



SAVE THE DATE - IRELAND 2023

26TH - 29TH APRIL DUBLIN, IRELAND

FÁILTE • WELCOME • BIENVENUE • WILLKOMMEN

Methane emissions in dairy cattle

Javier López-Paredes, J.A Jiménez-Montero, S. Alday & O. González-Recio

0. A brief introduction ...

1. Experiences in other countries (The Netherlands, Italy and UK)

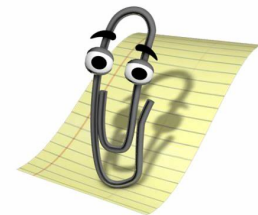
2. Our experience

a | METALGEN project (2018-2020)

b | Recording system in COMMERCIAL FARMS (2020 ...)

c | GO NEOWAS Phenotypic reports and genetic/genomic evaluation

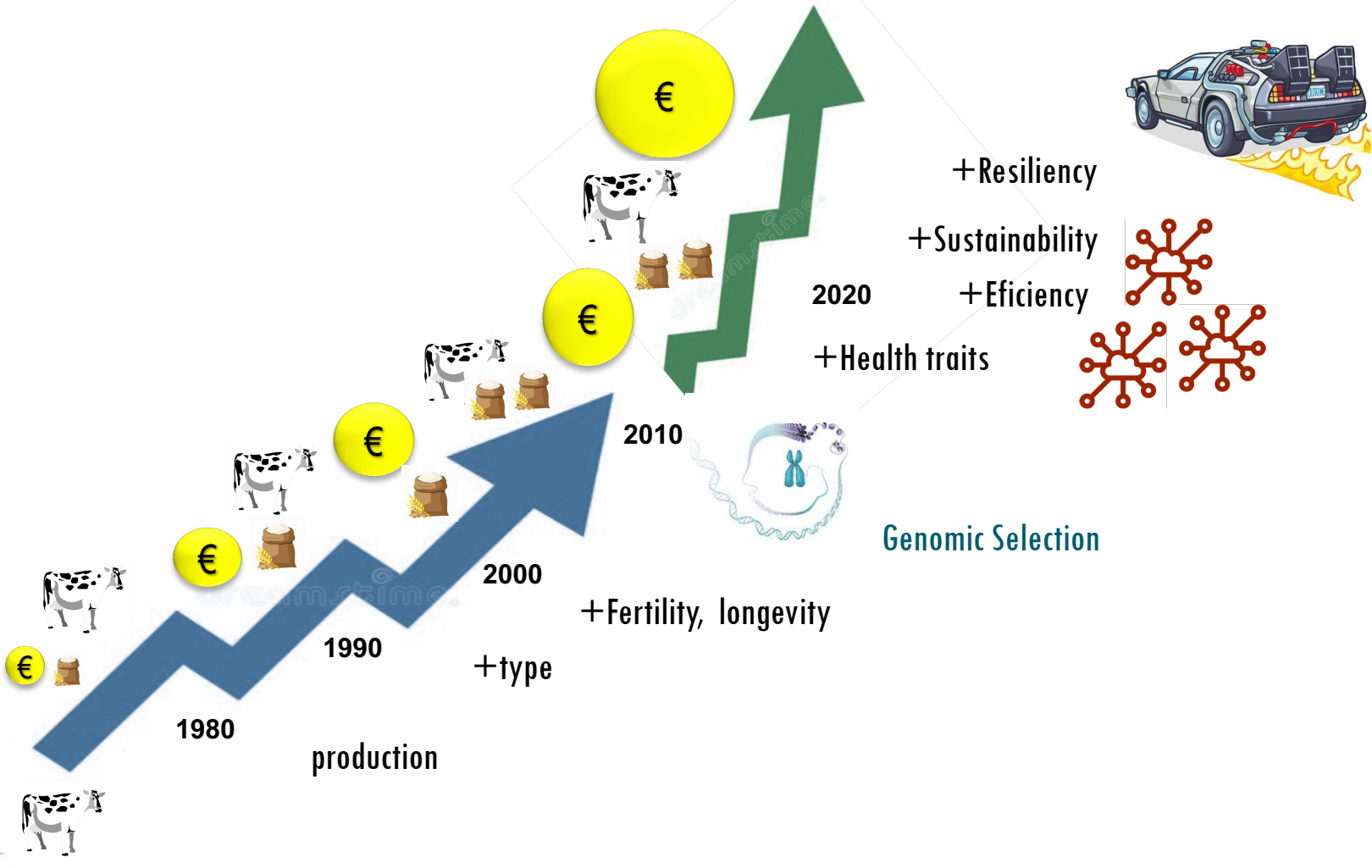
3. Conclusions



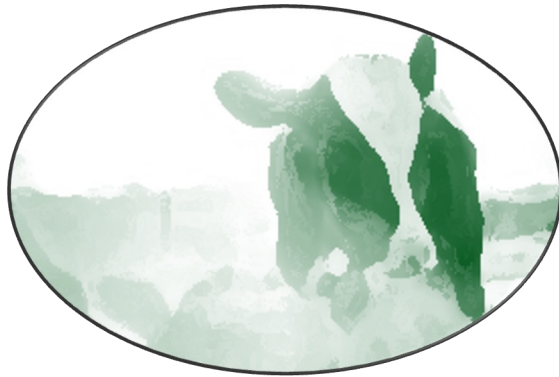


0. A brief introduction ...

0 | introduction → the evolution of breeding goals until nowadays in CONAFE



0 | introduction → cow of the future generation ...



