



# iSAGE model farm and challenging scenarios

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# Modelling impacts of climate change, adaptation measures and GHG trade-offs/synergies in small rums. in Europe





# Whole iSAGE team



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# Main objective of this session



*Examine the scope of new strategies, including land-based and management changes and innovations, for making sheep and goats production more sustainable, reducing its environmental impact and enhancing resilience to oncoming challenges (e.g. climate change).*

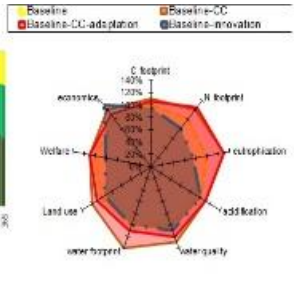
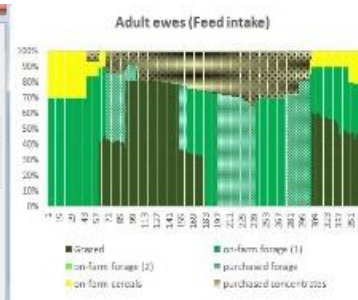
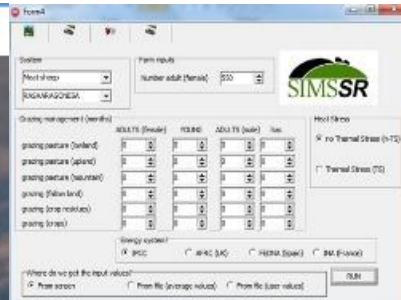


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# Where does the info in this session come from?

Deliverable No.4.2	
Summary of future challenges and update to the review of farm management innovations	
Project acronym: ISAGE	
Project full name: Innovations for Sustainable Sheep and Goat Production in Europe	
Grant agreement number: 47592	
Start date of project: 1 March 2016	
End date of project: 30 November 2019	
Project website: <a href="http://isage4.eu">isage4.eu</a>	
Working Package:	
WP4	
Short name of lead participant: CIRC	
Other Partners Participating: ANTH, CITA	
Type:	
R, DEM, DEC, OTHER: R	
EU Contribution level:	
RTP, COS, IS: 10	
Deliverable title corresponding to:	
Grant Agreement: 2016/01/19	
Actual delivery date:	
2016/01/19 (updated version: 11/11/2017)	
Relevant Task(s):	
4.2	
Representative:	
Z	




*Outputs from the different work packages of the ISAGE project and specific modelling exercises using national GHG inventories methodologies and the new farm model developed in ISAGE (SIMS<sub>SR</sub>)*



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# Outline

- What are the challenges?
- The tool to analyse farm scenarios:  SIMSSR
- Climate change challenge (impacts and as GHG emitter)
- Potential solutions (examples)



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# Challenges



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# Most important challenges in European small ruminants sector

## Weaknesses

- Low promotion of local breeds
- poor business management training
- Low professionalization
- Slow adoption of innovations
- Low adaptability of high producing breeds.

## External threats

- Low consumer education in product
- Low consumer knowledge in products
- Researchers not address real problems
- Unfair trade, lack of traceability
- Poor recognition of public services

### Deliverable No: 4.2

Summary of future challenges and update to the review of farm management innovations

Project acronym: iSAGE

Project full name: Innovation for Sustainable Sheep and Goat Production in Europe

Grant agreement number: 679302

Start date of project: 1 March 2016

Duration of project: 48 months

Project website: [www.iSAGE.eu](http://www.iSAGE.eu)

Working Package	4
Short name of lead participant	CSIC
Other Partners Participating	AUTH, CITA
Type* (R, DEM, DEC, OTHER)	R
Dissemination level** (PU, CO, CI)	PU
Deliverable date according to Grant Agreement	28/02/2019
Actual delivery date	28/02/2019 (updated version 11/6/2019)
Relevant Task(s)	4.1
Report version	2

\*Type: R = Document, report (excluding the periodic and final reports); DEM = Demonstrator, pilot, prototype, plan designs, DEC = Websites, patents filing, press & media actions, videos, etc.; OTHER = Software, technical diagram, etc.

\*\*Dissemination level: PU = Public, fully open, e.g. web; CO = Confidential, restricted under conditions set out in Model Grant Agreement; CI = Classified, information as referred to in Commission Decision 2001/844/EC.

*Output from participatory process*



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*Output from participatory process*



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# Extra challenges in Mediterranean/European small ruminants sector: climate change



## Affected by climate change

### Climate change already affecting German farmers

In Germany, some like it hot — this summer's unusually hot, sunny weather, that is. For many farmers, the prolonged heat means smaller harvests and diminished food reserves for their livestock. Will food prices soar?



Cows have little to graze upon in this drought-stricken field in the German state of Saxony

CLIMATE CHANGE  
**Mediterranean is warming up faster than the rest of the planet report warns**  
Some 500 million people are at risk of drought, lack of freshwater and food shortages if no action is taken



The Romapapas reservoir in Castile-La Mancha during a drought in 2017. JIMMY VILLAN

MANUEL PLANELLAS  
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### Opinion Climate change

Jess Fanzo and Mario  
Herrero

Tue 8 Oct 2019 15:34 BST

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## What we eat matters: to change climate crisis, we need to reshape the food system

Everything we eat has an effect on global heating, but perhaps the biggest problem is livestock



▲ Livestock contributes 15% of global greenhouse gas emissions. Photograph: Bloomberg/Bloomberg via Getty

But, also as driver of climate change



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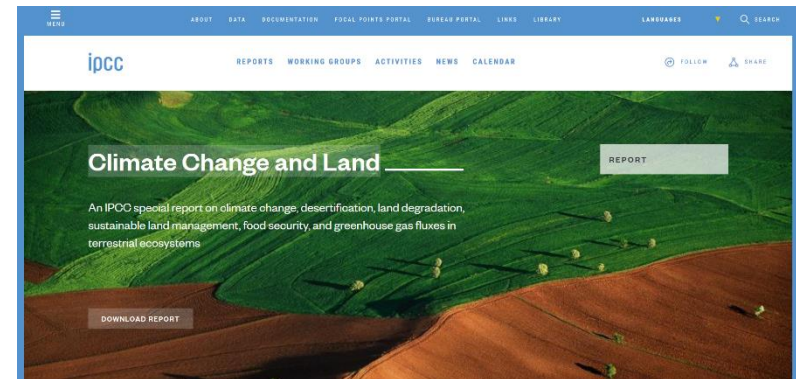




# Challenges: climate change (GHG/mitigation)



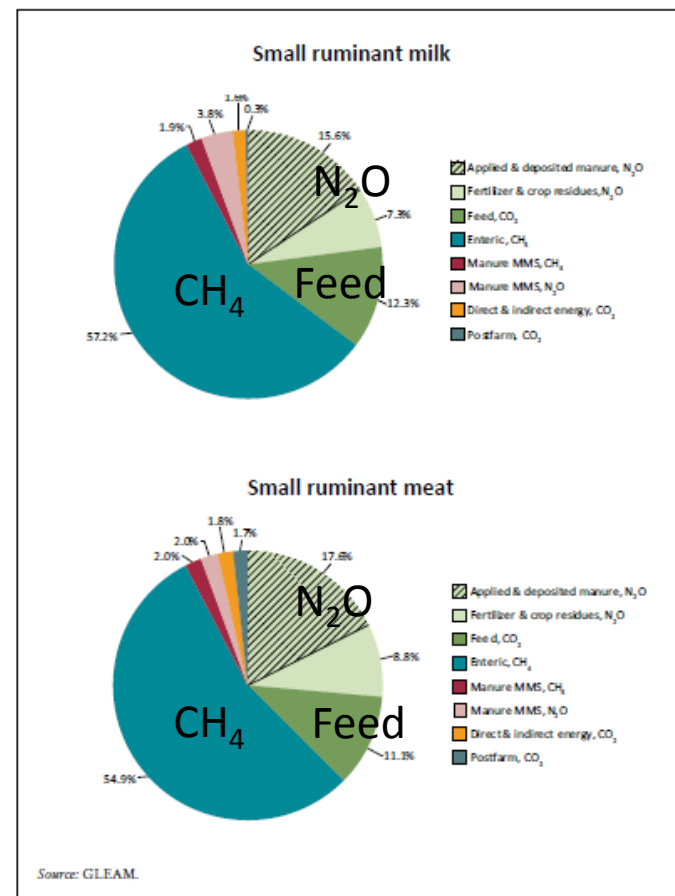
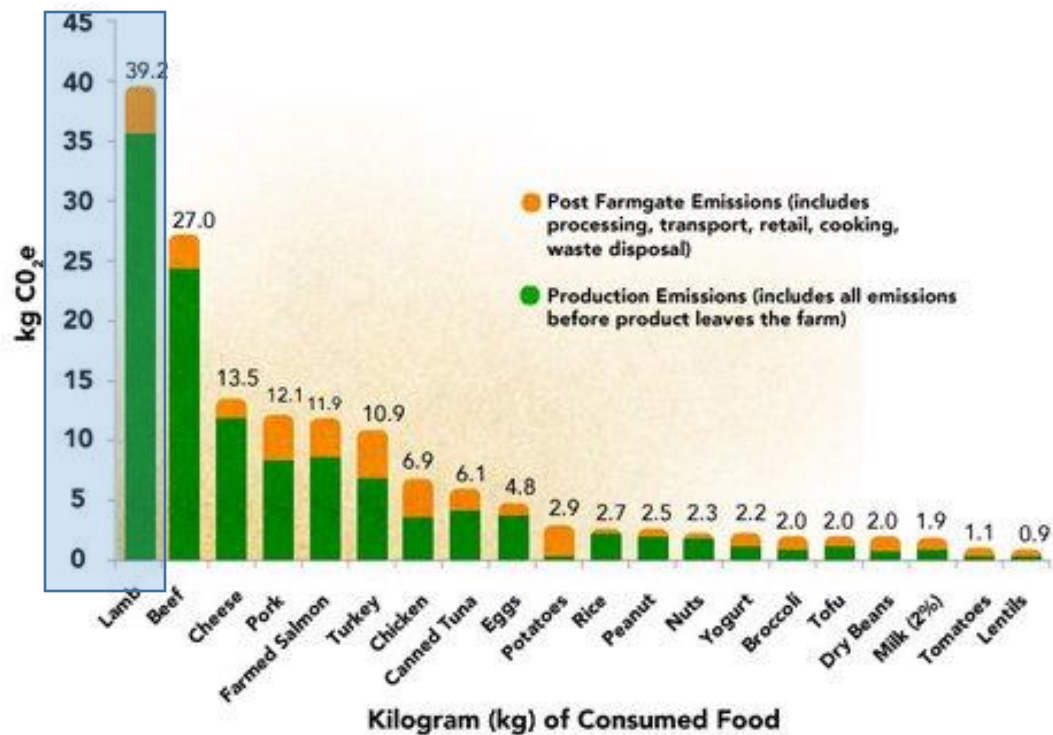
***Latest IPCC-UN report on land claimed that reducing consumption of animal products are key to mitigate climate change***



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# Challenges: climate change (GHG/mitigation)



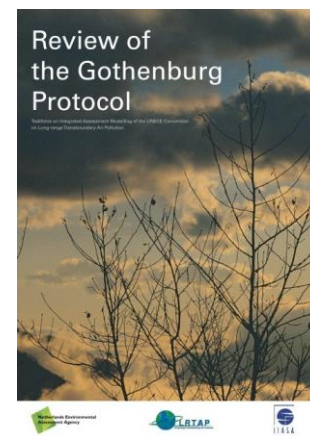
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# Extra challenges in Mediterranean/European small ruminants sector: policies

- Different policies affect/may affect in future
- Agricultural policies, climate change (Paris Agreement) and environmental regulations
- Policies need to be considered in integrated frameworks and not in isolation



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# Extra challenges in Mediterranean/European small ruminants sector: diversity of systems



- Breeds: >25
- Production systems (typologies)
  - ☐ Intensity
  - ☐ Feeding
  - ☐ Land use
  - ☐ Climatic conditions
  - ☐ Reproductive systems...

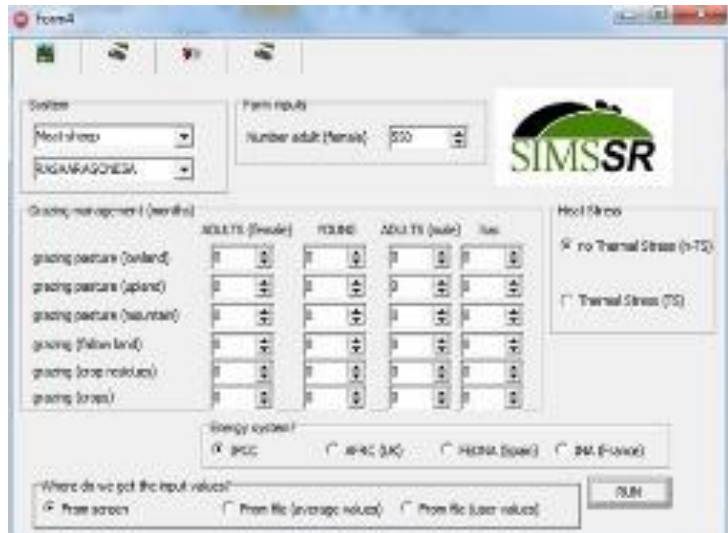


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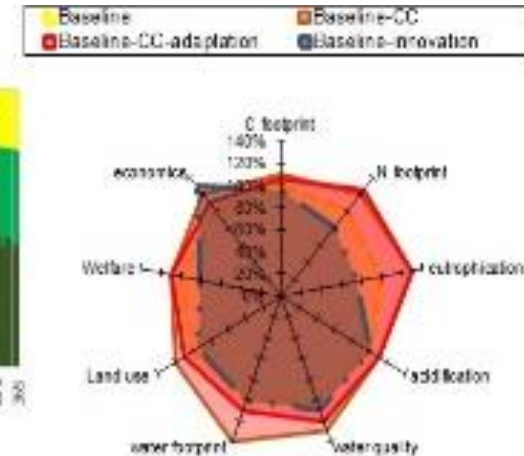
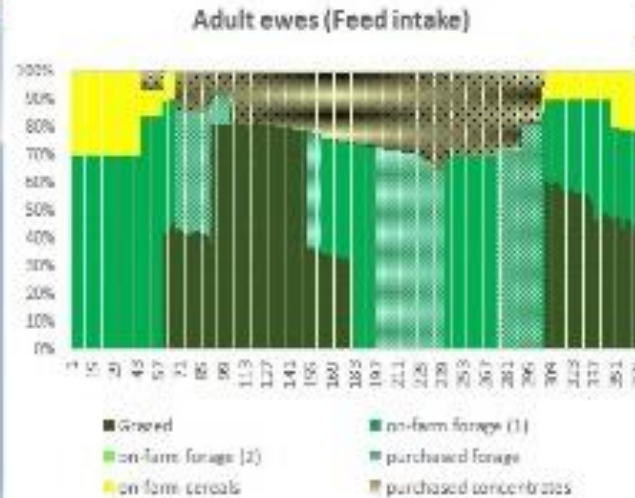




# The tool



The screenshot shows the SIMSSR software interface. It includes a 'System' dropdown menu set to 'Most sheep' and a 'Farm inputs' section with 'Number adult (female)' set to 500. The 'Grazing management (months)' section has a table with columns for 'SOLLETS (female)', 'PUBLES', 'ADULTS (male)', and 'lam', with rows for different grazing practices like 'grazing pasture (onland)', 'grazing pasture (upland)', 'grazing pasture (mountain)', 'grazing (fallow land)', 'grazing (crop residues)', and 'grazing (arable)'. The 'Herd stress' section has checkboxes for 'no Thermal Stress (n-TS)' and 'Thermal Stress (TS)'. The 'Energy system' section has radio buttons for 'BSC', 'AFAC (AK)', 'FACMA (space)', and 'B4 (F-mix)'. The 'Where do we get the input values?' section has radio buttons for 'From screen', 'From file (average values)', and 'From file (user values)'. A 'RUN' button is at the bottom right.



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# The tool to analyse farm scenarios:



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## Deliverable No: 4.3.

New holistic model that can be used to redesign  
terrestrial small ruminant's livestock systems

Project acronym: iSAGE

Project full name: Innovation for Sustainable Sheep and Goat Production in Europe

Grant agreement number: 679302

Start date of project: 1 March 2016

Duration of project: 48 months

Project website: [www.iSAGE.eu](http://www.iSAGE.eu)

Working Package	4
Short name of lead participant	BC3
Other Partners Participating	AUTH
Type* (R, DEM, DEC, OTHER)	R
Dissemination level** (PU, CO, CI)	PU
Deliverable date according to Grant Agreement	28/02/2019
Actual delivery date	28/02/2019



Table 1 – Key information

Country	Spain
Authors of this Report	Agustin del Prado <sup>1</sup> , Inmaculada Batalla <sup>1</sup> , Guillermo Pardo <sup>1</sup> , Asma Jebari <sup>1</sup> , Athanasios Ragkos <sup>2</sup> , Alexandros Theodoridis <sup>2</sup> and Georgios Arsenos <sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup> Basque Centre For Climate Change (BC3) <sup>2</sup> Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH),
Date	28-02-2019

**bc<sup>3</sup>**

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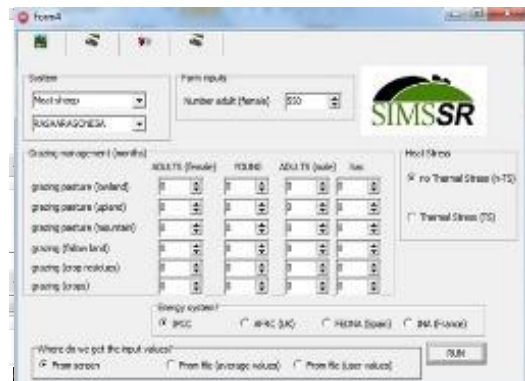


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# The tool to analyse farm scenarios:



Simulates the effect of management x genetics x soil x climate on

- ✚ Farm environmental performance (losses of N and C {and sinks of soil SOC})
- ✚ Basic economics
- ✚ Other attributes of sustainability

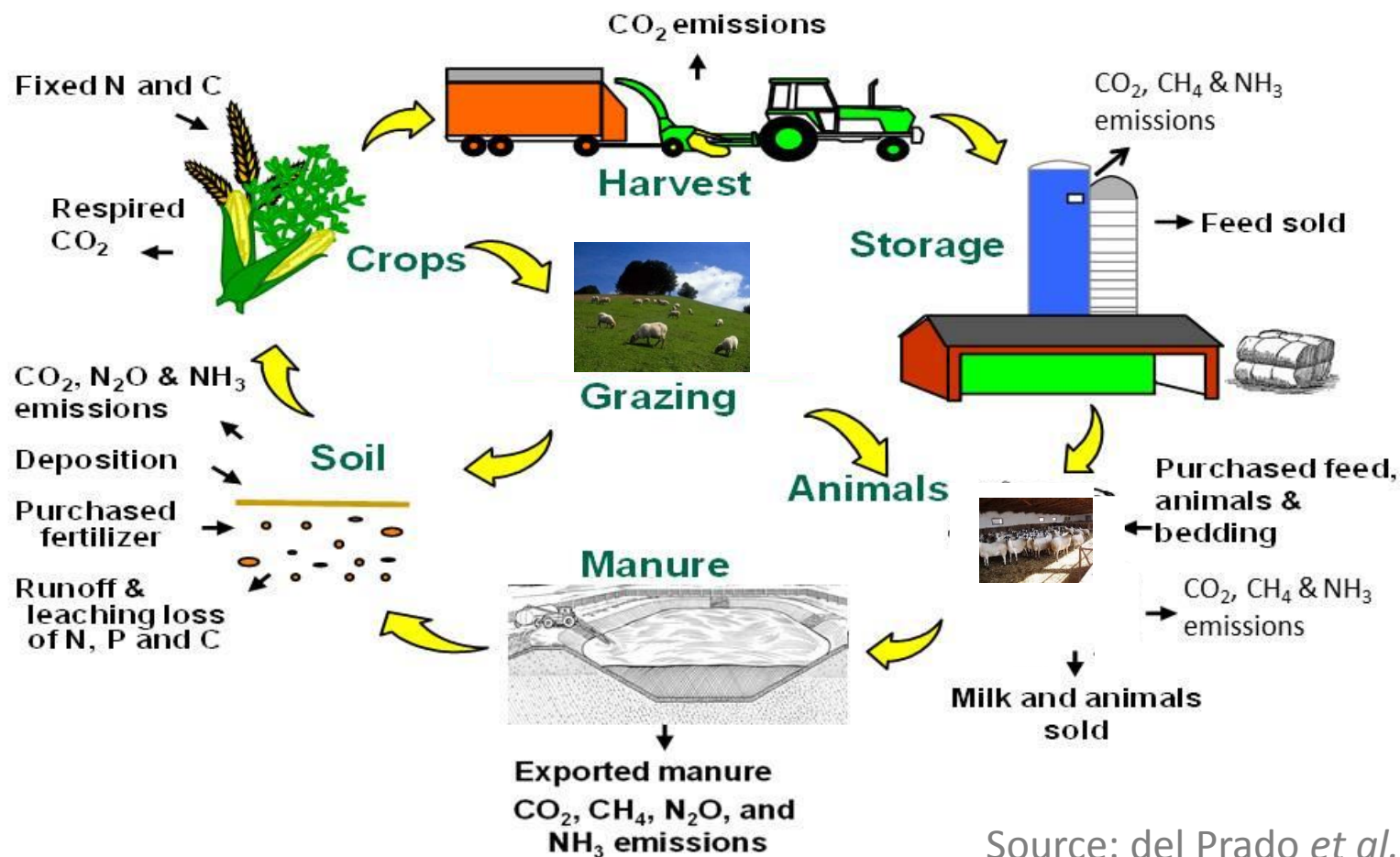
- ✚ Boundaries: Farm, includes pre-farm gate emissions
- ✚ Generic submodels
- ✚ Semi process-based
- ✚ Written in DELPHI (PASCAL-based programming language)
- ✚ Main use: strategic run what-if scenarios (current,



