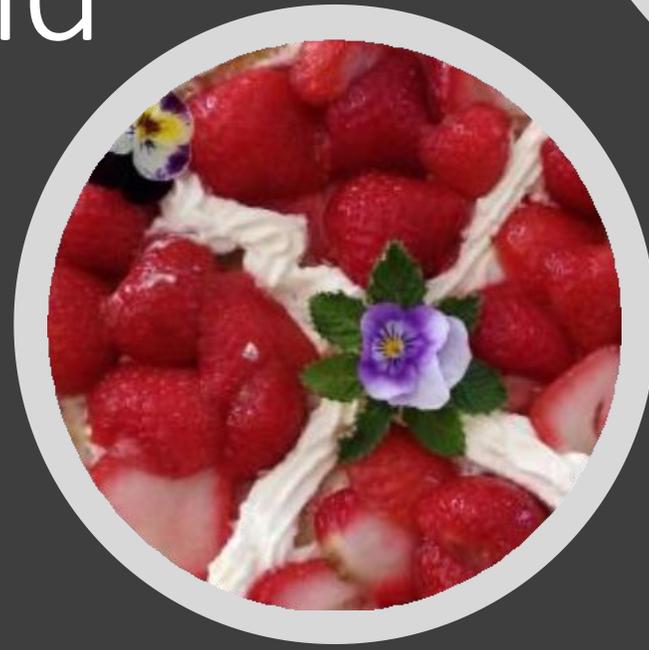


# Fruit and berry growing in Finland

- Paula Achrén



Euroopa Maaelu Arengu  
Põllumajandusfond:  
Euroopa investeringud  
maapiirkondadesse



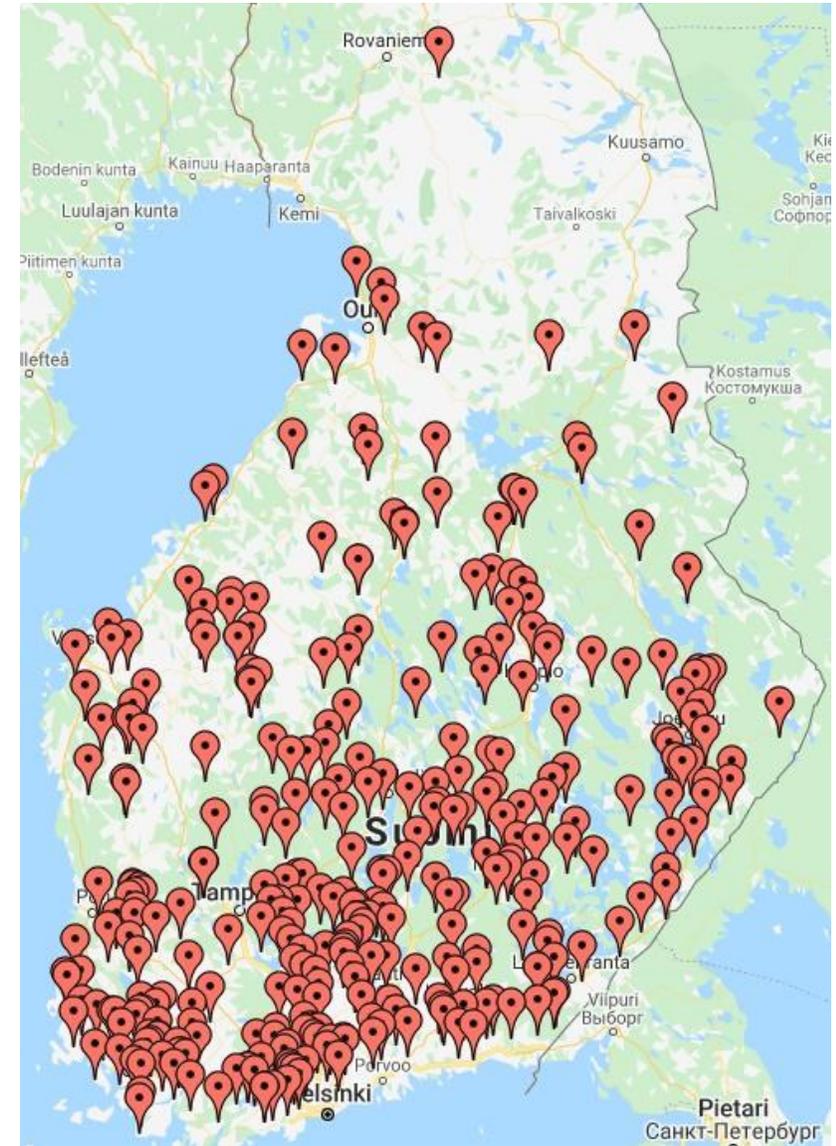
# About myself

- Paula Achrén, 42 years
- [www.paulanpuutarha.fi](http://www.paulanpuutarha.fi)
- IT Engineer / Apple farmer in 3rd generation
- Family; 3 children
  
- Apples: 8 ha
- Rhubarb: 0,5ha

# Berry and fruit farms in Finland

Berry farms are mainly located in south, east and west parts of the country.

Apples are farmed mainly in the Åland Islands and south-west Finland.



Lähde: [hmlry.fi/suoramyynti](http://hmlry.fi/suoramyynti)



# Statistics 2021

- Strawberry was grown on 4449 ha, out of which 67 ha was in tunnels. Grop was 4229kg/ha.
- Raspberry was grown on 350 ha. Grop was 4637kg/ha.
- Apples were grown on 672ha. Grop was 12746kg/ha.



# Current challenges in farming

- Lack of skilled and motivated workforce
  - Finish people no longer interested in berry and fruit picking jobs
  - Wages are rising

Vaativuusryhmä	Ammattitaitolisän vähimmäistaso (4 % senttiä)	Taulukkopalkka sis. 4 % ammattitaitolisän euroa/tunti
1	9,00	36
2	9,43	38
3	9,92	40

- During the past years farms have hired about 15 000 Ukraine citizens
  - First came Corona virus and it became very difficult to enter the country. People must spend 2 weeks in quarantine and do 2 sets of tests for the virus.
  - Then the war started and the same people were not able to come to Finland. Many farms were in big trouble because the men were not allowed to leave Ukraine. Lots of women and children came and farms were accommodating them. Children started school in Finland and women were working on the farms. Some farms were forced to leave some jobs undone due to lack of tractor drivers and strong men.





# Current challenges in farming

## Lack of pesticides and fungicides

- Many old products no longer allowed and very few new products come to market.

## Growing byrocracy

## Rising prices

- Cooling/warming costs have risen 100-200%, even more.
- Petrol and gas prices have almost doubled.
- Fertilizers, pesticides and fungicides prices have gone up, worst cases ie. Roundup almost 300%



# Developments in farming

- The Finish berry and fruit farming has development a lot during the past 10 years.
- Farms are using latest technology.
- Production has been constantly made more efficient and product development in continuos.
- Younger generation have the will power and knowledge to increace the production amounts and also take into account the environmental affects and honor the nature.





# Changes in climate

- The length of the growing season has risen a lot.
- The extreme weather conditions have become the new normal. Heavy rain, snow, frost, heat, strong wind.
- Strawberry and other berries are planted very early into the spring into tunnels.
- Strawberry picking starts in May in greenhouses and next in tunnels and midsummer in open fields and continues in the fall again in tunnels.
- The northern location of Finland creates its own challenges.