✓ Milk yield and composition

✓ fertility

✓ Longevity

✓ Health

✓ Docility

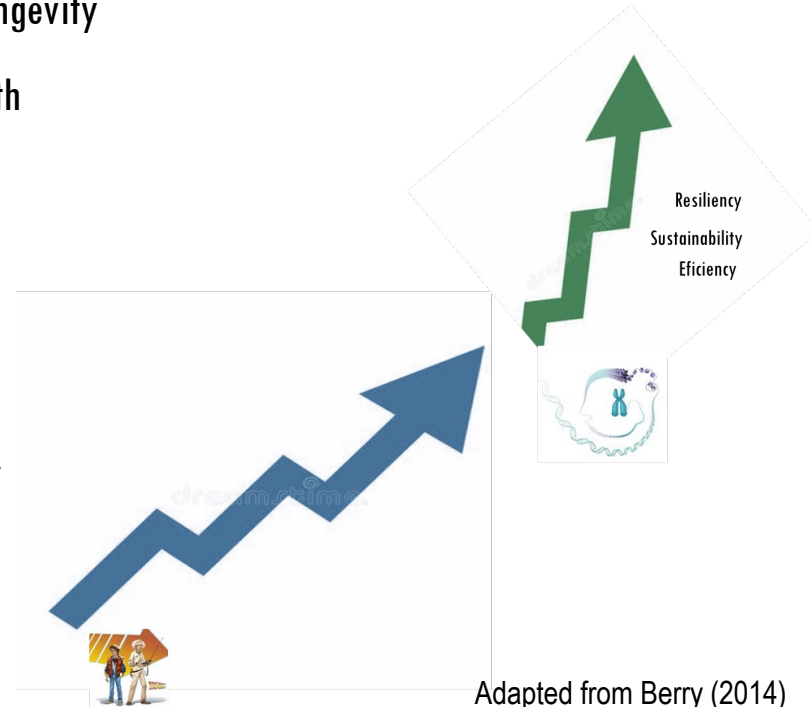
✓ Type

✓ Resiliency

✓ **Feed efficiency**

✓ **Enviromental impact**

✓ **Social view about farming and dairy sector**



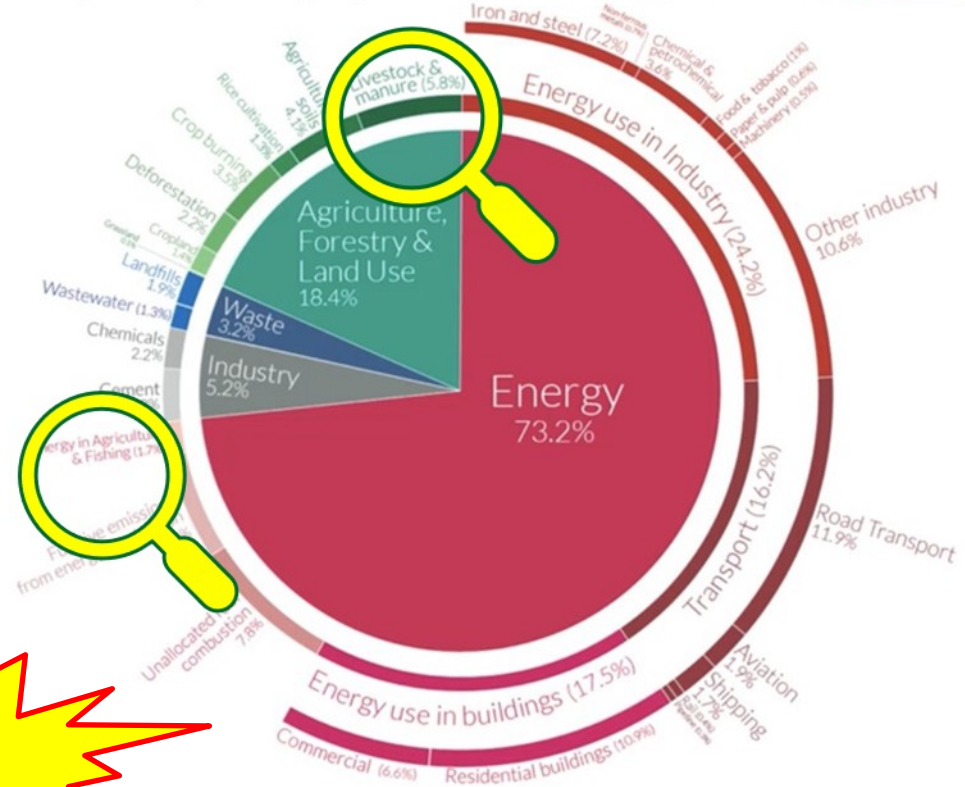


CONAFE

0 | introduction → methane emissions



Global greenhouse gas emissions by sector Our World in Data
This is shown for the year 2016 – global greenhouse gas emissions were 49.4 billion tonnes CO₂eq.



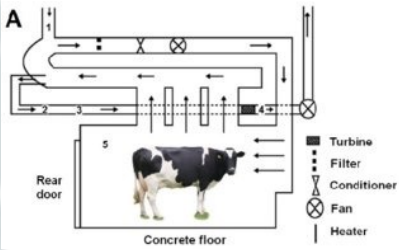
↑↑ efficiency

Our World in Data – Research and data to make progress against the world's largest problems.
Source: Climate Watch, the World Resources Institute (2020). Licensed under CC-BY by the author Hannah Ritchie (2020).

0 | introduction → How can we measure methane?

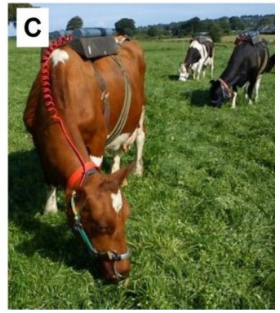
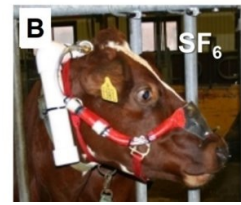


Respiration chambers

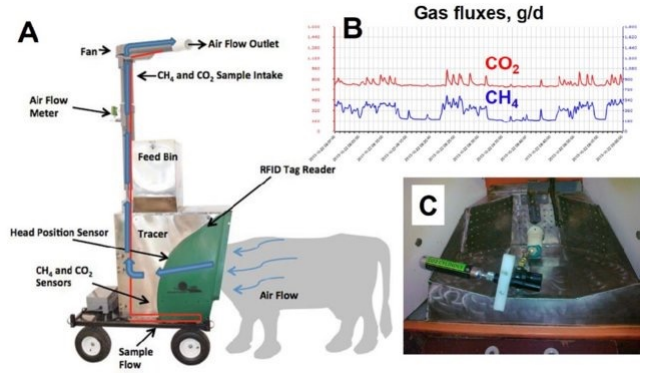


SF₆

$$Q_{CH_4} = \frac{C_{CH_4} - C_{CH_4}^b}{C_{SF_6} - C_{SF_6}^b} Q_{SF_6} \frac{MW_{CH_4}}{MW_{SF_6}}$$



GreenFeed



Sniffers







1. Experiences of other countries: The Netherlands | ITALY | UK

1.1. Experiences of other countries | Methane recording in The Netherlands

February 2023

Anouk van Breukelen, Roel Veerkamp, Yvette de Haas, Michael Aldridge



1.1. Experiences of other countries | Methane recording in The Netherlands

Current Projects

Climate envelope

- Data collection with **sniffers and GreenFeed**
- Preliminary genetic parameters
- Microbiability
- N and P use efficiency



Ministerie van Landbouw,
Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit



Climate Smart Cattle Breeding

- Goal to have **breeding values** available for selection
- Recording methane on **100** farms
- Parameter estimation and developing a **selection index**



