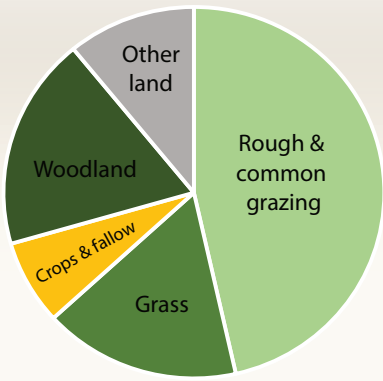
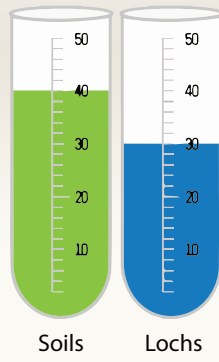


BENEFITS



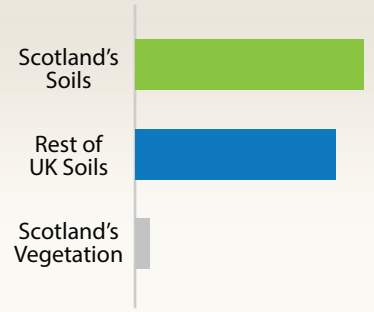
Grows food & trees

The majority of Scotland's land is used for agriculture, more than half of which is grazed. Around 19 % is woodland.



Controls water flow & quality

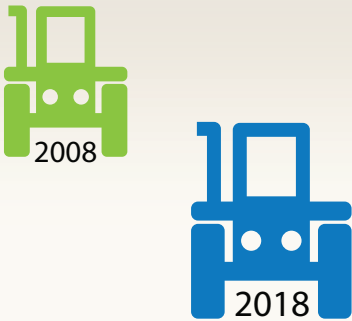
Scotland's soils can store more water than all of our freshwater lochs.



Stores carbon

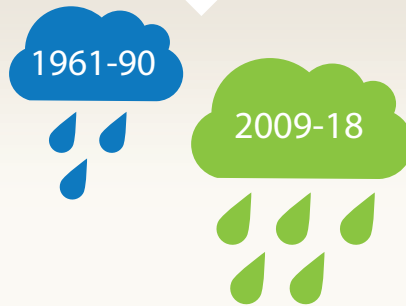
Scotland's soils contain more than 3000 Mt C - more than half the UK's soil carbon store and 60 X more than Scotland's vegetation.

PRESSURES



Land management practices

The average power of tractors has increased by 20 % over the last decade. More powerful tractors are heavier.



Changing weather patterns

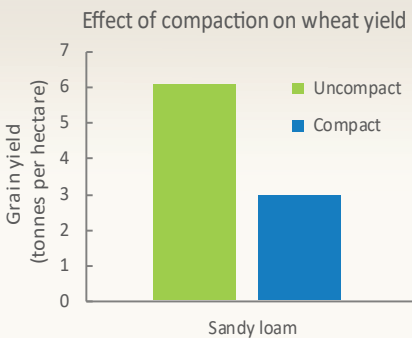
In future, we can expect warmer, drier summers and milder, wetter winters, along with more frequent and intense extreme events.



Development

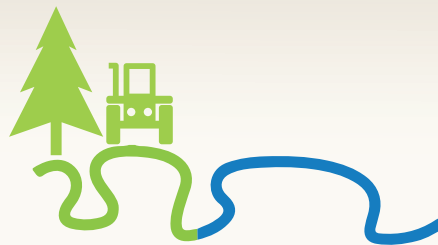
Around 1400 hectares of Scotland is sealed every year, equivalent to about 2000 football pitches.

IMPACTS



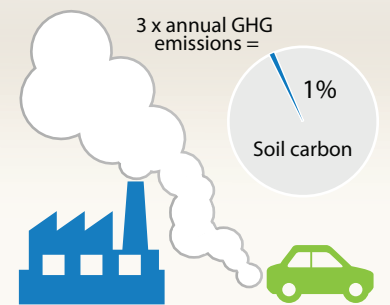
Loss of crop yield

Soil compaction can reduce crop yield by half.



Poor water quality

Erosion, run off and nutrient losses can be 10 X worse from damaged soils than from healthy soils.



Increased GHG emissions

If we lost 1 % of our soil carbon as CO₂ it would triple our annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.