# Proud to be local

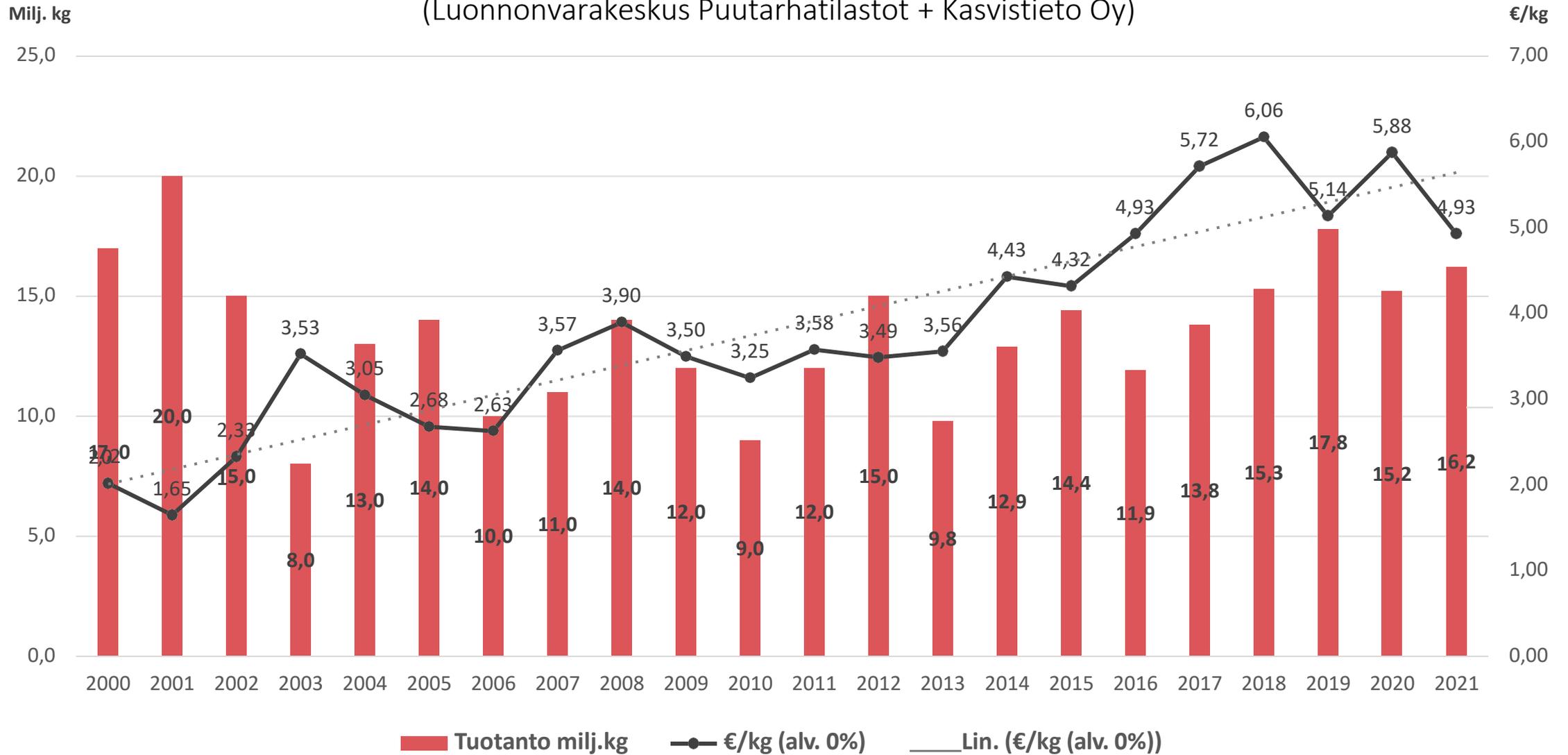
- The Finish berries and fruits are extremely important for the self efficiency in food.
- The consumers are used to local products, especially in vegetables, berries and apples. The trust in their quality is high.
- The Finish vegetables and berries and fruits have proven to be on of the most clean products in the world.
- The Finish production is strictly monitored and farms have different certifies in use as a proof of well managed production.





# Strawberry production and farm price 2000-2021

(Luonnonvarakeskus Puutarhatilastot + Kasvistieto Oy)