1.1. Experiences of other countries | Methane recording in The Netherlands

Methane recording with sniffers

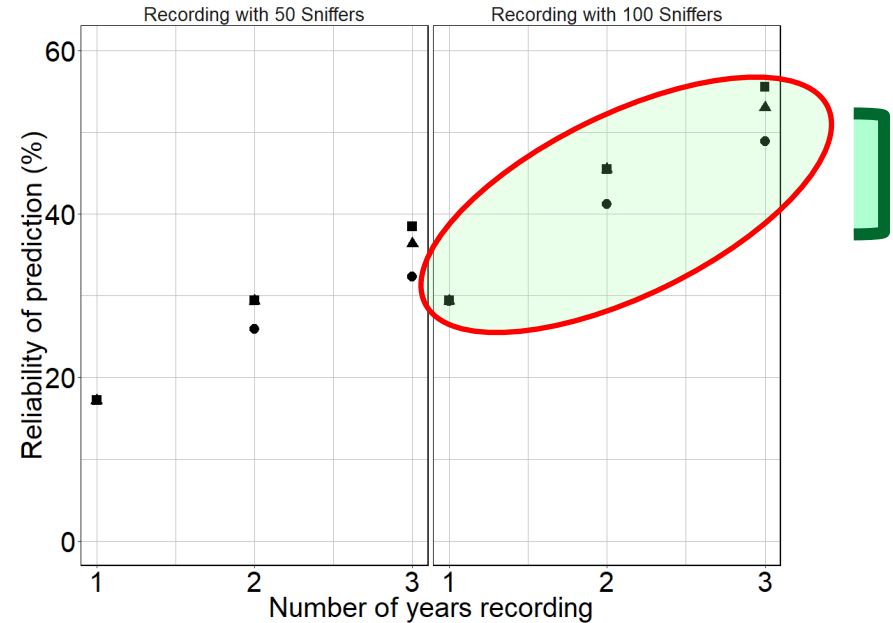
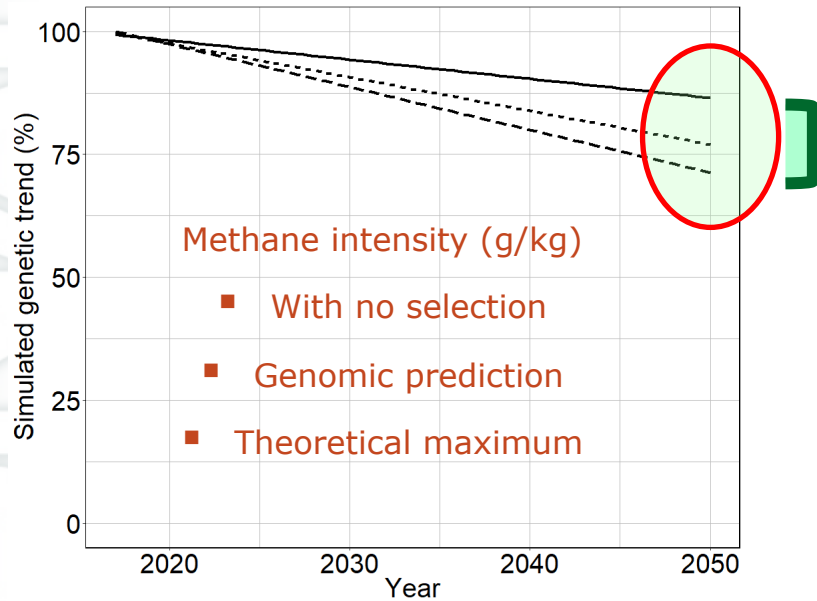
Sniffer

(WD-WUR v1.0, Carltech BV, NL)

- Installed at **milking robot**
 - Measures **concentration** (ppm)
 - Does not record **head position**
 - High throughput
 - **Cost effective**
- **53** currently installed on farms, installation is ongoing
 - Sniffers will be installed for **2 years**
 - Recording methane on over **15,000 cows on 100 farms**



Why does **The Netherlands** want to do large scale recording?



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.animal.2021.100294> (de Haas *et al.* 2021)







Experiences of other countries | Feed efficiency in UK

1.2. Experiences of other countries | UK

EnviroCow INDEX

- **Genetic index** available since August 2021
- Produced in UK national genetic evaluations by AHDB
- Incorporates feed efficiency, lifespan, fertility and production
- Feed efficiency uses **type data** to estimate **body size** and **maintenance** as well as **feed intake** data
- Aim is to reduce **emissions per unit output**

holstein-uk.org/animaldata/animal/genomics/42904833

Home > Animal data > Ancestry page > Factsheet

**BOGHILL GLAMOUR CAPTAIN CR
CARLIN MET**
01915057836535 (F)

Date of Birth: 02/08/2021
Eartag: UK915057836535
DNA: N31112435
Inbreeding% 11.8
View Standard Prod, Class & Progeny fact sheet

Sire: GENOSOURCE CAPTAIN A2A2
65003147118734

Dam: BOGHILL GLAMOUR CRIMSON V CARLIN C
01949027114201

Holstein Production		Young Genomic Pedigree Index		Calculated 12/22				
PLI	£993	56% Rib						
Production Trait	Value	Reliability %	Health	Value	Reliability %	Management	Value	Reliability %
Milk KG	1022	67	Mastitis (%)	-2	58	Gestation length	-3	55
Fat KG	51.1	67	TB Advantage	1.6	42	Maintenance	-1	
Protein KG	40.3	67	Lifespan (days)	119	59	Feed Advantage	186	44
Fat %	0.09	67	Fertility Index	12.6	62	EnviroCow	4.7	66
Protein %	0.07	67	Lameness Index	2.8	52			
Persistency (%)	0	67	Digital Dermatitis Index	0.4	54			
SCC (%)	-17	69	Calf Survival	2	44			
			Healthy Cow	258	55			

Holstein Type Young Genomic Pedigree Index Calculated 12/22

TM 0.7 54% Rib

Trait	-3	-2	-1	0	+1	+2	+3	Value
Type Merit	Poor							Excellent 0.7
Mammary	Poor							Excellent 1.35
Legs & feet	Poor							Excellent -0.07

Scaled -3 to +3

+ is better

Published for sires and genomic tested females





Experiences of other countries | Feed efficiency in ITALY

1.3. Experiences of other countries | ITALY

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: EXPERIENCE AT ANAFIBJ GENETIC CENTER



Raffaella Finocchiaro
raffaellafinocchiaro@anafibi.it
Lorenzo Benzoni
lorenzobenzoni@anafibi.it



1.3. Experiences of other countries | ITALY

- Italian Holstein, Brown and Jersey Breeders Association (ANAFIBJ)
- Italian Holstein and Italian Jersey HerdBook
- > 1.130.000 cows registered to HerdBook
- Experimental activity at ANAFIBJ Genetic Centre on Italian Holstein young bulls



1.3. Experiences of other countries | ITALY

GREENFEED UNIT

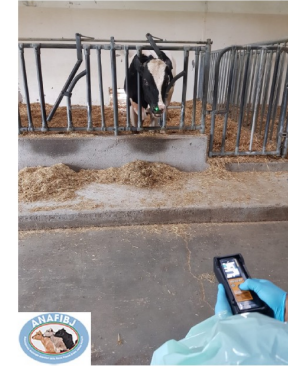


SNIFFER



Simultaneously with the GreenFeed.

