



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI MILANO



DiSAA
DIPARTIMENTO
di SCIENZE
AGRARIE e
AMBIENTALI



Agrifood
LCA Lab



Life Cycle Assessment in aquaculture

The workshop, organized in the framework of the PRIMA project SIMTAP (<https://www.simtap.eu/>), is supported by the "Piano di supporto alla ricerca" of Department of Environmental Science and Policy of University of Milan.

Mon Dec 5, 2022

**Via Celoria 2, Room C03,
University of Milan**

Link for registration (both in presence & online):
<https://forms.gle/LM6S4KHUJSKZdGsG7>

L'evento partecipa al programma di formazione professionale continua dei Dottori Agronomi e dei Dottori Forestali per 0,333 CFP con riferimento al Regolamento CONAF n. 3/2013

A&Q Provider presso il Consiglio Nazionale dei Tecnologi Alimentari - Prot. n° 53/2014 - ha accreditato l'iniziativa per il rilascio di 2 CFP ai Tecnologi Alimentari iscritti all'Albo

Schedule

Introduction: background and issues of aquaculture

- 14.00-14.20 Interventions in aquaculture to promote food security
Patrick Henriksson - Stockholm Resilience Centre
- 14.20-14.40 Circularity in aquaculture – the role of LCA
Killian Chary - Wageningen University
- 14.40-15.00 The Simtap project
Alberto Pardossi - University of Pisa

LCA application towards more circular aquaculture

- 15.00-15.20 Insect for aquafeed
Laura Gasco - University of Turin,
- 15.20-15.40 LCA of aquafeed: introduction to ecoformulation. Application to rainbow trout
Aurélie Wilfart - INRAE
- 15.40-16.00 BREAK
- 16.00-16.20 Environmental performance and ecosystem services of shellfish farming: LCA and carbon sequestration potential
Arianna Martini - CREA
- 16.20-16.40 LCA of Aquaponics
Daniele Brigolin - University IUAV of Venice
- 16.40-17.00 LCA in SIMTAP project
Joel Aubin & Michele Zoli - INRAE & University of Milan

General discussion: how to better eco-design circular aquaculture? Technics and assessment method needs



Polo per la Qualificazione del Sistema Agro-Industriale



Interventions in Aquaculture to Promote Food Security

05 December 2022

Patrik JG Henriksson

One Earth



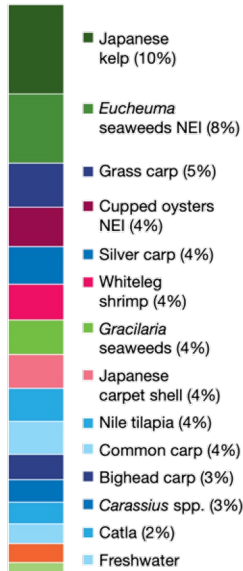
CellPress

Perspective

**Interventions for improving the productivity
and environmental performance
of global aquaculture for future food security**

Patrik John Gustav Henriksson,^{1,2,3,*} Max Troell,^{1,3} Lauren Katherine Banks,^{2,4} Ben Belton,^{2,5} Malcolm Charles Macrae Beveridge,⁶ Dane Harold Klinger,^{7,8} Nathan Pelletier,⁹ Michael John Phillips,² and Nhung Tran²

