

VEGGIE CURED MEATS: Development of meat analogues for raw-cured sausage and cured ham

Summary

The human population is estimated to exceed 10 billion people by early 2050, which implies a 100% increase in demand for animal protein, if consumption trends do not change. Meat analogues are considered a more sustainable alternative to industrial meat production. The popularity of and high demand for meat analogues is due to the growing number of consumers looking for healthy, nutritious and environmentally friendly protein alternatives.

This project aims to develop a line of cured meat analogues using surplus local crop varieties, prioritising their sensory and nutritional quality.

The development of these products aims to support:

- Small and medium-sized companies in the Catalan agricultural sector, raising the value of and providing an outlet for the production of unmarketable crops, due either to surplus production or failing to meet retail quality standards.
- Companies in the agri-food industry are aware of the need for a change of model towards a more sustainable food production system.

The products developed in the project will contribute to reducing food waste, thanks to the use of surplus local crop varieties.

Objectives

Developing a line of cured meat analogues using surplus local crop varieties, prioritising their sensory and nutritional quality.

With a view to achieving the main objective of the pilot project, a number of activities will be carried out to achieve the following intermediate objectives: identification of different crop varieties with the optimum properties for the development processes, obtaining innovative and safe cured meat analogues, and disseminating the results in the Catalan agri-food sector and scientific community.

Description of the actions planned in the project

- Activity 1: Selection and characterisation of surplus local crop varieties
- Activity 2: Sourcing new products and ingredients
- Activity 3: Development of a vegan fuet sausage with edible skin
- Activity 4: Development of a cured ham analogue
- Activity 5: Development of a vegan chorizo
- Activity 6: Project dissemination actions

Expected results and practical recommendations

- Identification of surplus local varieties with optimum properties for the development processes.
- Compilation of new products and ingredients on the market for cured meat analogues that could be used in the proposed development processes.
- A vegan fuet sausage with edible skin.
- A cured ham analogue.
- A vegan chorizo.

Leader of the Operational Group

ORGANISATION: NOEL ALIMENTARIA, SAU

Coordinator of the Operational Group

ORGANISATION: IRTA - Institute of Agrifood Research and Technology

Other members of the Operational Group (grant recipients)

ORGANISATION: PERNILS LLÉMENA, SA

Other members of the Operational Group (not recipients of the grant)

ORGANISATION: NOMEN

ORGANISATION: GLU10 SAFE FOOD, SL

Subject area(s) of application

- Agricultural production system
- Agricultural practice
- Agricultural equipment and machinery
- Livestock farming and animal welfare
- Vegetable production and horticulture
- Landscape / Territorial management
- Pest and disease control
- Fertilisation and nutrient management
- Soil management
- Genetic resources
- Forestry
- Water management
- Climate and Climate Change
- Energy management
- Waste and by-product management
- Biodiversity and environmental management
- Food quality/processing and nutrition
- Supply chain, marketing and consumption
- Competitiveness and agricultural and forestry diversification
- General

Geographical area(s) of application

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|---------------------------------|--|
| PROVINCE(S) | REGION(S) |
| Barcelona, Girona and Tarragona | Baix Ebre, Baix Empordà, Garrotxa, Vallès Occidental |

Dissemination of the project (publications, conferences, multimedia, etc.)

Different dissemination actions are planned to effectively explain the project and report the results, and reach the whole target public included in the scope of the project (agri-food sector from primary production, processing and distribution through to consumers): associations, sector conference, explanatory article, infographics and publishable report, social media and explanatory video.

Project website

More information on the project

| PROJECT DATES | TOTAL BUDGET |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Starting date: July 2021 | Total budget: €152,512.80 |
| | DACC funding: €70,529.98 |
| Current status: Under way | EU funding: €53,206.82 |
| | Own funding: €28,776.00 |

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Order ARP/113/2021 of 20 May, approving the regulatory bases for grants for cooperation for innovation by promoting the creation of European Association for Innovation operational groups in the areas of agricultural productivity and sustainability and the execution of innovative pilot projects by those groups, and Resolution ACC/1660/2021, of 27 May, announcing the call for the grant.