LASER METHANE DETECTOR



ROUGHAGE INTAKE CONTROL UNITS



Free access for 30 days.

WATER INTAKE CONTROL UNITS



Free access for 30 days.

The Laser Methane Mini device (Crowcon Detection Instruments) is used to measure enteric methane emissions on young Italian Holstein Friesian bulls (between 4-12 months of age) to be sent to AI in Italy.

1.3. Experiences of other countries | ITALY



EXPERIMENTAL ACTIVITY

ANAFIBJ Genetic Centre is a barn where young Italian Holstein bulls (between 4-12 months of age) candidates to the artificial insemination (AI) in Italy pass. They could be considered as growing animals. These animals belong to the best 2% of the Italian Holstein population for the official ANAFIBJ selection index (gPFT). Due to their high genetic merit, and in relation to their economic value, the diet is standardized, in particular it is composed by a purchased feed (proteic nucleus) and hay. Feeding is ad libitum. Young bulls remain into our Genetic Centre for about 100 days and during this period we apply some experimental protocols. These experimental protocols are possible thanks to the installation of different systems: one unit of GreenFeed System (C-Lock Inc., Rapid City, SD) five units of Roughage Intake Control system (Hokofarm Group), two units of Water Intake Control system (Hokofarm Group), one Laser Methane Detector Mini (Crowcon Ltd) and one unit of sniffer. The stay of the young bulls is organized in different stages as follows:

- 1-Health Quarantine (about 30 days);
- 2- Move to the Experimental Barn;
- 3- Adaptation period (5 days);
- 4-Trial (30 days):

For each animal in trial we have 15 days of recording data from GreenFeed, 15 days of recording data from Sniffer and 30 days of recording data from RIC and water RIC.

for each animal:

15 days GreenFeed
15 days Sniffer
30 days recording
RIC and water RIC



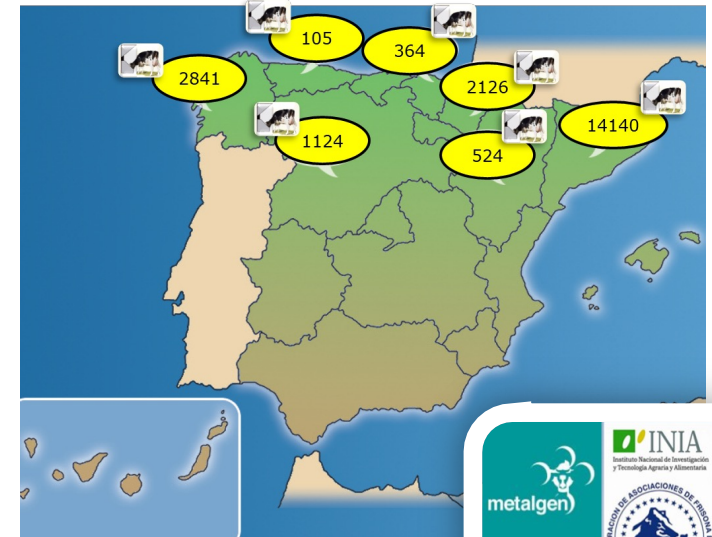


3. Our experience | Spain

Collecting data in comercial farms using SNIFFERS



YEARS	N.COWS	N.FARMS
2018-2022	aprox. 3,000	25



Led by González-Recio



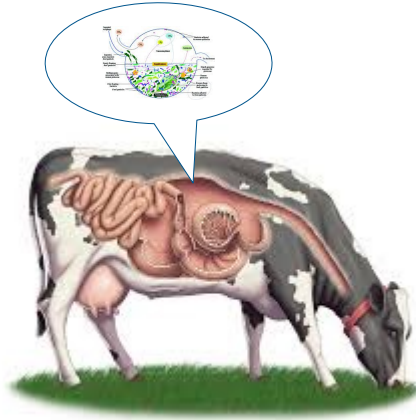
a | METALGEN Project | 2018 - 2020

1. Study the best **non-invasive and efficient method** to measure methane emissions in a **large number of animals**.
2. Determine which **microbiota** improves feed efficiency and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.
3. Design **feed rations** and **breeding strategies** to obtain more efficient animals, improve the competitiveness of livestock farms, and mitigate emissions associated with milk production.

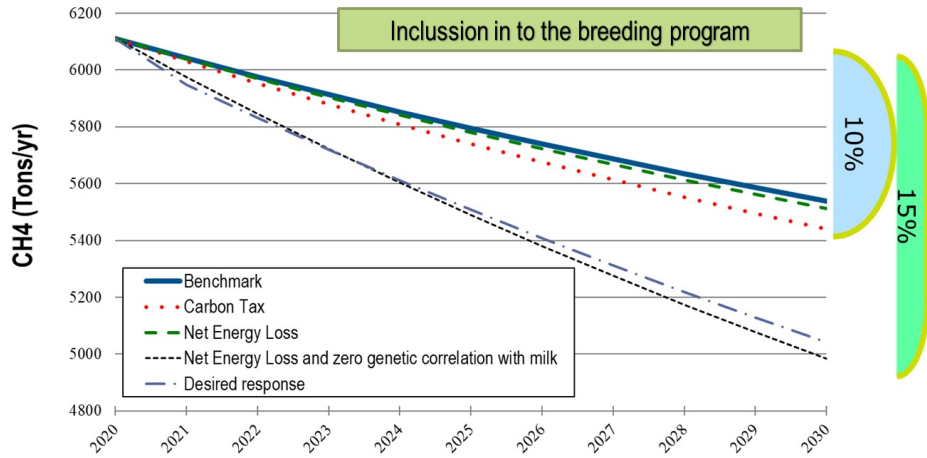


Led by O.González-Recio

a | METALGEN Project | 2018 – 2020 | results ...