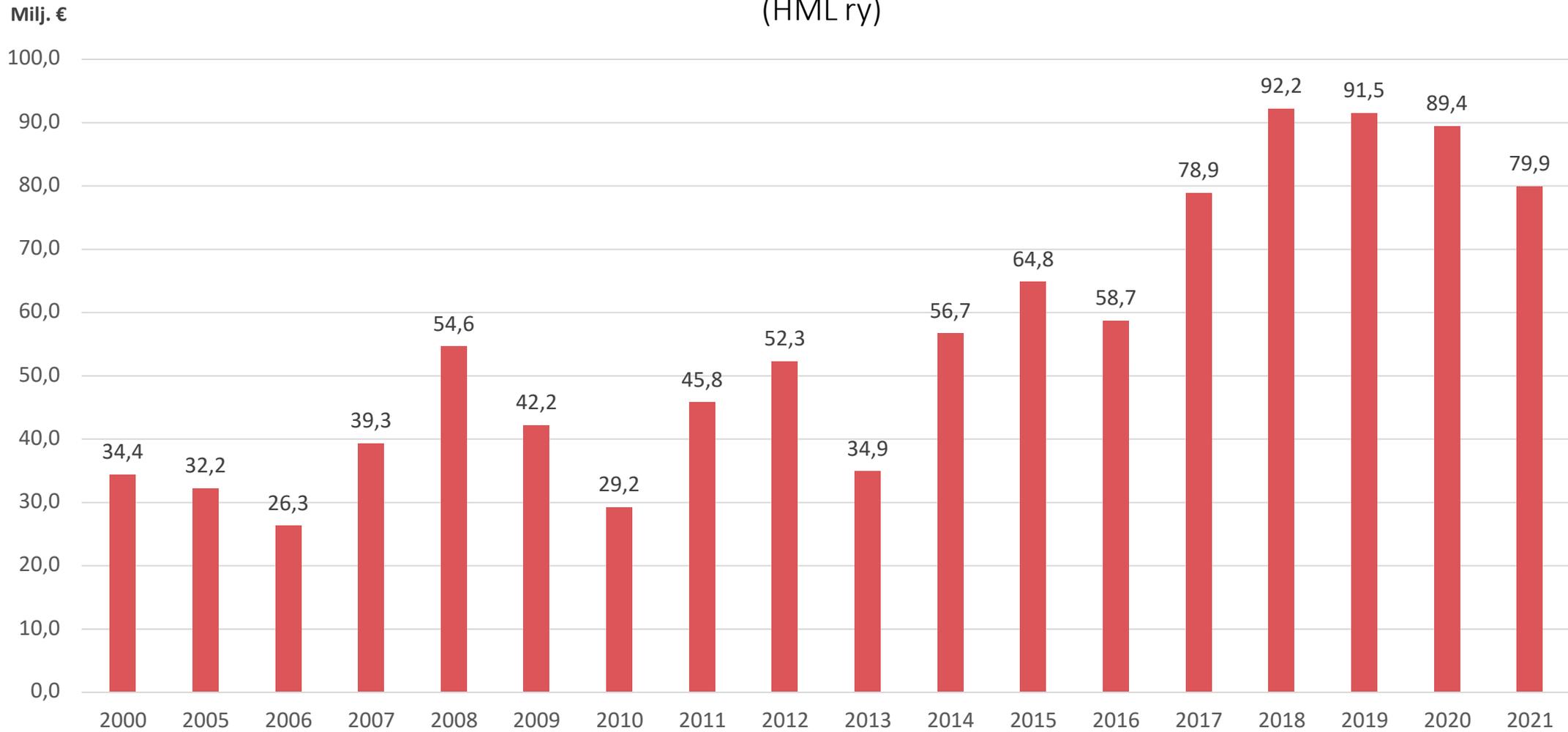




# Value of strawberry production, milj. €

## 2000-2021

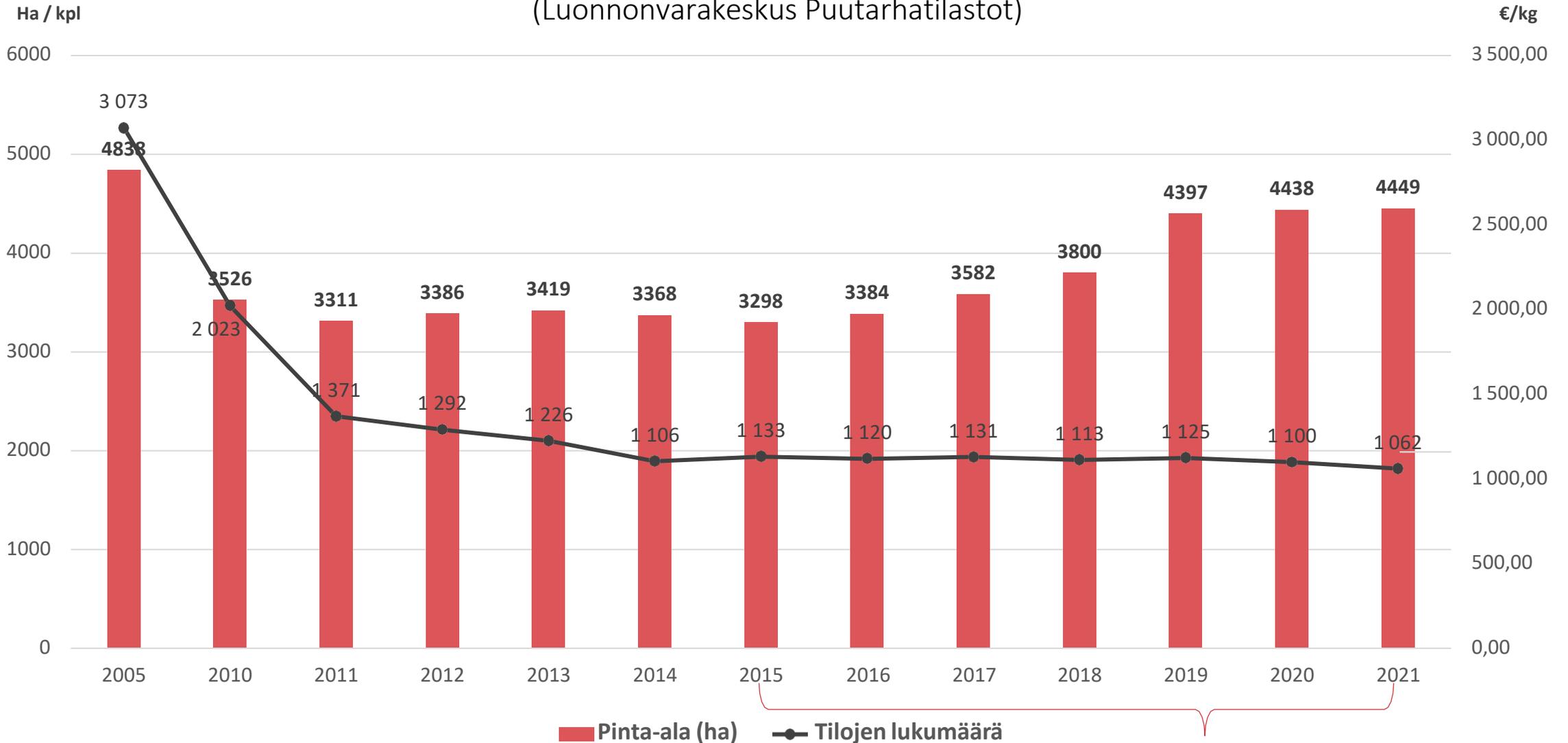
(HML ry)





# Development in Strawberry production 2005-2021

(Luonnonvarakeskus Puutarhatilastot)

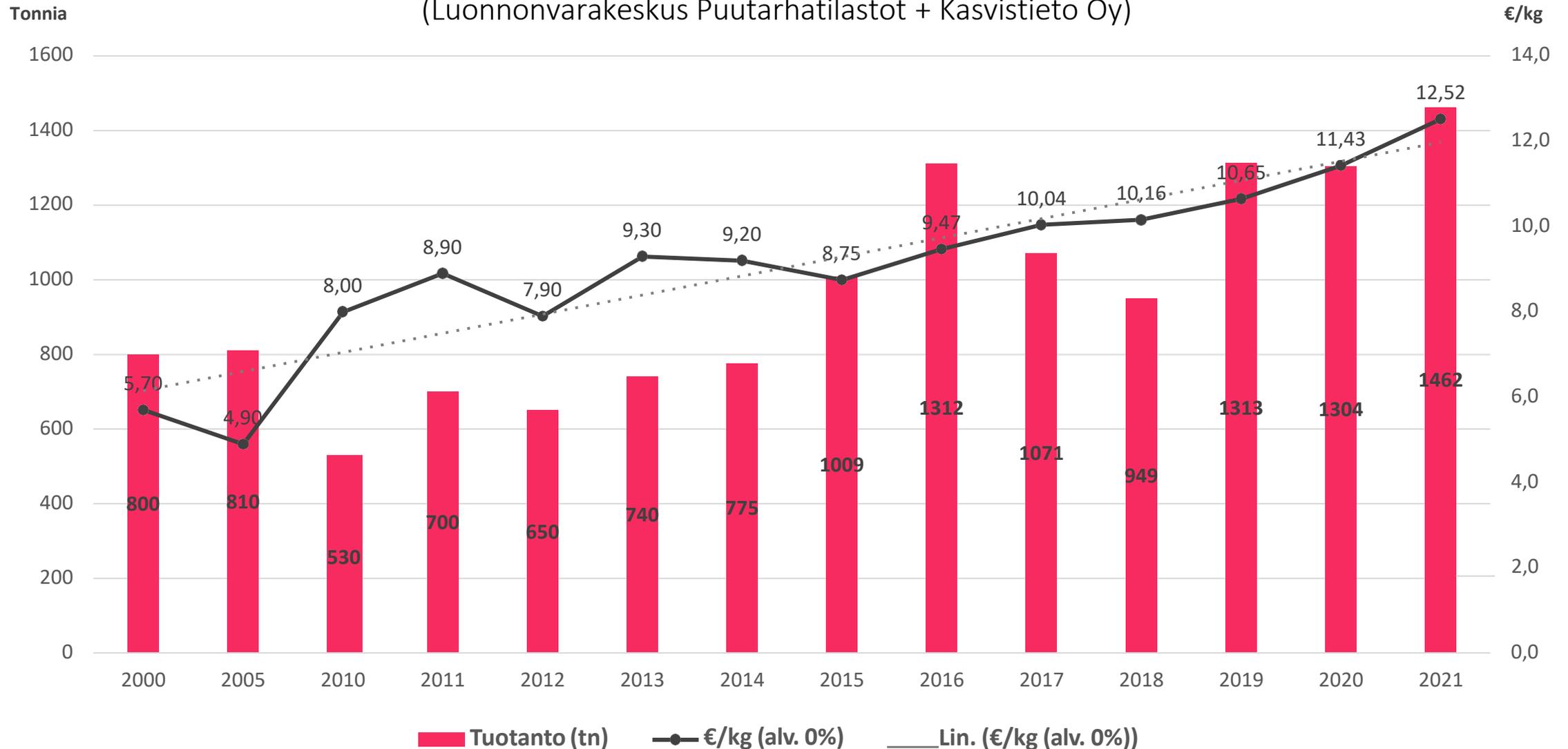


Growth +1151 ha



# Raspberry production and farmprice 2000-2021

(Luonnonvarakeskus Puutarhatilastot + Kasvistieto Oy)