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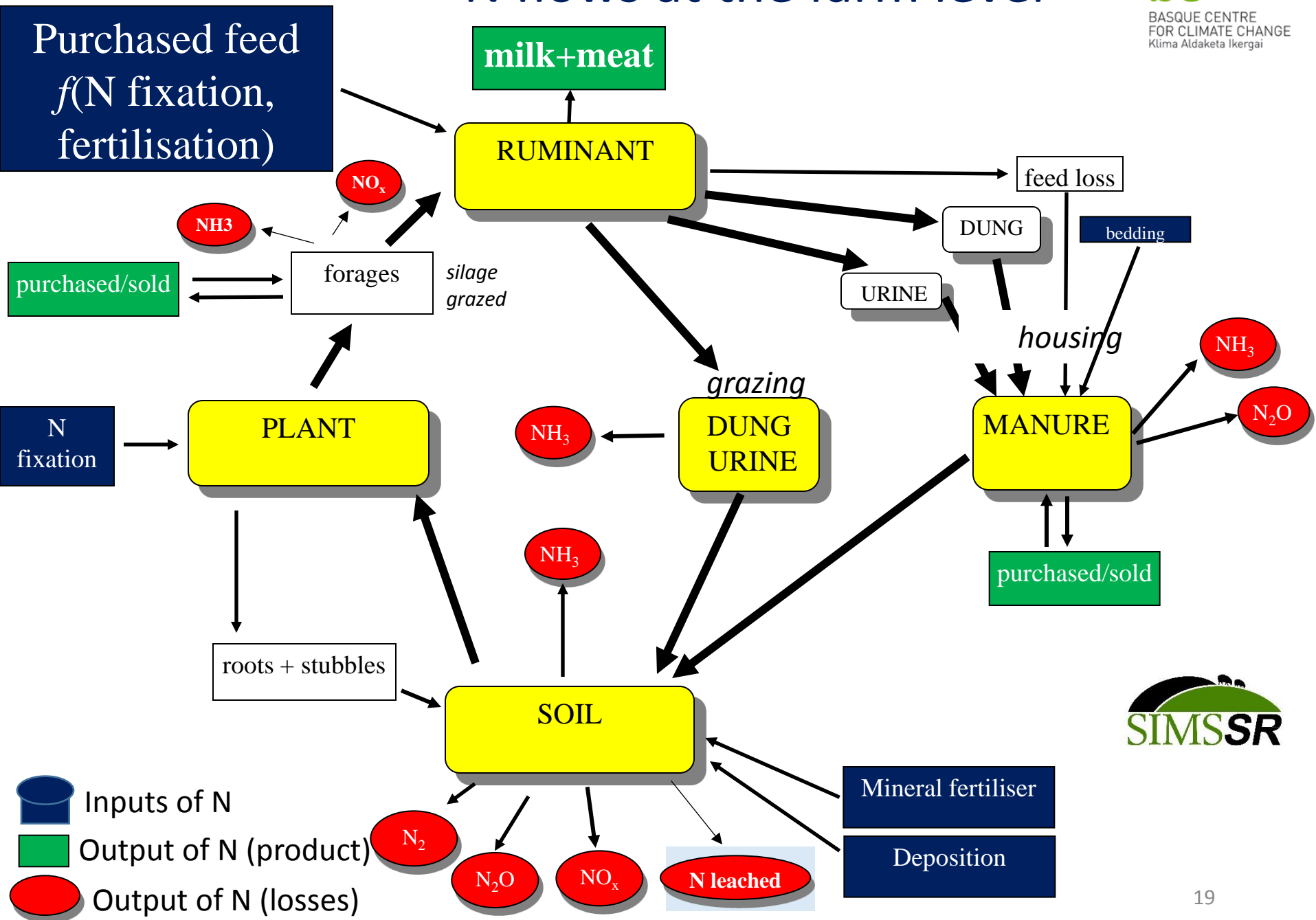
# Main components of a ruminant livestock system



Source: del Prado *et al.* 2013



# N flows at the farm level

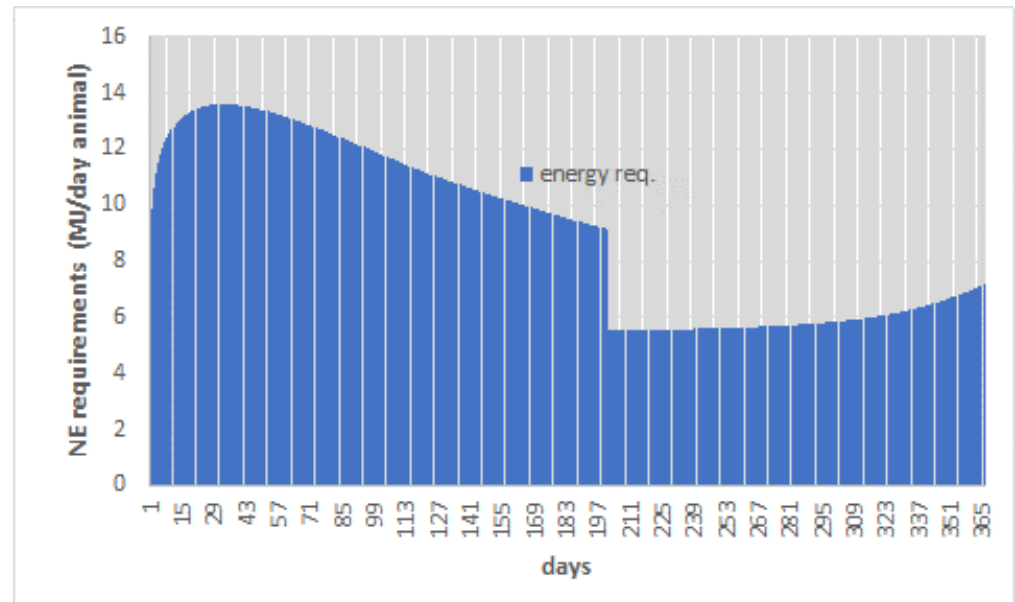


# Feeding in SIMSSR

**5 Flocks :** 3 ewe/doe, adult male, lambs/kids, Young (Non-kids/lambs)

Each flock is simulated (daily) feeding according to:

- Management
- availability of farm feed
- weight/weight gain/loss
- production level



**MJ simulated intake/day ewe**



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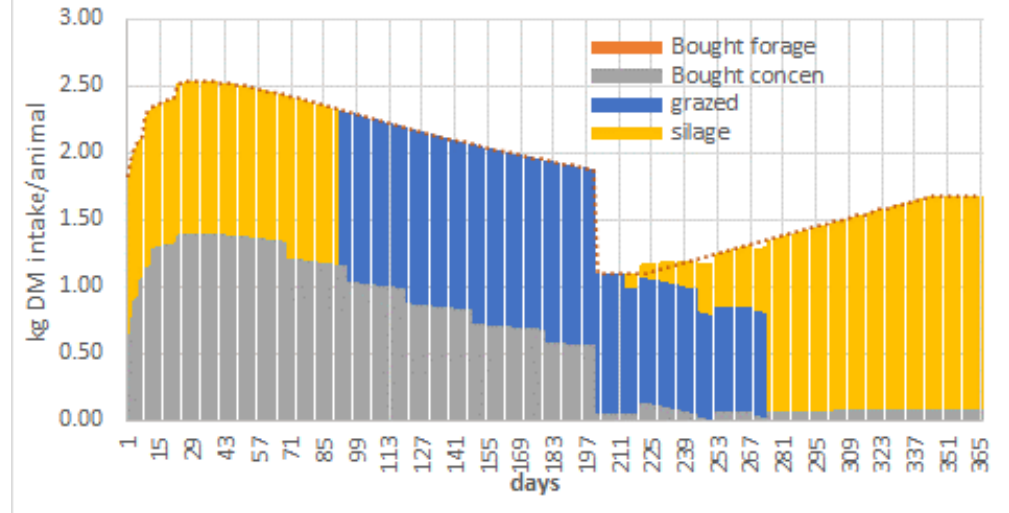


# Feed allocation in : calendar

Each flock is simulated (daily) feeding according to:

- Management
- availability of farm feed
- weight/weight gain/loss
- production level

Example for a dairy sheep flock lambing in January



**Kg DM simulated intake/day ewe for each type of feed**



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# Feed allocation in : calendar

- **Grazed** forage: Grassland (lowland, upland, Mediterranean, highlands/mountain), grazed fallow, grazed crop residues
- **Home-grown forage for harvest**: Grassland (silage/hay from lowland), forage maize, forage legume
- **Purchased forage**: Any generic type (calculated from forage left required)
- **Home-grown grazed whole crops**: depending on available has and yields
- **Home-grown grains for harvest**: depending on available has and yields
- **Purchased concentrates: different types** (calculated from energy required to meet energy demands)



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# Feed allocation in : calendar

How much do they eat or meat/milk produce?

- Energy and nutrient requirements (e.g. protein)
- Feed on offer (e.g. fiber, energy, protein)
- Genetics
- Structure of the herd



  $\text{CH}_4$

  $\text{CO}_2$

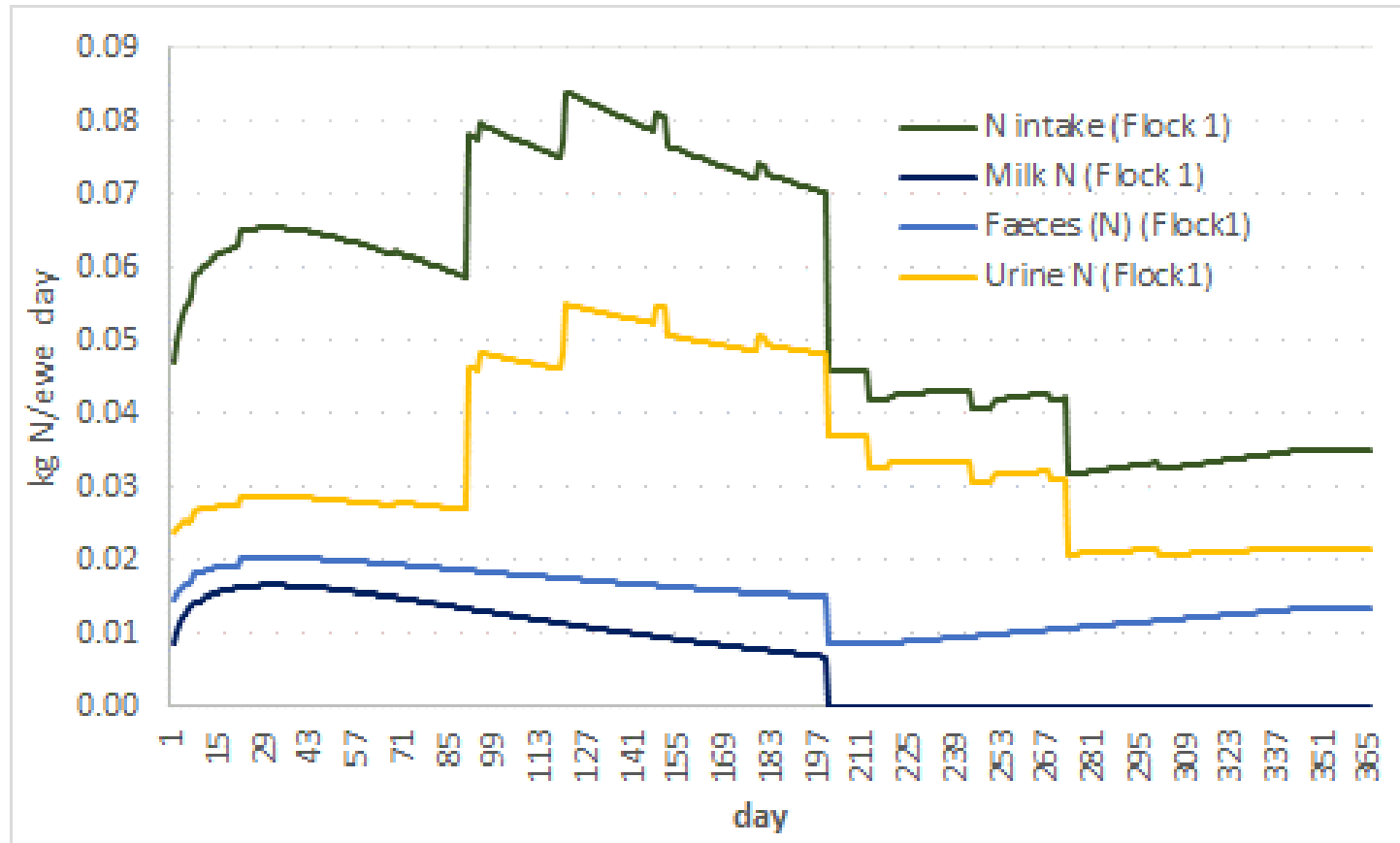
How much do they excrete? (urine & faeces)



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# N balance (simulated) at the Flock level





# N balance (simulated) at the Flock level



## For goats is based on:

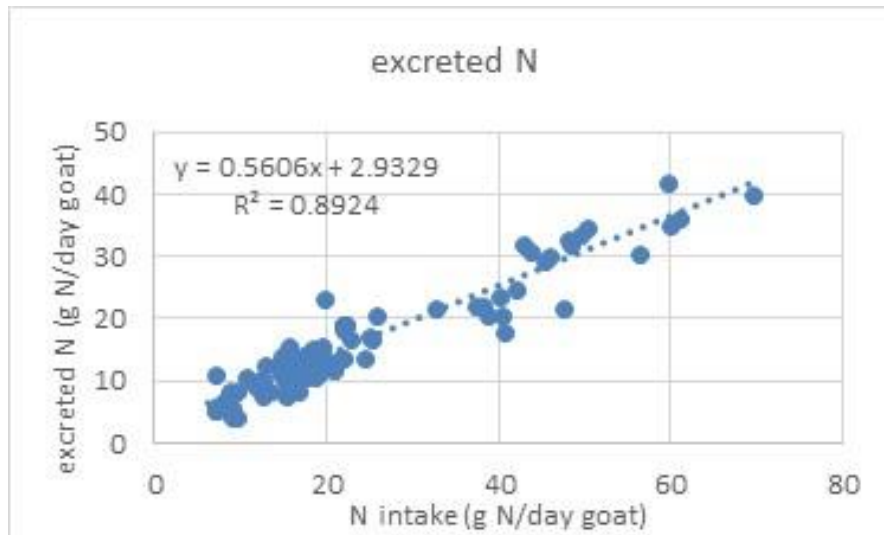
- 65 peer-reviewed studies on trials on energy and N balances (goats)
- 18 different breeds
- Different feeding treatments, gender, lactating, other...
- Dry matter intake: 0.93 (0.14-2.51) kg DM/day
- Nitrogen intake: 25 (6.1-69) g N/day
- Body weight: 40 (15-64) kg
- Digestibility (DM): 68 (49-83) %



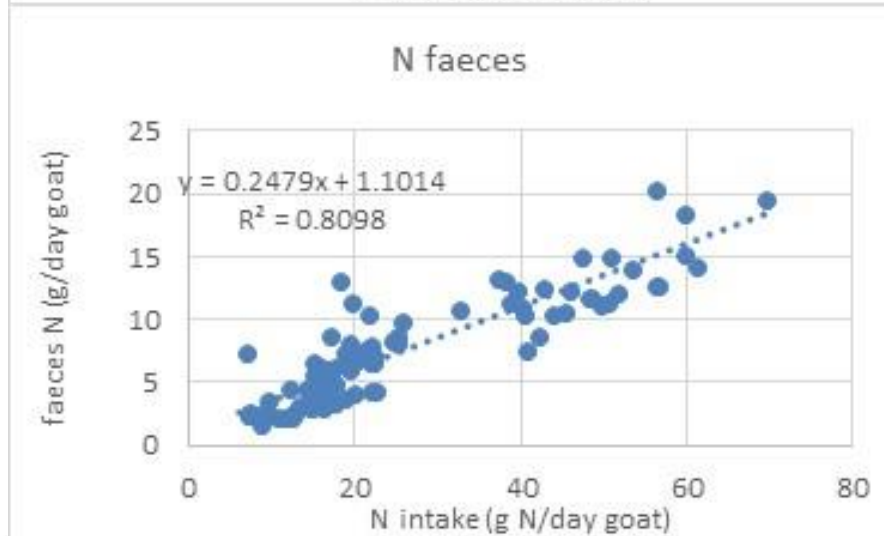
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# N balance (simulated) at the Flock level



Excreted N



Urine: faeces ratio

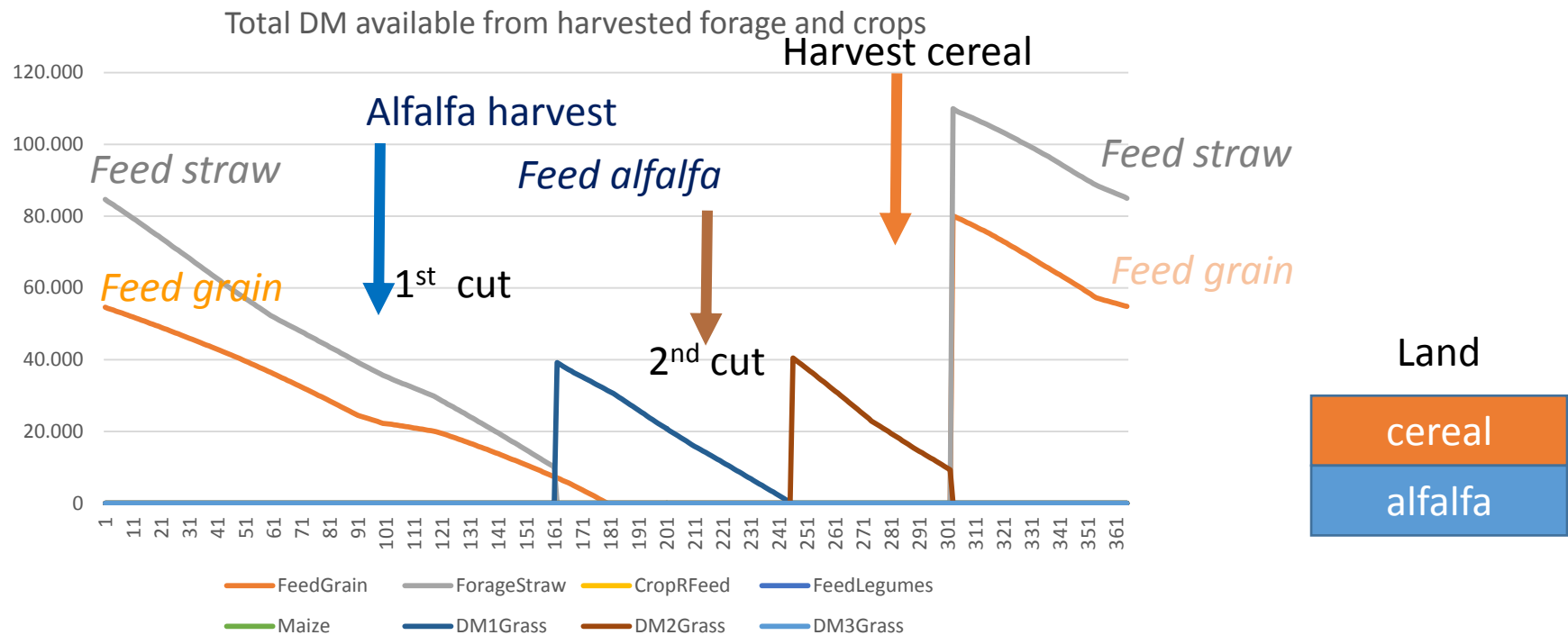


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# Feed allocation in calendar



