

Promotion of the production of barley, wheat, alfalfa and oilseed crops in organic production of animal feed

Summary

This Operational Group is established to promote the production of raw materials to obtain locally produced organic feed. The Group is led by NUTREX PINSOS, SL, a company specialising in the production of feed, with an increasingly extensive portfolio of organic farmers. CARNS DE CONFIANÇA, SL, a leading company in breeding organic beef, will focus on research for the cultivation of organic barley, necessary for feeding its livestock. Finally, ACEITES DE SEMILLAS, SA specialises in processing oilseed crops (including rapeseed and soybeans), and in addition to oil, it obtains the flour used in feed production. ACEITES DE SEMILLAS currently manages its own organic production areas due to the lack of reliable locally produced organic raw material

Objectives

The pilot project focuses on encouraging local production of raw materials for producing livestock feed, and barley, wheat, alfalfa, rapeseed and soybeans in particular, within an organic production system.

The project has the following secondary objectives:

- Determine the agronomic practices, costs and quality involved in current local organic production of barley, corn, alfalfa and rapeseed.
- Study the feasibility of rapeseed cultivation in the organic production system.
- Assess the adaptation of new varieties of barley, corn and soybeans to organic production systems.
- Improve the management of nitrogen fertilisation in the production and quality of barley and wheat.

Transfer the results obtained

Description of the measures planned in the project

The following activities will be carried out in order to achieve the planned objectives:

- **Activity 1.** Monitoring of plots of organic farmers producing barley, corn and alfalfa.
- **Activity 2.** Study of the agronomic feasibility of rapeseed cultivation in organic production systems.
- **Activity 3.** Assessment of new varieties of barley and wheat in the organic production system.
- **Activity 4.** Impact of nitrogen fertilisation on the production, quality and health of barley and wheat.
- **Activity 5.** Assessment of the agronomic viability of soybean cultivation in organic farming.
- **Activity 6.** Transfer of the results.

Expected results and practical recommendations

Activity 1. Ascertain the most common cultural practices and costs of growing barley, corn and alfalfa in the organic production system. Determine the quality of the production of some of the main raw materials for the production of animal foods in organic farming. Determine the mycotoxin content of organically grown wheat.

Activity 2. Determine the main factors in the cultivation of rapeseed in the organic production system.

Activity 3. Recommend barley varieties that adapt well to the organic production system. Recommend corn varieties that adapt well to the organic production system.

Activity 4. Impact of nitrogen fertilisation on the production and quality of barley and wheat crops in the

organic production system

Activity 5. Determine the main factors in the cultivation of soybeans in the organic production system.

Activity 6. Effective dissemination of the most innovative results of the project on the industrial and scientific levels. Communications at conferences, seminars, etc.

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)

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

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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	El Pla de l'Estany
Girona	El Ripollès
Barcelona	El Vallès Oriental

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

A communication plan will be prepared, based on the new ideas and innovations arising from the project at both the sector and scientific level, and this will be supported by patents and publications that may be produced. The target groups for its dissemination will be as follows:

Industrial sectors

There are plans to present the innovative elements and results of the project at trade fairs, conventions and specific seminars, and also through the media used by each of the companies (personalised emails sent to customers, conventions, catalogues, commercial documents, newsletters, etc.) in order to increase and multiply the scope of communication.

Technological and Research Centres and the scientific sector

The results of this project will be published in specialist journals. The knowledge generated within the framework of the project will be shared with the scientific community. The MAS BADIA FOUNDATION subcontracted research centre will be actively involved in the dissemination of the results through the centre and through the scientific and technological platforms on which it participates.

Presentations and lectures will be given at national and international congresses. Furthermore, and in accordance with 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, the results will be disseminated through the EAI and the public will be informed of the grant obtained from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development.

More information on the project

PROJECT DATES	TOTAL BUDGET
Start date (month-year): July 2019	Total budget: €181,714.29
Completion date (month-year):	DARP funding: €74,262.85
Current status: Underway	EU funding: €56,022.86
	Own funding: €51,428.58

With funding from:

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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/1282/2018, of 8 June, announcing the call for the grant.