- Definition of the phenotype (Rey et al. 2018)
- Genetic parameters (López-Paredes et al. 2020)
 - Correlations with other traits (López-Paredes et al. 2020)
- Selection index of feed efficiency (Gonzalez-Recio 2020)
 - Impact on future generations (Gonzalez-Recio 2020)
- Study of microbiota and how to include it in to the breeding program (Saborio-Montero, 2018,2020, López-Paredes 2021)





MEDICIÓN DE EMISIONES DE METANO INDIVIDUAL EN GRANJA HACIA UNA DESCARBONIZACIÓN DEL VAGUNO DE LECHE ESPAÑOL EN 2050

oneawas

Logo of the European Union, the Spanish Government, and the PNDR (Programa Nacional de Desarrollo Rural).

Organismo responsable del contenido: CCRATE
Autoridad de gestión encargada de la ejecución de la ayuda PACRD y nacional correspondiente: Dirección General de Cooperación Rural, Innovación y Formación Agrarioalimentaria (DGCIRIA)
Presupuesto total: 249 315,69 €.
Subvencionado al 100 % por fondos procedentes del Instrumento de Recuperación de la UE (Fondos Next Generation)



Phenotypic reports

Genetic/genomic evaluations



Unión Europea

Fondo Europeo Agrícola
de Desarrollo Rural

Europa invierte en la zonas rurales



**GOBIERNO
DE ESPAÑA**

**MINISTERIO
DE AGRICULTURA, PESCA
Y ALIMENTACIÓN**



PNDR

Programa Nacional
de Desarrollo Rural
2014-2020

Medición de emisiones de metano individual en granja hacia una descarbonización del vacuno de leche español en 2050



Miembros del Grupo Operativo



Organismos colaboradores



Organismos subcontratados



Actuación financiada por la Unión Europea



Unión Europea

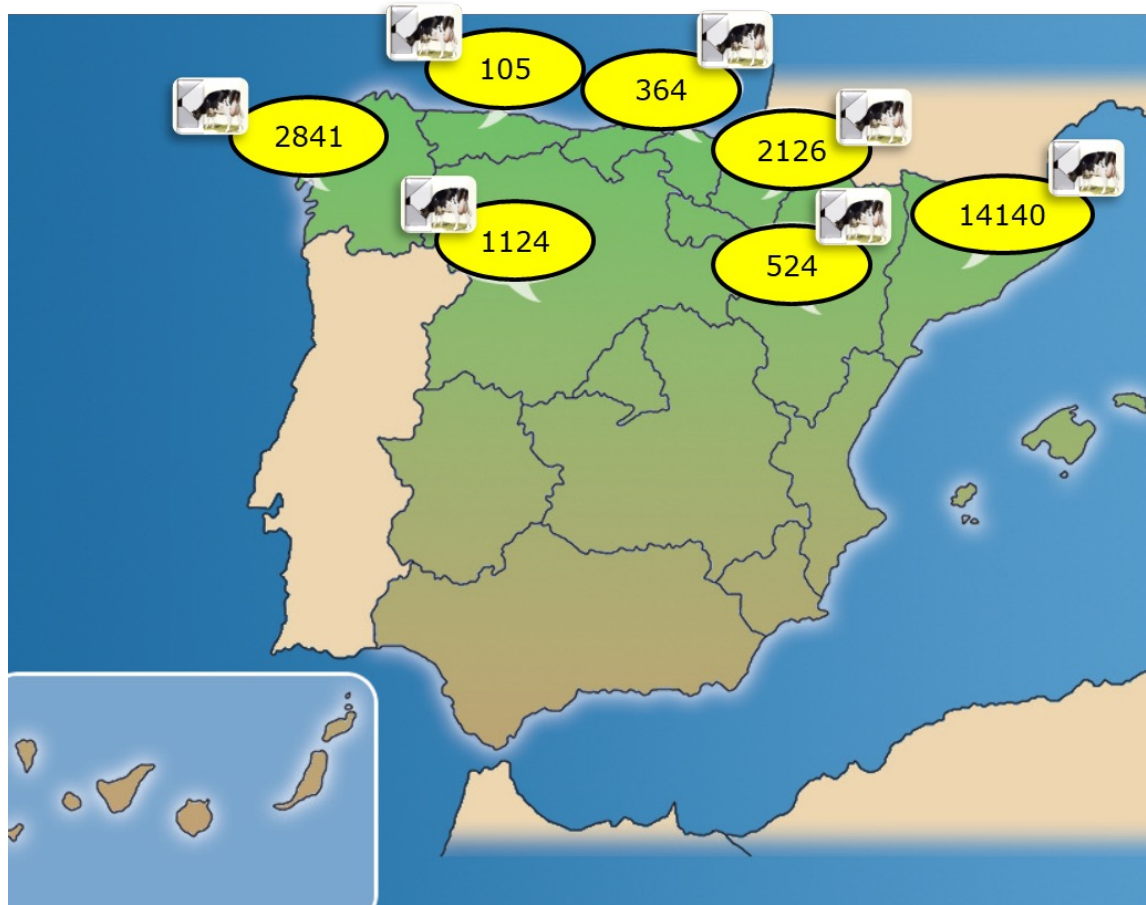
Fondo Europeo Agrícola
de Desarrollo Rural

Europa invierte en las zonas rurales

INVERSIÓN:

Total	250.516,69 €
Financiación UE	100 %

b | Recording system in COMMERCIAL FARMS (2020 ...)



4 sniffers

c | Phenotypic reports and genetic/genomic evaluation

CONVATE

INFORME DE EMISIONES DE METANO POR GANADERIA

2022

/ RESULTADOS DE LA GANADERIA CON CODIGO V010120. DE 2021-12-03 A 2022-03-19

// 1.1. Resultados:

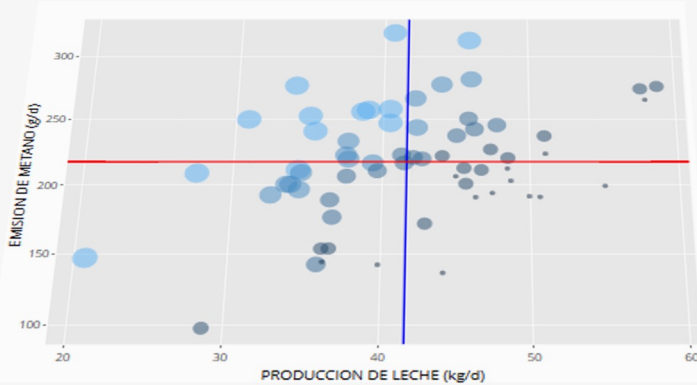
En la siguiente tabla se muestra: (n) el numero de datos recogidos en la ganaderia siendo un dato la media de produccion semanal de una vaca, (nvacas) el numero de vacas con datos de metano, (MeC) la produccion de Metano media de la ganaderia expresada en concentracion o ppm y (MeP) en gramos por vaca y dia, (milk)la produccion de leche y (metano_kg) la produccion de metano por kg de leche expresada en g/kg de leche diarios, por ultimo las fechas de (inicio) y (final) de la prueba.

ganfact	n	n.vacas	MeC	MeP	leche	metano.kg	inicio	final	n.semanas
V010120.	829	78	1108	251	42	6.1	2021-12-03	2022-03-19	15.14

*se han considerado 3.3 ordenos/vaca/dia

// 1.2. Emision de metano expresada en gramos/dia (g/d) por produccion de leche.