112 Mt



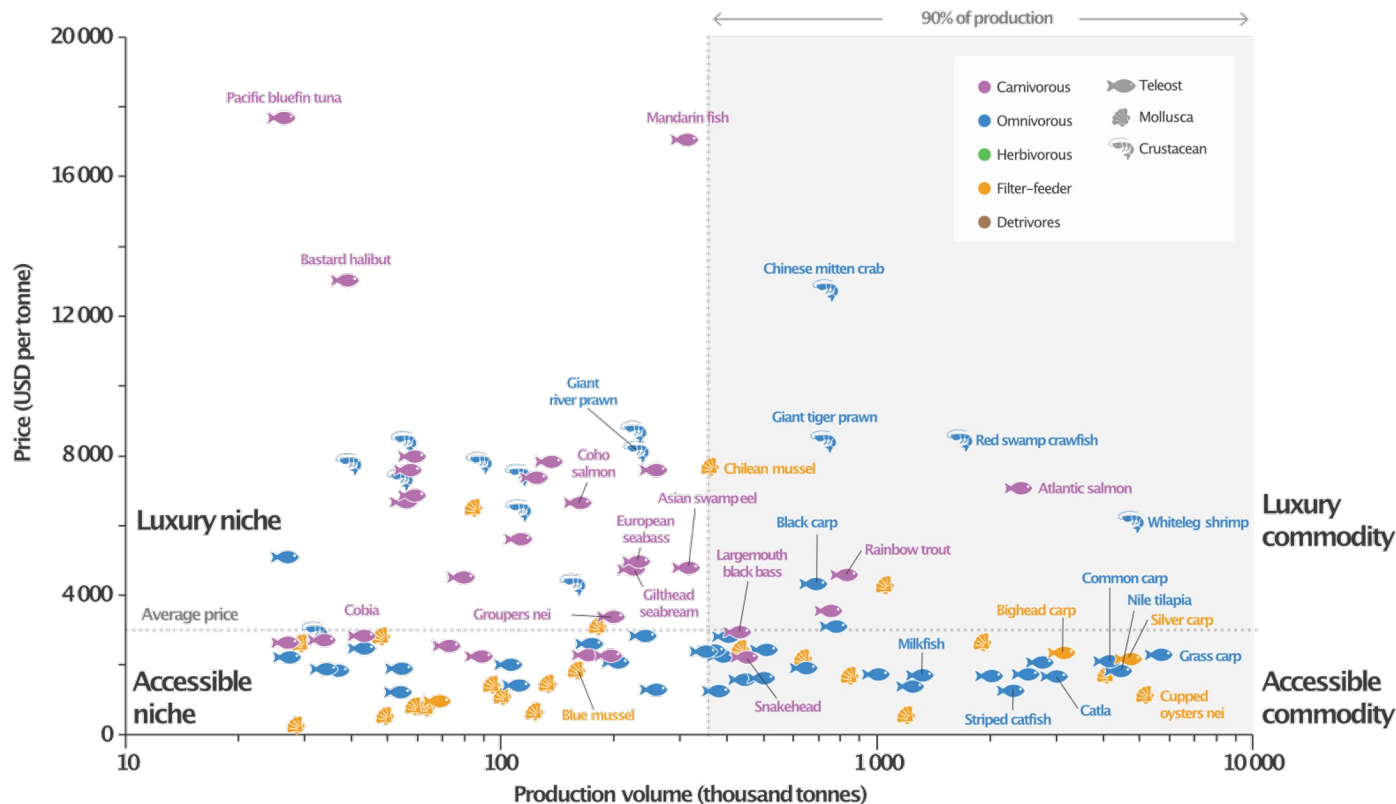
36 Mt



1997 2017



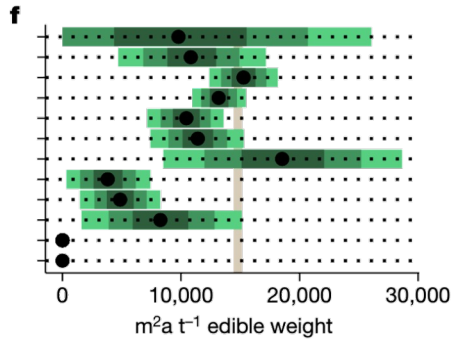
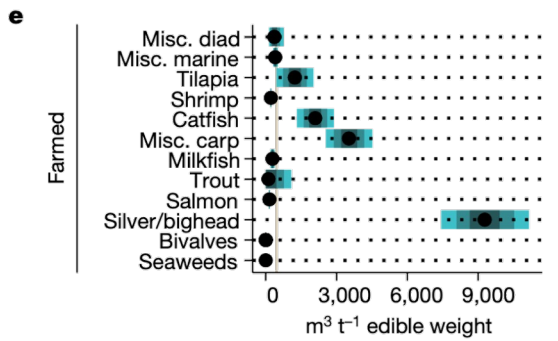
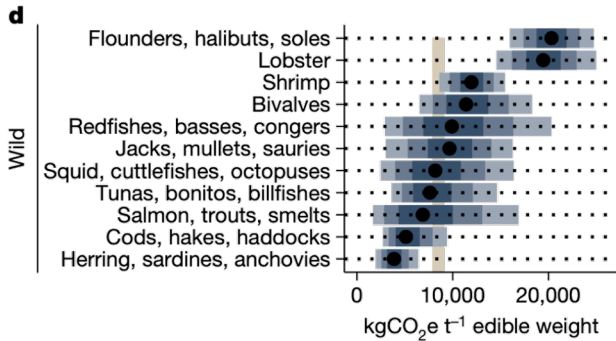
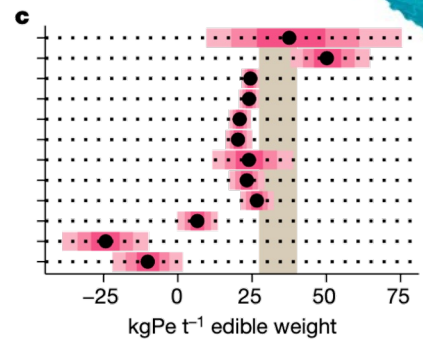
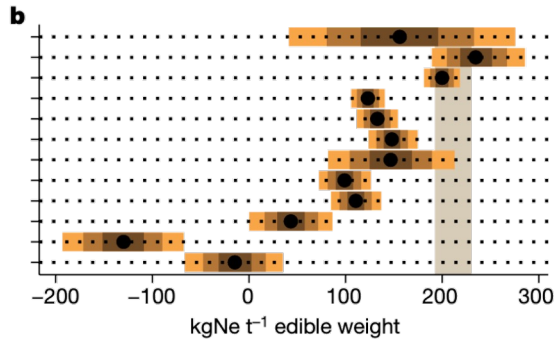
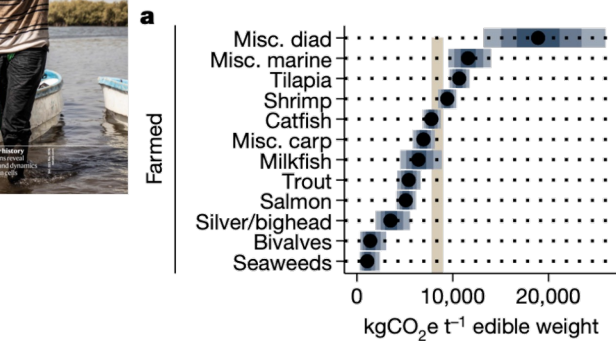
Aquaculture volumes and prices



