How do forage legumes contribute to organic livestock farming?

- Using novel harvesting and biorefining techniques, forage legumes can be converted into protein- and fiber-rich fractions.
- Leaves and pressed juice can be a protein source for monogastric animals such as pigs and poultry.
- Mechanical pressing may increase the digestibility of the fibre fraction in forage legumes that can be converted to valuable feed for ruminants.
- By utilising locally available feed resources such as forage legumes, the dependence on imported animal feeds may be reduced making organic livestock farming more sustainable.

Refined forage legumes as local sources of protein feed for monogastrics and high quality fibre feed for ruminants in organic production

- Duration: 05-2018 to 04-2021
- Total budget: 1.37 mill. €
- Six countries, seven institutes and one industry partner
- Coordination: NIBIO, Norway
- Financial support for this project is provided by funding bodies within the H2020 ERA-net project, CORE Organic Cofund, and with cofunds from the European Commission.

Processed forages legumes can increase self-sufficiency in organic animal husbandry.

Read More about ProRefine
Further information can be obtained from the project coordinator Steffen Adler (NIBIO) steffen.adler@nibio.no

New methods for producing high quality feed locally

A CORE Organic Cofund project.
Aim of ProRefine

Gain new knowledge about local production of protein feed for monogastric animals in organic farming

• Converting lucerne and red clover crops into protein-rich and fibre-rich fractions
• Preserving the feeds
• Feed values of the fractions for monogastric animals and ruminants
• Concepts of local food systems adapted to different regions
• Farmers’ attitudes towards self-sufficiency and cooperation
• Disseminating of results from the research project through a participatory approach

Participants

INRA
Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, France

TRUST'ING, France

UCSC
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Italy

AU
Aarhus University, Denmark

NIBIO
Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research

Ruralis
Institute for Rural and Regional Research, Norway

SLU
Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

IARTC
International Agricultural Research and Training Center, Turkey