En la siguiente grafica se muestra la produccion de metano en funcion (gramos/dia) frente a la produccion de leche (kg/d) de las vacas de la ganaderia y esta dividida en 4 cuadrantes, siendo aquellas que menos metano emiten y producen mayor cantidad de leche las situadas en el cuadrante inferior derecho.



RESULTADOS DE LAS VACAS DE LA GANADERIA EN LA EMISION DE METANO POR KG DE LECHE POR LITRO DE LECHE).

Esta tabla muestra el ranking de las vacas de la ganaderia ordenadas segun menor a mayor metano producido (el valor por cada vaca esta corregido por dias en lactacion, multiplicando en la tabla aquellas que disponian de los datos suficientes para estimar).

	EMISIONES DE METANO (g/d)	EMISIONES DE METANO POR KG DE LECHE	
22160	136.5	3.1	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
2175	199.5	3.4	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
218	191.9	3.7	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
218	191.3	3.9	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
218	144.3	3.9	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
218	194.3	4.0	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
218	191.2	4.0	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
218	142.3	4.0	10-20%
218	203.4	4.1	10-20%
218	265.4	4.2	10-20%
218	223.8	4.3	10-20%
218	212.5	4.3	10-20%
218	206.7	4.3	10-20%
218	153.7	4.3	20-30%
218	171.8	4.3	20-30%
218	220.5	4.3	20-30%
218	201.2	4.3	20-30%
218	111.5	4.4	20-30%
218	17.3	4.4	20-30%
218	2.9	4.5	20-30%
218	2.9	4.5	30-40%
218	2.9	4.6	30-40%

MEDICIÓN DE EMISIONES DE METANO INDIVIDUAL EN GRANJA HACIA UNA DESCARBONIZACIÓN DEL VACUNO DE LECHE ESPAÑOL EN 2050



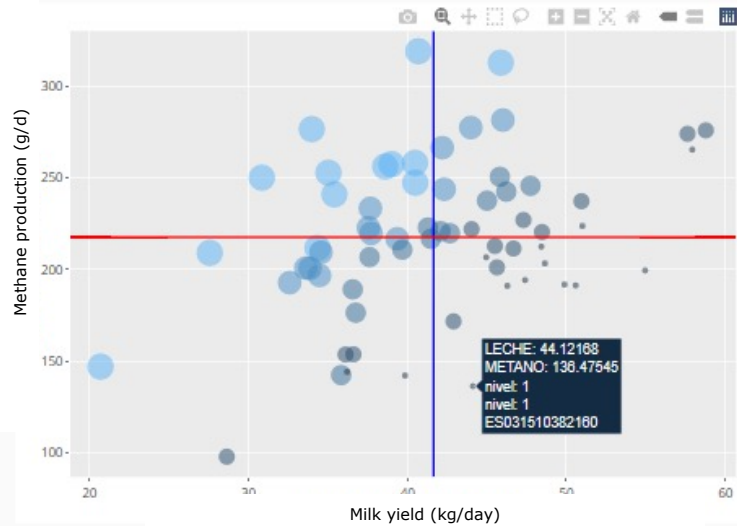
Organismo responsable del contenido: CONAFE
 Autoridad de gestión encargada de la aplicación de la ayuda FEADER y nacional correspondiente: Dirección General de Desarrollo Rural, Innovación y Formación Agroalimentaria (DGDRIFA)
 Presupuesto total: 249.910,69 €. Subvencionada al 100 % con fondos procedentes del Instrumento de Recuperación de la UE (Fondos Next Generation)

Summary

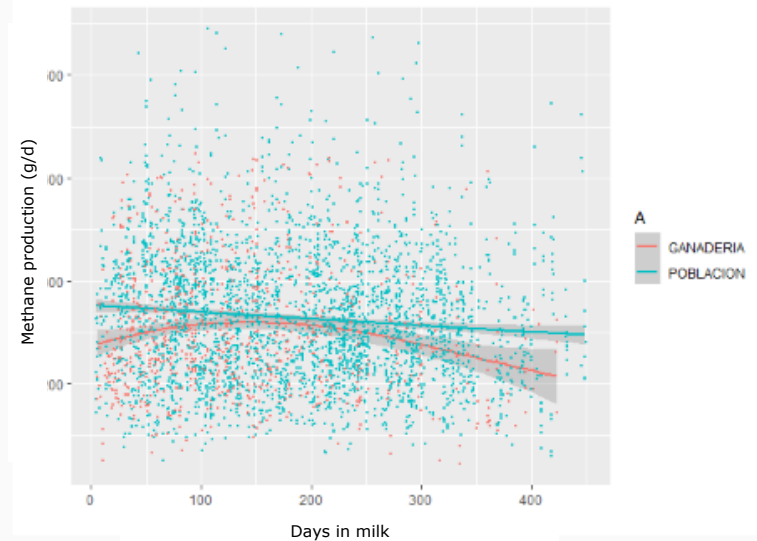
ganlact	n	n.vacas	MeC	MeP	leche	metano.kg	inicio	final	n.semanas
V010120.	829	78	1108	251	42	6.1	2021-12-03	2022-03-19	15.14

*se han considerado 3.3 ordenos/vaca/dia

CH₄ vs Milk Yield



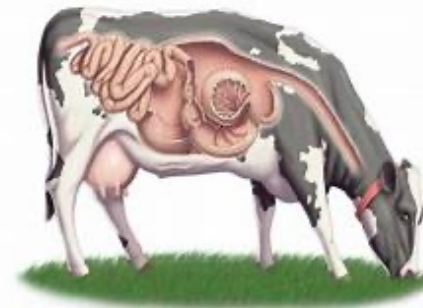
CH₄ vs days in milk



clb	EMISIONES DE METANO (g/d)	EMISIONES DE METANO POR KG DE LECHE	RANKING POR EXPLOTACION
ES031510382160	136.5	3.1	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES071510382175	199.5	3.4	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES051510404218	191.9	3.7	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES061510376058	191.3	3.9	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES051510382184	144.3	3.9	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES051510382173	194.3	4.0	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES091510382199	191.2	4.0	10% MENOS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES021510376076	142.3	4.0	10-20%
ES041510382161	203.4	4.1	10-20%
ES051510382195	265.4	4.2	10-20%