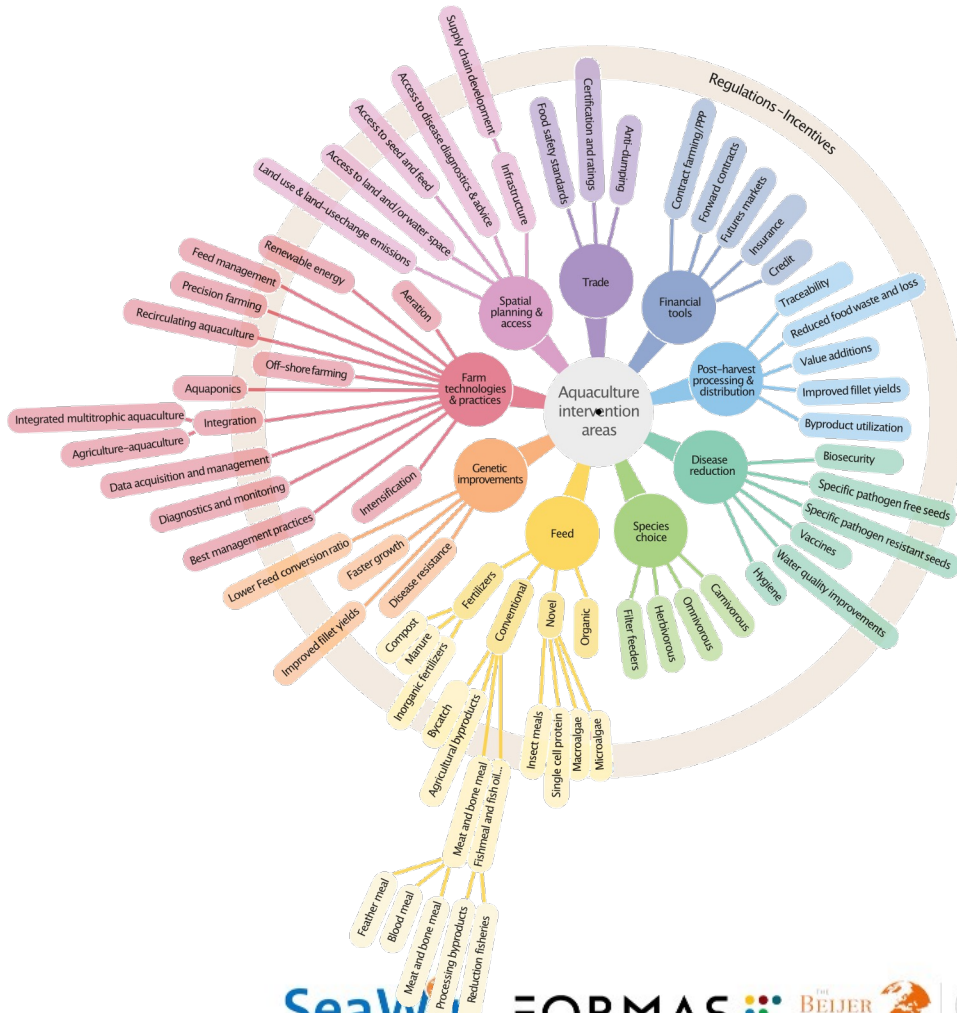
From: Henriksson et al. 2021



Environmental performance of blue foods



From: Gephart et al. 2021



From: Henriksson et al. 2021

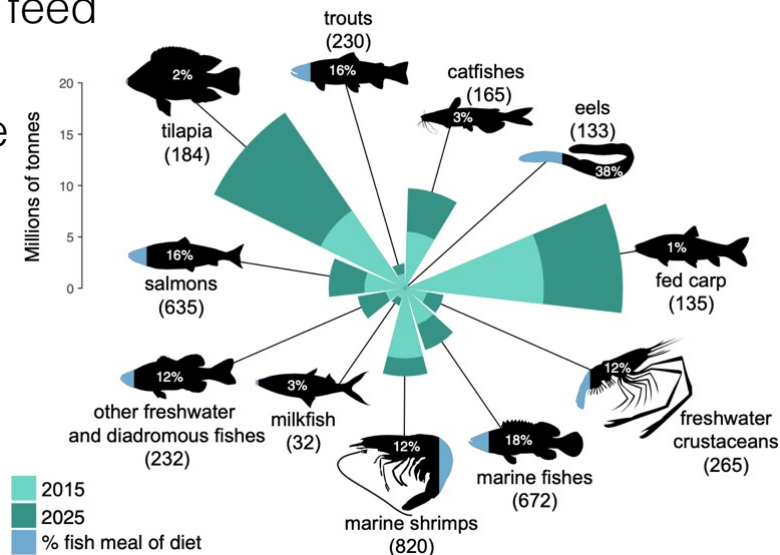
Species choice

Physiology

- Carnivorous species need higher quality feed resources
- Edible part varies by species and culture
- Tolerance to disease, oxygen levels, water quality, etc.

Consumers are selective












- Desire bone-free portion sized fillets
- Bivalves have limited acceptance
- Macroalgae only consumed in limited quantities, e.g. Miso soup, sushi, etc.



From: Hua et al. 2019

Feeds

- Feeds often make up over 90% of environmental impacts
- Many feed resources result in deforestation, e.g. soybeans from Brazil
- Many resources compete with food availability, e.g. fishmeal, maize, and wheat
- Novel ingredients are many, but volumes limited and prices high
 - Fish byproduct meals
 - Insect meals
 - Microbes
 - Etc.

	 Protein content	 Environmental sustainability	 Consumer acceptance	 Feasibility
 Fishery and aquaculture by-products	+	+	+	+
 Insect meals	+	+	+	+
Microbial biomass	 Bacteria and dry bio-floc	+	+	-
	 Yeast	+	+	-
	 Microalgae	+	+	-
 Macroalgae	-	+	+	+
 Food wastes	-	+	-	-

From: Hua et al., 2019

Farm technologies and practices

Ponds

- Require land
- Risk for spread of disease

Net pens in lakes or the ocean

- Release of eutrophying agents.
- Risk for spread of disease and escapees

Recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS)

- Expensive to establish and operate
- Energy intensive

Off-shore

- Expensive
- Reliant on high quality feed resources



Spatial
planning &
access

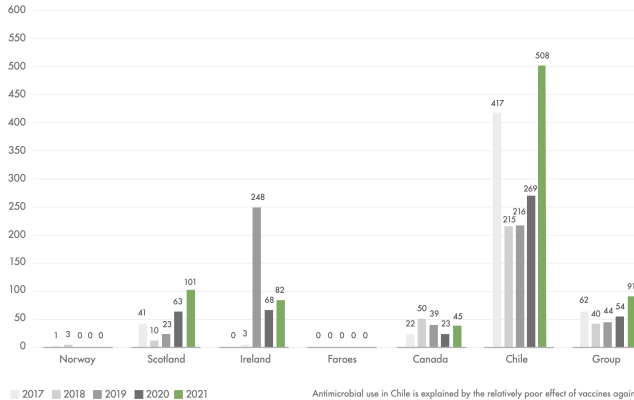
Disease
reduction

Spatial planning & Access & Disease reduction

- Consequences related to land use and land-use change
- Consider carrying capacities
- Access to optimal farming locations
- Limit spread of disease
- Biosecurity

Antimicrobial use

Active substance (gram) per tonne biomass produced



Antimicrobial use in Chile is explained by the relatively poor effect of vaccines against SRS.