*Straw and alfalfa hay for next year left*

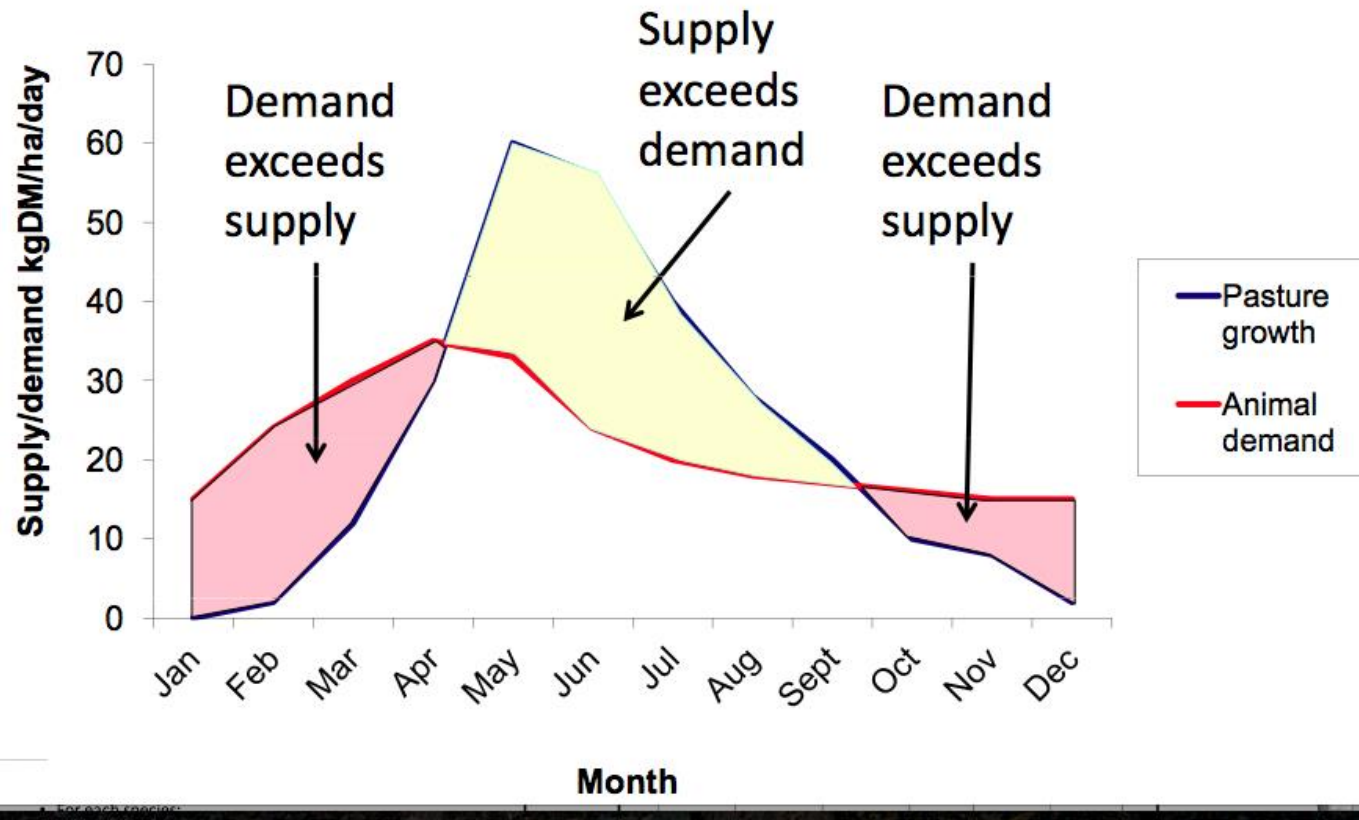


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# Feed production in grazing

**Generalised pasture supply and demand curve (Northern hemisphere)**

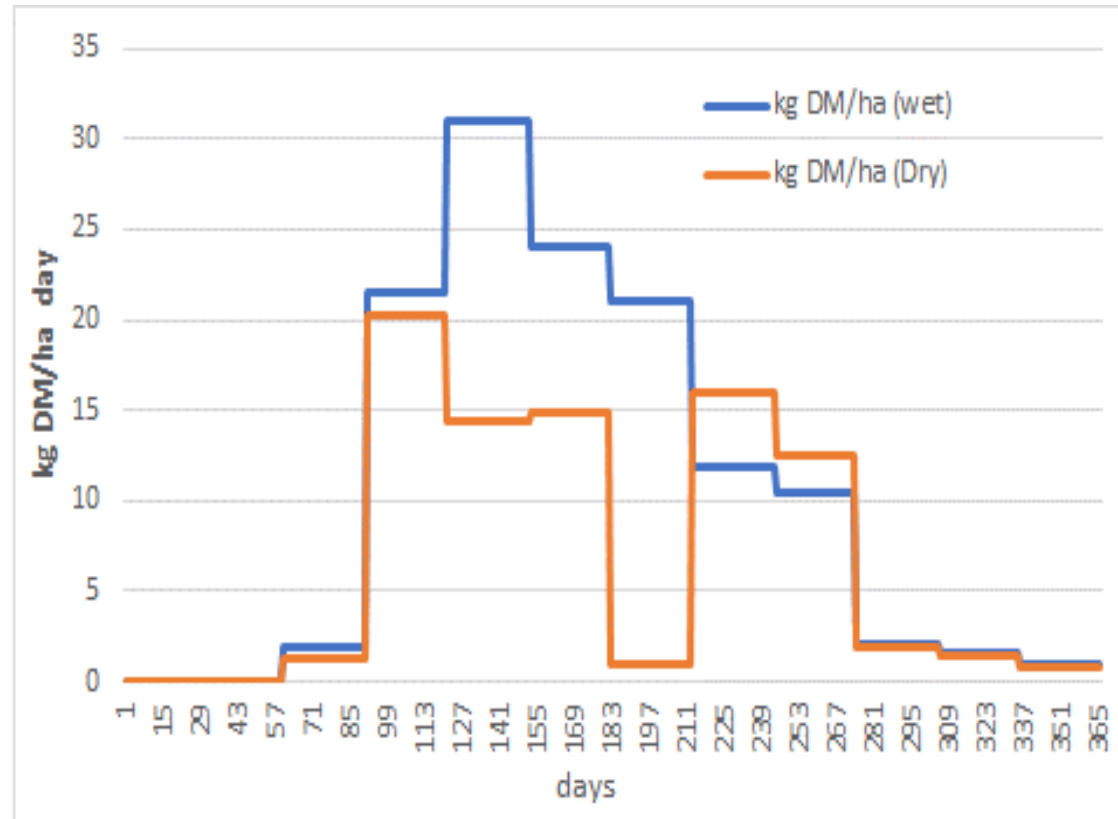


<http://bvetmed1.blogspot.com/2013/01/introduction-to-livestock-production.html>

- How much herbage is produced?
- Digestibility, protein?
- How much N fixation?



# Grass productivity depending on climate



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# Default data for different breeds in



Table 1. Input data for dairy sheep breeds.

		Assaf	Churra	Lacau	Latxa	Manchega	Frizarta	Chios	Lacune	Manec h Red Face	Awa
Country		Spain	Spain	Spain	Spain	Spain	Greece	Greece	France	France	Turkey
Prolificity	lambs alive/birth	1.8	1.38	1.65	1.27	1.5	1,6 ± 0,1	1.8-2.2	1.59	1.3	1
Fertility	%	96	96	96	96	96	>90	>90	94.4	90	87
Birth/year	n°/year	1.2	1.2	1	1	1.5	1	1	1	1	1
Lactation	days	1.2	120	150	140	150	190 ± 10	193 ± 35	170	165	162
Milk	litres	400	120	350	180	187.5	260 ± 30	308 ± 96	320	240	243
Fat	%	6.65	6.8	7.04	7.4	7.5	6.4	5-6	7.5	7.05	7.47
Protein	%	5.4	5.6	5.56	5.6	5.96	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.35	5.74
1st birth	month	15	15	14	19	17.6	13	9-10	13	14	15
Milking	number	6	5	6	3	7	6				6
Reproductive live	years	5	6		3.2		6	5-6	3.2	3.9	5
Liveweight	kg	65	50	70	50	70	65	58	75	50	50-55
Wool	kg	2.8	2	2.1	1.75	2	2	1.85	0.8	1.8	2.5
Replacement rate	%	25	20	25	20	20	25		28		25

Table 3. Inputs data for goat breeds.

		Murciano-Granadina	Florida	Saanen
Country		Spain	Spain	France
Main production		Milk	Milk	Milk
Prolificity	kids/birth	1.8	1.8	1.8
Fertility	%	90	90	90
Birth/year	n°/year	1	1	0.8
Liveweight	kg	50	60	75
Milk production	litres	530	575	920
Milking	Days	250	247	300
Fat	%	5.6	4.8	3.68
Protein	%	3.6	3.4	3.36
Age 1st lambing	months		14	12
milking	number	6	7	3.2
Replacement rate	%	20	20	30

- Adult ewe/does
- Adult male
- Young animals (not lamb/kids)
- Lamb/kids



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# Default lactation curves in

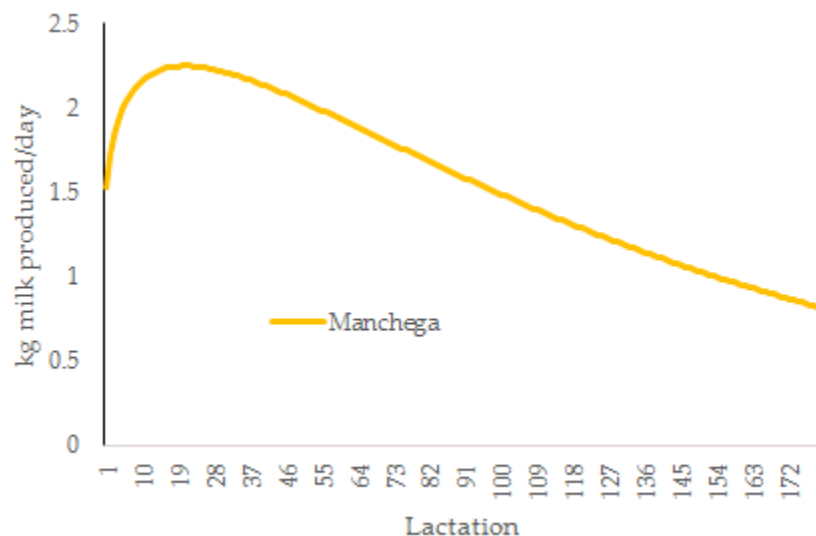


Figure 8. Lactation curve Wood function for Manchega

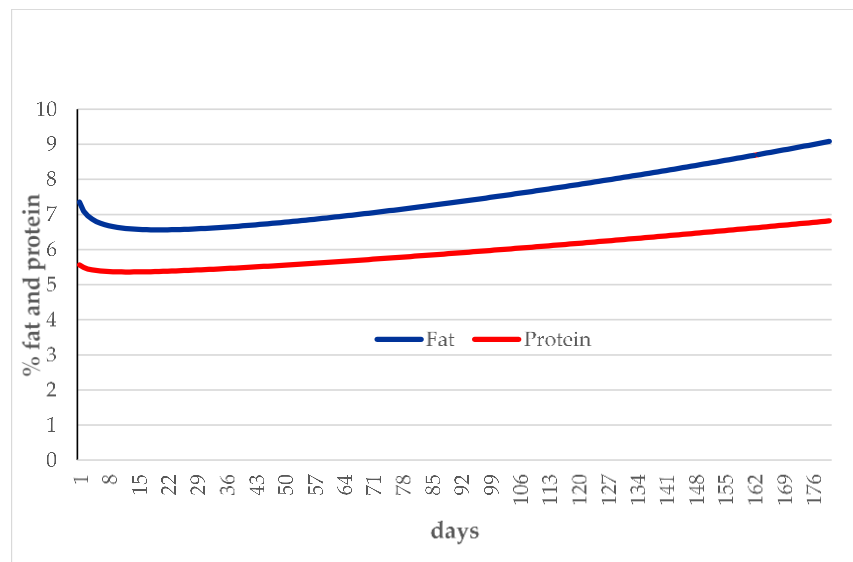


Figure 9. Fat and Protein Curve for Manchega breed using Wood factors.



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# Manure handling in SIMS<sub>SR</sub>

How much excreta?



How is it mixed & collected?



How much and how is it stored?



Is manure treated?



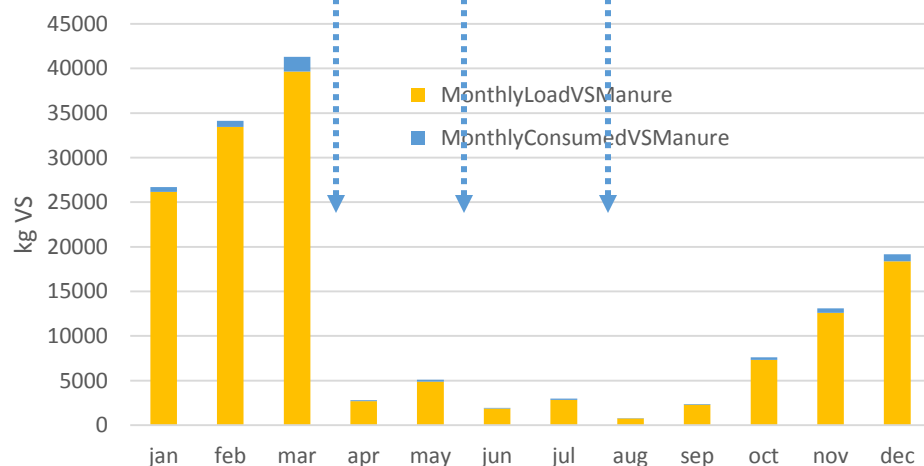
How much and how is applied?



# Manure

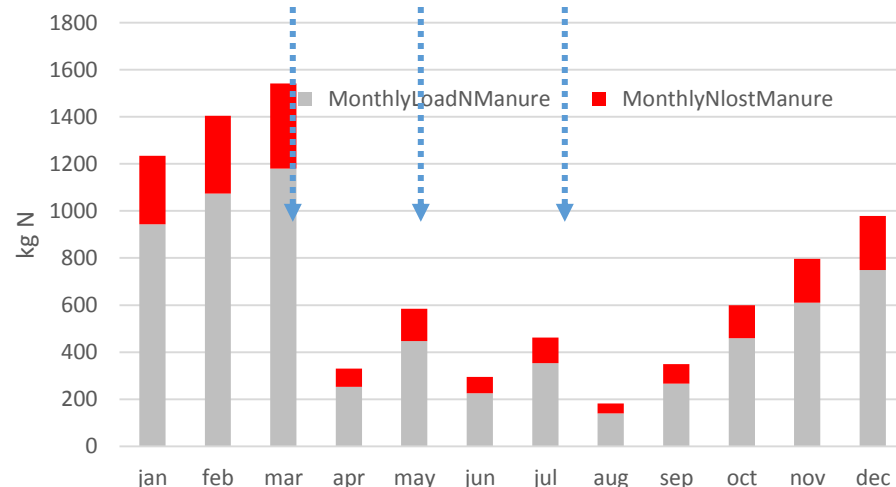


Emptied FYM storage



Manure Volatile solids (load and consumed) at storage

Emptied FYM storage



Manure N (load and loss) at storage

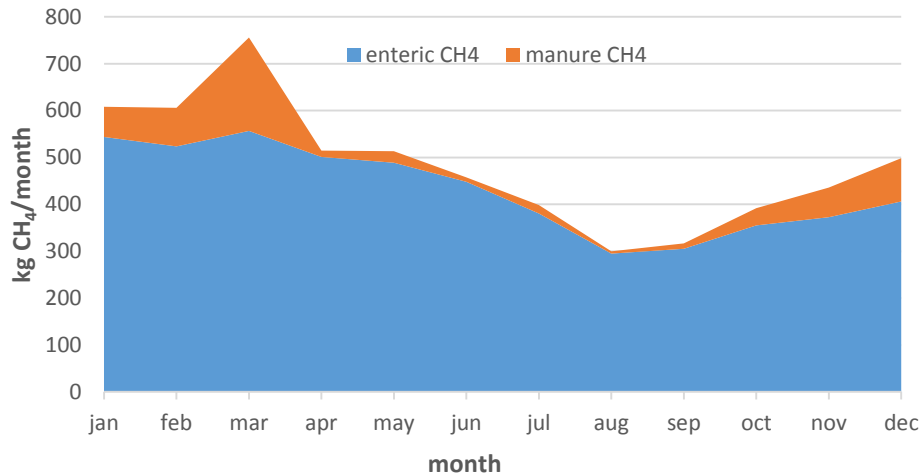


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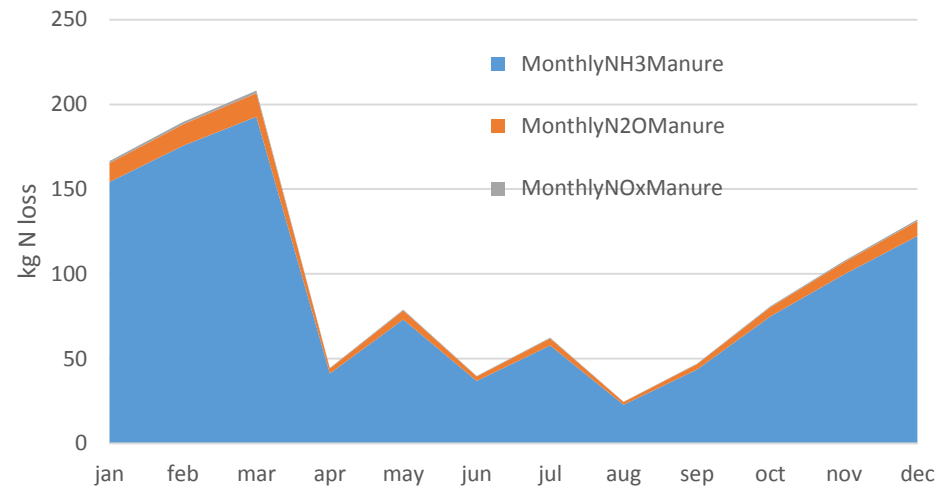




# Manure



CH<sub>4</sub>-enteric vs. CH<sub>4</sub> manure



N losses from FYM storage



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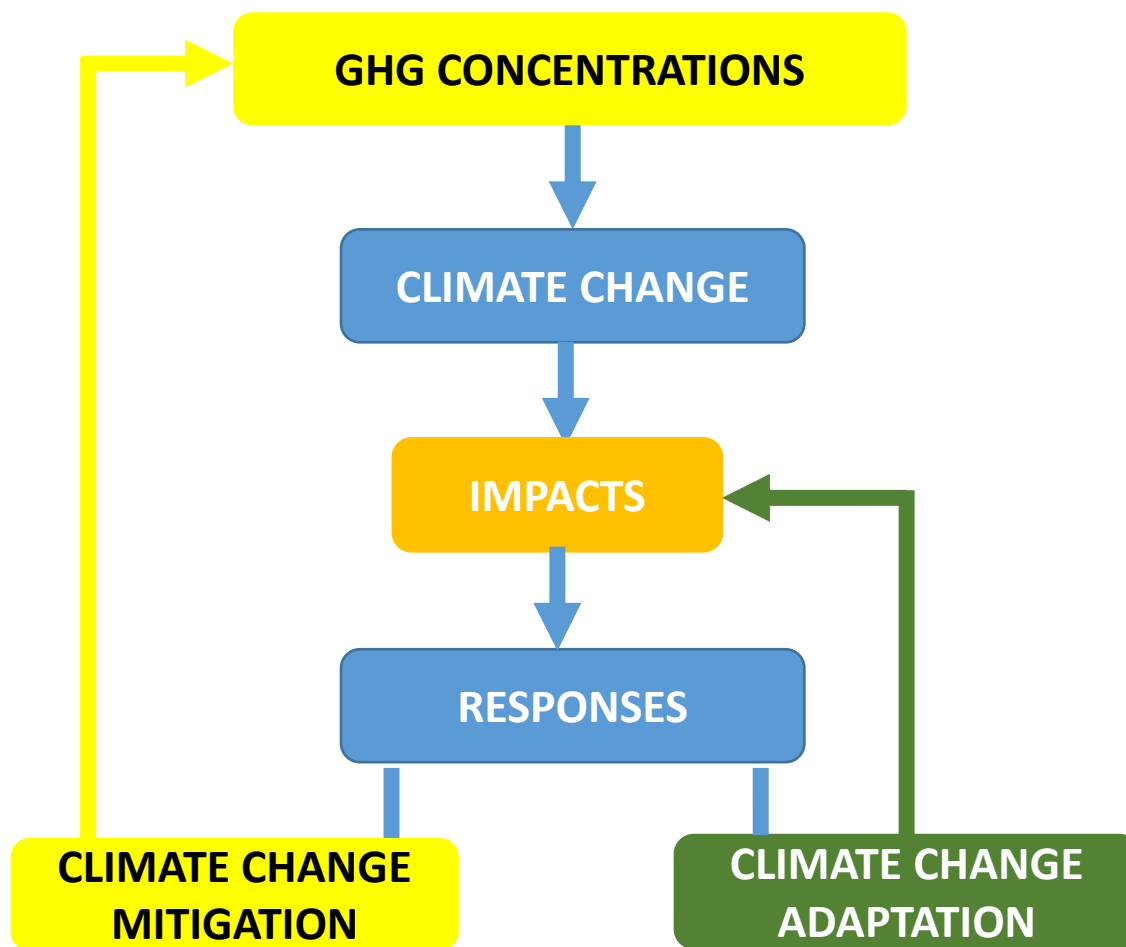
# Climate change challenge



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# Climate change dimenssions



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# Summary of impacts on feed-related issues

## For extensive/semi-extensive systems

- reductions in available pasture for grazing, forage and cereal production (specially from rainfed systems)
- more dependent on external feed (assuming that no extra, possible even fewer land will be spared for small ruminant productions)
- Will public services be paid for? (market or subsidies)

## For intensive systems

- feed prices (product prices too) will affect most the viability of the farms.