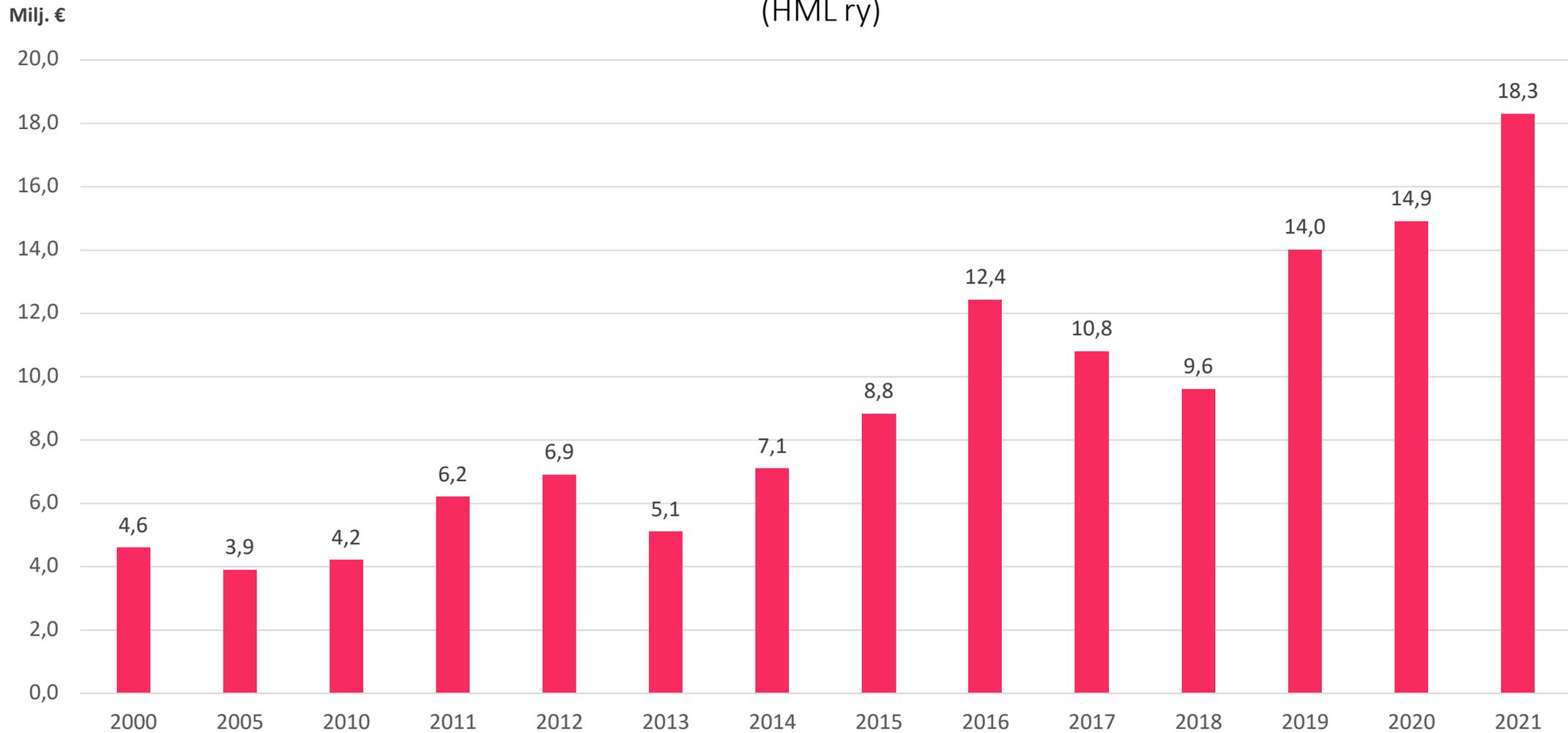




# Value of raspberry production, milj. €

## 2000-2021

(HML ry)





# Development of raspberry production 2000-2021

(Luonnonvarakeskus Puutarhatilastot)