Genetic improvements

- Only 10% of global aquaculture improved via selective breeding programs
- Large potential to improve yields and increase disease resistance.
- Hard to select for more than one trait
- Trade-off between species diversity and investments in genetic improvement programs

From: Henriksson et al. 2021

Table 1. Potential genetic gains from selective breeding of a selection of aquatic species

Trait	Genetic gain per generation	Order, family, genus, or genus and species
Appearance ⁶⁹	4%–46%	<i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i>
Growth rate ⁶⁹	12.7% (2.3%–42%)	<i>Oreochromis</i> , Cyprinidae, Salmonidae, Perciformes, Siluriformes, Penaeidae, Palaemonidae, Astacoidea, Bivalvia
Disease resistance ⁶⁹	6.3%–19%	<i>Oreochromis</i> , Salmonidae, <i>Litopenaeus vannamei</i> , Palaemonidae,
Reproductivity ⁶⁹	3.3%–11.7%	<i>Oreochromis</i> , Siluriformes, Salmonidae
Edible yield ^{69,73}	0.15%–1.7%	<i>Oreochromis</i> , Bivalvia

Value-addition

- Can increase acceptance for many species
- Can increase the edible yield
- Makes seafood more accessible to consumers
- Improved expiry dates

Reduce food waste

- FAO estimates that 35% of all seafood is not consumed
- In the U.S., food loss and waste can be up to 50%



Gäddnigri toppad med shiokraxe och rostad purjolök, svartmunnad smörbult med tångkaviar och friterad vitmossa, maki på mört med morot, vitlök och dill.

Trade

Regulation, Trade & Financial tools

Financial tools

Trade

- Certification standards only cover a small portion of global aquaculture
- Traceability, 30% of traded seafood is mislabelled
- Blockchain and DNA barcoding

Financial tools

- Smallholder farmers can often not benefit from improved seed, feed, and diagnostics
- Insurance and cooperatives

Regulations

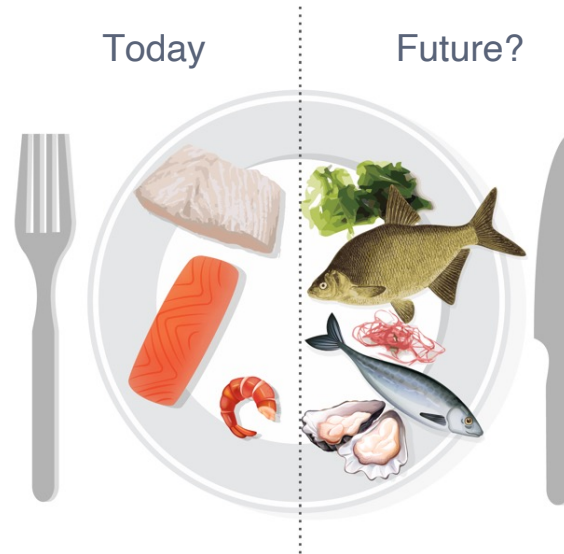
- Drafting efficient public regulations is difficultly and needs to be enforced

Conclusions

- Blue foods have variable environmental footprints, but still suffer from large performance gaps
- Freshwater finfish aquaculture will most likely continue to dominate global production, but has had limited gains from improvement interventions
- Focusing on a few species might result in larger advancements in the short-term, but will erode the sector's resilience in the long-term



Thank you! Questions?



More material:

<https://www.seawin.earth/>

<https://bluefood.earth/>

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2021.08.009>

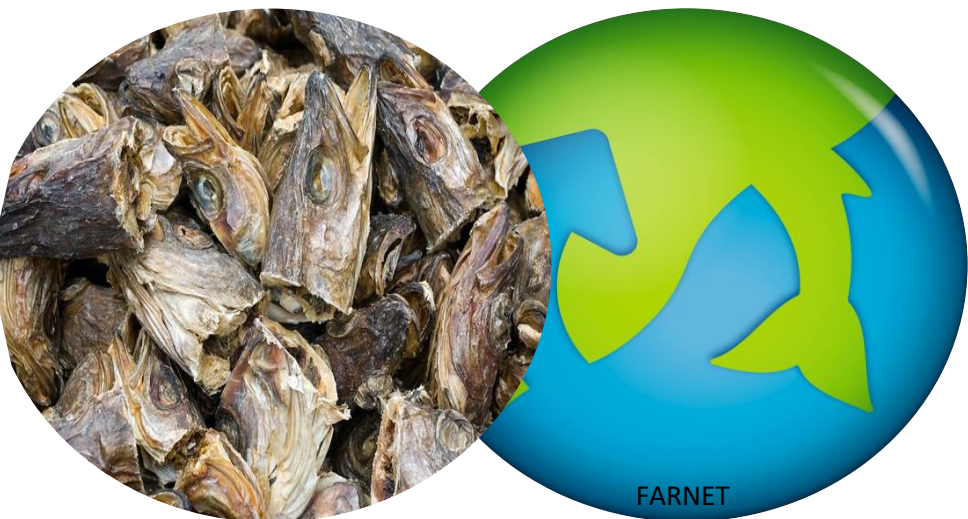
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-04331-3>

Patrik Henriksson email: patrik.henriksson@beijer.kva.se

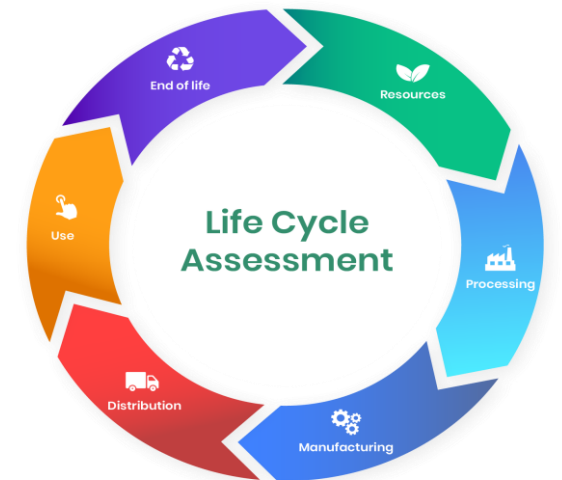
Circularity in aquaculture – the role of LCA –

Killian Chary

Aquaculture and Fisheries group, Department of Animal Sciences,
Wageningen University & Research

