

PRACTICE ABSTRACT 6

Feeding pigs with local legumes

AUTHORS:

*Rosa Nieto, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), Spain, *Ignacio Fernandez-Figares, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), Spain

*rosa.nieto@eez.csic.es;

*ignacio.fernandez-figares@eez.csic.es

WP2:
Re-Feeding
livestock for
resilience

Reducing Soya Dependence in Pig Feeding

One of the activities programmed in the Re-Livestock project is searching for strategies for reducing soya as the main **protein source** in pig diets. The dependence on soya imports of European livestock feeding industry is very high and this generates an elevated **carbon footprint** associated to livestock **feeding**. One possible solution is the replacement of soya for other protein sources produced close to pig farms. **Local legumes** - well adapted to local and diverse climatic conditions- could be a good source of protein for pigs when included in the diet appropriately complemented.



Figure 1. Lentils, chickpeas and peas.

Legumes in Pig Feeding: Spain and Poland Studies

Two set of studies are being carried out in Spain and Poland, respectively, including **local legumes** for feeding both cosmopolitan and local breeds of pigs. In **Spain**, the fraction discarded for human consumption of **lentils**, **peas** and **chickpeas** is used to replace (totally or partially) soya in the diet of growing cosmopolitan pigs in farm experiments (Figure 1). Lab experiments including growing **cosmopolitan** and **Iberian** pigs will be performed for a deeper look into the legume treatments showing better performance at farm level.



Figure 2. Faba beans plant and seed.

In **Poland**, **faba** beans (Figure 2) and **lupins** (Figure 3) will be used to include in the diet of local **Putawska** pigs during the grower and finisher periods.

Legumes in Pig Diets: A Sustainable Approach

Growth, feed efficiency and meat quality results generated in these experiments could be very valuable for **promoting** the use of **legumes** for inclusion in pig diets. This will contribute to reduce the **carbon footprint** associated to pig feeding with the additional benefit of enriching the quality of soils.



Figure 3. Lupins plant and seed.