ES001510404224	252.8	7.1	10% MAS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES071510382164	319.0	7.4	10% MAS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES061510376081	209.1	7.6	10% MAS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES091510404245	250.1	7.7	10% MAS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES081510404222	276.5	7.8	10% MAS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE
ES021510376043	147.1	8.0	10% MAS EMISIONES POR KG DE LECHE

Diference between 10% more efficient and 10% less efficient



Emissions by output

3.89 g CH₄/kg of milk
93.4 g CO₂/kg of milk

Feed saving
437 kg/cow/yr

0.65 km by car



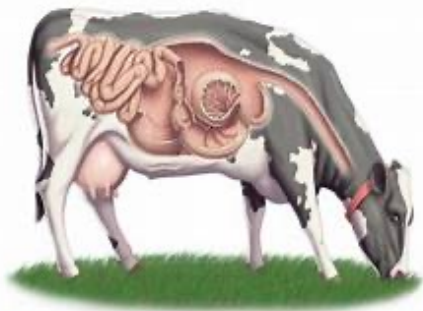
c | Phenotypic reports and genetic/genomic evaluation

SSTP genomic evaluation (june 2023)

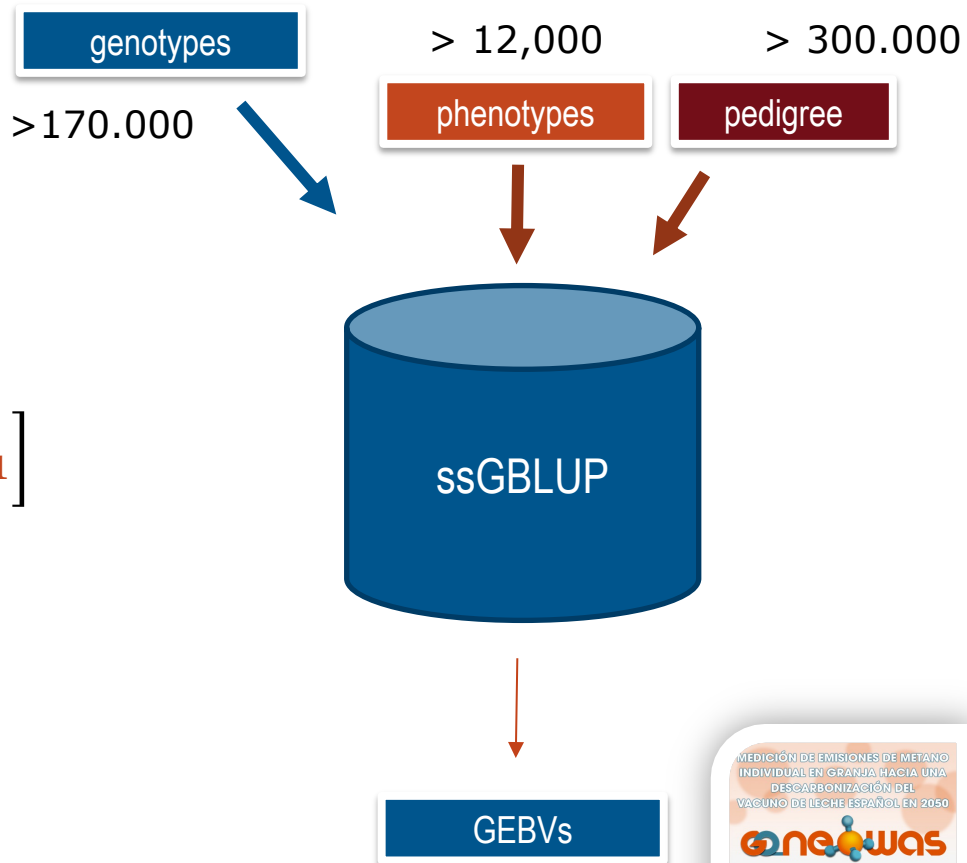
- Model SSTEP

$$y = x b + z_u u + z_p p + e$$

$$H^{-1} = A^{-1} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & G^{-1} - A_{22}^{-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