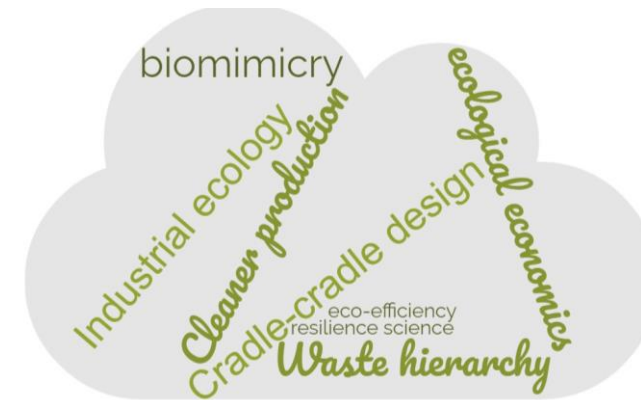


- SIMTAP workshop -
- 05/12/22 -



Introduction and context

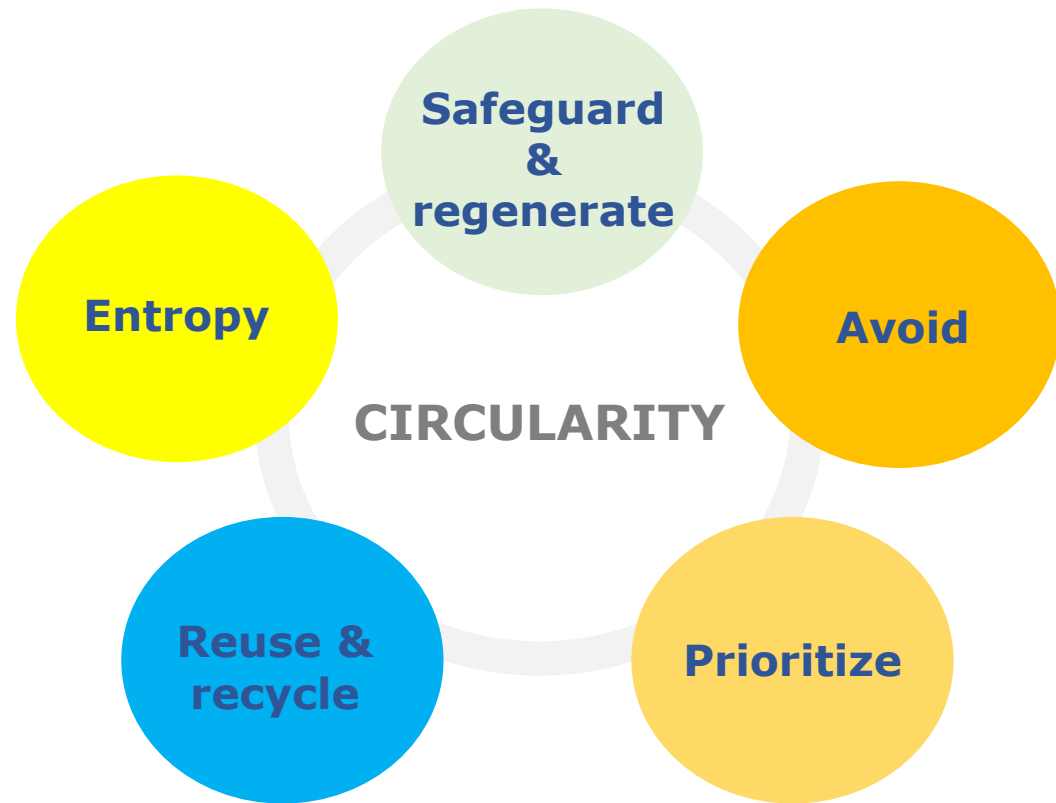
- Food production is the main drive causing environmental change
- Circular economy (CE) as a tool for more sustainability
- A package of concepts originating from industrial ecology
- Recently adapted for systems that rely on biomass (food, energy, etc.)



Principles, drivers and opportunities of a circular bioeconomy

Abigail Muscat¹, Evelien M. de Olde¹, Raimon Ripoll-Bosch¹, Hannah H. E. Van Zanten², Tamara A. P. Metzke³, Catrien J. A. M. Termeer³, Martin K. van Ittersum⁴ and Imke J. M. de Boer¹✉

Objectives of the presentation



1. Presentation of the principles applied to aquaculture

2. LCA developments to further implement circularity principles

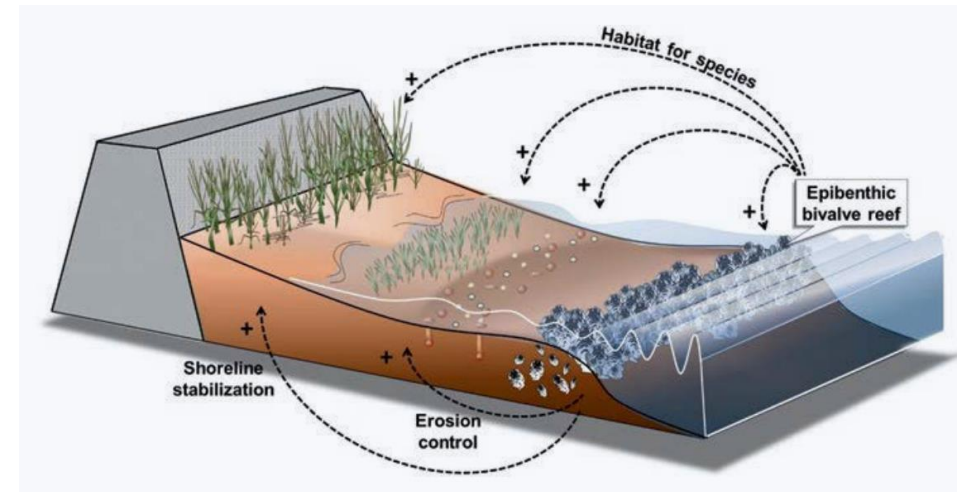
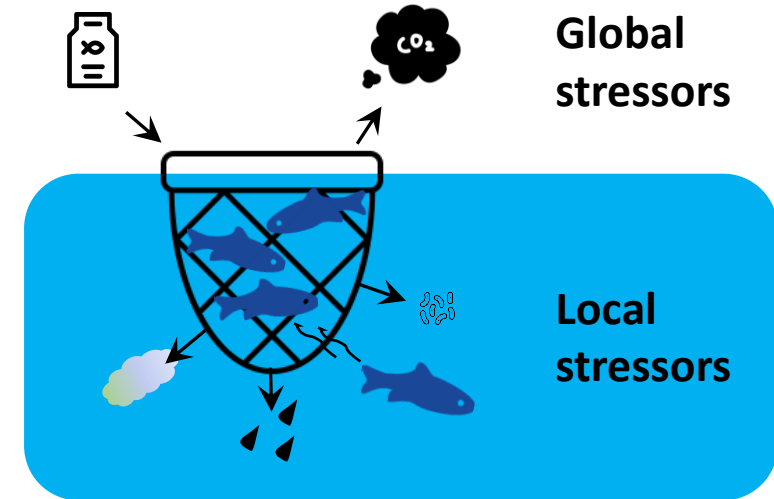
Adapted from Muscat et al. 2021

