CONTEXT PROFILE





FARMER Joaquim Mira – Sociedade Agrícola Fonte do Prior



INNOVATION Rotational grazing, non-selective grazing, and direct seeding



MAIN DOMAIN OF THE INNOVATION Improvement of grassland management



AGROCLIMATIC AREA Mediterranean south



CLIMATE Little rainfall



SOIL TYPE Loam

No.

MANAGEMENT Pasture beef



TECHNICAL











FINANCE/INVESTMENT Low

MARKET Local-rural

SOCIAL Full-time farmer



CONTEXT PROFILE PORTUGAL

Case Study: PT_10	Agroclimatic Zone								
Item (Key Innovation Elements)	Alpine	Atlantic Central	Atlantic North	Atlantic South	Boreal	Continental North	Continental South	Mediterranean North	Mediterranean South
System of non-selective grazing in paddocks with momentary high stocking density (200 animals on about 30 ha) resulting in non-selective grazing	++	+	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++
Possibility of carrying out direct sowing	++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++



Generic information/not relevant



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Implementation Gaps

- Farm area insufficient to implement the described system (here: 330 hectares, 200 of which represent Montado area and around 90 hectares of arable land, part of which is irrigated)
- Breed is important to balance grazing pressure and dietary needs of cattle

Research Gaps

- Differentiation of mob grazing and nonselective grazing
- Advantages of mob grazing/non-selective grazing under favorable climatic conditions (drought not being the prevailing condition)

- grazing
- non-selective grazing



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Suggestions to Adapt

• For dairy breeds, supplement with energy-/protein-rich concentrates to match animals' energy requirements

• Slow recovery of vegetation after mob

• Lack of know-how for implementation of

COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

INVESTMENT COSTS

Total initial investment costs at start up:

- Initial authorisation costs (e.g. sanitary, veterinary, etc.)
- Initial advisory costs
- Initial buildings and machineries
- Initial certification costs
- Initial working capital (personal qualification, marketing and promotion, etc.)

ON-GOING COSTS

On-going advisory costs	low
On-going certification costs	low
On-going buildings and machinery costs	not applicable/not known
On-going working capital	not applicable/not known

BENEFITS RELATIVE TO ORIGINAL SYSTEM

• Economic

Reduction in energy consumption (electricity; fuel consumption)

Reduction in input use (fertilizers; pesticides; feed) etc.

Payback period

Product value added

Additional farm income through agroecological/agri-environmental payment schemes

• Environmental

Animal feed self-sufficiency increase

Biodiversity increase

Improved nitrogen cycling

Soil regeneration

Animal health and welfare improvement

• Social

Workload reduction

Engagement of young generation



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low
low

not applicable/not known
mid
mid
mid
not applicable/not known

not applicable/not known
not applicable/not known
high
high
high

mid	
not applicable/not known	

Literature

English

• Garnett, T., Godde, C., Muller, A., Röös, E., Smith, P., de Boer, I.J.M., zu Ermgassen, E., Herrero, M., van Middelaar, C., Schader, C. and van Zanten, H. (2017). Grazed and Confused? Ruminating on cattle, grazing systems, methane, nitrous oxide, the soil carbon sequestration question – and what it all means for greenhouse gas emissions. FCRN, University of Oxford., p. 53 ff): <u>https://tabledebates.org/publication/grazed-and-confused</u>



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