Feed-a-Gene

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

Feed-a-Gene aims to better adapt different components of monogastric livestock production systems (pigs, poultry and rabbits) to improve the overall efficiency of these systems, to reduce their environmental impact, and to enhance food security whilst maintaining food quality. Expected results include:

- Alternative feeds and feed technologies to make better use of local resources, green biomass and food and biofuel by-products.
- Methods for real-time characterization of the nutritional value of feeds.
- New traits of feed efficiency and robustness to select more adapted animals.
- Models of livestock functioning to better predict nutrient and energy utilization.
- New management systems for precision feeding and precision farming.
- Evaluation of the sustainability of those systems.

Those technologies will be demonstrated and disseminated in collaboration with industrial partners and farmers’ organisations.

Feed-a-Gene at a glance

9.9 M€
EC contribution 9.0 M€
5 years
March 2015 to February 2020
23 partners
9 countries

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6 R&D work packages

WP1 Alternative feed ingredients and real-time characterization
WP2 New traits for innovative feeding and breeding strategies
WP3 Modelling feed use and mechanisms
WP4 Management systems for precision feeding
WP5 Use of traits in animal selection
WP6 Sustainability assessment of the production system

plus 1 Dissemination WP and 1 Management WP

23 partners

- INRA
- Wageningen UR
- Newcastle University
- Universitat de Lleida
- IRTA
- Kaposvár University
- Aarhus University
- China Agricultural University
- Topigs Norsvin
- Cobb
- Hamlet Protein
- Bühler
- DuPont
- Exafan
- Claitec
- INCO
- Gran Suino italiano
- ACTA
- IFIP
- ITAVI
- Terres Inovia
- AFZ
- INRA Transfert

Stakeholders

- Farmers and cooperatives
- Genetics and breeding companies
- Producers of compound feeds, ingredients and additives
- Equipment manufacturers and IT solutions providers
- Food industry and retailers
- Extension services, technical advisors, consultants
- R&D organisations, academic institutions
- Networks and associations
- Consumer organisations

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