Circularity principles in aquaculture

Killian, Chary, Anne-Jo van Riel, Ramon Filgueira, Aurélie Wilfart, Souhil Harchaoui, Abigail Muscat, Marc Verdegem, Max Troell, Patrik Henriksson, Imke de Boer, Geert Wiegertjes

P1: Safeguarding and regenerating the health of aquaecosystems

- Manage aquaculture in the context of ecosystem(s) **carrying capacities**
 - Local ecosystems
 - Distant (global) ecosystems
- Practices/systems that
 - enhance **ecosystem services** (e.g. extractive species.)
 - improve **resilience** (e.g. robust species)
 - preserve **biodiversity** (e.g. ponds)



P2: Avoiding the production of non-essential products

- Focus on most essential species (and avoid others)

- **Nutrient richness and health benefits**

- (Proteins)
- PUFAs
- Micronutrients



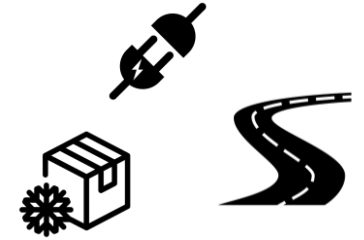
- **Food security**

- Low-cost products
- Large volumes
- Nutrient-scarce regions



P2: Avoiding the waste of essential ones

- Reduce losses and waste
 - Reduce **mortality** at farm scale
 - Avoid **contamination** at other stages



Farm

- Harvest and handling
- Misuse of veterinary drugs
- Mortality
- Escapes

Processing and storage

- Poor processing methods & equipments
- Delays in processing
- Poor hygiene conditions
- Cold chain

Wholesale and Retail

- Lack of buyers
- Damage to packaging
- Delays in selling
- Error in labelling

Consumption

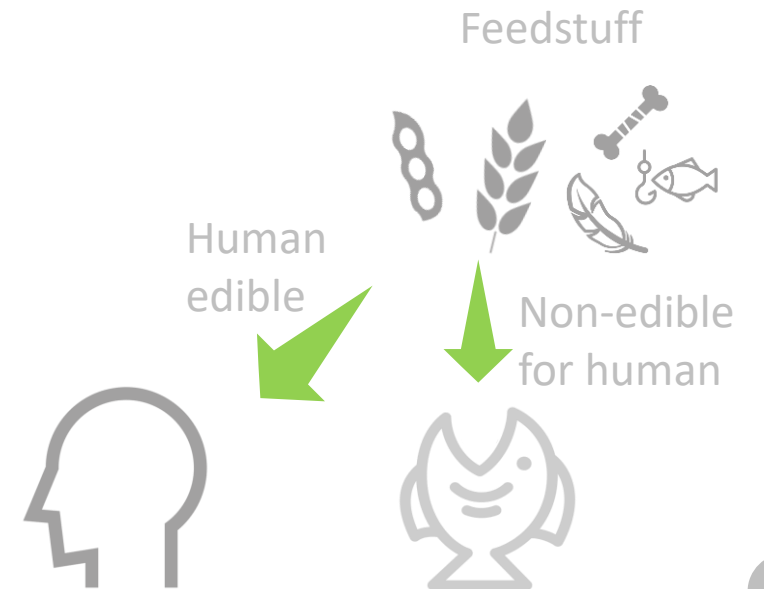
- Consumer confusion
- Overbuying
- Discards

Waste treatment

- Absence or inadequate collect of waste

P3: Prioritizing biomass streams for basic human needs

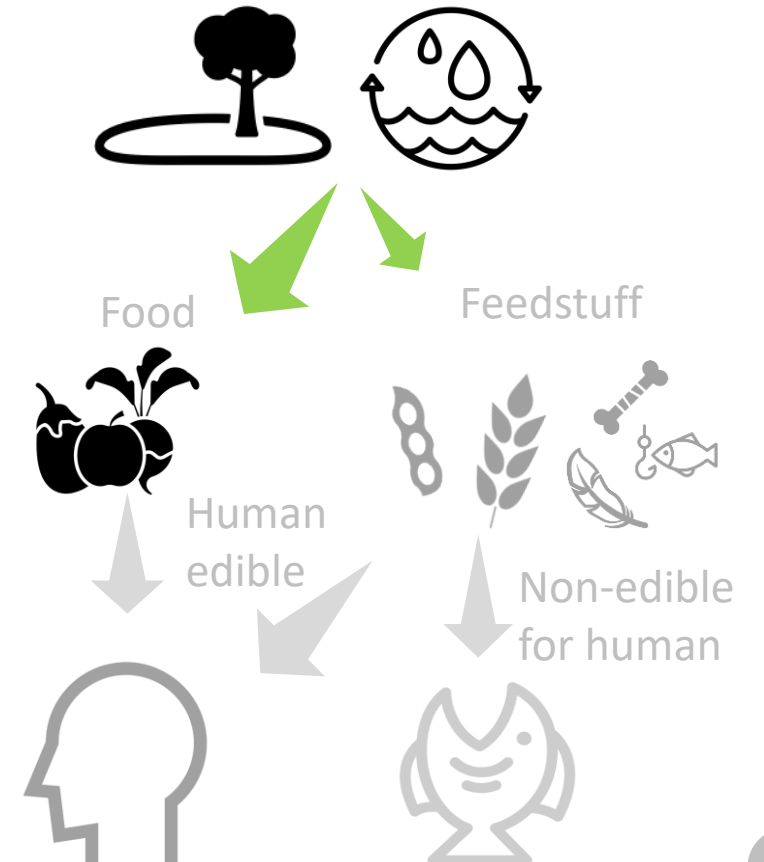
- Limited resources: Lands, freshwater, fossil energy
- Hierarchy of use: Food > Feed > Industry > Energy
- Avoid **direct feed-food competition**
 - Do not use human edible feedstuff in aquafeeds
 - E.g. maize, wheat, whole fish (FM/FO)
 - Use non-food competing feedstuff
 - E.g. Insects, food waste, microbial biomass, etc.