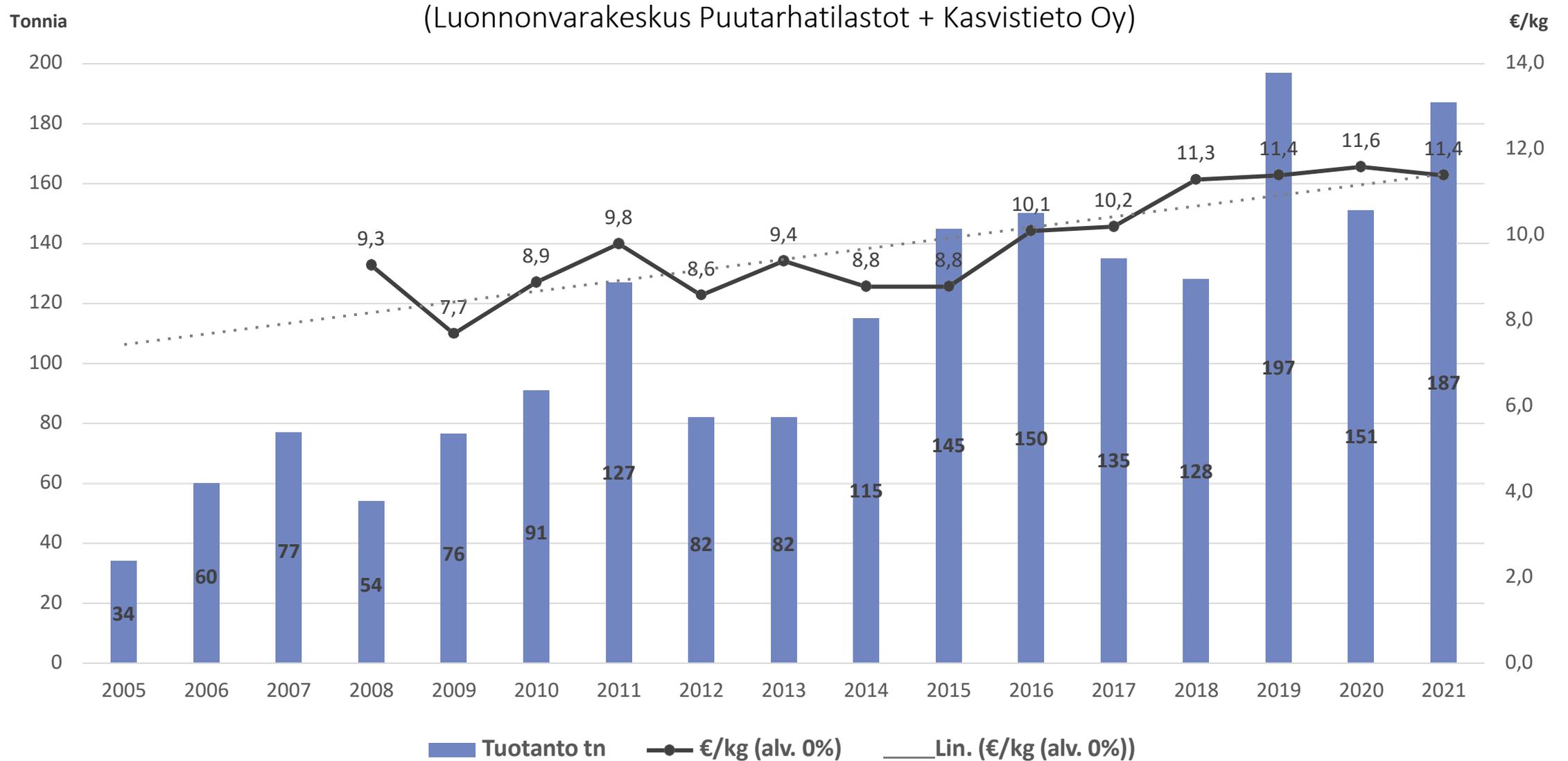
Ha / kpl



Ala vähentynyt -79 ha



# Farmed blueberry production and farm price 2005-2021

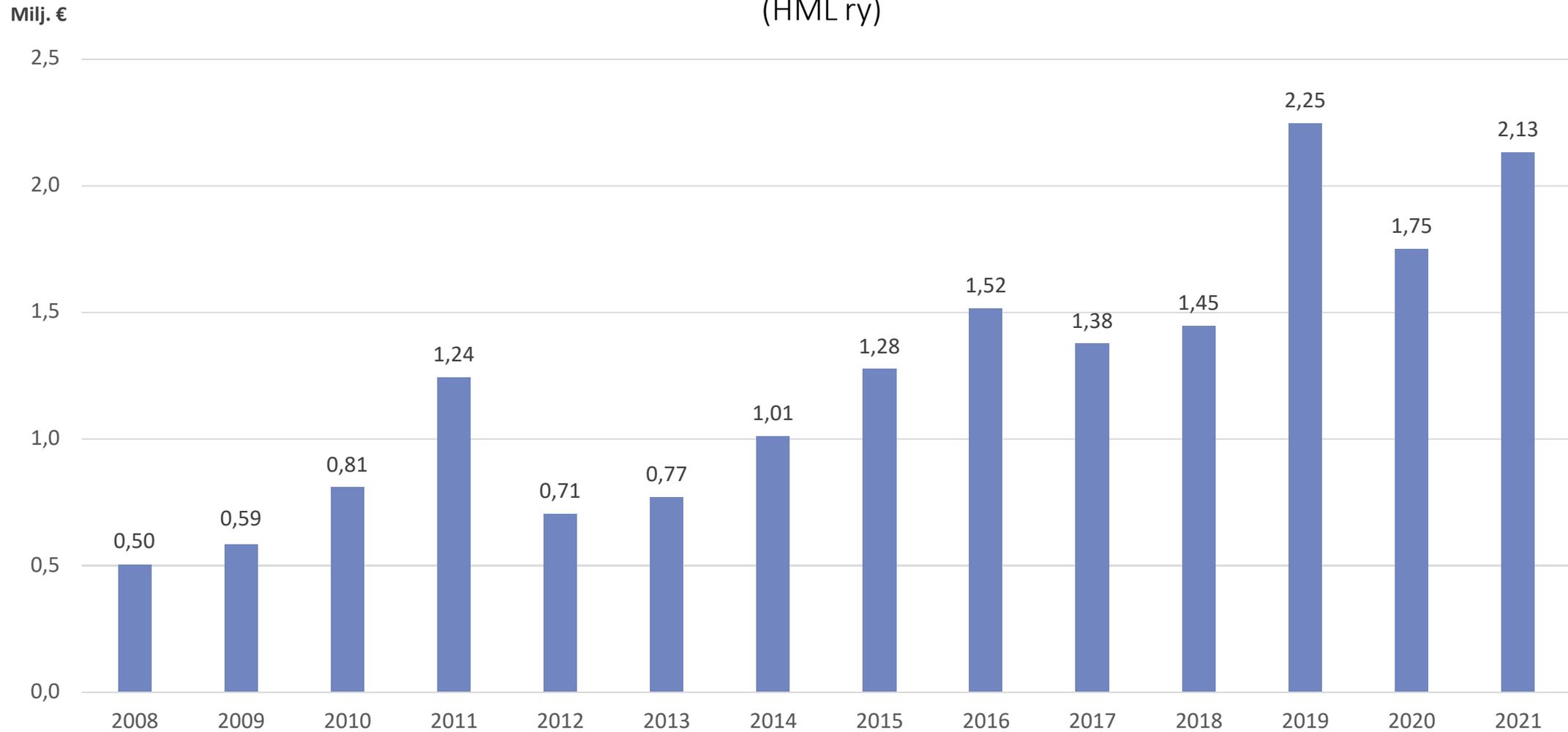




# Value of farmed blueberry milj. €

2008-2021

(HML ry)