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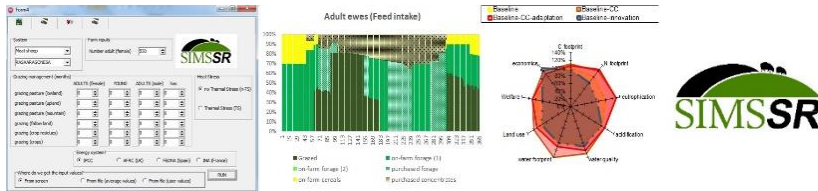
## Examples at farm level (meat sheep)



- Breed: rasa Aragonesa
- Meat production (lamb)
- 1.5 births/year
- Location: Zaragoza (Spain)
- Number of ewes: 550

## FEED

- Grazed marginal land (pastures)
- Grazed rainfed alfalfa
- Alfalfa hay (homegrown harvest or purchased)
- Cereals (homegrown barley)
- Barley straw (homegrown barley)
- Concentrates



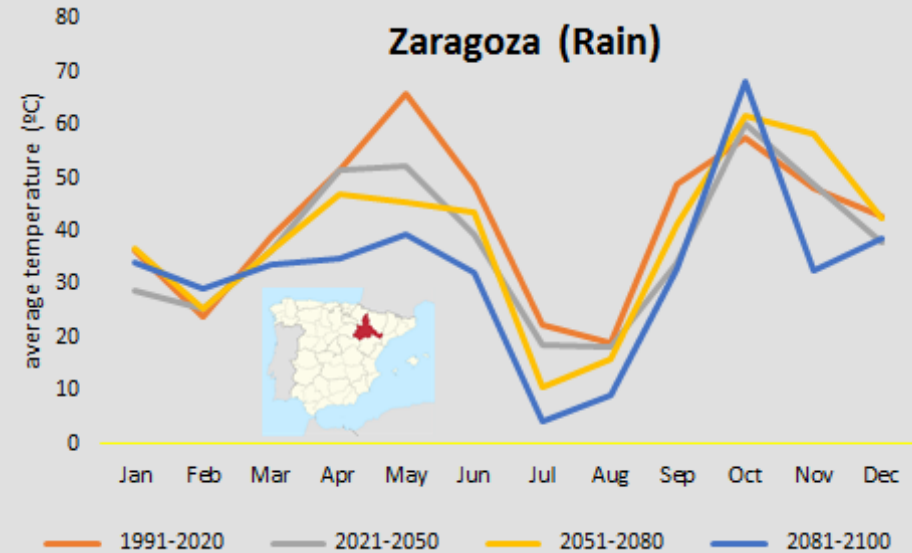
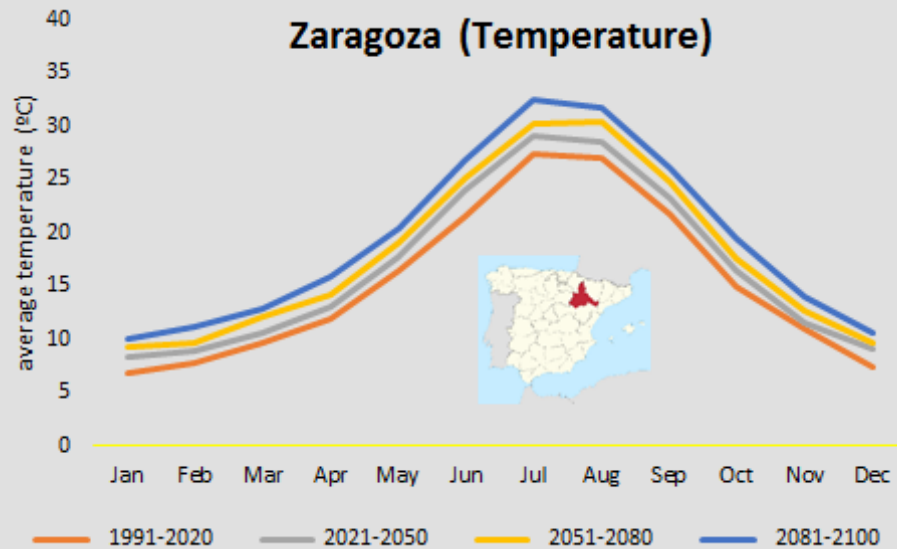
Modelled with SIMS<sub>SB</sub> (Del Prado et al. 2019)



# Innovation for Sustainable Sheep and Goat Production in Europe



# Examples at farm level (meat sheep)



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Sheep and Goat  
Production in Europe

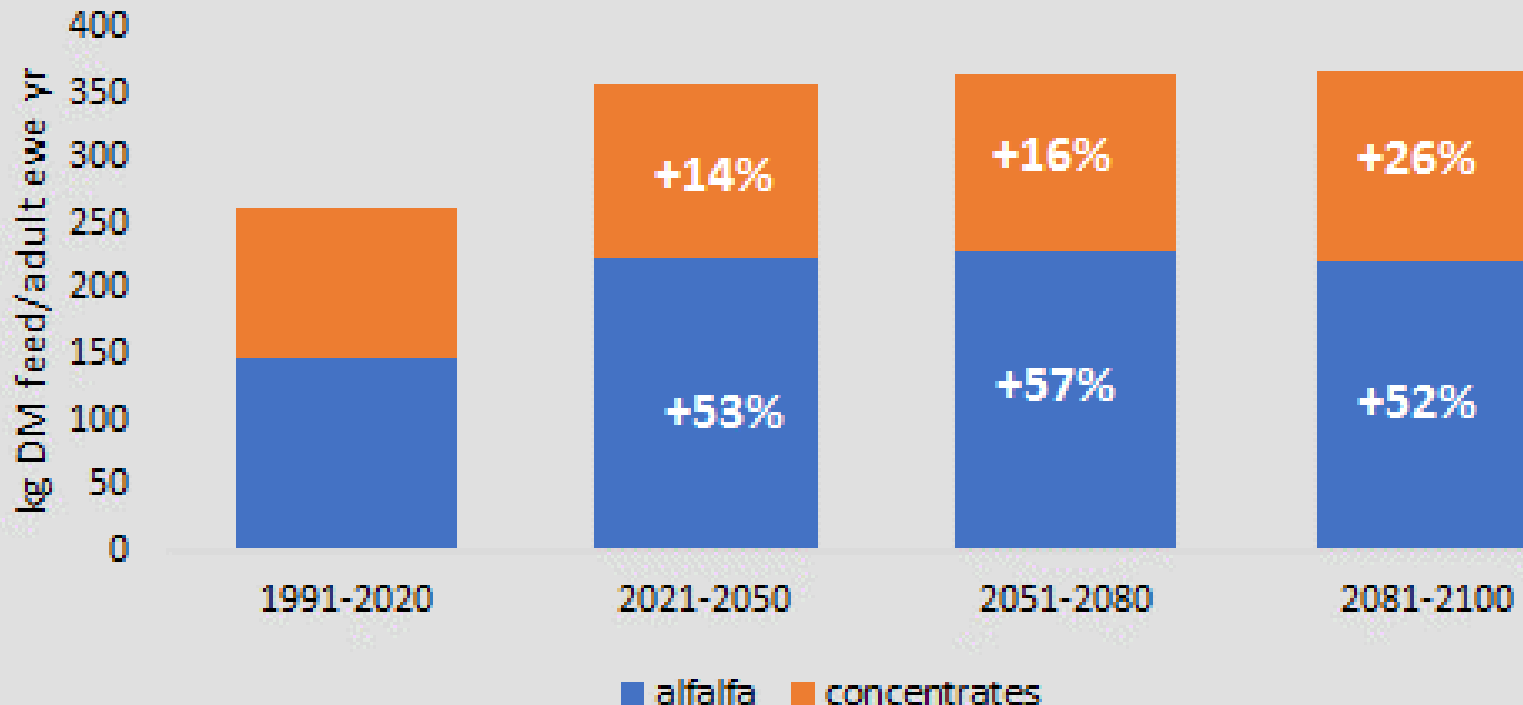




# Examples at farm level (meat sheep)

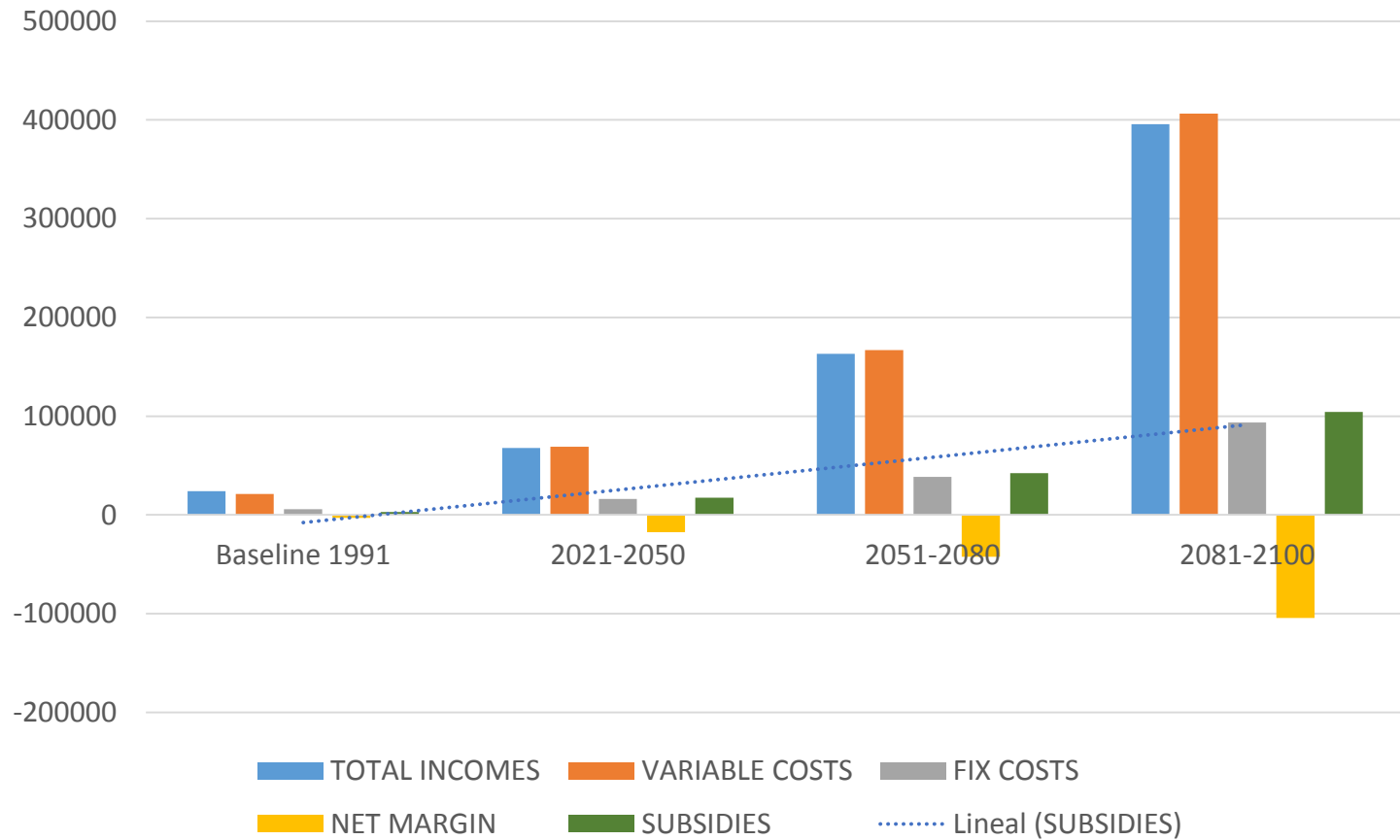


## Purchased forages and concentrates (Rasa)



We need to buy more forage and concentrates are required because of reduced yields due to climate change

# Examples at farm level (meat sheep)



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# Examples at farm level (dairy sheep)



## Dairy sheep system in Greece

(Chios breed)

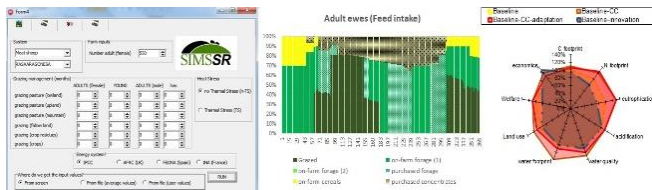
Reproductive system: 1 lambing  
per year

300 ewes

intensive

## FEED

- No grazing
- Alfalfa hay from irrigated land (homegrown/bought)
- Cereals (homegrown wheat)
- Wheat straw (homegrown wheat)
- Concentrates



Modelled with SIMS<sub>SR</sub> (Del Prado et al. 2019)



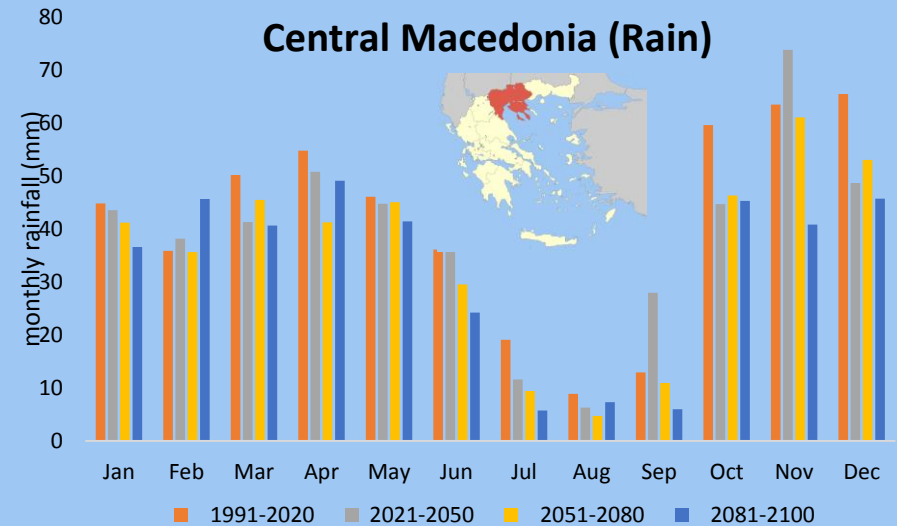
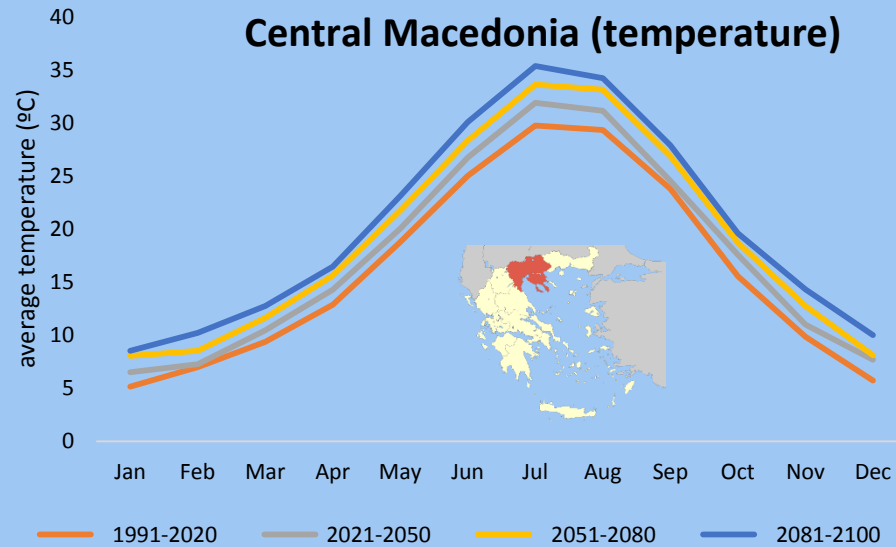
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**bc<sup>3</sup>**  
BASQUE CENTRE  
FOR CLIMATE CHANGE  
-Alma Adskela Irujo  
Sustainability, that's it!



# Examples at farm level (dairy sheep)



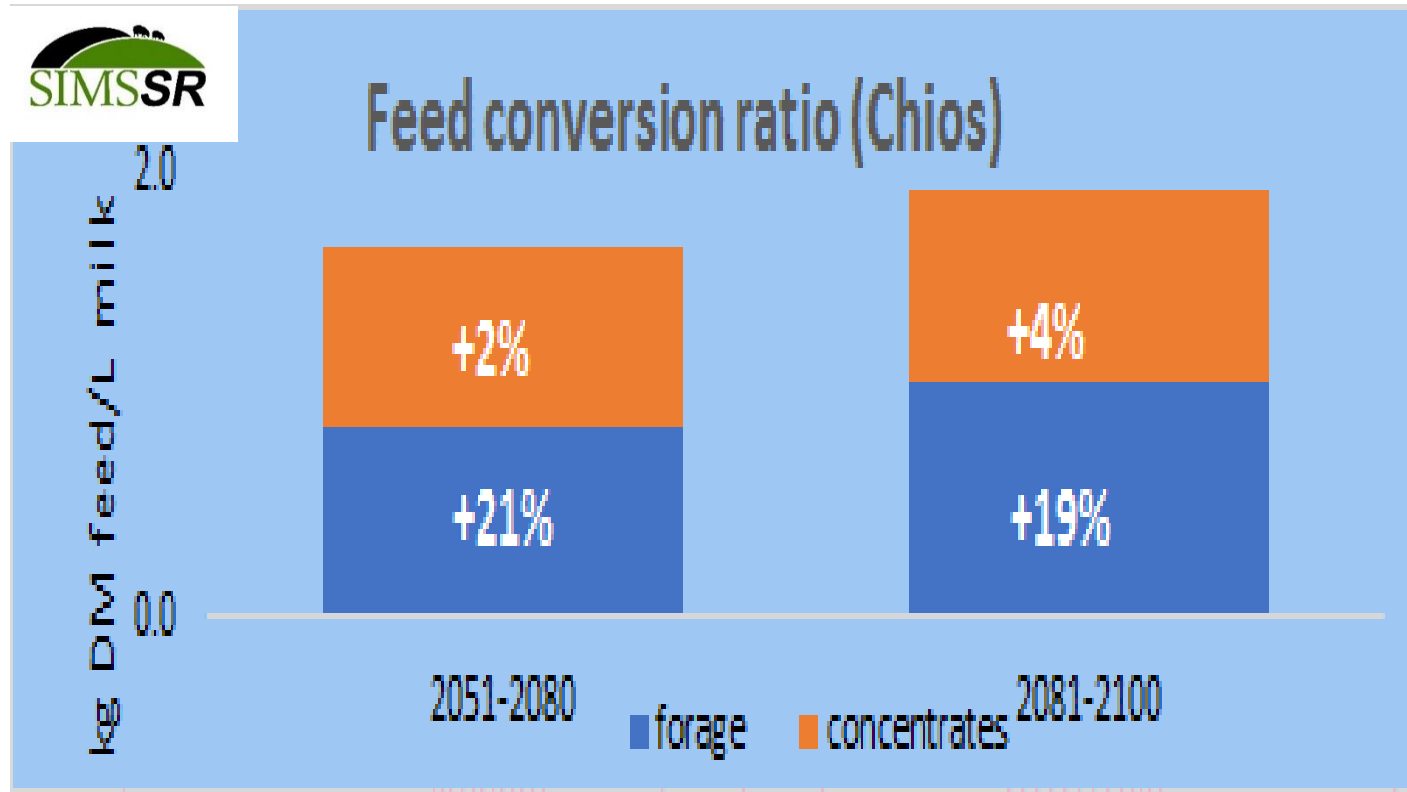
2021-2050 rainier in autumn, not so drier compared with 1991-2020



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# Examples at farm level (dairy sheep)



- No effect for 2021-2050
- over 20% more feed per L produced after year 2050 is required



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# Adaptations to climate change (examples)

- Breeding (animal or plant)
- More dense diets in heat stress conditions
- Irrigate land
- Spraying/shading





# Greenhouse gases from small ruminants production systems, small ruminants as a driver of climate change



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*IPCC authors*

# What is the role of small ruminants for reducing the effect of agricultural sector on climate change?

- Paris agreement: reductions in GHG emissions. Agriculture?
- GHG Inventories will underpin countries INDCs (Paris agreement) and inform global progress towards -2°C



# Greenhouse gases-Importance of changes in IPCC National GHG Inventories and methodologies

From 2006 all national inventories have used this guideline (IPCC, 2006)

INCC Inventario Nacional de Emisiones de Gases de Efecto Invernadero 2015

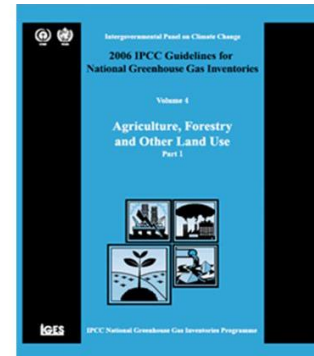
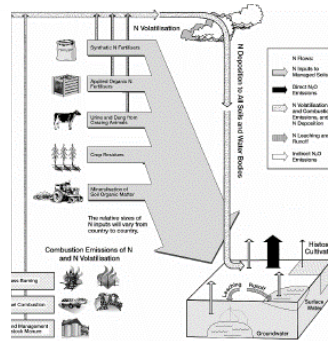
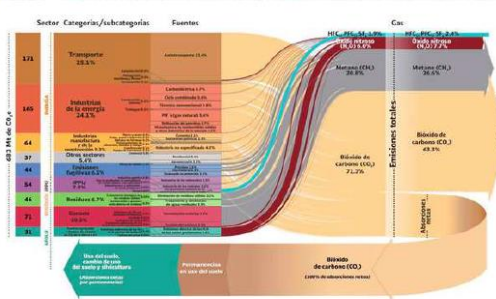
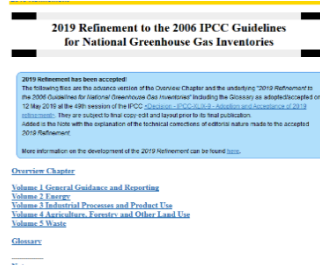


TABLE 11.3  
DEFAULT EMISSION, VOLATILISATION AND LEACHING FACTORS FOR INDIRECT SOIL N<sub>2</sub>O EMISSIONS

Factor	Default value	Uncertainty range
EF <sub>1</sub> [N volatilisation and re-deposition], kg N <sub>2</sub> O-N (kg N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -N + NO <sub>3</sub> -N volatilised) <sup>-1, 22</sup>	0.010	0.002 - 0.05
EF <sub>2</sub> [leaching/runoff], kg N <sub>2</sub> O-N (kg N leaching/runoff) <sup>-1, 23</sup>	0.0075	0.0005 - 0.025
Fr <sub>CDIR</sub> [Volatilisation from synthetic fertiliser], (kg N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -N + NO <sub>3</sub> -N) (kg N applied) <sup>-1</sup>	0.10	0.03 - 0.3
Fr <sub>CDIR</sub> [Volatilisation from all organic N fertilisers applied, and dung and urine deposited by grazing animals], (kg N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> -N + NO <sub>3</sub> -N) (kg N additional or deposited by grazing animals) <sup>-1</sup>	0.20	0.05 - 0.5
Fr <sub>LEACH</sub> [N losses by leaching/runoff for regions where D/rain in rainy season) - Z (PE in same period) > soil water holding capacity, OR where irrigation (except drip irrigation) is employed], kg N (kg N additional or deposition by grazing animals) <sup>-1</sup>	0.30	0.1 - 0.8

Note: The term Fr<sub>CDIR</sub> previously used has been modified so that it now only applies to regions where soil water-holding capacity is exceeded, as a result of rainfall and/or irrigation (excluding drip irrigation), and leaching/runoff occurs, and redesignated as Fr<sub>LEACH</sub>. In the definition of Fr<sub>LEACH</sub> above, PE is potential evaporation, and the rainy season(s) can be taken as the period(s) when rainfall > 0.5 \* Pan Evaporation. (Explanations of potential and pan evaporation are available in standard meteorological and agricultural texts). For other regions the default Fr<sub>LEACH</sub> is taken as zero.

