

## Short description of project funded by CORE Organic II partners in the first call of CORE Organic II

<b>Project short name and title</b>
<b>ICOPP: Improved contribution of local feed to support 100% organic feed supply to pigs and poultry</b>
<b>Project summary</b>
<i>Can be text from the application: "B2 Project summary suitable for web publishing"</i>
<p>This project is highlighted by the requirement to base the feeding of organic produced poultry and pigs on feed of 100% organic origin from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012. The aim is to produce economically profitable feeding strategies based on 100% organic feed across Europe, which will supply poultry and pigs the required level of nutrients in different phases of production and support high animal health and welfare. This is done on the basis of the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved knowledge of availability and nutritional value of underutilized or new organic feed ingredients per animal category with a focus on local feed resources</li><li>• Improved understanding of the possible benefits of roughage inclusion in relation to nutritional and behavioural needs as well as its impact on health and welfare</li><li>• Understanding how direct foraging in the outdoor area can contribute to meeting the animals nutritional needs</li><li>• Assessing the economic and environmental consequences of increased reliance on local organically produced feed</li></ul> <p>The working hypothesis is that it is possible - through an extended knowledge of the characteristics of different local feeds and their wider impact on growth, health and welfare and environment - to produce strategies which comply with the aims for high animal welfare, production economy and environmental concerns. Through co-operation between 11 partners, a range of feeding experiments will be carried out with pigs (sows, piglets and finishers) and poultry (layers and broilers), clustered around concentrate feedstuffs, roughage, and foraging. The insight gained from these activities will be used to analyse and produce feeding strategies adapted to the differences in local feed supply, the economic impact related to different feed procurement, and variations in production structure in different countries/agroecological zones in Europe.</p>
<b>Aim, objectives and hypotheses</b>
<i>Can be text from the application: "B4 Description of the project, a) Aim, objectives and hypotheses"</i>
<p>The overall aim is to produce economically profitable feeding strategies based on 100% organic feed applicable to organic monogastric production systems across Europe, which will supply poultry and pigs the required level of nutrients in different phases of production and support high animal health and welfare, while also taking environmental effects into consideration. This aim will be fulfilled by addressing the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved knowledge of availability and nutritional value (in the widest sense) of underutilized or new organic feed ingredients per animal category, with the focus on local feed resources</li><li>• Improved understanding of the possible benefits of roughage inclusion in relation to covering nutritional and behavioural needs as well as the impact on health and welfare</li><li>• Understanding how direct foraging on crops and pasture in the outdoor area can contribute to covering the nutritional needs of pigs and poultry differing in genetics (inclination for activity)</li><li>• Assessing economic and environmental consequences of increased reliance on local organically produced feed</li></ul>

The working hypothesis is that it is possible - through an extended knowledge of the characteristics of different local feeds and their wider impact on growth, health and welfare and environment - to produce strategies, which comply with aims for high animal welfare, production economy and environmental concerns.

### **Expected results and their impact/application**

*Can be text from the application: "B4 Description of the project, a) Aim, objectives and hypotheses, c) Expected results and their impact/application"*

The main result of the activities for the sector is that appropriate feeding strategies are developed that better comply with the principles of organic farming, comply with the requirement of 100% organic feed for monogastrics, and at the same time is profitable and ensures an improvement in environmental impact and animal welfare compared with the current prevailing systems. This is done by acknowledging the differences in local feed supply, the economic impact related to different feed procurement, and variations in production structure in different countries/agroecological zones in Europe. Thus, while many of the biological results related to feeding strategy as obtained in the project can be shared across Europe, the project will deliver tailored 'solutions' for different production environments. The methodology used ensures that data generated in one country can be used and translated to the practices in another country. Furthermore, the information on the nutritional quality of a variety of concentrate feedstuffs generated herein will be of particular value to actors at the European market for organic feedstuffs. The wider impact foreseen is that the organic poultry and pork sector will be able to grow from its current relatively low extent.

### **Coordinator, partners and countries involved**

Co-ordinator: John E. Hermansen, University of Aarhus, Denmark

Partners:

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria

MTT Agrifood Research (MTT), Finland

Institute Technique de l'Agriculture Biologique, France

Institute of Organic Farming, von Thünen-Institut (vTI), Germany

University of Applied Sciences Weihenstephan-Triesdorf (HSWT), Germany

Lithuanian Institute of Agrarian Economics, Lithuania

Wageningen University, Netherlands

Lois Bolk Institute, Netherlands

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Sweden

Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), Switzerland

Organic Research Centre (ORC), Elm Farm, UK

FAI Farms, UK