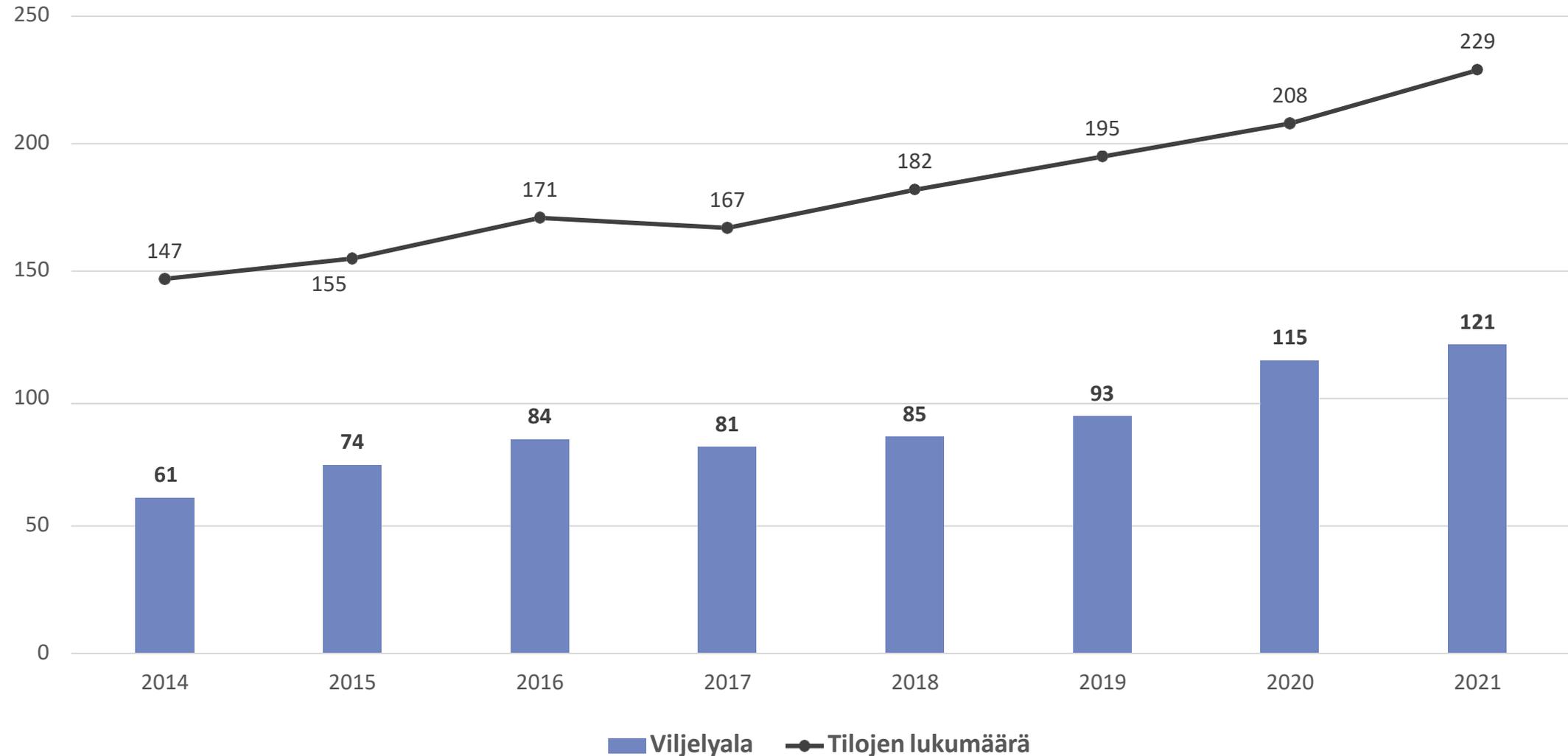




# Development of farmed blueberry production 2014-2021

(Luonnonvarakeskus Puutarhatilastot)

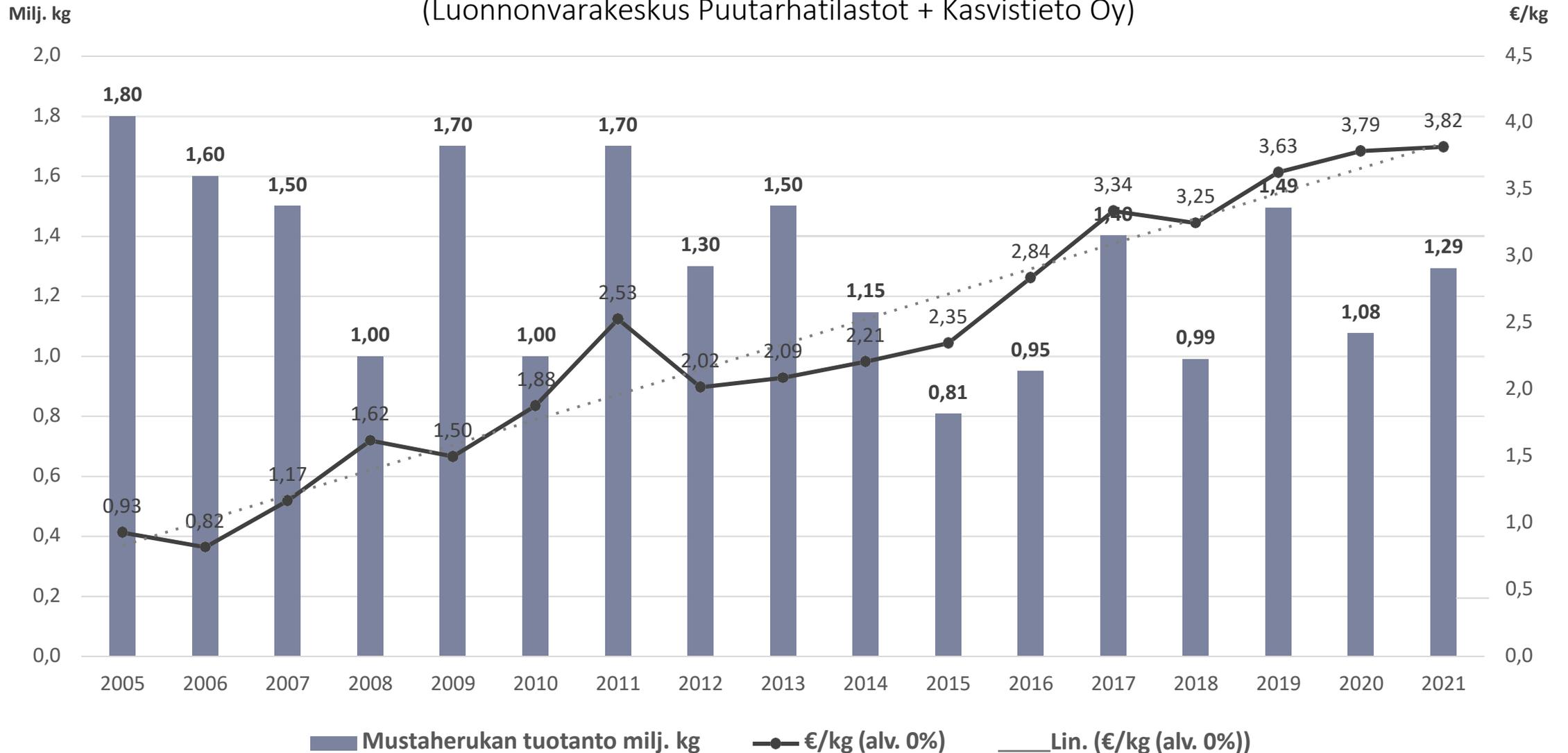
Ha / kpl





# Mustaherukan tuotanto ja tuoreen herukan viljelijähintataso 2005-2021

(Luonnonvarakeskus Puutarhatilastot + Kasvistieto Oy)