From 2019 national inventories can use a new refinement guideline (IPCC, 2019)



<https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2019rf/index.html>



IPCC authors

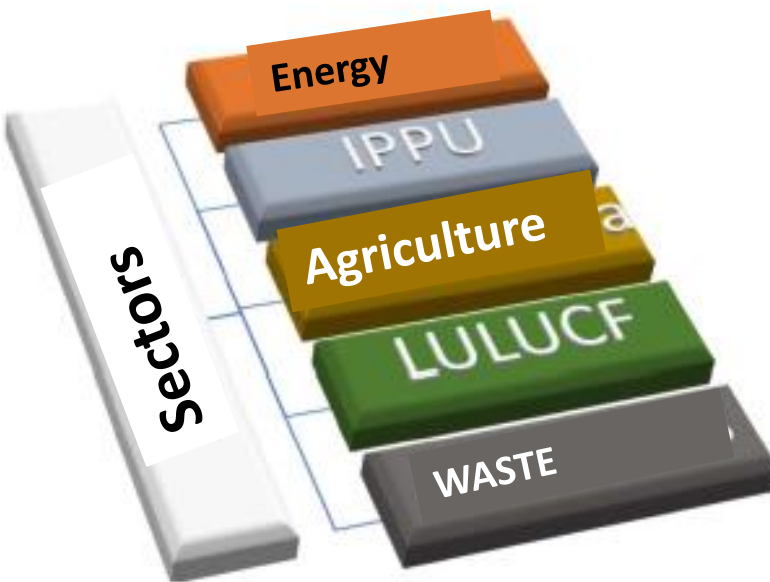


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# What is a national GHG inventory?



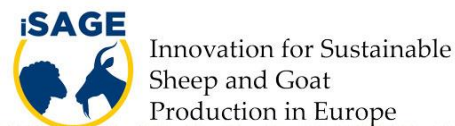
- Antropogenic emissions and sinks
- National territory
- Inventory year and temporal serie
- Greenhouse gases (2006): CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, HFC, NF<sub>3</sub>, SF<sub>5</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, halogenous ethers and other halocarbons not covered by Montreal Protocol
- Other gases: Nox, NH<sub>3</sub>, COVDM, CO, SO<sub>2</sub>

Each sector comprises individual categories (e.g. transport) and subcategories (e.g. automobiles).  
Countries develop the inventory at the level of subcategory

## CHAPTER 10

### EMISSIONS FROM LIVESTOCK AND MANURE MANAGEMENT

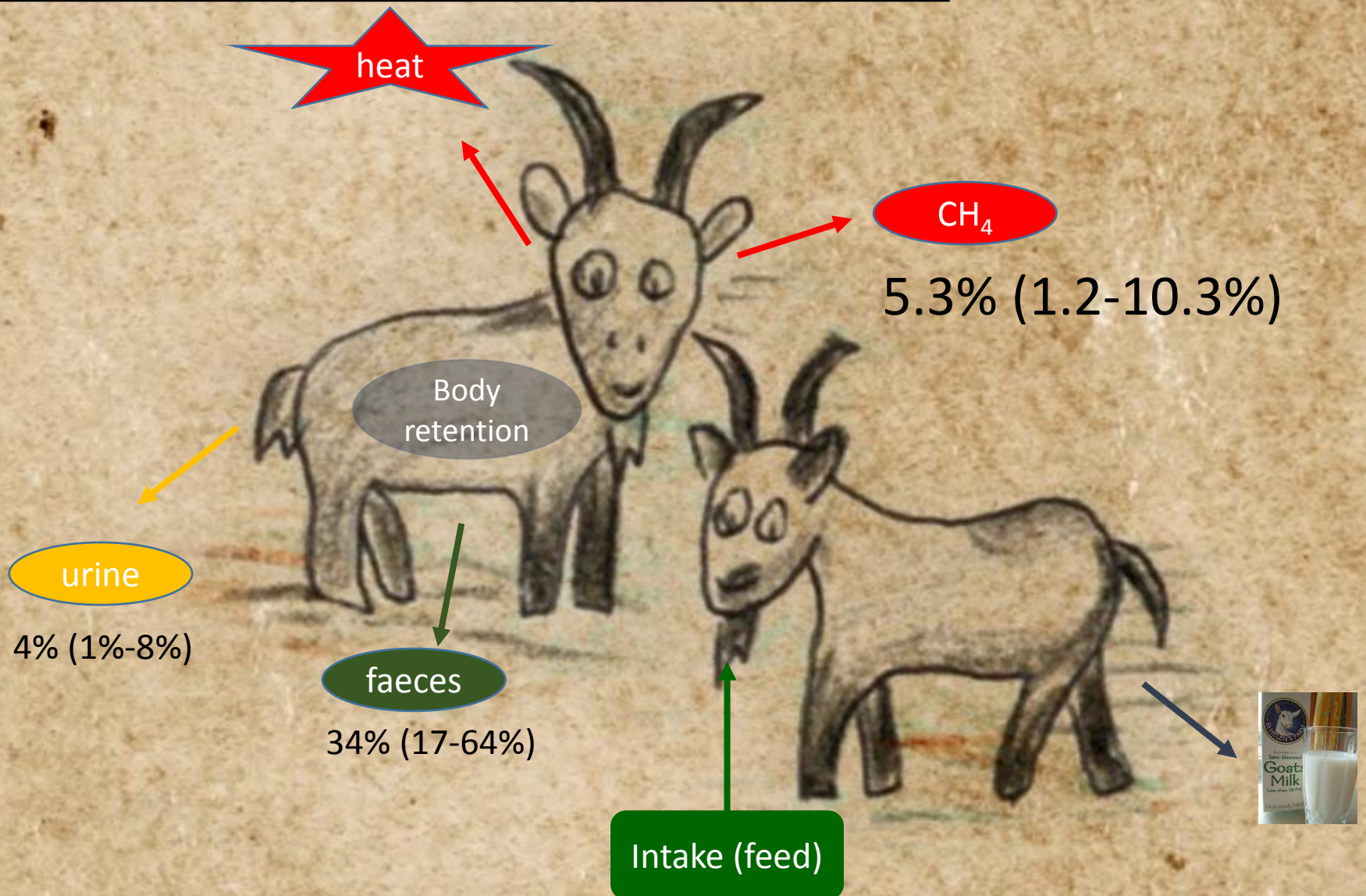
# Some changes relevant for small ruminants





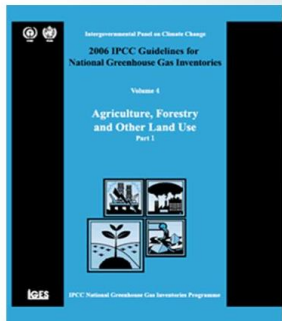
## Balances of energy at the animal level

% relative to gross energy (GE) intake





# Methane outputs compared with IPCC (2006)



- Provides methods for all emissions and removals from Agriculture and LULUCF
- Required for UNFCCC reporting in 2015

## EQUATION 10.21 CH<sub>4</sub> EMISSION FACTORS FOR ENTERIC FERMENTATION FROM A LIVESTOCK CATEGORY

$$EF = \left[ \frac{GE \cdot \left( \frac{Y_m}{100} \right) \cdot 365}{55.65} \right]$$

Where:

EF = emission factor, kg CH<sub>4</sub> head<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>

GE = gross energy intake, MJ head<sup>-1</sup> day<sup>-1</sup>

Y<sub>m</sub> = methane conversion factor, per cent of gross energy in feed converted to methane

The factor 55.65 (MJ/kg CH<sub>4</sub>) is the energy content of methane

CH<sub>4</sub>

%CH<sub>4</sub> from Gross energy intake → 5.3% (1.2-10.3%) (goats)

Y<sub>m</sub> = 5.5% (goats)

sheep

TABLE 10.13  
SHEEP CH<sub>4</sub> CONVERSION FACTORS (Y<sub>m</sub>)

Category	Y <sub>m</sub> <sup>a</sup>
Lambs (<1 year old)	4.5% ± 1.0%
Mature Sheep	6.5% ± 1.0%

<sup>a</sup> The ± values represent the range.

TABLE 10.13  
SHEEP AND GOATS CH<sub>4</sub> CONVERSION FACTORS (Y<sub>m</sub>) (UPDATED)

Category	Y <sub>m</sub> <sup>1</sup>
Sheep	6.7% ± 0.9
Goats	5.5% ± 1.0

Sources and assumptions to calculate the Y<sub>m</sub> for goats are detailed in Annex 10B.3.  
<sup>1</sup> The ± values are the standard deviation of the mean of the Y<sub>m</sub>.

## CHAPTER 11

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### N<sub>2</sub>O EMISSIONS FROM MANAGED SOILS, AND CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS FROM LIME AND UREA APPLICATION

**Some changes  
relevant  
for small ruminants**



# Estimation of GHG from small ruminants

TABLE 11.1 (UPDATED)  
DEFAULT EMISSION FACTORS TO ESTIMATE DIRECT N<sub>2</sub>O EMISSIONS FROM MANAGED SOILS

Emission factor	Aggregated		Disaggregated		
	Default value	Uncertainty range	Disaggregation <sup>4</sup>	Default value	Uncertainty range
EF <sub>1</sub> for N additions from synthetic fertilisers, organic amendments and crop residues, and N mineralised from mineral soil as a result of loss of soil carbon <sup>1</sup> [kg N <sub>2</sub> O–N (kg N) <sup>–1</sup> ]	0.010	0.001 – 0.018	Synthetic fertiliser inputs <sup>5</sup> in wet climates	0.016	<u>1.6%</u>
			Other N inputs <sup>6</sup> in wet climates	0.006	<u>0.6%</u>
			All N inputs in dry climates	0.005	<u>0.5%</u>
EF <sub>1FR</sub> for flooded rice fields <sup>2,7</sup> [kg N <sub>2</sub> O–N (kg N) <sup>–1</sup> ]	0.004	0.000 – 0.029	Continuous flooding	0.003	0.000 – 0.010
			Single and multiple drainage	0.005	0.000 – 0.016
EF <sub>3PRP, CPP</sub> for cattle (dairy, non-dairy and buffalo), poultry and pigs <sup>3</sup> [kg N <sub>2</sub> O–N (kg N) <sup>–1</sup> ]	0.004	0.000– 0.014	Wet climates	0.006	<u>0.6%</u>
			Dry climates	0.002	<u>0.2%</u>
EF <sub>3PRP, SO</sub> for sheep and 'other animals' <sup>3</sup> [kg N <sub>2</sub> O–N (kg N) <sup>–1</sup> ]	0.003	0.000 – 0.010	-	-	<u>0.3%</u>

vs. 1%  
(IPCC 2006)

vs. 2%  
(IPCC 2006)

vs. 1%  
(IPCC 2006)

Sources:

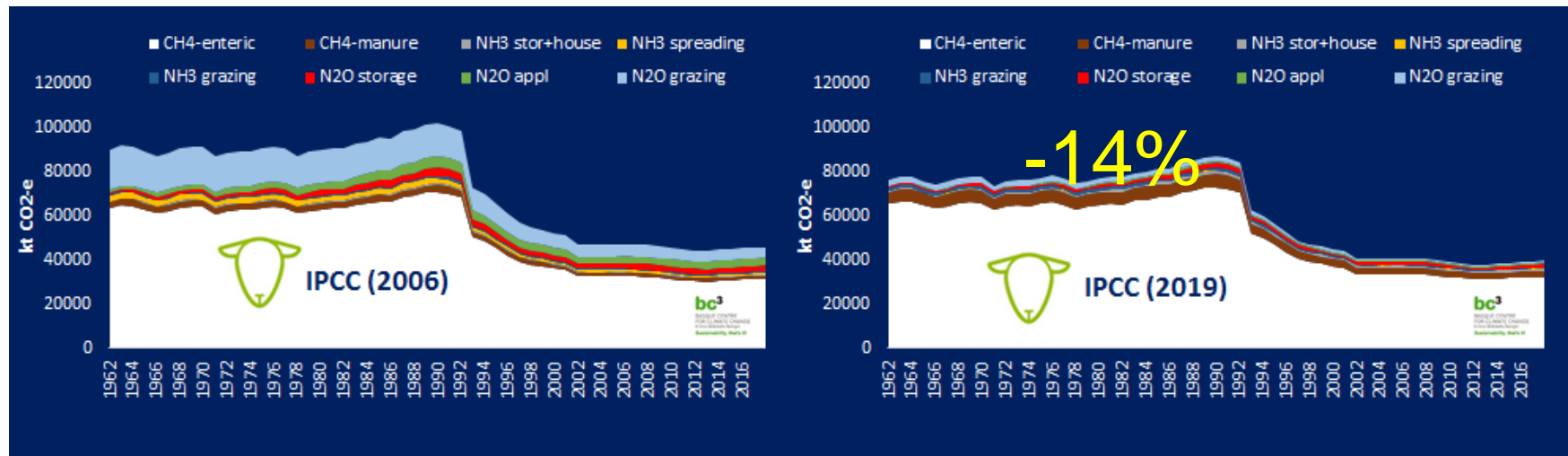


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# Estimation of GHG from small ruminants in Europe



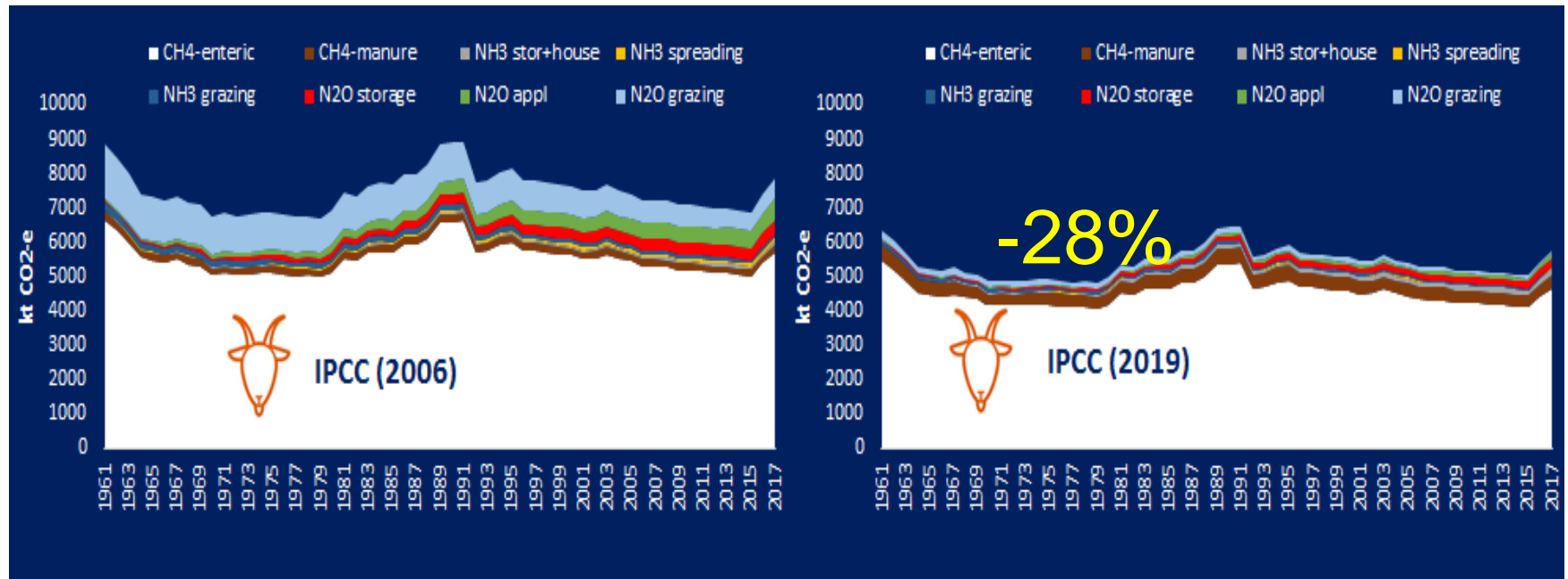
lower GHG emissions estimates compared with the estimate using the currently widely used IPCC (2006)



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# Estimation of GHG from small ruminants in Europe



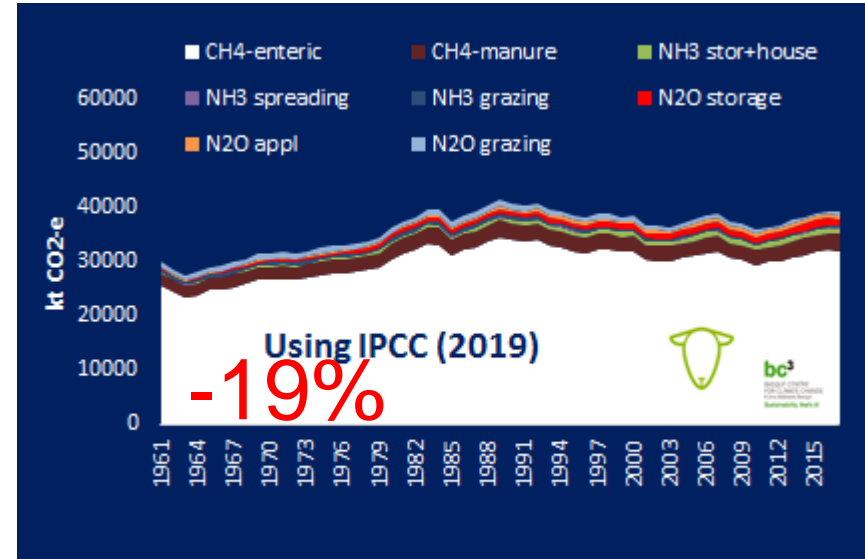
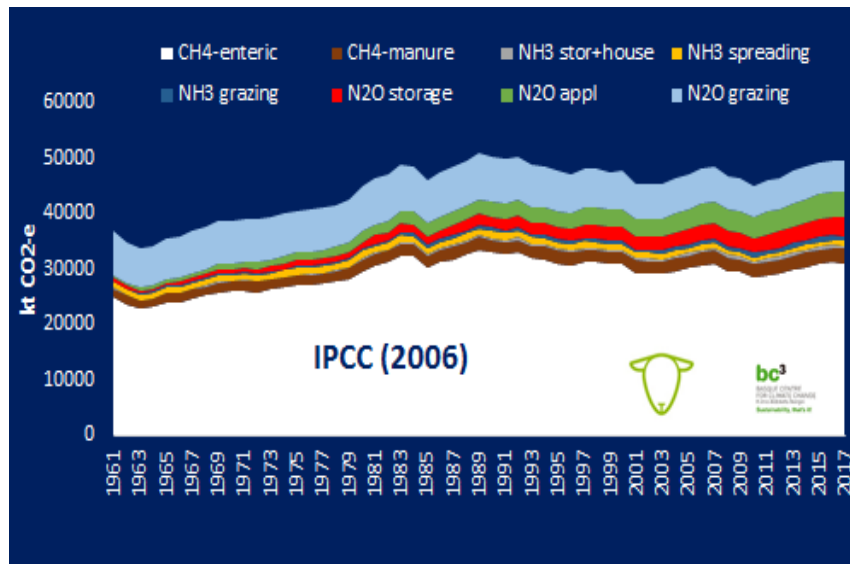
lower GHG emissions estimates compared with the estimate using the currently widely used IPCC (2006)



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# GHG (direct) from sheep in the Mediterranean basin



Using <https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2019rf/index.html>

**lower** GHG emissions estimates compared with the estimate using the currently widely used IPCC (2006)

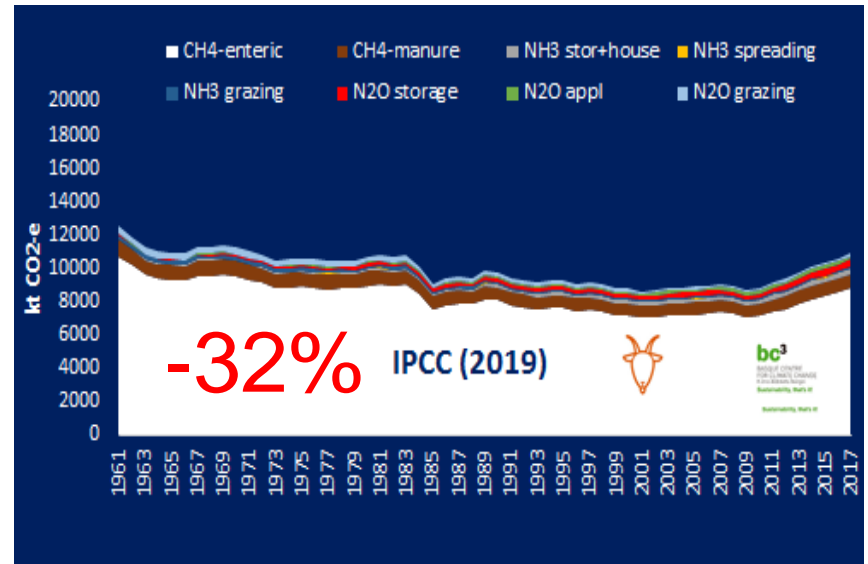
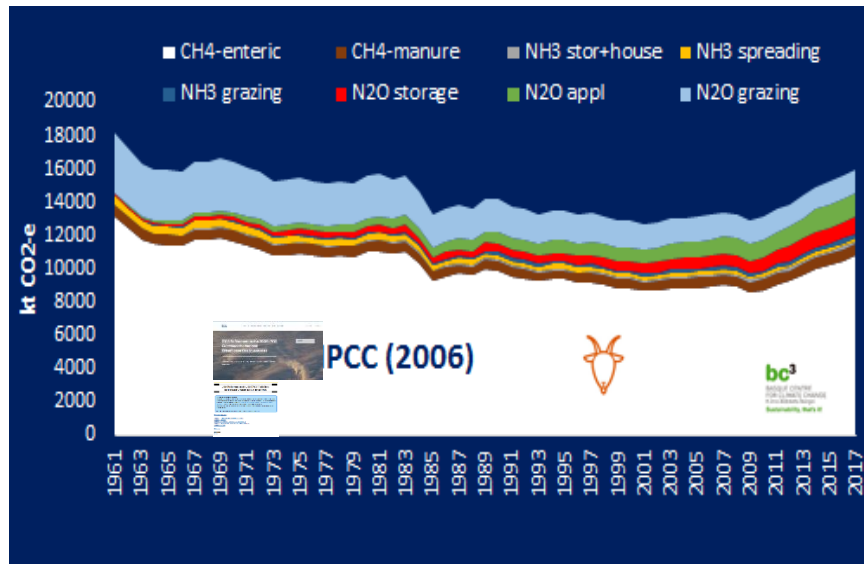


