



INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY, RESOURCE EFFICIENCY
AND PRODUCT QUALITY TO INCREASE THE ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS
OF FORAGE AND GRAZING BASED CATTLE PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

CHALLENGE

The productivity of milk and meat production from European cattle has increased considerably in recent decades. However, the sustainability of this intensification is questioned due to environmental and animal welfare trade-offs and growing reliance on edible food and imported soy as feed.

OBJECTIVES

This project aims to evaluate the productivity, resource-use efficiency and consumers' acceptability of a transition to high forage and pasture diets for European cattle. It will focus on dairy, integrated dairy/beef and specialized beef production systems, hereby addressing: productivity, product quality, animal health and welfare, economic performance, resource use efficiency and consumer appreciation.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The main hypotheses are that transition to high forage and non-food diets will enhance product quality, animal health and welfare, resource efficiency and consumer acceptability, by matching appropriate diets, breeds and production systems and by rearing all dairy bred calves. The project involves modelling, experimental and participatory R&D activities.

POTENTIAL IMPACT

Research findings will increase our knowledge on how European animal production can improve profitability, societal acceptance and environmental credibility, as well as becoming more resilient to external influences such as global markets.





EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA ON SUSTAINABLE ANIMAL PRODUCTION



SUSCATT CONSORTIUM

Country	Consortiumpartners	Funded by
NO	The Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research	RCN
DE	Institute of Crop Science and Plant Breeding, Kiel University	BMEL
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