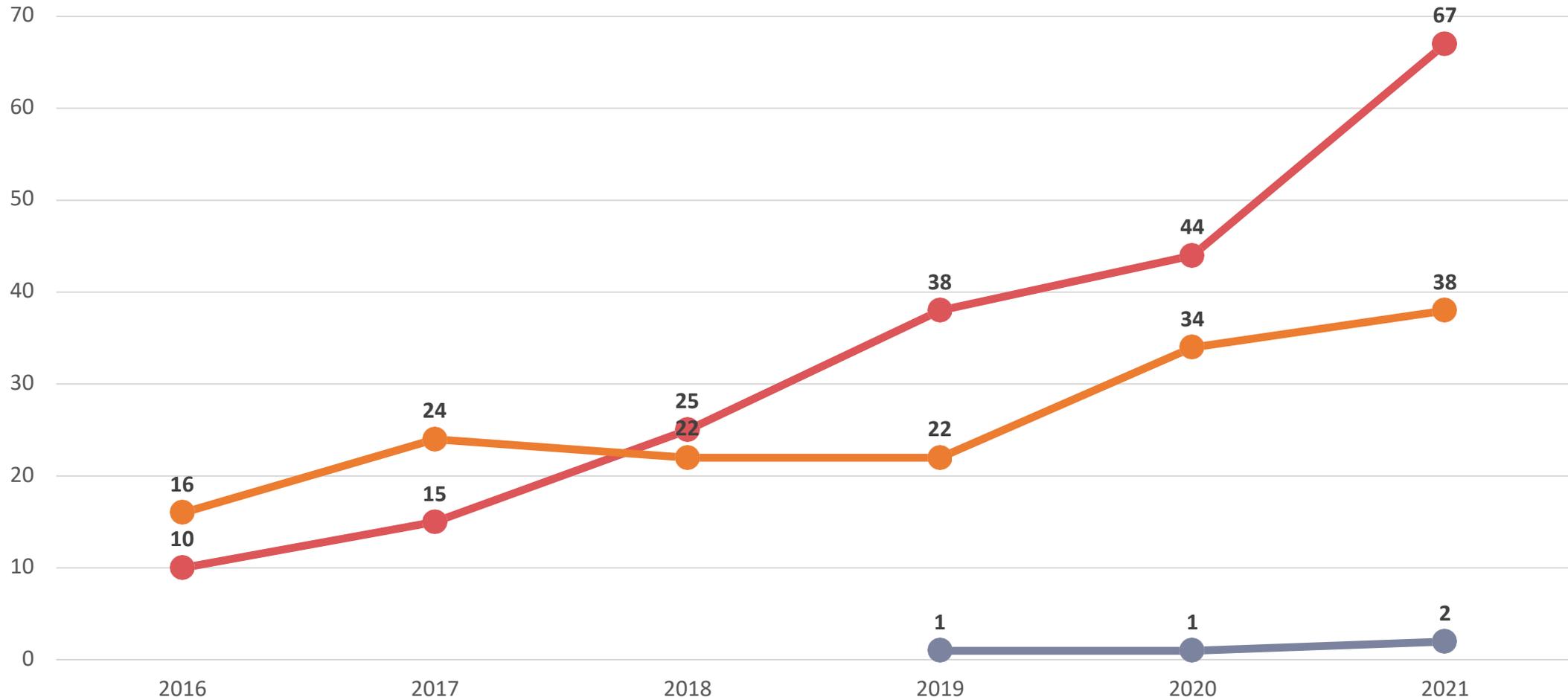




# Berries in tunnels 2016-2021

(Luonnonvarakeskus Puutarhatilastot)

