



Latvian
Peat
Association

LATVIA'S PEAT SECTOR

2026 update: market, policy and projects

24th Baltic Peat Producers Forum | Pärnu, 23–25 September 2026

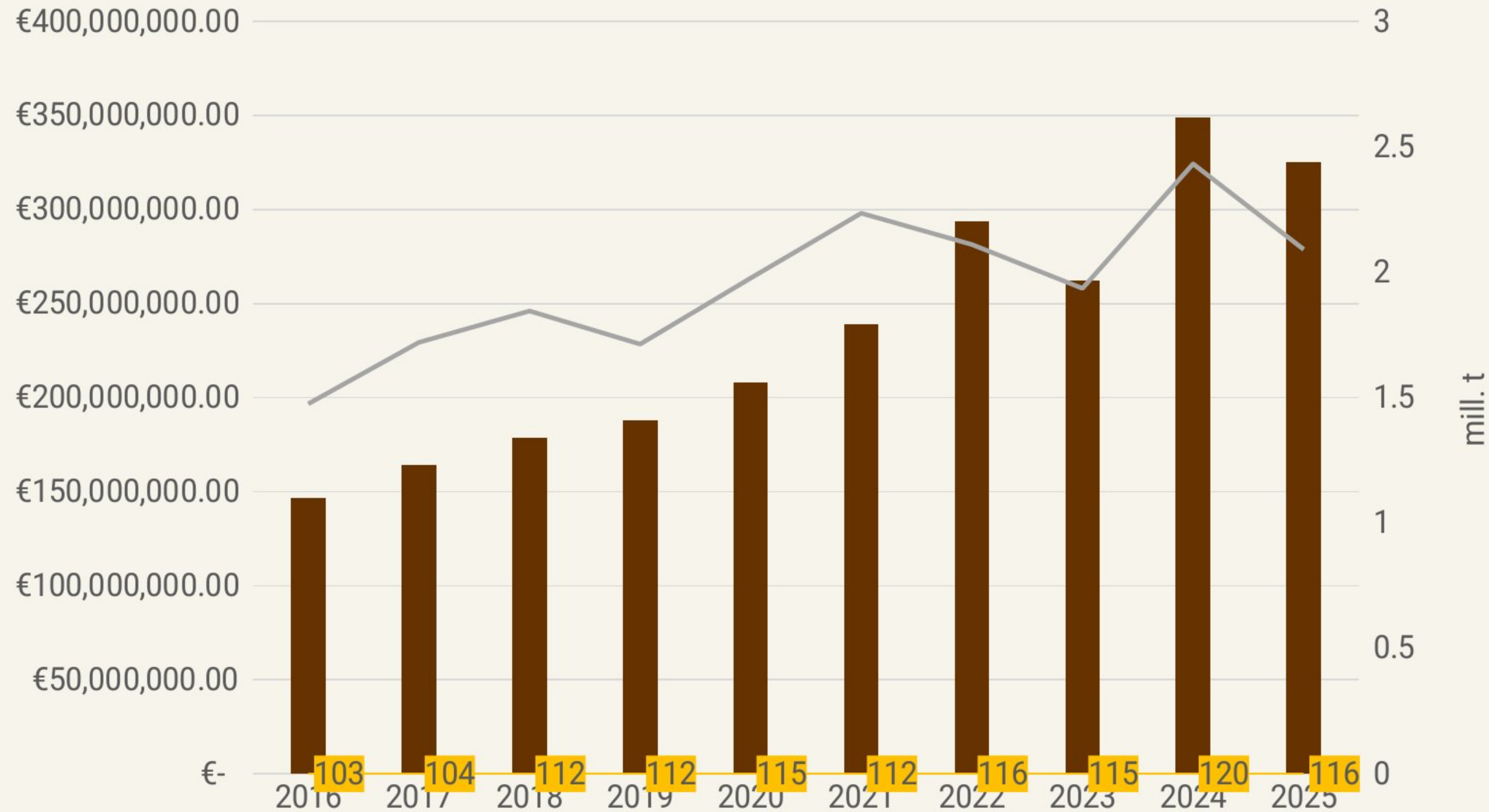