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# GHG (direct) from goats in the Mediterranean basin



Using <https://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2019rf/index.html>

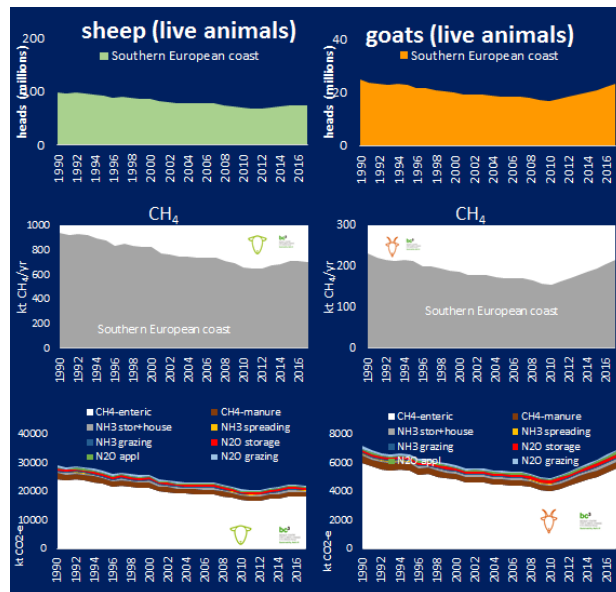
**lower** GHG emissions estimates compared with the estimate using the currently widely used IPCC (2006)



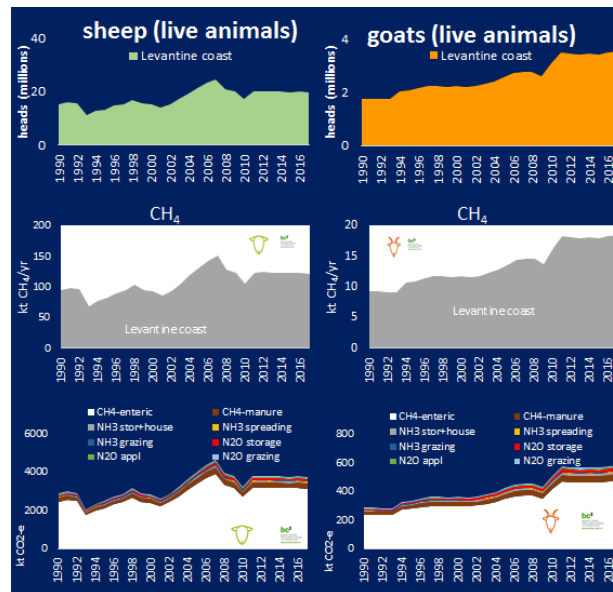
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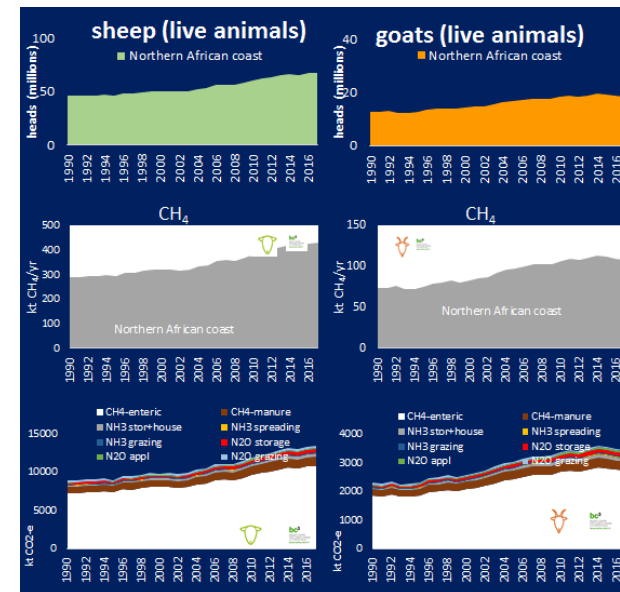
# GHG from sheep and goats in the Mediterranean basin



Southern European cost



Levantine coast



Northern African cost

Based on FAOstat and IPCC (2019). Southern European coast, from west to east: Spain, Gibraltar, France, Monaco, Italy, Malta, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, Greece, Turkey, Levantine coast from north to south: Syrian Arab Republic, Cyprus, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine and Northern African coast, from east to west: Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco



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# How can small ruminants contribute to mitigation/adaptation of climate change and increase sustainability?



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# Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

*Do emissions drop by reducing sheep grazing in marginal land?*



Example: meat sheep  
rasa-aragonesa in Spain



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Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

$$\text{Efficiency} = \frac{\text{Emissions}}{\text{Animal product}}$$

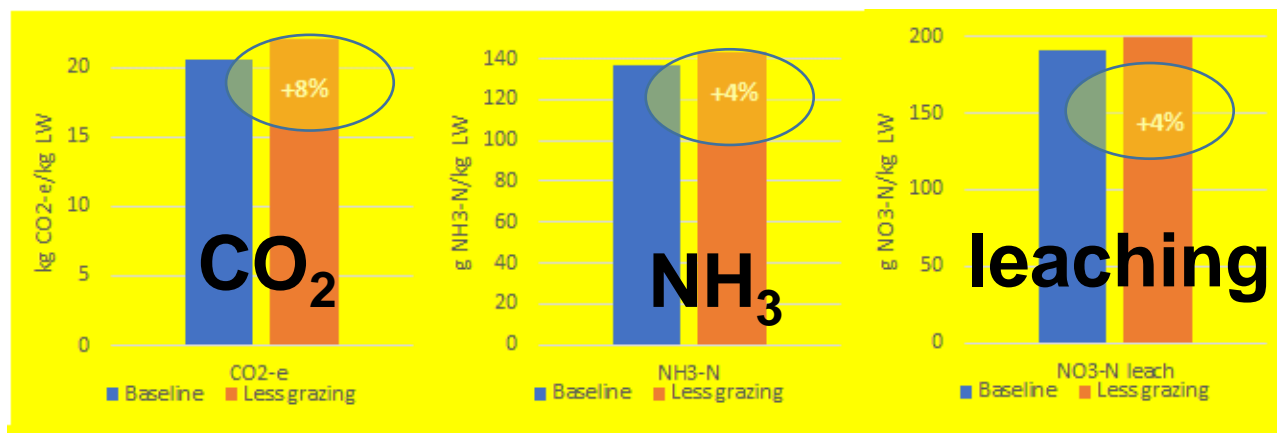


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# Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

*Do emissions drop by reducing sheep grazing in marginal land?*



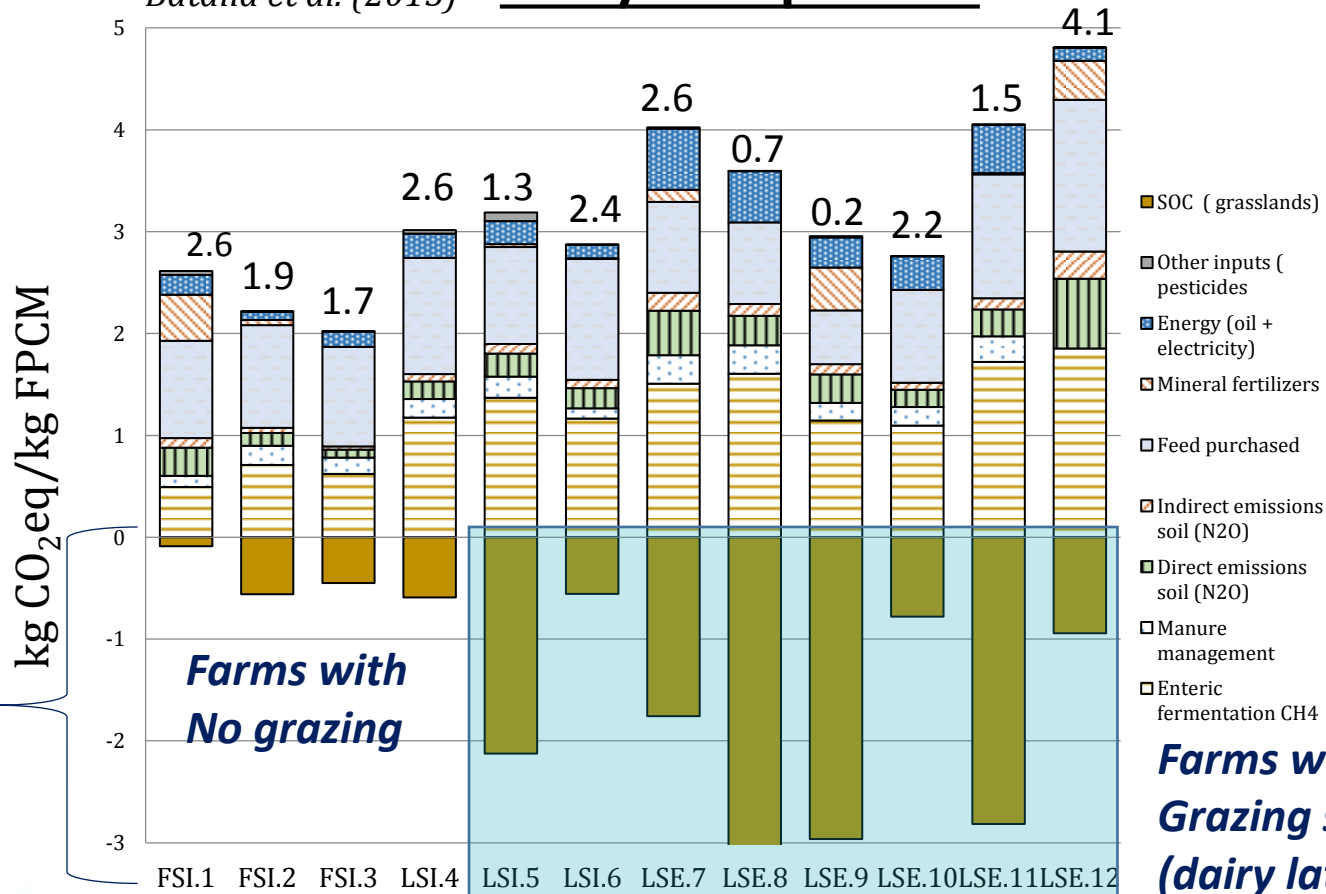
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*Batalla et al. (2015)* **Dairy sheep farms**

**Carbon  
sequestration**



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Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

$$\text{Efficiency Emissions} = \frac{\text{Emissions}}{\text{Land (ha)}}$$

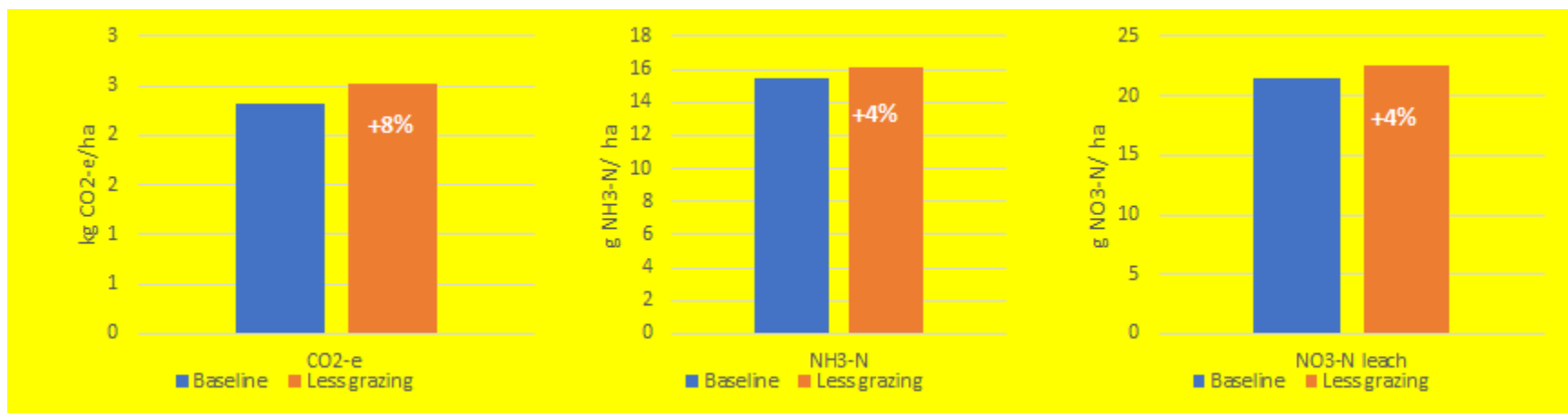


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# Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

*What are the environmental impact expressed per ha?*



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# Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

*What is the efficiency (feed conversion ratio) or quality of land required to produce animal product?*

$$\text{Efficiency FCR} = \frac{\text{Kg DM feed}}{\text{Meat}}$$



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Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

***Reducing grazing requires a shift from using marginal land (not suitable for other agricultural purposes except forest) to using more arable land (land suitable to grow crops that can be directly consumed by humans)***

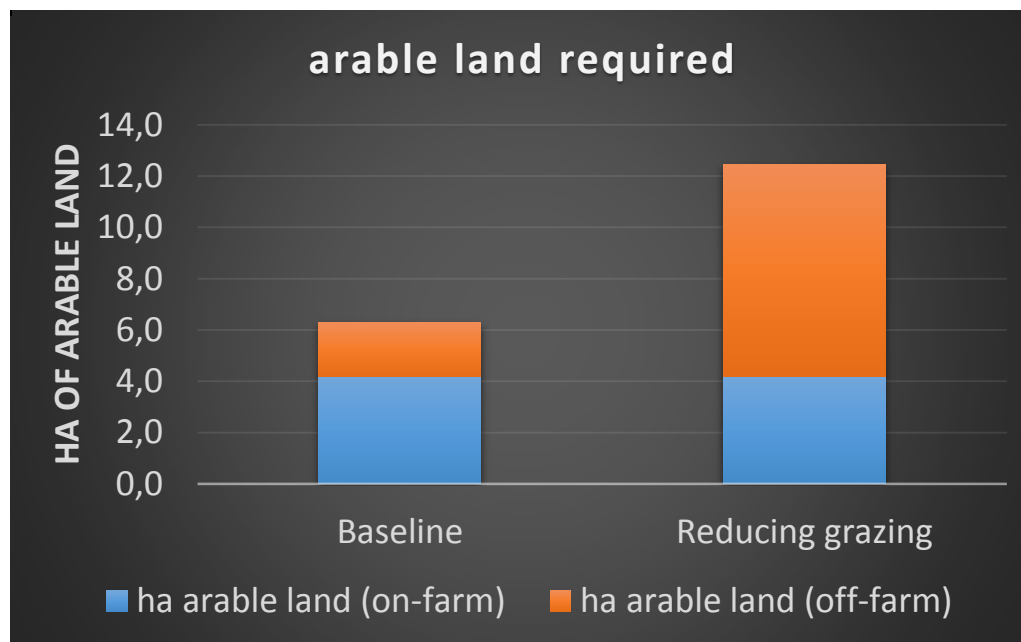


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# Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

*What is the surface used of non-competitive (good/arable) land?*



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# Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

*What is the efficiency (feed conversion ratio) or quality of land required to produce animal product?*

$$\text{Efficiency Land impact} = \frac{M^2 \text{ (Good land)}}{\text{Meat}}$$



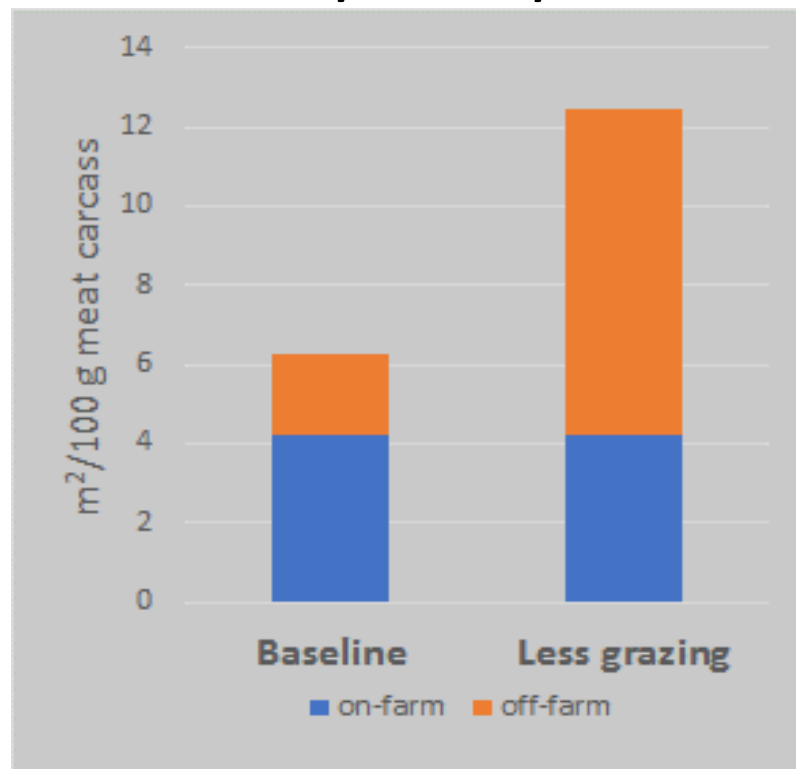
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# Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

*How much arable land would it be required to produce meat at different grazing level?*



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Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

$$\text{Efficiency Emissions} = \frac{\text{Emissions}}{\text{Good Land (ha)}}$$

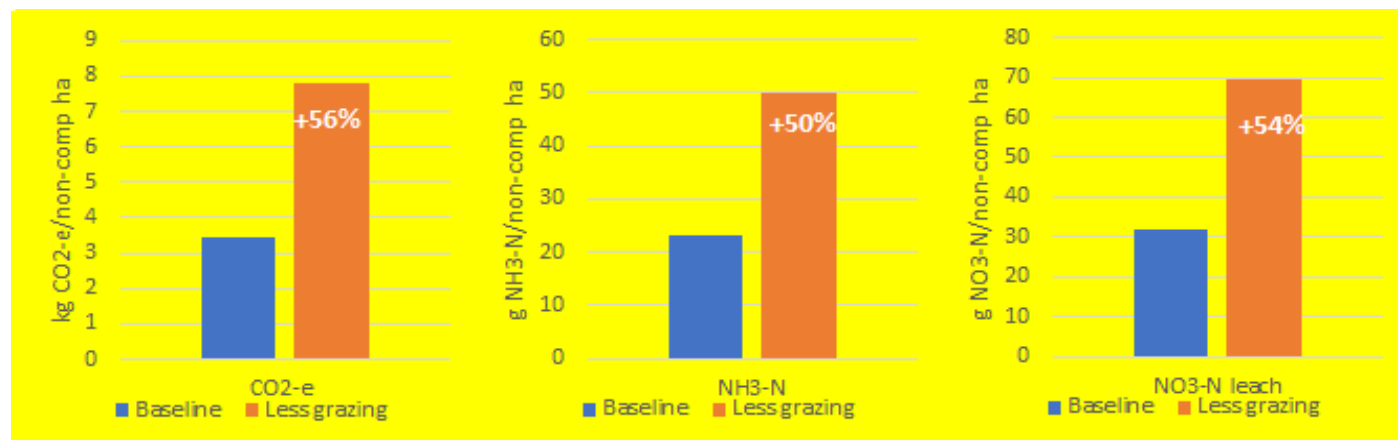


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# Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

*What are the environmental impact expressed per ha of non-competitive land?*

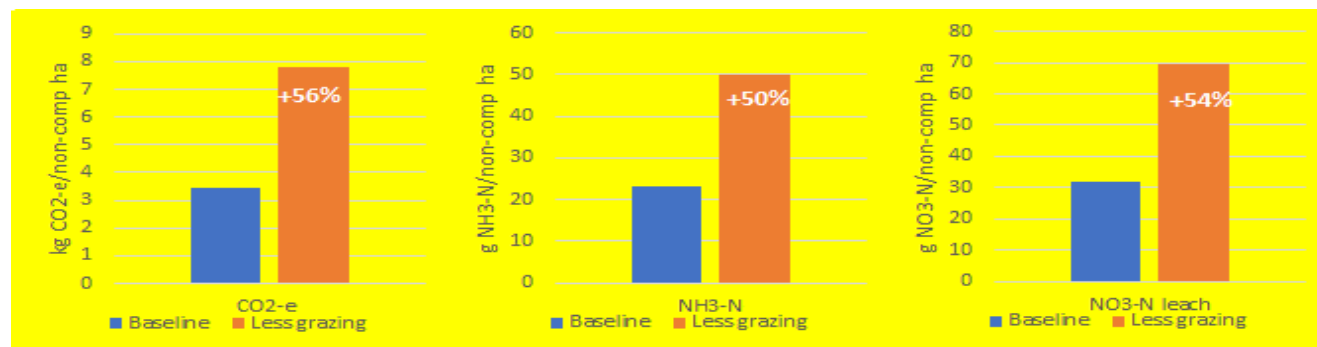


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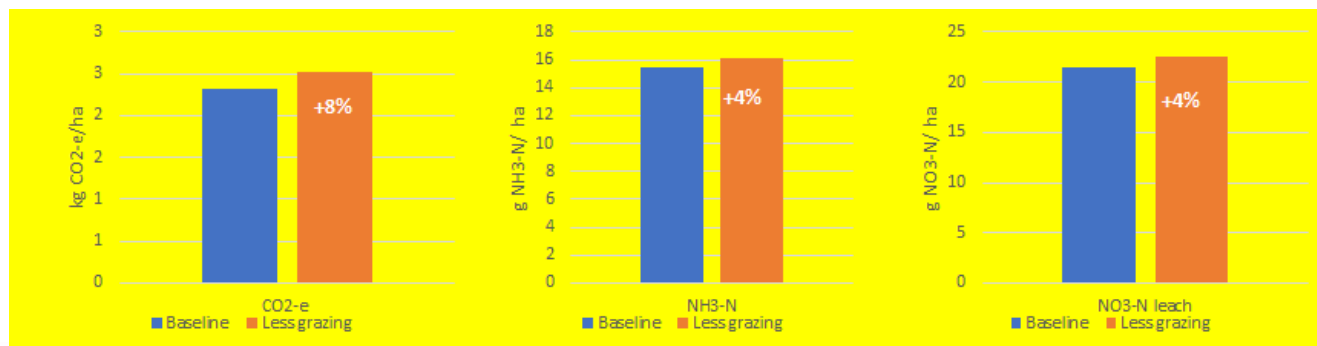


# Reducing grazing in marginal land (for extensive systems), good for the environment?

*What are the environmental impact expressed per ha of non-competitive land?*



Metrics with  
Non-comp land



Metrics with  
All land



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# Improving feed sources and use of alternative feed sources for both intensive and extensive systems

Improving feed quality can be achieved through:

- improved grassland management
- improved pasture species (e.g. grass and legumes mix), forage mix
- feed processing (e.g. chopping, urea treatment)
- strategic use of supplements, preferably locally available (FAO).