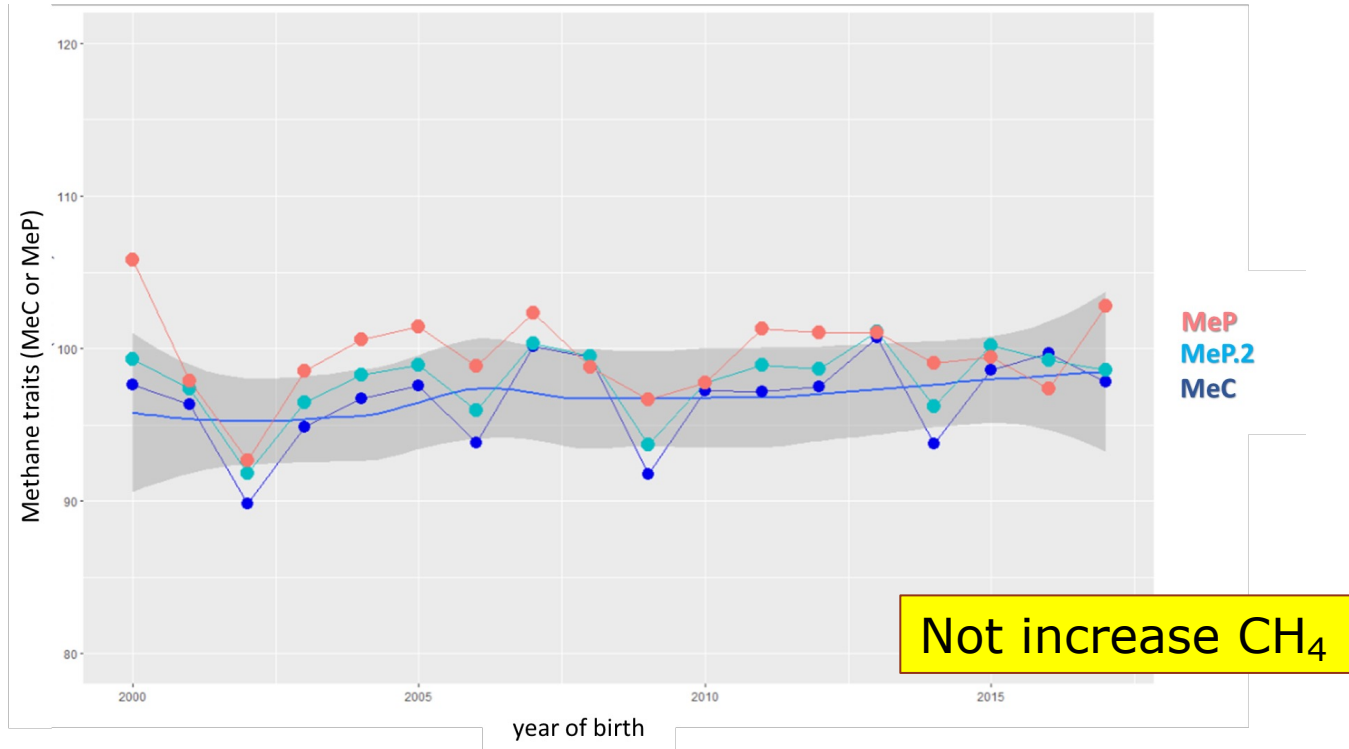


mix99, apax , relaX2, hginv, diag_iA22 (Luke 2023)



SSTP genomic evaluation (june 2023) | results

- Genetic trends (>70% fiab)



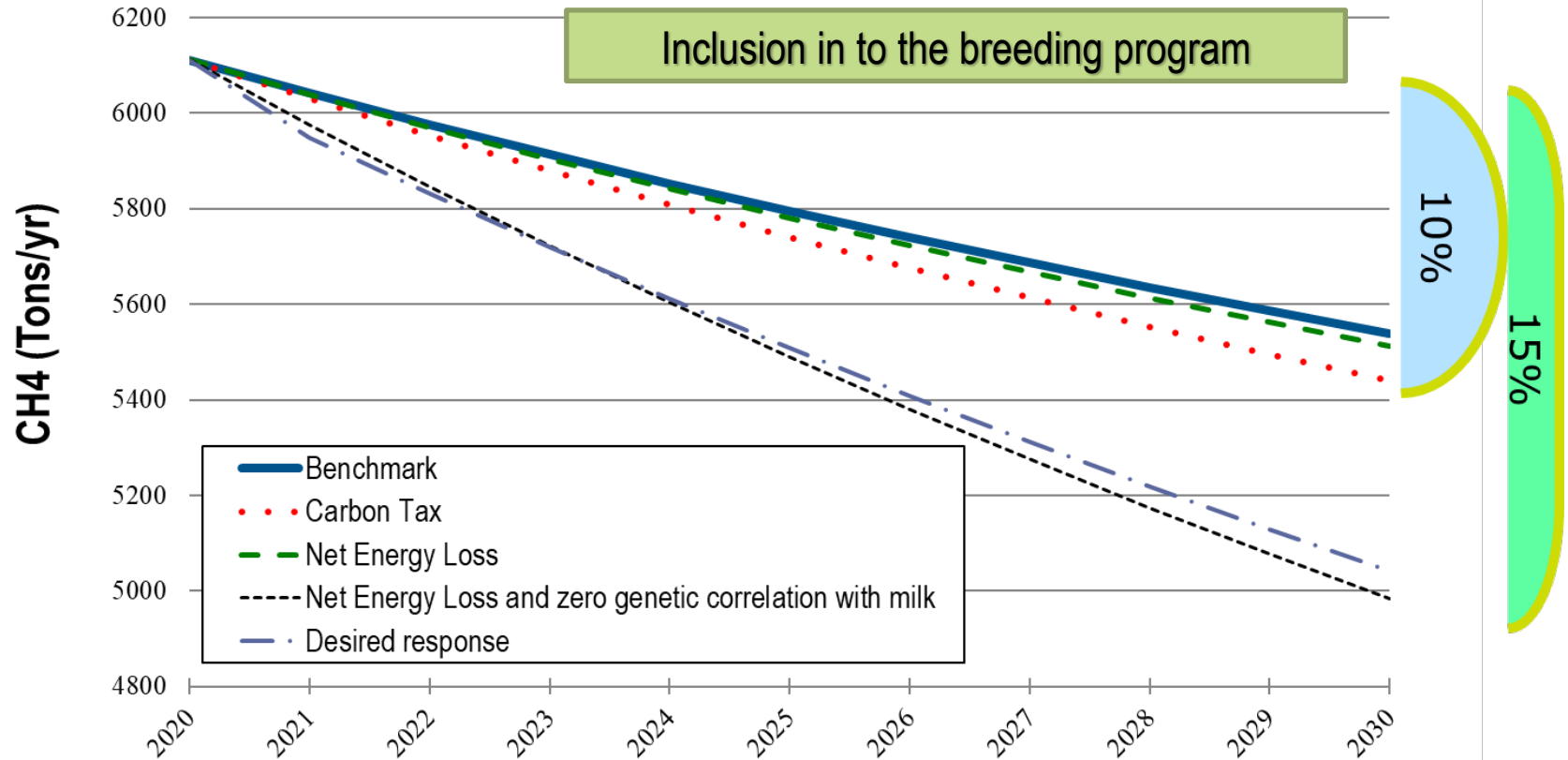
SSTP genomic evaluation (june 2023) | results

- Genetic correlations with other traits and expected genetic responses ...

	MY	PY	FY	FERT	LW	BCS	RFI
MeC (ppm)	-0.11	-0.04	0.37	-0.09	0.23	0.35	0.30
MeP (g/d)	0.03	-0.05	0.44	-0.20	0.66	0.32	0.16
Genetic Response using selection index (Relative importance: 16% of RFI and RMeC)							
-4.9 ppm	280 kg	11.4 kg	9.9 kg	-0.4 d	0.6 kg	-0.2	-12.4 kg
+59.6 €/cow/yr							

SSTP genomic evaluation (june 2023) | results

Emissions intensity (Gonzalez-Recio et al. 2020)



GENOME

To sum up ...

Methane emissions **should be** incorporated to the **breeding goals** in dairy cattle due to:

- **Enviromental** importance
- **Economic** importance
- **Social** importance

In Spain we are going to publish our **genetic evaluations** of methane emissions the next june using SSTP approach.

It is necessary to have more data and information (colaboration with other countries??) to disentangle the relationship between methane and other traits, but preliminary studies don't show any antagonism.





¡Gracias! | thanks ! | grazie! | dank! | go raibh maith agat!