Ingrīda Krīgere | Board Member



Statistics



Latvia's peat exports, 2016–2025: volume, value and markets



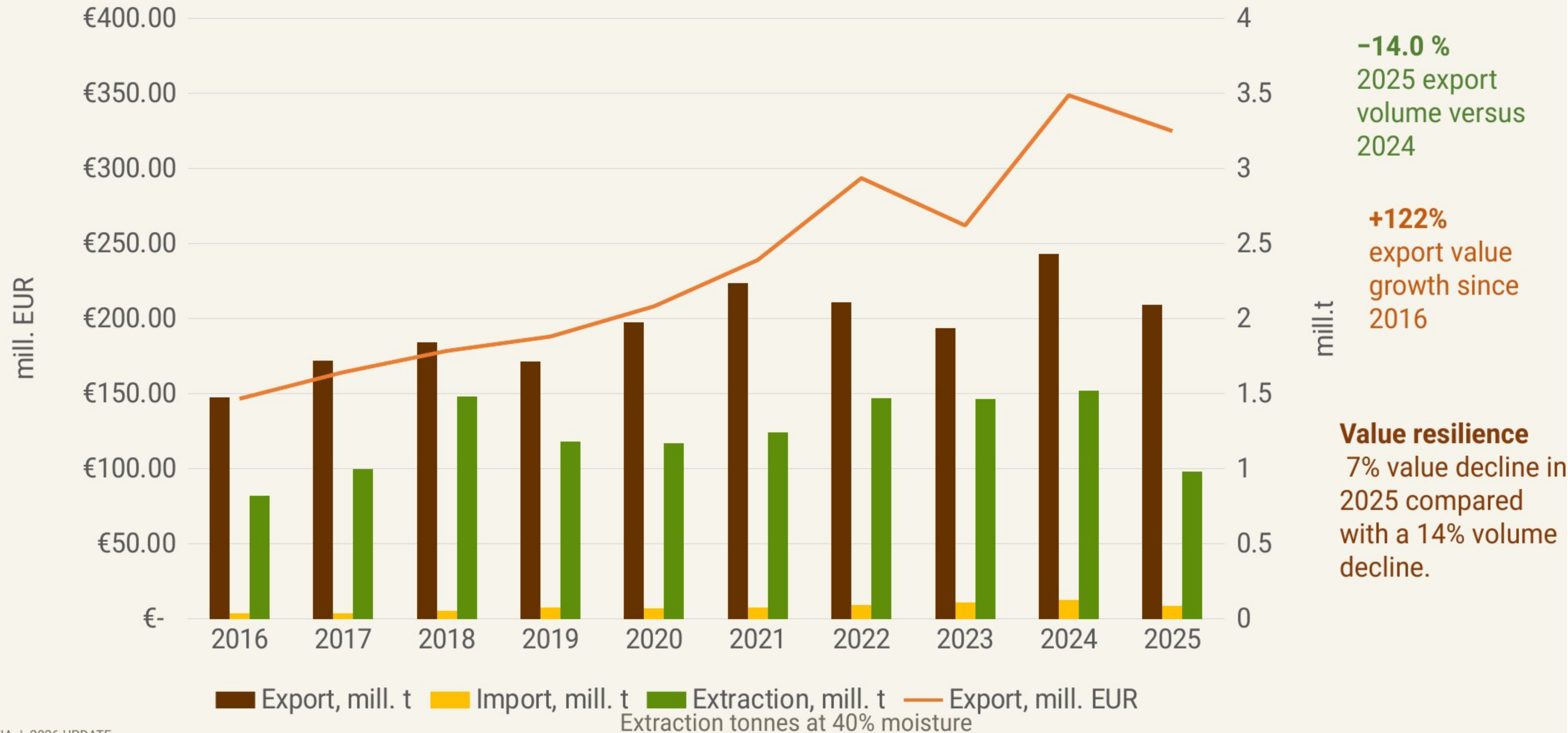
Export value reached €325 million in 2025

