

# Towards a pan-European typology of sheep and goat farms: A meta-analysis

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# Pan-European typology of S & G farms

- ✓ Funded by EU Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme
- ✓ Topic: *“Assessing sustainability of terrestrial livestock production”*
- ✓ The project started on 1 March 2016 and will continue for 48 months (4 years, until 2020)
- ✓ Consortium consists of 34 industry and research organizations from 7 countries (ES, FI, FR, GR, IT, TR, UK)



Innovation for Sustainable  
Sheep and Goat  
Production in Europe



# Objectives



- ✓ Development of a *new common typology* for sheep and goat systems in 7 countries
- ✓ Representation of the *diversity* of the sector across Europe
- ✓ Consistent farm *assessments* and *policy* recommendations
- ✓ Identification of *sustainable innovations*
- ✓ *Introduction* in the existing farm production systems

# Methodological approach



- Literature review on typological surveys  
*(papers, studies, reports, official typologies)*
- Online survey to 17 industry organizations
- Tentative list of farm types (“Broad” Typology)  
*13 sheep + 5 goat farm types*
- Workshop in CIHEAM (Zaragoza) → Final Typology  
*5 sheep + 4 goat farm types*



# Broad Typology – Sheep

1. Farms with *confined* kept sheep and *purchased* feed
2. Farms with *confined* kept sheep and provision of *home-grown* feed
3. Semi-extensive *dairy* farms
4. *Dual-purpose* farms
5. *Traditionally* managed farms
- 6., 7., 8. Low, Medium, High input *meat* farms
9. *Cheese* producing farms
10. *Pluriactive* farms
11. *PDO* specialist farms
12. *Organic/eco* farms
13. *Intensive* organic/eco farms

# Broad Typology - Goats



1. *Traditional meat* production farms
2. Pastoral *dual purpose* farms
3. Pastoral *dairy* farms
4. *Confined dairy* farms
5. *Cheese* making farms

# Final Typology



- This initial list of farm types (“broad” typology) was elaborated with research and industry organizations
- Final “narrow” typology of sheep and goat farms



# Final Typology

1. Intensive dairy farms (*e.g. high input of purchased feedstuff*)
2. Semi-intensive or extensive dairy farms (*e.g. normally pasture fed animals*)
3. Intensive meat farms (*e.g. high input of purchased feedstuff*)
4. Semi-intensive or extensive meat farms (*e.g. normally pasture fed animals*)
5. Dual-purpose farms (*farms where the farmer sees value in 2 or more different products e.g. meat and wool, meat and dairy*)



# In Summary



- A *qualitative approach* was developed to define a pan-European typology of S & G farms based on a meta-analysis of surveys
- This approach produced **9 final farm types** and each one of these types also accounted for a broad range of sub-types of farms  
*(differences in their size, economic and environmental role, production systems, farming practices and local/regional/national importance)*
- Final typology constitutes a basis for the description of the multiple S & G systems in the continent
- An important tool in addressing common problems and challenges



Joint Seminar of the Sub-Network on Production Systems & Sub-Network on Nutrition

# Thank you for your attention!



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