

Adapting the feed, the animal and the feeding techniques to improve the efficiency and sustainability of monogastric livestock production systems

# In the search for European protein autonomy – more and better





The Feed-a-Gene Project has received funding from the European Union's H2020 Programme under grant agreement no 633531.





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## Background

- Europe has a chronic protein deficit; approximately 70% of protein rich feedstuffs is imported
- Rapeseed, sunflower and soybean are the three main protein crops in Europe with annual productions of 22.6, 9.1 and 2.5 mill tons
- The land used for soybean has quadrupled over the last 5 years and with a potential to increase even further
- Green biomass may have a potential to become a regional protein source in Europe





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### Strategic actions in the Feed-a-Gene project

- European grown soy bean and new processes technologies to improve nutritive value of SBM
- Green biomass as a sustainable protein source
- Processing of RSM for improved quality
- Biotechnological means to improve quality of RSM
- New technologies for evaluating nutritional quality in real-time





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## More and better protein in Europe



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## European grown soy bean



European grown soy bean

New processing technologies to improve nutritive value of SBM

Processes used in Feed-a-Gene involve extrusion or cooking with or without dehulling to produce expeller SBM

- → reduced content of antinutritional compounds
- → high protein and amino acids digestibility







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## Protein from green biomass



#### Biomass from grasses and legumes

Separation of soluble protein from insoluble protein

Fractionation of green biomass into a protein **concentrate** rich in soluble protein and **pulp** rich in insoluble protein

- → higher protein and amino acids content
- reduced content of antinutritional compounds





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Improving the quality of rape seed meal



European rape seed meal

Tail-end separation of RSM and use of biotechnological means

Tail-end separation of RSM into fine and coarse fractionations

- ➡ higher protein and amino acids digestibility
- → removal of fibre and antinutritional compounds

Biotechnological means to improve nutritional value

- → removal of antinutritional compounds
- ➡ improved feed efficiency

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Nutritional evaluation of European grown soybean products processed with different technologies

- In vitro evaluation of soybean products
  - Study of in vitro rate and extent of protein digestion
- Study with weaned piglets
  - Performance
  - N-retention
  - Ileal digestibility of amino acids
  - Apparent and standardized ileal digestible amino acid content
- Study with broiler chicken
  - Performance
  - Slaughter quality
  - Digestibility & digesta viscosity





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## Nutritional evaluation of protein concentrate and pulp from green biomass

- In vitro evaluation of protein concentrate
  - Study of in vitro rate and extent of protein digestion



- In vivo evaluation of protein concentrate
  - Apparent and standardized ileal digestibility of protein and amino acids in pigs
- In vivo evaluation of pulp for rabbits
  - Performance
  - Total tract digestibility of nutrients





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## Nutritional evaluation of rape seed products

- In vitro evaluation of physically separated rape seed meal
  - Study of in vitro rate and extent of protein digestion
- In vivo evaluation of physically separated rape seed meal
  - Performance
  - Ileal and total tract digestibility of nutrients
- Study of RSM without and with enzymes in broiler chicken
  - Performance
  - Slaughter quality
  - Digestibility & digesta viscosity
- In vivo evaluation of bioprocessed RSM without and with enzyme addition
  - Performance
  - Ileal and total tract digestibility of nutrients











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## Evaluation of nutritive value in real-time

Development of calibration equations from NIR scans based on in vivo database with feedstuffs and mixtures

Developments of equations for macronutrients, amino acids, total tract digestibility of energy and nutrients and metabolizable energy in pigs

eME by using table values for composition and digestibility of nutrients,  $R^2 = 0.89$ eME calculated from NIR estimated components and NIR digestibility estimates,  $R^2 = 0.94$ eME directly from NIR calibration, ,  $R^2 = 0.94$ 

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## Protein concentrates from RSM

The use of RSM in animal nutrition is restricted by its content of antinutritional compounds and lower protein digestibility

Better use of rape seed concentrate with higher protein concentration and decreased content of antinutritional compounds

Innovative approaches to produce rape seed protein concentrates with lower costs







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## The researchers behind

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## ....and the organisations







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