochemical processes

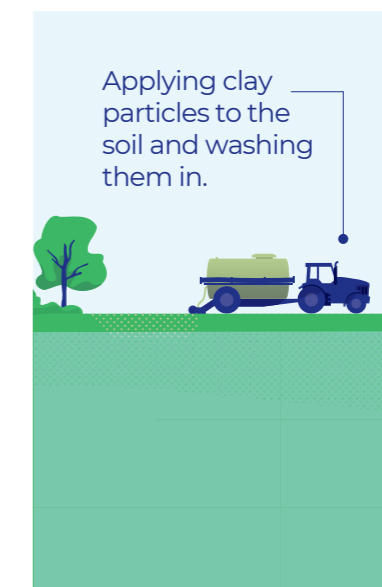
and solutions

Raising the water table

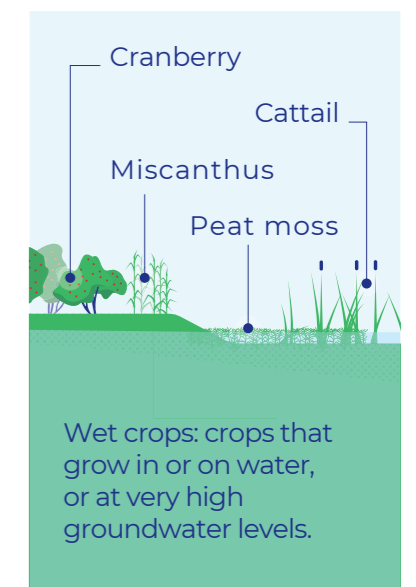
Effectiveness of measures to raise the groundwater level.



Soil measures



Possibilities for high groundwater levels



By using a range of methods of measurement (on the ground and from the air) we are able to correct for any deviations in a method of measurement.

And combinations of these solutions.

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