



# Production systems

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European Pigmeat Reflection Group

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**copa**\***cogeca**  
european farmers      european agri-cooperatives





## Mission

To ensure a viable, innovative, competitive EU agriculture and agri-food sector guaranteeing food security to half a billion people throughout Europe.



## Objective

Promoting European farmers and agri-cooperatives views to **influence** EU decision-making process and public opinion.

# Production methods

- \* Precision farming

- \* Traditional farming

- \* Organic farming

- \* Lab-grown “pork”



# Precision farming

\*One site

\*Two sites

\*Three sites



# One site

## \*Advantages

- \* Better biosecurity
- \* There is no animal movement

## \*Disadvantages

- \* Increased piglets sanitary problems due to having the fattening pigs together



# Two sites

## \*Advantages

- \* Sanitary advantages for the piglets because we don't have the fatteners

## \*Disadvantages

- \* Biosecurity – we have to move the animals
- \* More expensive



# Three sites

## \*Advantages

- \* During the weaning age the piglets are not in contact with the fatteners nor with the sows, therefore, best sanitary conditions

## \*Disadvantages

- \* Biosecurity as we have to move the animals twice
- \* Higher cost



# Traditional farming

- \*Autochthonous Breeds on open air
- \*Autochthonous Breeds Crossing with Duroc
- \*Fattening pigs on open air
- \*Iberian pig
- \*Autochthonous Breeds on open air with final fattening phase feed with acorn (plant from the cork tree)





# Advantages of precision farming

## \* Reduction of feed intake

- \* Conversion feed rate for the fatteners: 2,2-2,4 kgs/kg of pig
- \* High productivity of the sows, therefore less feed for each piglet
- \* Less feed implies less water consumption and more cereals available for human consumption



# Advantages of precision farming

- \*Temperature and humidity control linked to less emissions
- \*Possible installation of biogas system with green energy production
- \*Lower production cost
- \*High biosecurity



# Disadvantages of precision farming

- \*Tendency to concentrate on large farms
- \*Difficulty in enforcing certain animal welfare standards such as tail docking ban



# Tradicional farming

## \*Advantages

- \* Best meat quality
- \* Better welfare for the animals

## \*Disadvantages

- \* More feed intake
- \* Conversion rate pf the fatteners: 4,5-5,0kg/kg of pig
- \* More feed implies more water consumption and implies more cereal consumption
- \* Difficulties in implementing biosecurity
- \* High production cost





# Organic farming

## \*Advantages

- \* Very good marketing

## \*Disadvantages

- \* Higher feed intake implies higher water consumption
- \* Higher costs
- \* Any advance on the meat quality
- \* Very difficult to implement biosecurity



# Lab-grown “pork”

## \*Advantages

- \* None

## \*Disadvantages

- \* It's not meat but ultra processed products
- \* We don't know what will be the implication on human health in the near future
- \* High technology leads to only very big companies capable of implementing it
- \* Risk to have 3 to 4 companies controlling world production
- \* Countryside abandonment
- \* Limitations when it comes to sustainability



# Future

- \* Precision farming and traditional farming have a place in the future
- \* Organic farming is going to have big difficulties because the cost VS benefits is very high and the consumers will have difficulties to purchase (see France's example)
- \* Lab-grown "pork" must be banned ASAP