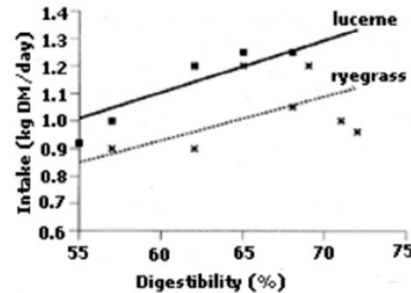


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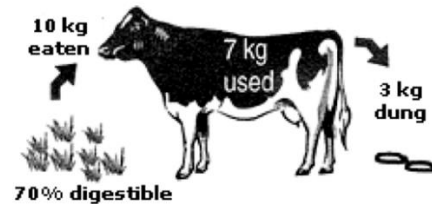


# Improving feed sources (legumes)

## *Legumes and diverse forage mixes*



'Increase legumes in grasslands' can increase digestibility and subsequently stimulate an increase in milk yields (Gerber et al., 2013).



Bell, 2006



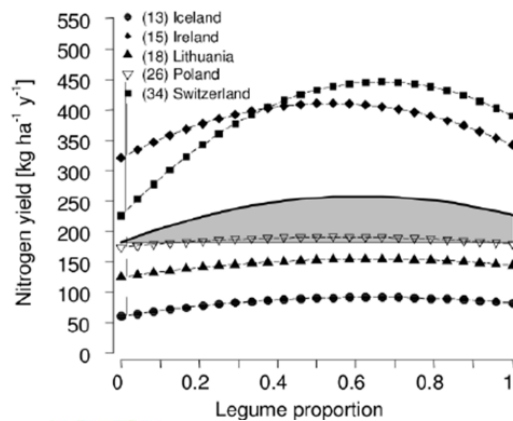
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# Improving feed sources (legumes)

## 'Increase legumes in grasslands':

- increases N-use efficiency and productivity (Kirwan et al., 2007).
- legumes can substantially reduce N<sub>2</sub>O losses, a major contributor to GHG without loss in productivity.



Carlsson & Huss-Danell 2003 Plant Soil  
Nyfeler et al. 2011 Agric Ecosyst Env  
Finn et al. 2013 J Appl Ecol  
Suter et al 2013



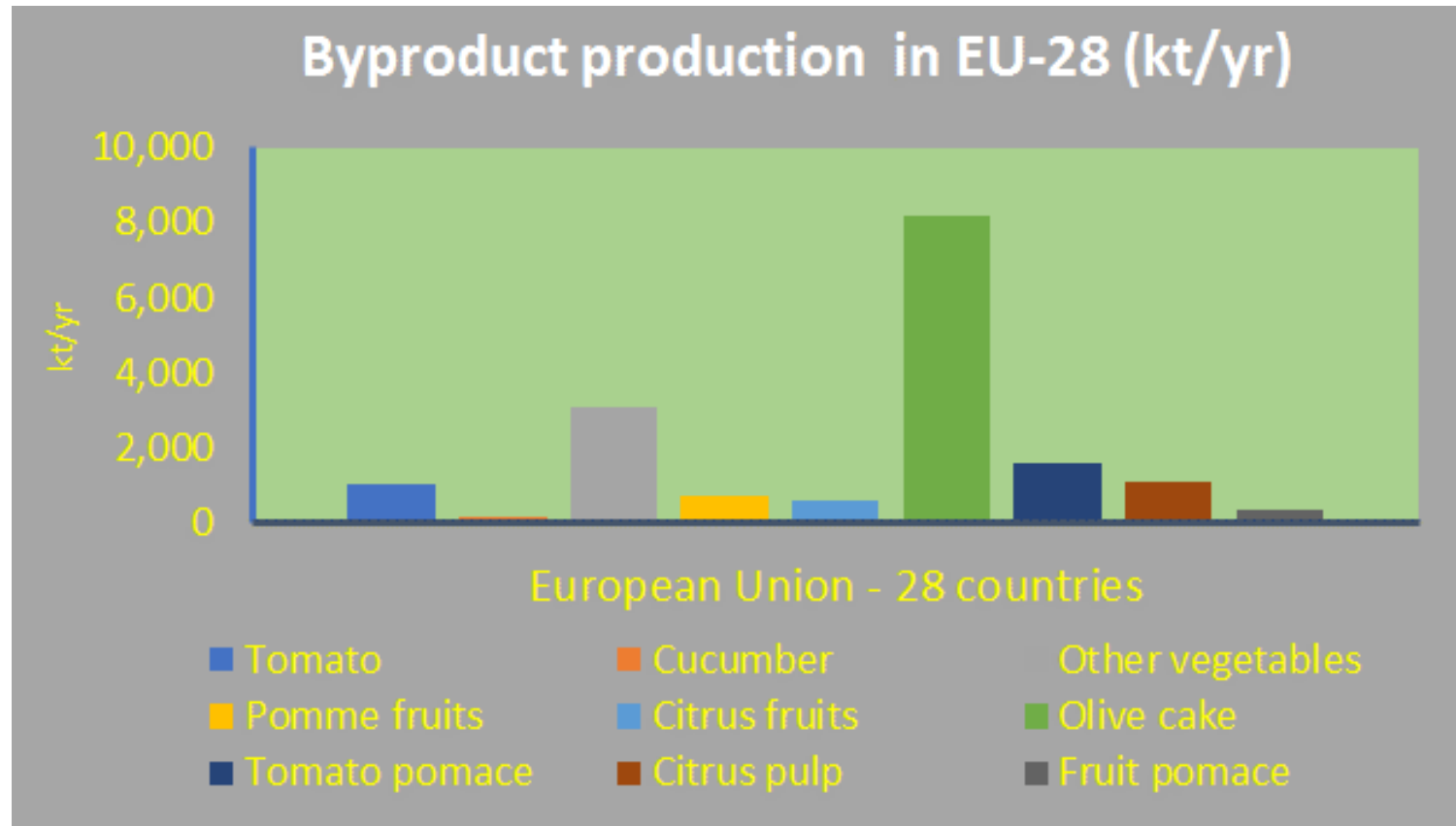
RESEARCH PROGRAM ON  
Climate Change,  
Agriculture and  
Food Security



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# Improving feed sources and use of alternative feed sources for both intensive and extensive systems

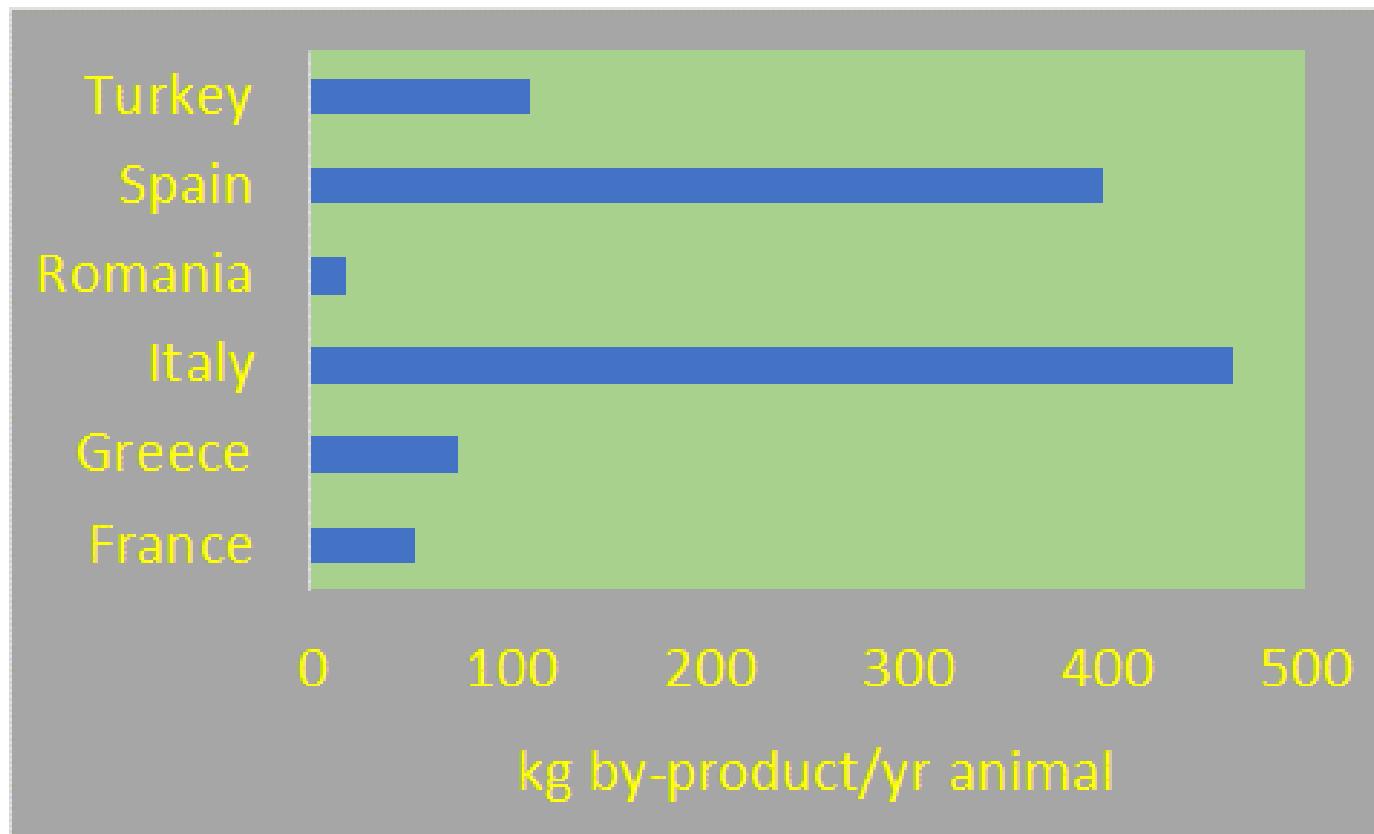


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# Improving feed sources and use of alternative feed sources for both intensive and extensive systems



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# Improving feed sources and use of alternative feed sources for both intensive and extensive systems

Reference	Basal diet	Alternative feed sources	Supplement	Type	Animal	Breed
Abbeddou et al 2011	Barley straw/concentrate	Olive cake and leaves, tomato pomace		Dairy	Dairy	Awassi
Arco-Pérez et al 2017	Alfalfa hay/concentrate	Olive cake, Tomato surplus	Silage	Dairy	Dairy	Murciano-granadina
Cabbidu et al 2004	Grass hay/concentrate	Olive cake	Silage	Dairy	Dairy	Sarda
Chiofalo et al 2004	Alfalfa hay/concentrate	Olive cake		Dairy	dairy ewe	Comisana
Di Francia et al 2004	Oat hay/concentrate	Tomato pomace	Silage	Dairy	dairy ewe	Comisana
Fegeros et al 1995	Alfalfa hay/concentrate	Citrus pulp	Dried	Dairy	Dairy ewe	Karagouniko
Hadjipanayiotou	Barley straw/concentrate	Olive cake	Silage	Dairy	Dairy	Chios, Damascus
Molina-Alcaide et al 2010	Alfalfa hay/concentrate	Olive cake	Feed blocks	Dairy	Dairy	Murciano-granadina
Nudda et al 2006	Alfalfa hay/concentrate	Linseed cake	Extruded	Dairy	Dairy	AlpinexSarda
Razzaghi et al 2015	Alfalfa hay/concentrate	Pomegranate seed pulp, tomato pomace		Dairy	Dairy	Saanen
Romero-Huelva et al 2013	Alfalfa hay/concentrate	Tomato fruits, citrus pulp, brewer's grain and yeast		Dairy	Dairy goats	Murciano-granadina
Romero-Huelva et al 2013	Alfalfa hay/concentrate	Tomato and cucumber fruit wastes	Feed blocks	Dairy	Dairy goats	Murciano-granadina
Romero-Huelva et al 2017	Alfalfa hay/concentrate	Tomato fruits, citrus pulp, brewer's grain and yeast		Dairy	Dairy goats	Murciano-granadina
Sedighi-Vesaghi et al 2014	Alfalfa hay/concentrate	Pistachio by-products		Dairy	Dairy goats	Saanen
Volanis et al 2004	Oat hay/concentrate	Orange fruit waste	Silage	Dairy	Dairy ewe	Sfakian
Ben Salem and Znaidi 2008	Wheat straw/concentrate	Tomato pulp, olive cake	Feed blocks	Meat	Lambs	Barbarine
Bueno et al 2002	Grass hay/concentrate	Citrus pulp		Meat	Kids	Saanen
Caparra et al 2005	Oat hay/concentrate	Citrus pulp	Dried	Meat	Lambs	Merino
Denek and Can 2006	Wheat straw/wheat grain	Tomato pomace	Silage	Meat	Rams	Awassi
Eliyahu et al 2015	Wheat hay/concentrate	Pomegranate pulp, grape pulp, avocado pulp	Silage	Meat	Lambs	Assaf
Lanza et al 2001	Wheat straw/barley+maize	Citrus pulp		Meat	Lambs	Barbaresca
Pirmohammadi et al 2006		Apple pomace	Silage, dried	Meat	Rams	Gezel
Scerra et al 2001	Oat hay/concentrate	Citrus pulp	Silage	Meat	Lambs	Merinizzata

**Studies with alternative feed sources tested in small ruminants**



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# Improving feed sources and use of alternative feed sources for both intensive and extensive systems

*Replace of conventional forage with food by-products*



- **Are these feed byproducts nutritionally good?**
  - (i) leaves and **olive cake** from olive oil extraction process (OS)
  - (ii) **tomato fruit waste** (TS) from horticulture.
- **If so GHG emissions? Compared with alternative uses: compost and biogas**

Goat system (murciano-Granadina breed)

Pardo et al. (2016)

## Alternative feed as adaptation



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# Improving feed sources and use of alternative feed sources for both intensive and extensive systems

## *Replace of conventional forage with food by-products*

**Table 2. Feed ingredients and nutritive value of the three proposed diets for lactating goats**

Feed type	Unit	Conventional diet (CO)	Olive oil by-products (OS)	Tomato by-products (TS)
<i>Ingredients</i>				
Alfalfa hay	%	30	30	30
Oat hay	%	20	—	—
Oat grain	%	20	20	20
Soybean meal	%	10	10	10
Maize grain	%	10	10	10
Beet pulp	%	10	10	10
<i>Silage</i>				
Olive leaves	%	—	10	—
Olive cake	%	—	5	—
Tomato waste	%	—	—	14
Barley flour	%	—	5	2
Wheat straw	%	—	—	4
<i>Nutritive value<sup>A</sup></i>				
Crude protein	g/kg DM	196	169	177
Neutral detergent fibre	g/kg DM	330	292	353
Metabolisable energy	MJ/kg DM	13.2	13.0	13.9

<sup>A</sup>Nutritive value expressed on dry matter (DM) basis.

**Table 3. Results of selected parameters from experiment of lactating goats under the three studied diets**  
DMI, dry matter intake; FPCM, fat- and protein-corrected milk

Parameter	Conventional diet (CO)	Olive oil by-products (OS)	Tomato by-products (TS)
<i>Production</i>			
Dry matter intake (kg DMI/day)	0.90	1.45	1.30
Milk production (kg FPCM/day)	0.80	1.07	1.01
Milk yield (kg FPCM/kg DMI)	0.89	0.74	0.77
<i>Enteric fermentation</i>			
Methane production (g CH <sub>4</sub> /kg DMI)	21.4	19.6	19.2
<i>Faeces</i>			
Excreted (kg/day) <sup>A</sup>	0.28	0.43	0.34
Excreted N (g N/day)	6.6	11.1	8.4
Excreted N (%N <sub>intake</sub> )	23.3	28.3	22.6
<i>Urine</i>			
Excreted (kg/day) <sup>A</sup>	1.14	1.43	1.34
Excreted N (g N/day)	15.5	19.3	19.9
Excreted N (%N <sub>intake</sub> )	55.1	49.2	53.7

<sup>A</sup>Expressed as fresh weight.