Ha / kpl

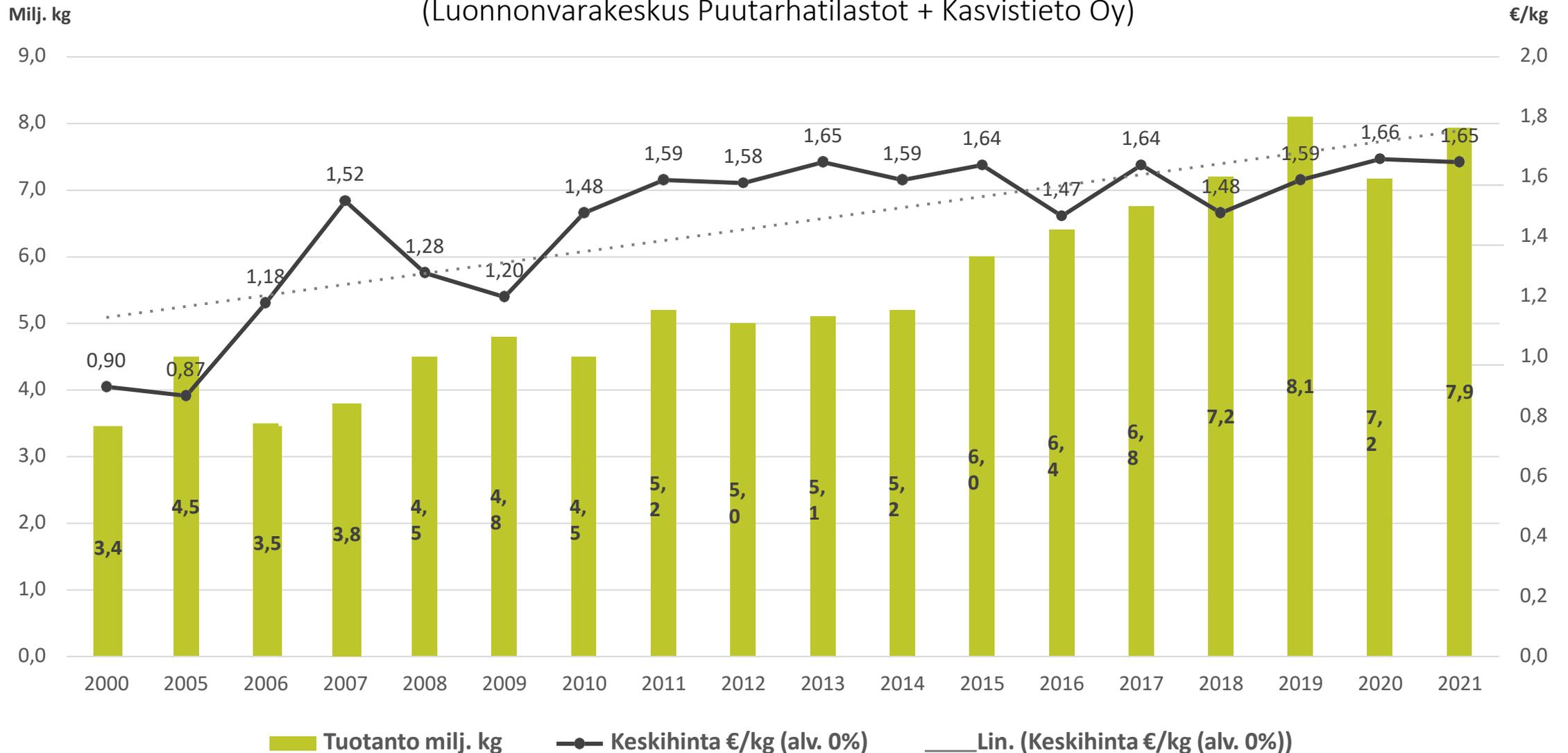


● Strawberry ● Raspberry ● Pensasmustikka



# Apple production and farm price 2000-2021

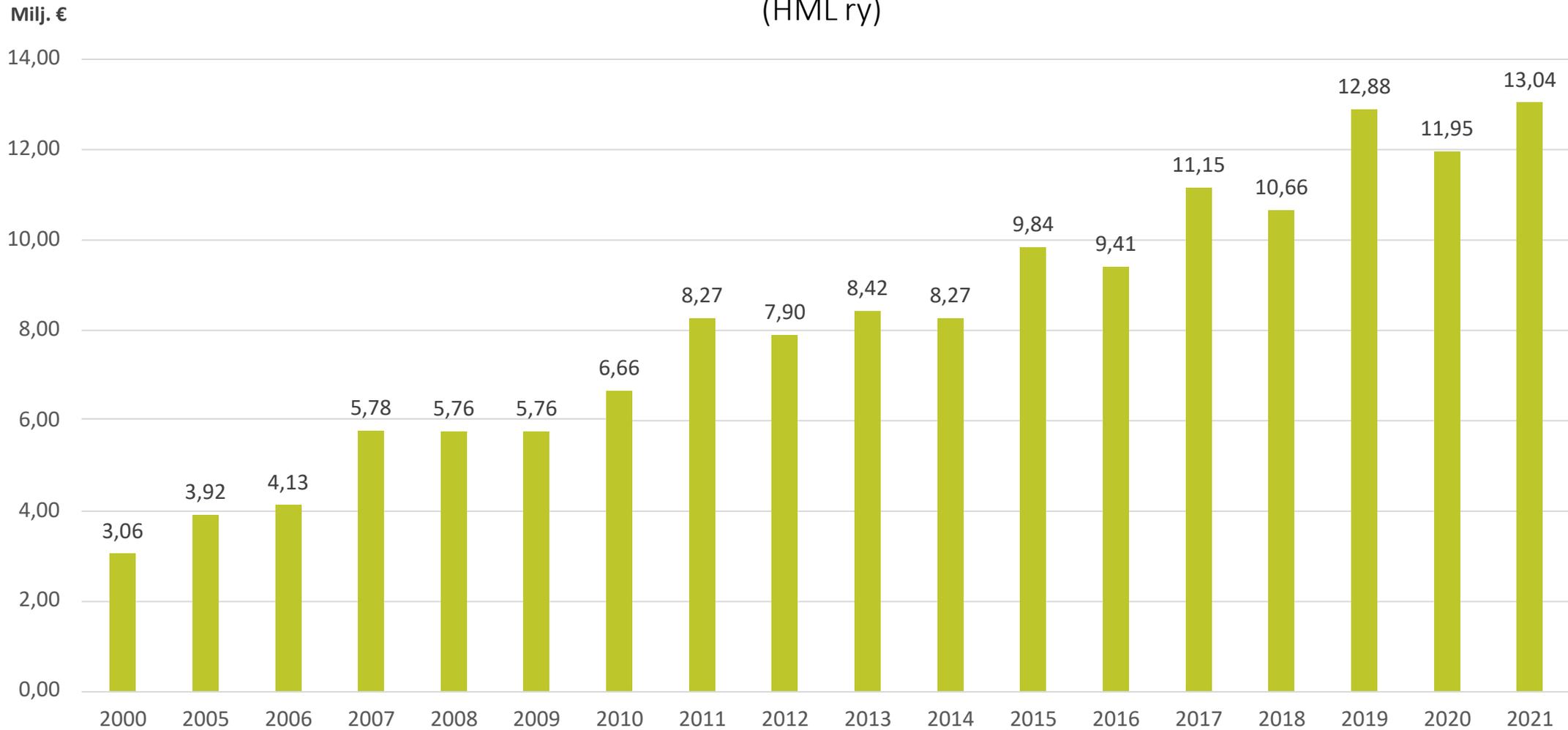
(Luonnonvarakeskus Puutarhatilastot + Kasvistieto Oy)





# Value of apple production, milj. € 2000-2021

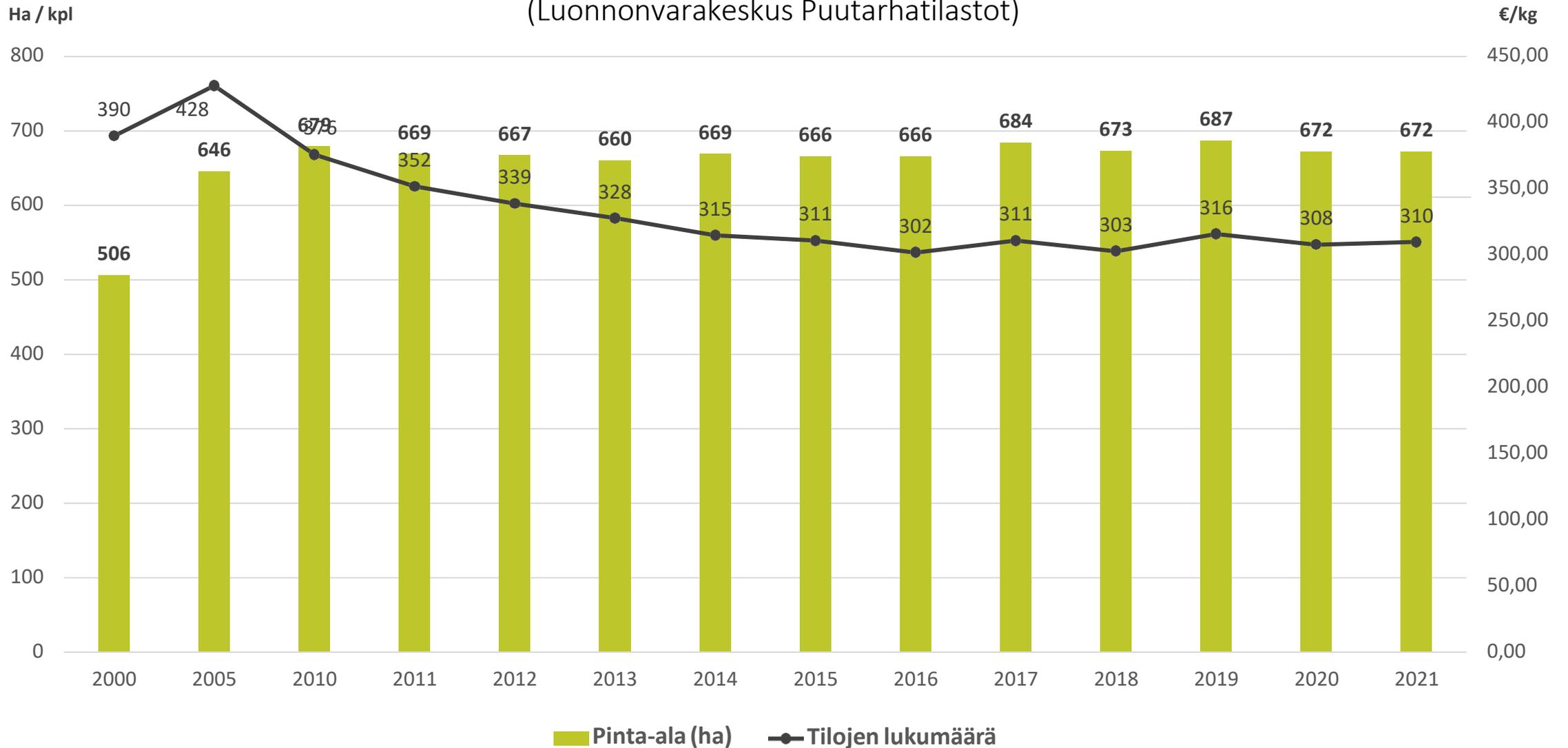
(HML ry)





# Development of apple production 2000-2021

(Luonnonvarakeskus Puutarhatilastot)



# Future of apple production in Finland

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- Demand for local products is high
  - Production volumes are increasing per hectare
  - New apple varieties are bringing new possibilities or threats.
  - People are beginning to demand local apples all year round
  - ULO (ultra low oxygen) storing has risen during past years. 2 new storages are built to mainland Finland in the last few years. In Åland Island there has been some for many years.
- 





## Future

- Even with new machines and technology, apple farming is still a lot of manual work 😊

# Future

- Feed the trees with foliar sprays and drip irrigation
- Monitor the soil: too wet / too dry
- Monitor the fertilizers in the soil



Future...





## Future...

- Storing the apples as long as possible
- Bring the apples into stores in perfect condition
- Concentrate on the quality of the fruits
  - You want to keep the customers loyal to your product



keittiö

dixie

Yorso  
DESIGN

dixie



Tobias  
Ruhéän syy  
Jäspi  
Kaneli  
Tulvikanen

OMENAMEHU  
KORHON APPELIÖC  
OMENAMEHU  
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OMENAMEHU  
KORHON APPELIÖC  
Jäspi  
Kaneli

Paula