Exports remain large, but 2025 reversed the 2024 peak

Peat extraction, exports and imports, 2016–2025



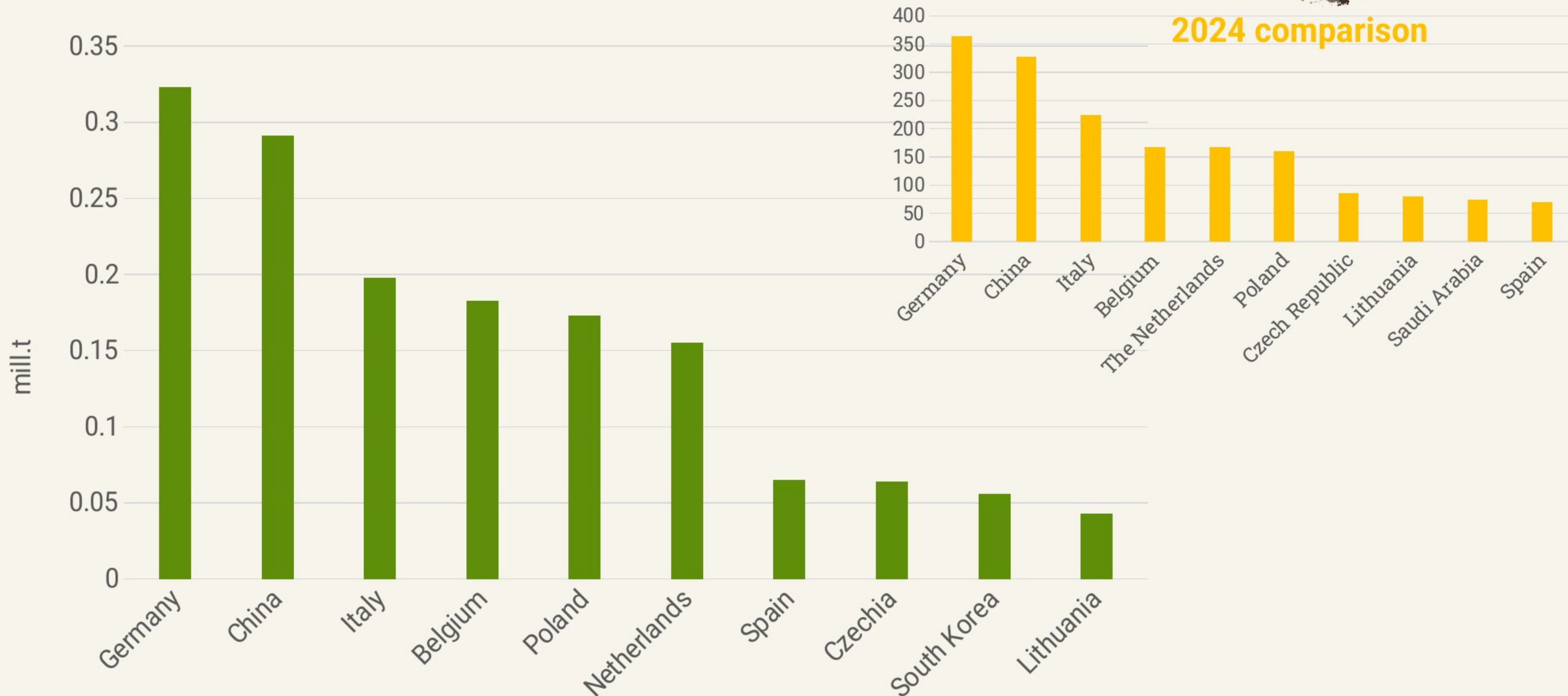
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