

ECOCARN - Extension of the shelf life of organically certified pork and beef products

Summary

The overall aim of the project is to increase the current shelf life of various organically certified pork and beef products (beef and pork burgers, fresh pork sausage, Catalan pork sausage and egg sausage and white pudding) and provide the two companies in the consortium (Carns de confiança – Pirinat and the company Embotits Salgot, S.A.) with the tools to increase their competitiveness in the market so that they become a benchmark in the national meat sector.

Objectives

The organisation, technology, knowledge, hygiene, packaging and logistics of pork and beef in these two companies must be evaluated in order to achieve the overall aim.

The following specific technical objectives are set:

- Evaluate the hygienic and technological quality of meat as a raw material to ensure the highest quality when it is processed into meat products.
- Monitor and manage the critical factors on which the shelf life of the meat products evaluated depends.
- Evaluate the materials, packaging systems and environmental conditions (temperature and relative humidity) that improve the preservation of meat products from the perspective of safety and quality.
- Integrate improvements on an industrial scale (additives and ingredients, processing and packaging) to obtain high-quality products.

Description of the measures planned in the project

The following activities to fulfil the specific objectives have been proposed:

- Activity 1. Identification and quantitative evaluation of the determining factors in the durability of meat products in various reasonably foreseeable scenarios, by applying predictive tools and experimental trials.
- Activity 2. Experimental verification of the best strategy, taking into account the quality and durability of meat products, evaluating microbial growth and changes in visual/olfactory characteristics during their shelf life.

Expected results and practical recommendations

The expected results of the project are as follows:

- Distribution of the most common values of the technological and hygienic quality of the raw material used in the preparation of the meat products.
- Identification and quantitative evaluation of the determining factors in the shelf life of the meat products.

- Creation of the most reasonably foreseeable scenarios related to the shelf life of the meat products selected, based on the factors that may have the greatest impact on their shelf life.
- Definition of the optimal conditions for the production of organic meat products, considering the extension of their shelf life as an objective.
- Verification of the shelf life of meat products selected based on a durability test, carried out under optimal conditions to achieve a shelf life longer than their current shelf life.

Leader of the Operational Group

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Coordinator of the Operational Group

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Other members of the Operational Group (grant recipients)

ORGANISATION: Embotits Salgot, SA

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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

PROVINCE(S)	REGION(S)
GIRONA	RIPOLLÈS
BARCELONA	VALLÈS ORIENTAL

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

<<https://www.innovacc.cat/2019/11/21/projectes-presentats-en-la-linia-de-grups-operatius-2019-del-darp/>>

<<https://www.innovacc.cat/2020/06/29/6-projectes-presentats-en-la-linia-de-grups-operatius-2019-del-darp-obtenen-resolucio-favorable/>>

Project website**More information on the project**

PROJECT DATES	TOTAL BUDGET
Start date (month-year): July 2020	Total budget: €140,964.52
Completion date (month-year):	DARP funding: €57,609.27
Current status: Underway	EU funding: €43,459.63
	Own funding: €39,895.62

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Order ARP/133/2017 of 21 June, 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 ARP/1531/2019, of 28 May, announcing the call for the grant.



Generalitat de Catalunya
**Departament d'Agricultura,
 Ramaderia, Pesca i Alimentació**



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