P3: Prioritizing biomass streams for basic human needs

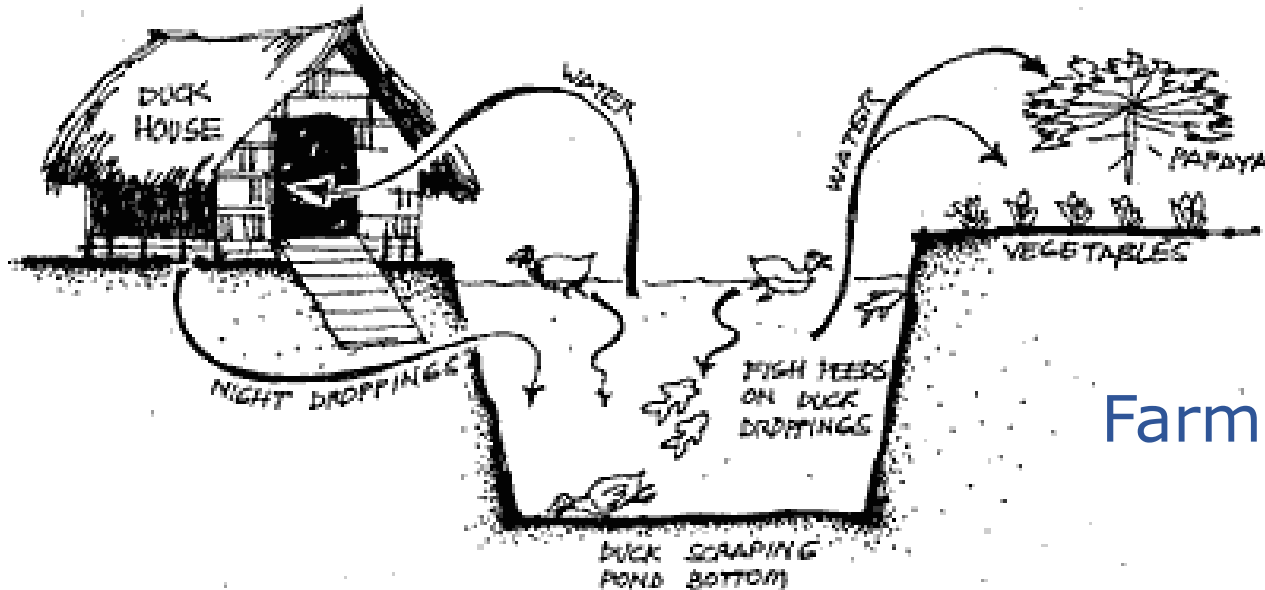
- Avoid **indirect feed-food competition**

- Use resources to produce food and not feed
- Allocate resources to the most efficient food production systems (planning)

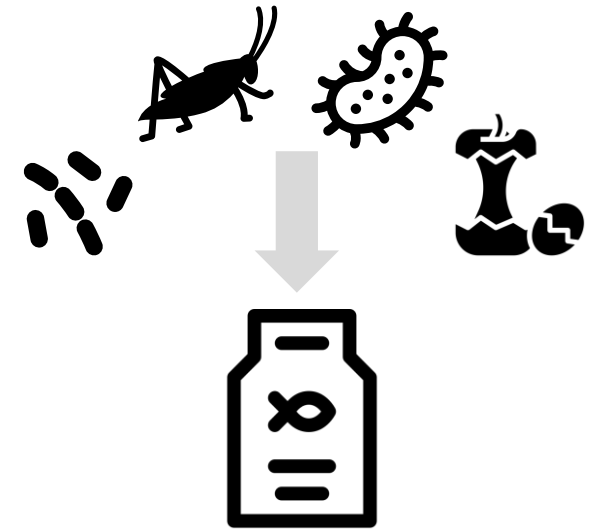


P4: Recycling by-products of agro and aquaecosystems

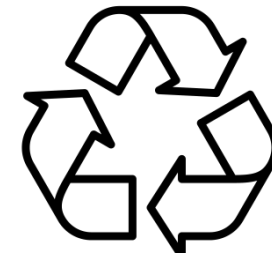
- Use **aquaculture systems as a sink**:
 - Feed based on leftovers
 - Integrated production systems