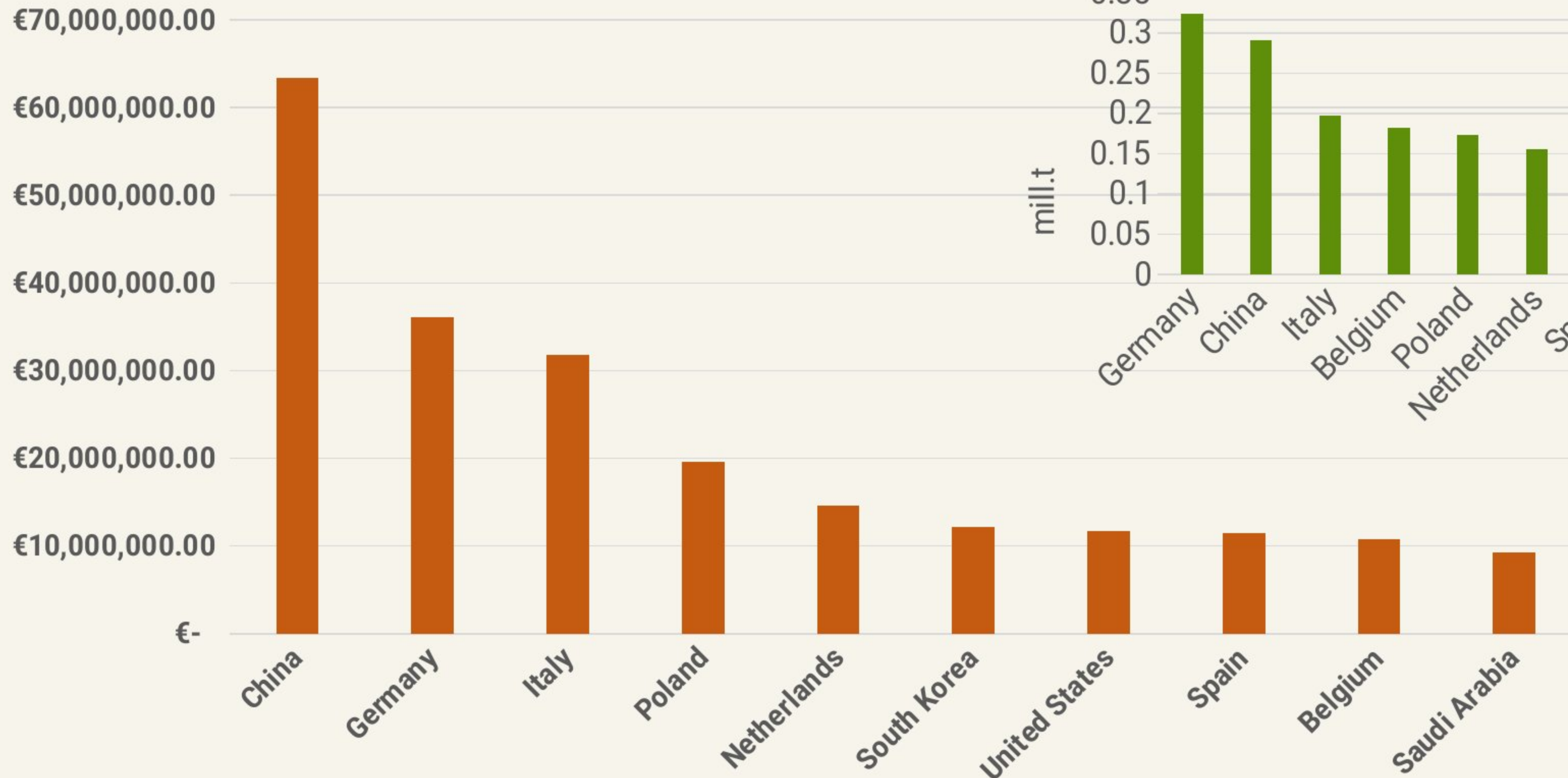
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Source: Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia

Latvia's peat exports in 2025: top 10 destinations, Mt

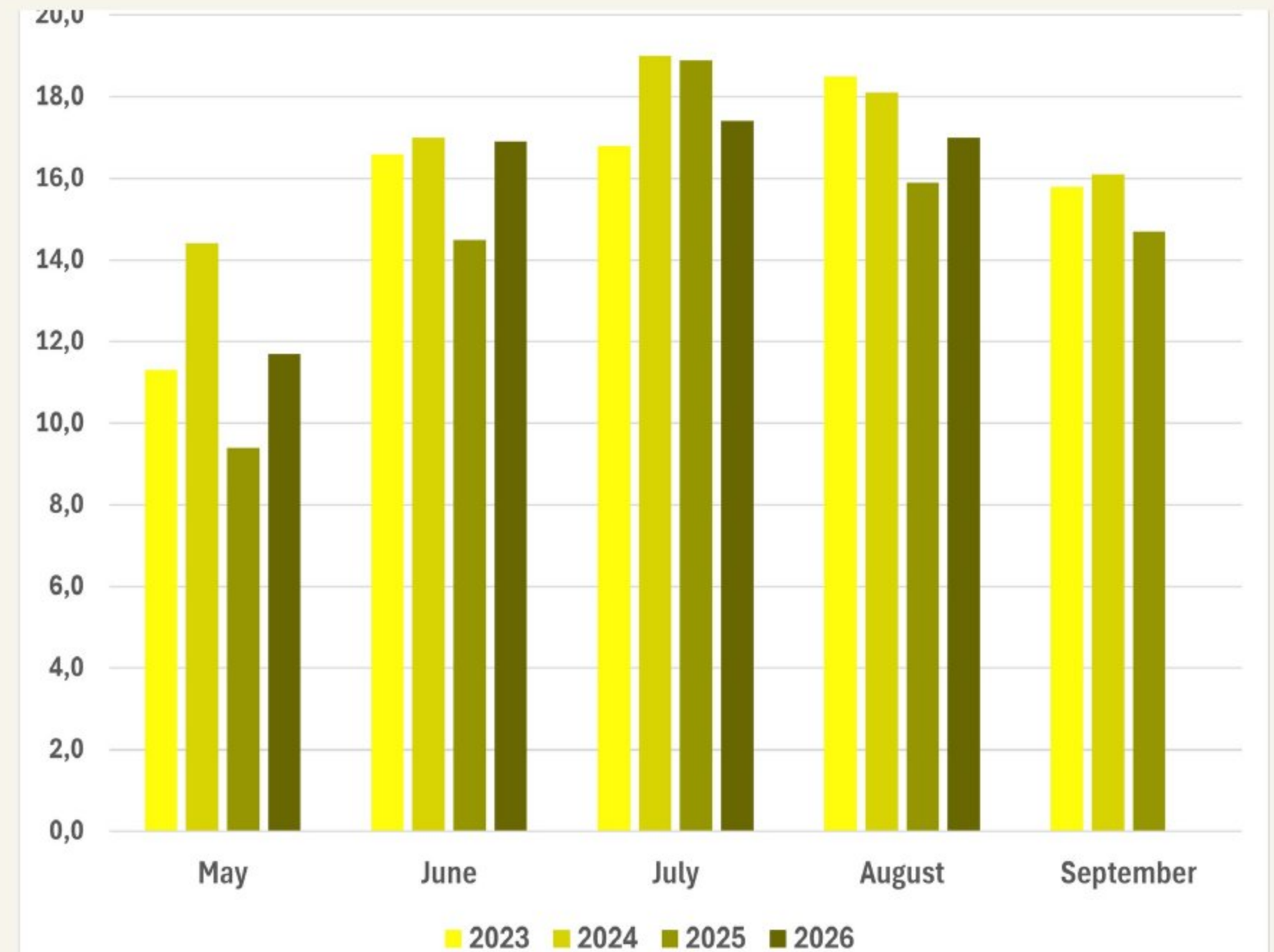
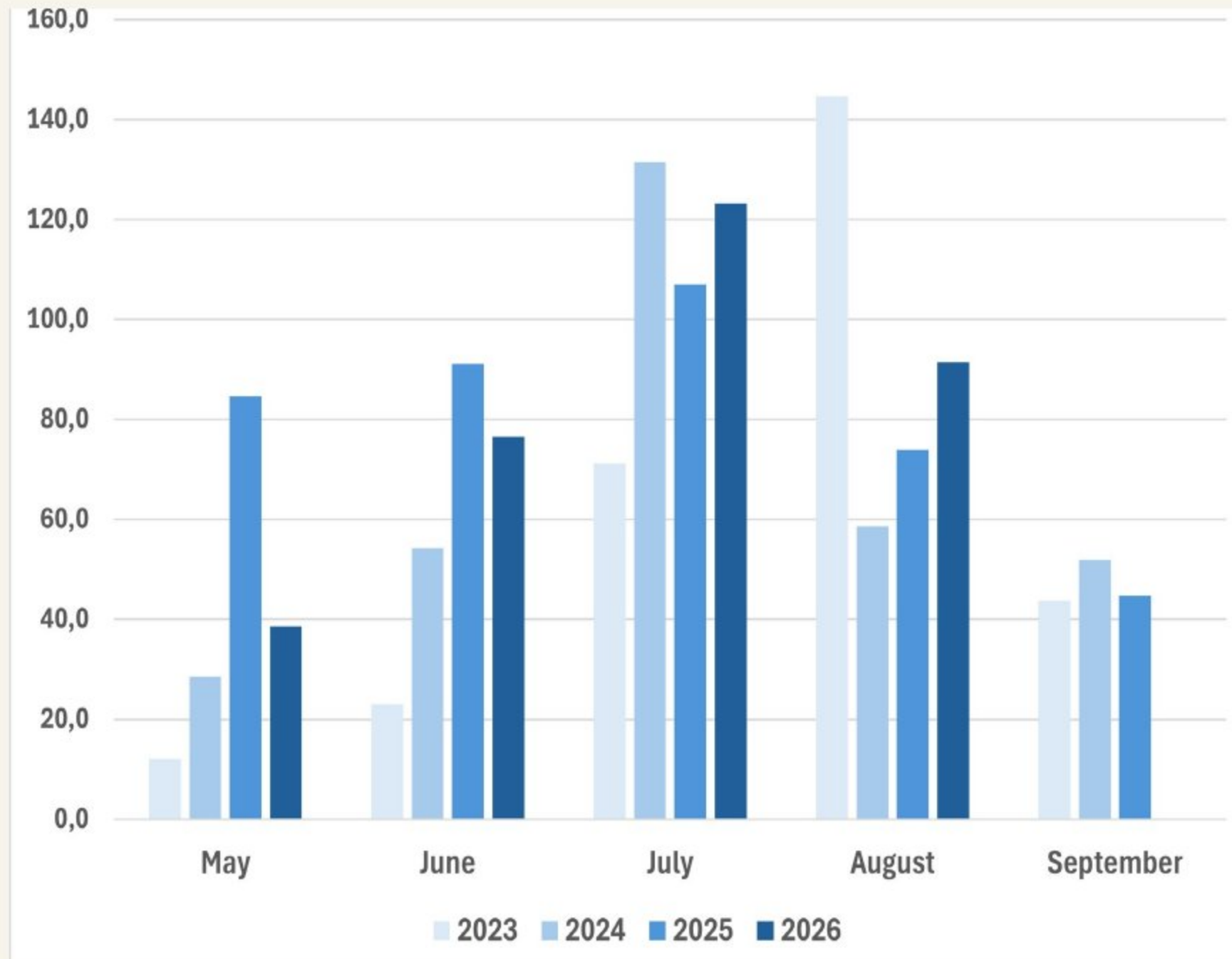


Latvia's peat exports in 2025: top 10 destinations, EUR



Weather again determined the harvest window

2026 brought a drier May, followed by wet July–August and cooler peak-season temperatures.

