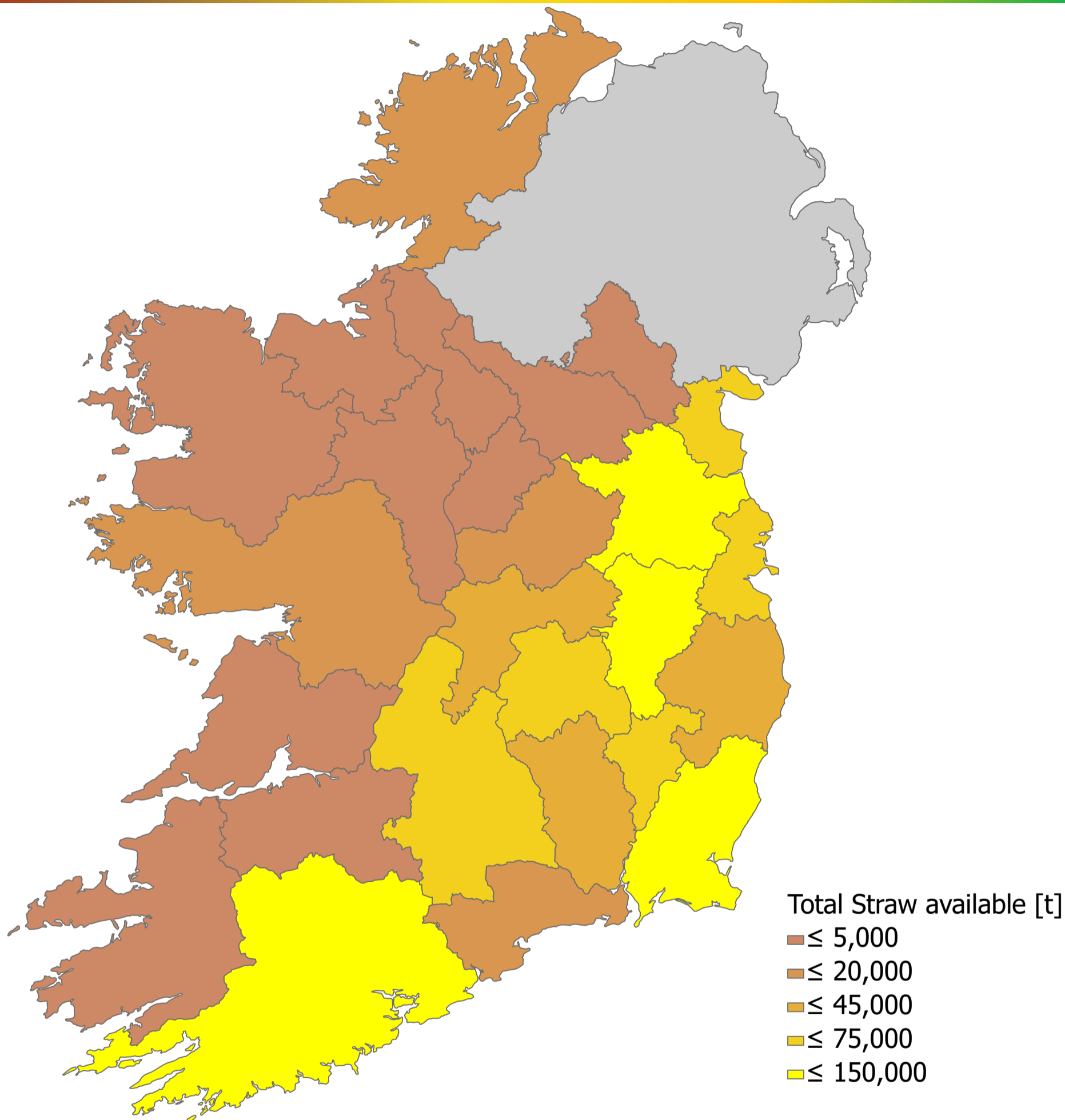


Straw as a feedstock Availability in Ireland



The Circular Bioeconomy Research Group (CircBio) at Shannon ABC, IT Tralee is currently developing a Bioresource Modelling Tool for the Irish Bioeconomy. Work on this tool began in 2019 through the BBI JU ICT-BIOCHAIN project in collaboration with partners including Irish Bioeconomy Foundation and IBioIC, and is being continued through postgraduate research at IT Tralee. The tool compiles up-to-date biomass data such as quantities, composition, location, current fate, associated cost and also freight costs for several different types of biomass including straws, grasses, manures, forestry residues, mushroom offcuts and spent compost, marine and aquaculture fish residues and seaweeds, amongst others.

The above map shows an example of the Irish straw quantities available on a county basis. This could also be converted to show the associated sugars available on a county basis, from particular types of straw, all types of straw combined, or even from a combination of different biomass types. Apart from sugar contents, other bioresources that have been mapped out include protein, lipid, calorific value and elemental analysis.