Pardo et al. (2016)



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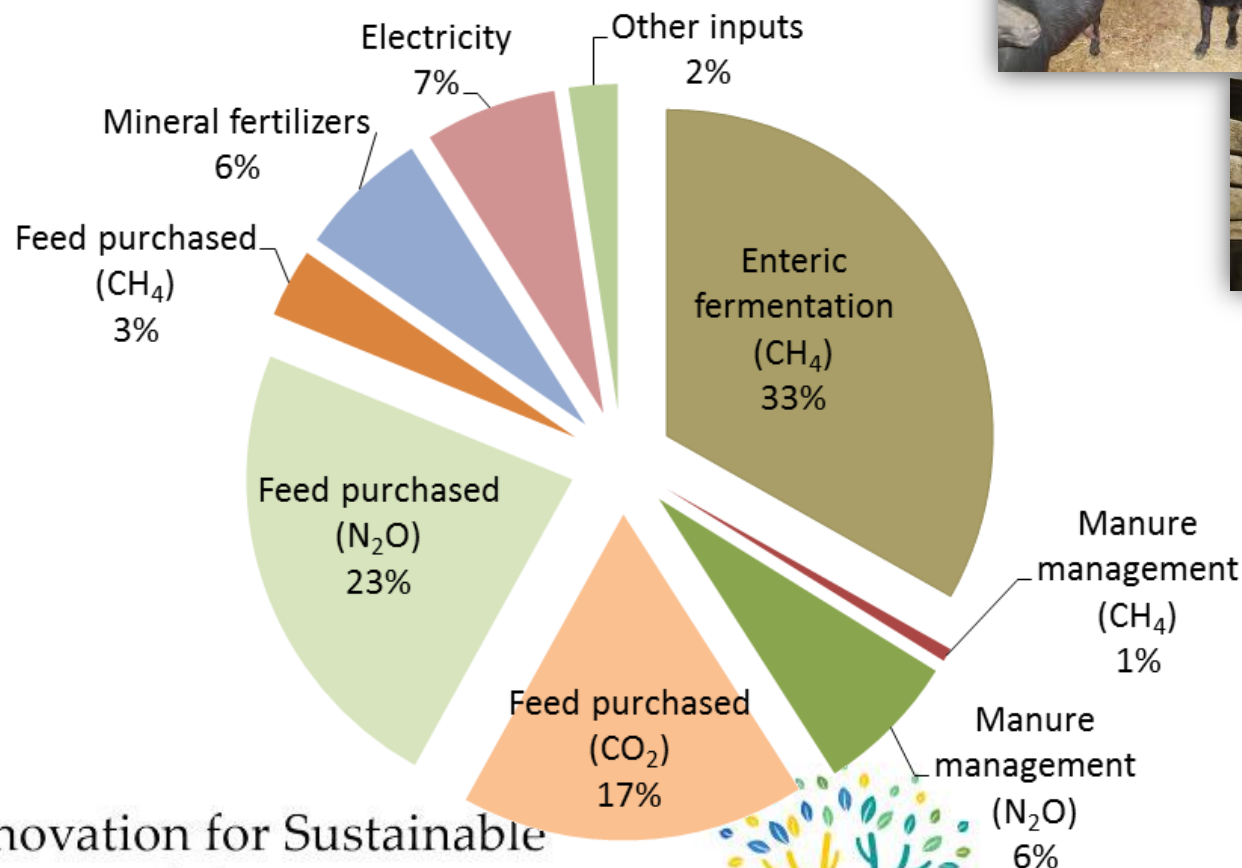




# Improving feed sources and use of alternative feed sources for both intensive and extensive systems

## *Replace of conventional forage with food by-products*

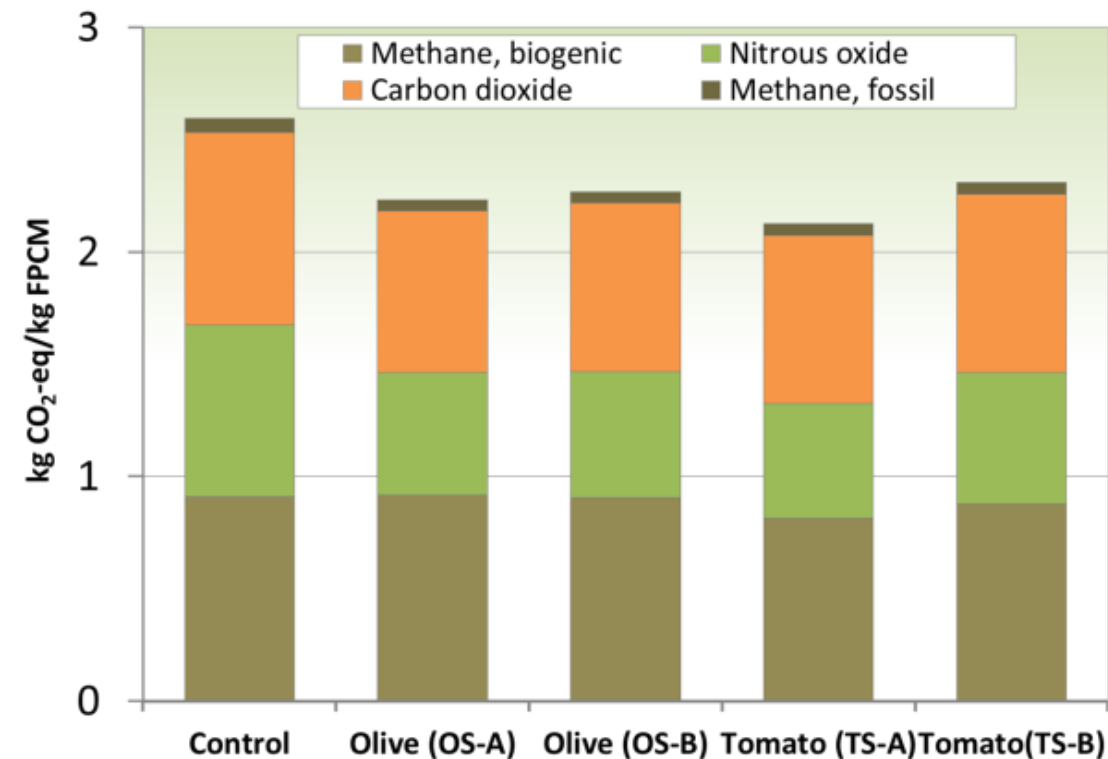
- Goat system (murciano-Granadina breed)



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# Improving feed sources and use of alternative feed sources for both intensive and extensive systems



- **From compost (A) to feed**
- **From biogas production (B) to feed**

**New dietary strategies** tested achieve **GHG reductions** (~12–19% per kg milk).

Use of agri-food by-products for **feeding is the best option for GHG mitigation** in this case, vs alternative uses: bioenergy or soil amendment.

**Other implications and trade-offs from non-GHG impacts** must be considered (e.g. soil quality) which may play an important role in the Mediterranean context.



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More adapted/resilient animal breeds and grass/pasture breed

*The greatest emphasis should be on targeting traits that can have synergistic effects with more than one stressors for animals (e.g. animals with enhanced productivity and fertility regardless of climate) and plants (e.g. grasses that can both tolerate drought and flooding).*



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# More adapted/resilient animal breeds and grass/pasture breed

*Breeding strategies includes animals that increase animal thermo-tolerance and systems that shift to breeds more adapted to changing environments*



Dairy sheep system in Greece (Chios breed)

## ANIMAL TRAITS

- Enhanced thermotolerance (HT-Breed) 
- Enhanced fertility (Fert-Beed) 

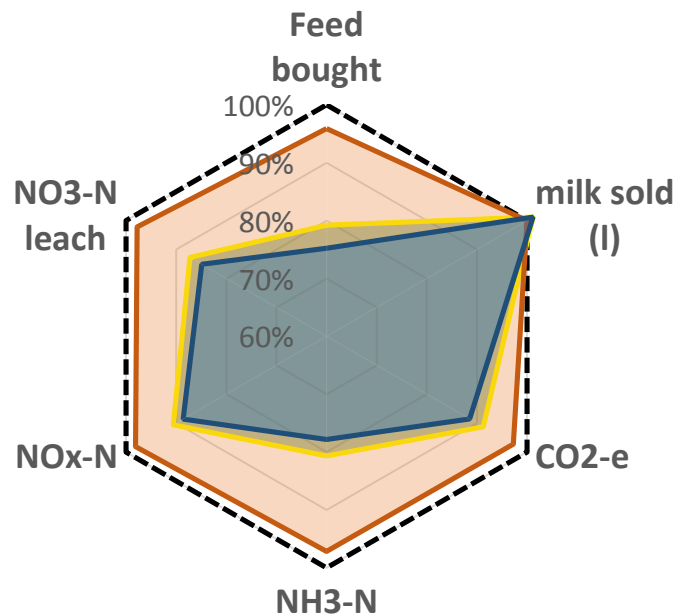


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# More adapted/resilient animal breeds and grass/pasture breed



## ANIMAL TRAITS

- Enhanced thermotolerance (HT-Breed)
- Enhanced fertility (Fert-Breed)

BASELINE

HT-Breed

FERT-BREED

HT&FERT-BREED



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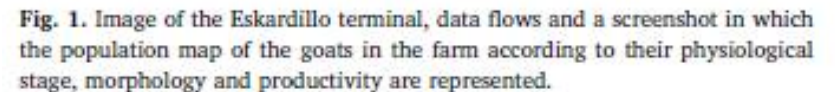
# INDIVIDUAL DATA COLLECTION TECHNOLOGIES

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## THE ESKARDILLO TOOL

How individual animal data recording and interpretation can  
improve management of dairy goat farms





# Innovations-Eskardillo

Table 27. Environmental impact of goat milk of the analysed farms (1 kg FPCM)

	Farm 1		Farm 2		Farm 3		Farm 4	
	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018	2014	2018
Global warming (kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq)	1.77	1.64	1.56	1.33	1.45	1.25	1.48	1.17
Terr. acidification (g SO <sub>2</sub> eq)	14.1	13.3	12.9	10.7	11.8	10.0	12.7	9.9
Freshw. eutrophication (mg P eq)	398	361	312	253	320	263	332	250
Land use (m <sup>2</sup> a crop eq)	2.2	1.9	2.2	1.8	1.9	1.5	2.2	1.6
Water consumption (litres)	140	121	355	303	107	76	272	198
Cumul. Energy Demand (MJ)	10.2	9.2	8.0	6.4	6.9	5.6	7.6	5.7

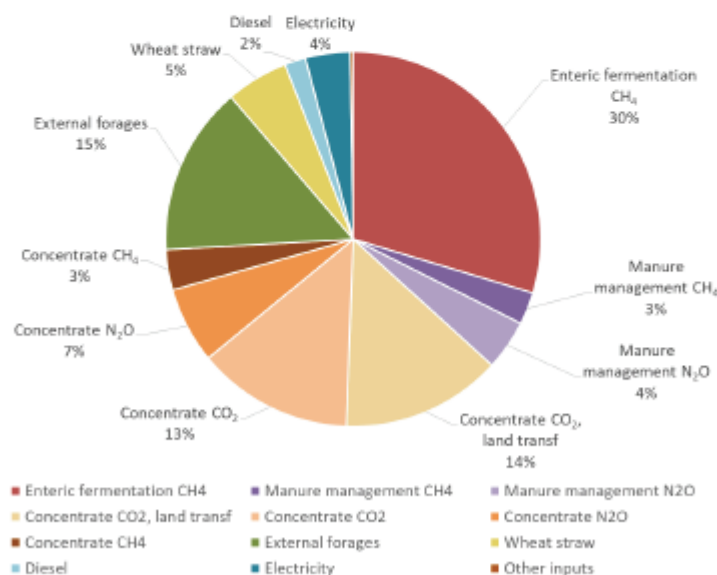


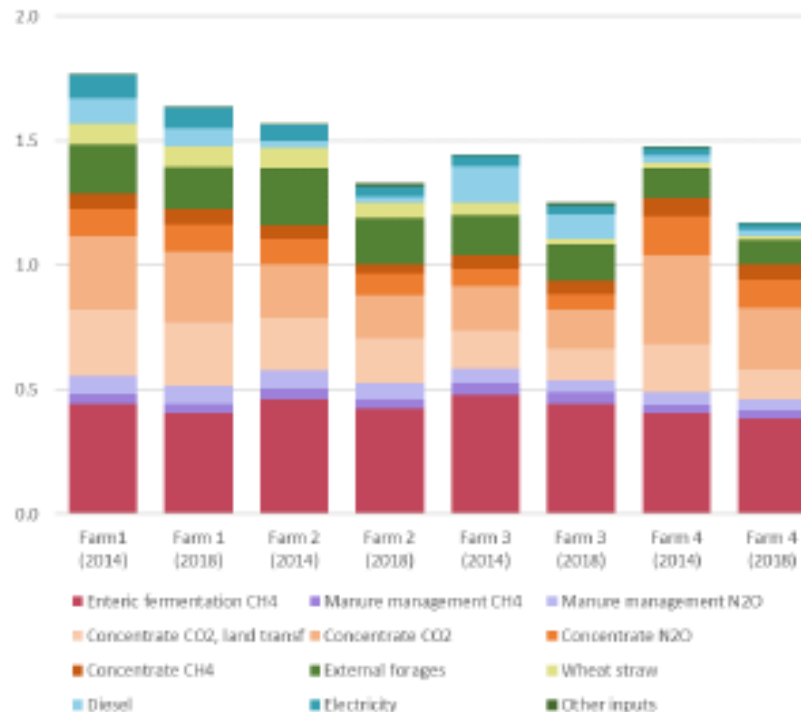
Figure 50. Broken-down representation of the carbon footprint of farm 2 in 2014



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# Innovations-Eskardillo



**Figure 52.** Carbon footprint of 1 kg FPCM in the four dairy goat farms before and after implementation of the Eskardillo tool



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# Innovations-ROA

## PROLIFICACY GENES THE ROA ALLELE

Managing the ROA allele to improve sustainability of Rasa Aragonesa sheep  
by increasing prolificacy



2007

In 2007 a new allele of the BMP15 gene was discovered in the Rasa Aragonesa sheep breed. The allele (FecX /ROA) was not described before that date.



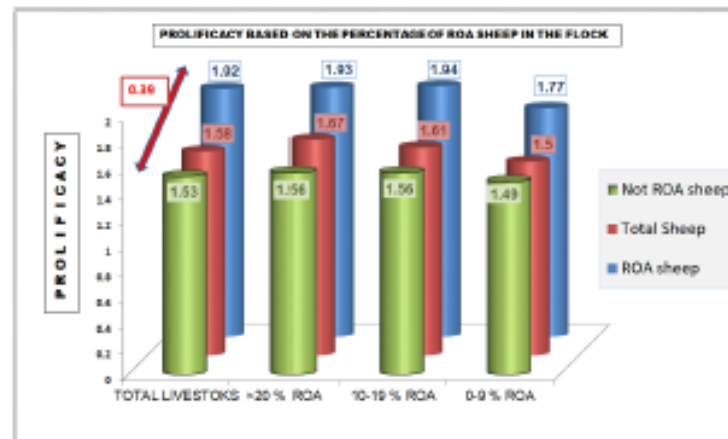
**FEMALES CARRYING THE FecX<sup>R</sup>/ROA IN HETEROZYGOSITY INCREASE PROLIFICACY BY AN AVERAGE OF 0.36 LAMBS PER PARTUM.**

Rasa Aragonesa is a local meat sheep breed raised in extensive systems in Aragón, Northeast Spain. It produces a high quality lamb which is marketed under the PGI label "Ternasco de Aragón".

The breed has a well-established breeding programme and an organism that manages the Flock Book, the UPRA. Prolificacy has been managed since 1994. Since its discovery in 2007, the ROA allele has been used to increase prolificacy in Rasa Aragonesa sheep. Artificial insemination is used to disseminate the allele across interested farms.



**PRESENCE OF THE ROA GENE INCREASES LAMBS BORN PER PARTURITION BY 0.39.**



### INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

The sustainability of the sheep farms can be achieved by making them economically and socially viable. In this sense by incorporating the ROA allele, profitability can be increased without reducing the use of coarse pastures that are only grazed by sheep. It maintains livestock farming in the rural area thus preventing the abandonment of villages and maintain the surrounding landscape.



1

The ROA allele has been successfully spread across the Rasa Aragonesa sheep population increasing to those farms willing technically prepared to increase prolificacy

2

The ROA allele increases prolificacy without increasing fertility or lamb mortality

3

Farmer management of twin lambings and attention to lambs to avoid mortality are key to make the most of the introduction of the ROA allele in the flock

4

Genetic management at farm and population level is key to avoid downsides of the ROA allele related to infertility caused by homozygosity

**PROLIFICACY GENES INCREASE FARM PROFITABILITY WITHOUT INCREASING FLOCK SIZE OR INTENSIFYING PRODUCTION**

# Innovations-ROA

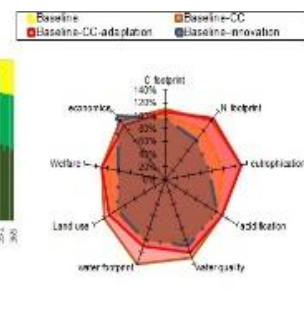
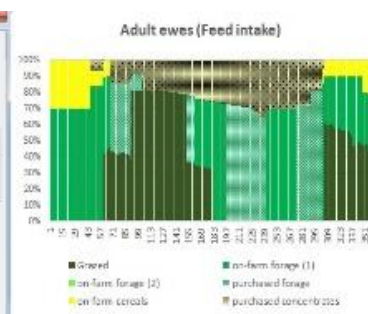


- Breed: rasa Aragonesa
- Meat production (lamb)
- Location: Zaragoza (Spain)
- Number of ewes: 550



## FEED

- Grazed mountain pastures
- Grazed rainfed alfalfa
- Alfalfa hay
- Cereals (homegrown barley)
- Barley straw (homegrown barley)
- Concentrates



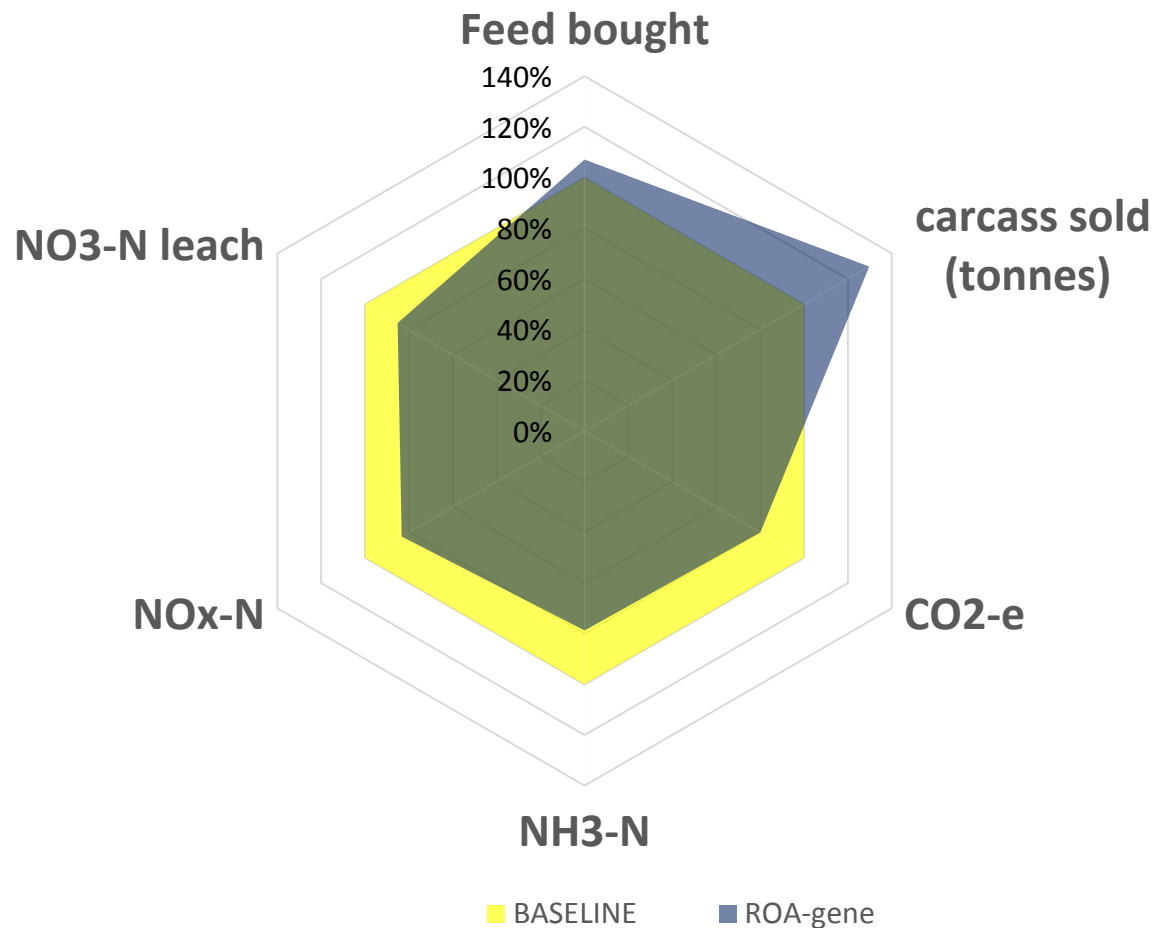
Modelled with SIMS<sub>SR</sub> (Del Prado et al. 2019)



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# Innovations-ROA

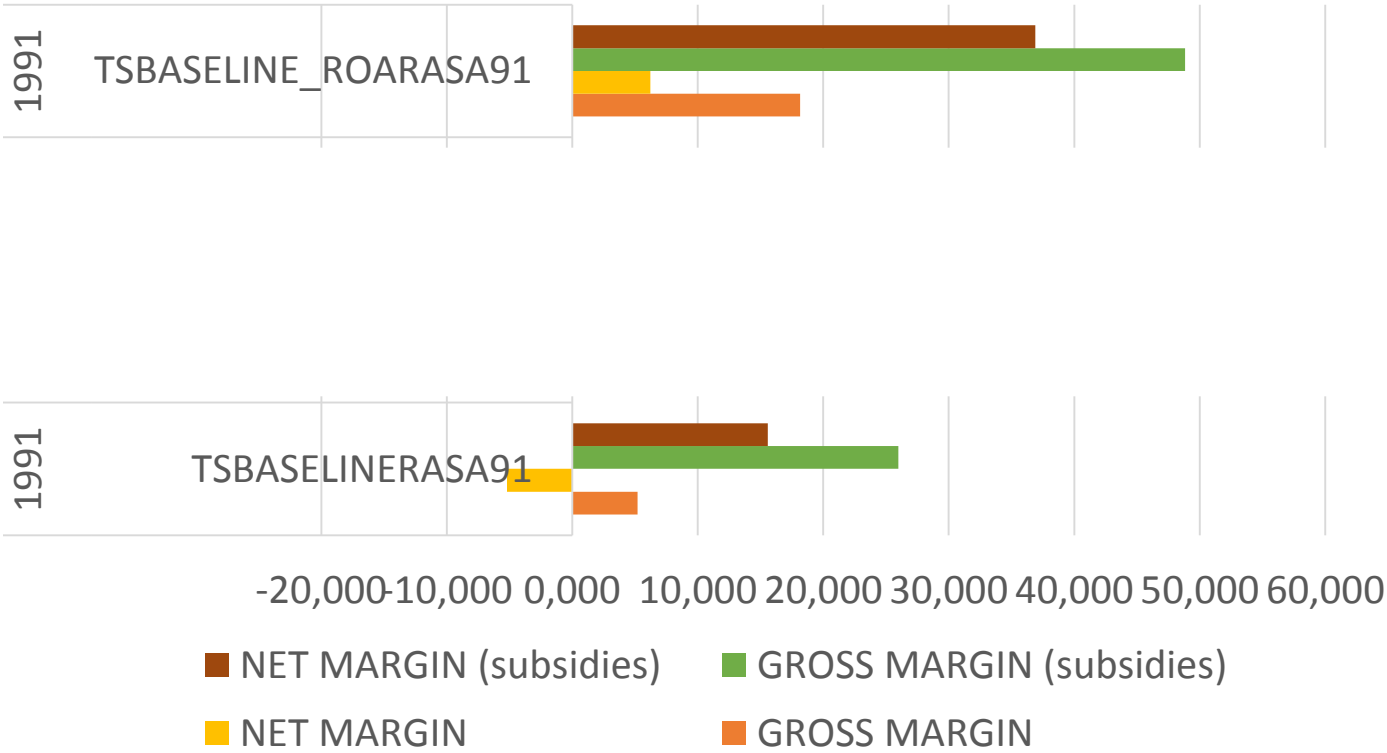


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# Innovations-ROA



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# Thanks

# شكرا

# Merci



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