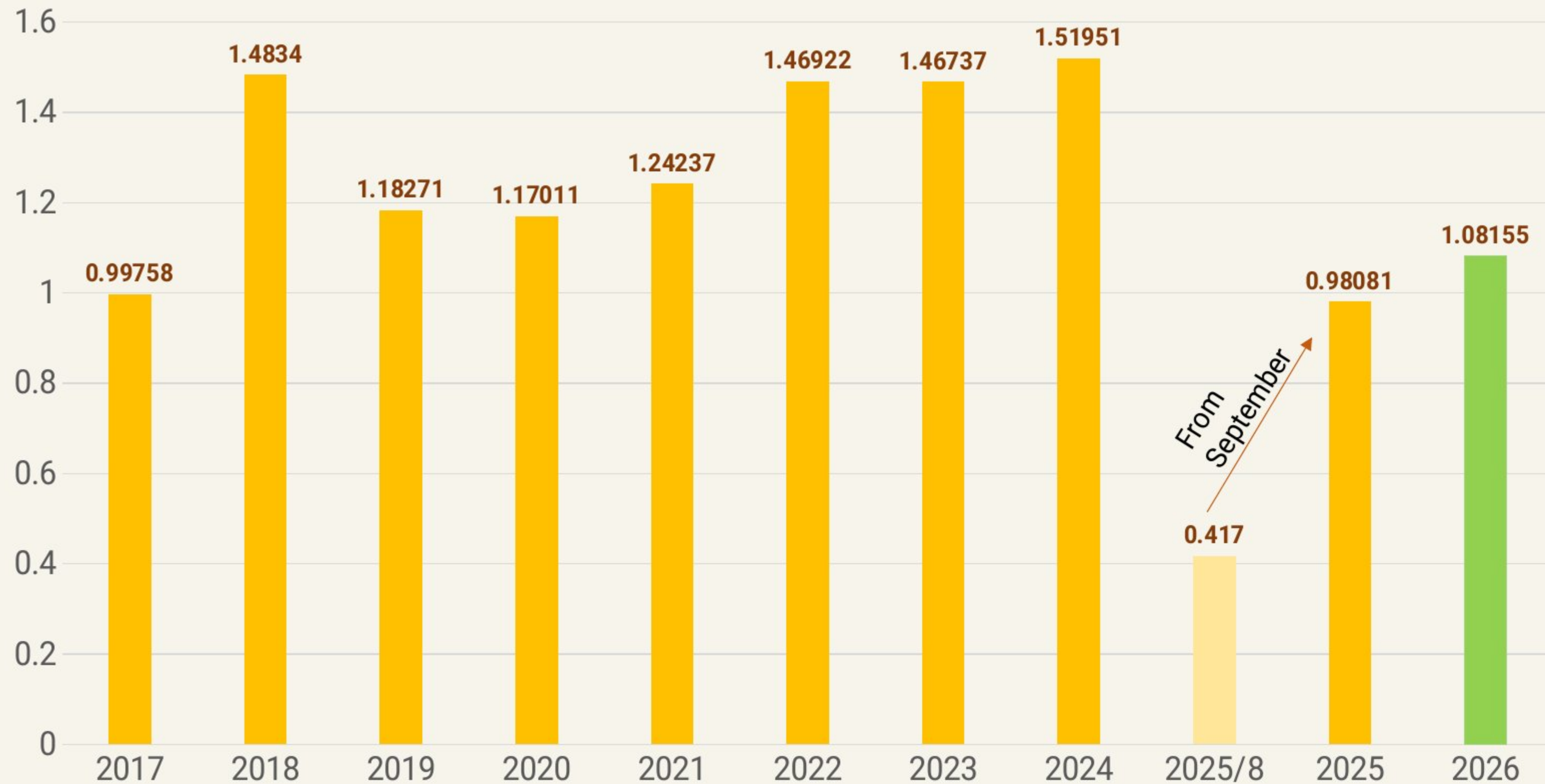


Operational message: harvest planning must allow for short dry windows, storage buffers and large month-to-month volatility.

Source: Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre data compiled by LPA; September 2026 is incomplete.

LATVIA | 2026 UPDATE

Peat extraction in Latvia, 2017–2026, Mt



Key updates



The Conceptual Report is progressing through the approval process

What it would establish

A national position on sustainable horticultural peat use and a clear distinction from energy peat.

It frames peat as strategically relevant to food production, forestry and EU substrate security.

What it does not do

The report does not directly create obligations or legal restrictions. Its value lies in guiding coordinated policy and later decisions.

National interests and next steps

Status:
public consultation
21 August–21
September Now
government processing

Peat as a strategic resource

In horticulture, peat supports food production.

In forestry, it supports forest seedling cultivation.

For the EU internal market, domestic supply reduces dependence on third countries.

Nature restoration planning reaches a critical decision point

BY 1
DECEMBER
2026

EU restoration milestones

Socioeconomic assessment

- Cabinet decision of 18 August 2026 requires the assessment.
- The current plan focuses on funded or ongoing measures, including historical extraction sites.
- Specific financing after 2027 is not yet earmarked in the reported plan.

2030

Restore at least 20% of EU land and sea areas.

2040

Restore 60% of habitat area in poor condition.

2050

Restore 90% and all ecosystems needing restoration.

Latvia is preparing its National Restoration Plan under the EU Nature Restoration Regulation.

PeatTransform project

Research and innovation for a climate-neutral peat sector



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PROJECT GOAL

Support the peat sector's transition to climate neutrality by 2050 while strengthening Latvia's research and innovation capacity.

**2025–
2029**

Implementation
period

**€5.98
million**

Total project
budget

7 institutions

Research
consortium

Funding framework

EU Cohesion Policy Programme 2021–2027,
project No. 6.1.1.2/1/25/A/001

Research priorities



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Seven connected work areas link emissions evidence, site rehabilitation and new products

GHG measurements and modelling

Improve inventory methods so reported emissions better reflect peat-sector conditions.

Rehabilitation of extraction sites

Test paludiculture, hydrological stabilisation, agrovoltaics and remote monitoring.

Low-carbon products

Develop extracts, composites, insulation and 3D-printing materials.

Growing media

Assess moss, reeds, wood fibre and wool as local substrate components.

Technology development

Reduce emissions, increase carbon storage and study substrate reuse.

Socio-economic assessment

Measure local, regional and export impacts of extraction, processing and rehabilitation.

Scenarios and policy

Prepare sustainability guidance and recommendations for carbon and biodiversity credits.



SUSTAINABILITY MEMORANDUM





The Latvian peat sector has
developed and signed a
Sustainability Memorandum

21.09.2026



The 2026 picture in one minute

2.09 Mt

peat products exported in
2025
14% below 2024

€325.0 M

export value in 2025
7% below 2024

1.08 Mt

peat extracted in 2026 until
10th of September

Policy direction

The Conceptual Report is moving through the national approval process.

The National Restoration Plan requires a socioeconomic assessment by 1 December 2026.

Transition delivery

PeatTransform funding increases to €5.98 million.
JTF restoration measures target 5,800 ha and
annual savings of at least 13,000 t CO₂e.

THANK YOU

Let's grow with peat, backed by evidence and responsible land management.

Ingrīda Krīgere
Latvian Peat Association



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