Farm stage



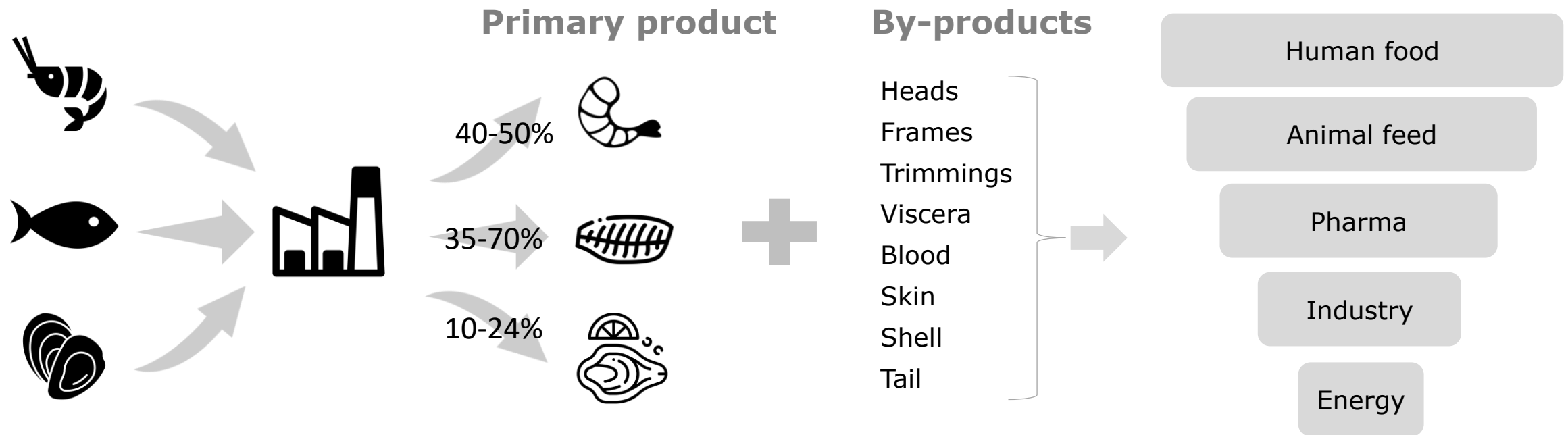
Feed stage



P4: Recycling by-products of agro and aquaecosystems

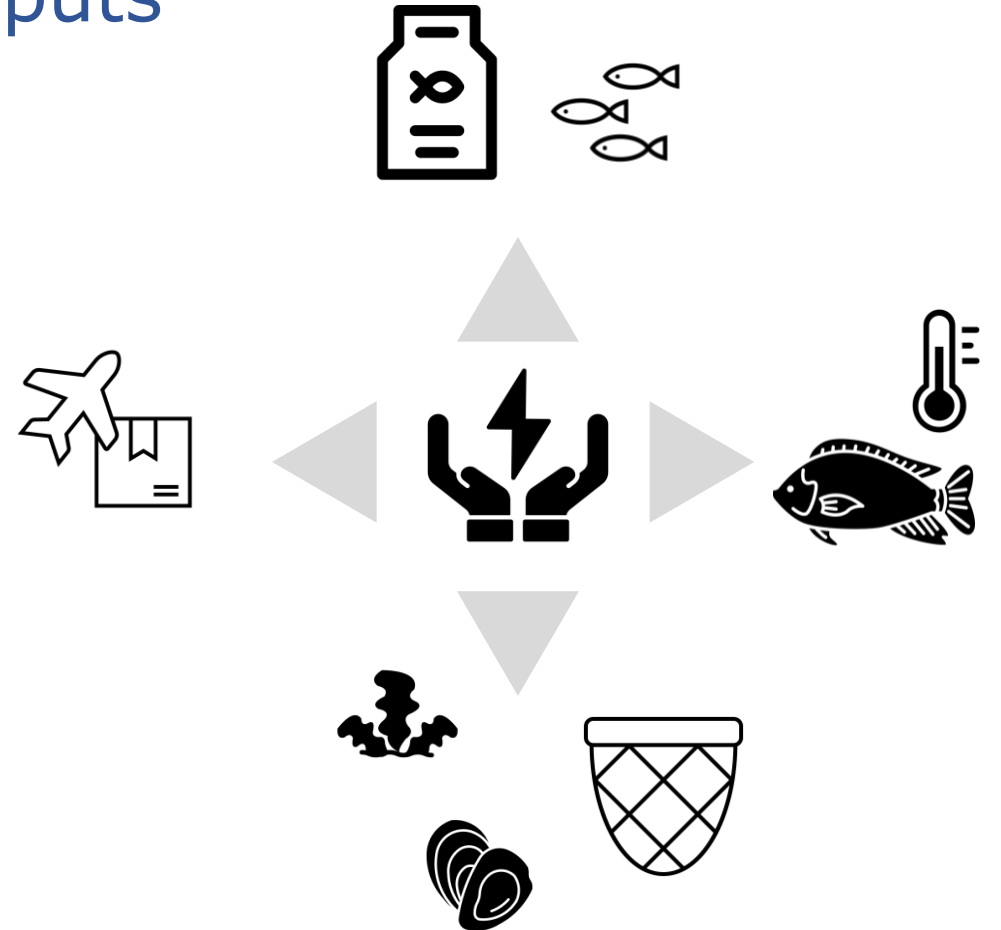
- **Recycle aquaculture by-products:**

- Processing by-products
- Use food recovery hierarchy



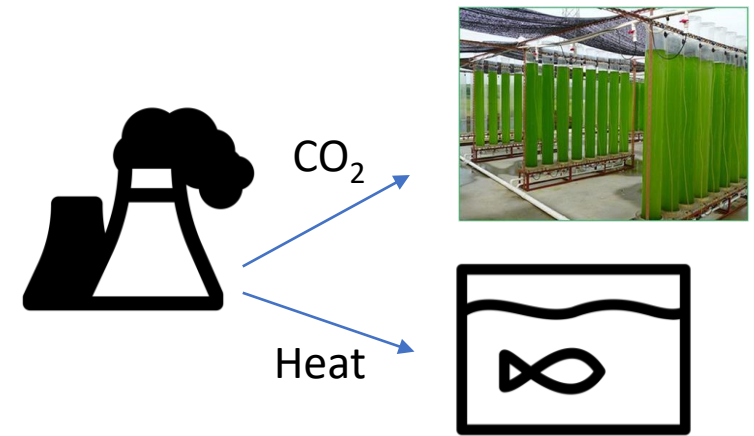
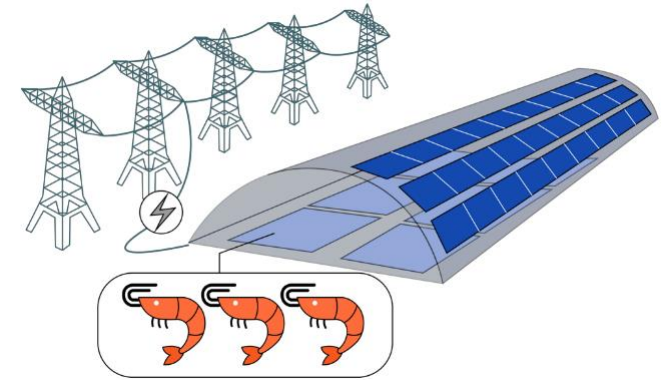
P5: Minimizing overall energy use

- Efficient use of energy-intensive inputs
- Avoid energy-intensive processes
- Energy efficient species
- Energy efficient systems
- Location vs species requirements



P5: Using (efficiently) renewables and low-carbon energy

- Better use of solar energy
 - Aquavoltaics
 - Polyculture
 - Integrated systems
- Eco-industrial symbiosis and dual use:
 - Multi-use platform
 - Waste heat from industries



LCA developments to support circularity principles

Circular economy and LCA literature

The International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment (2021) 26:215–220
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11367-020-01856-z>

LIFE CYCLE SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT



Using life cycle assessment to achieve a circular economy

Claudia Peña¹ · Bárbara Civit² · Alejandro Gallego-Schmid³ · Angela Druckman⁴ · Armando Caldeira- Pires⁵ · Bo Weidema⁶ · Eric Mieras⁷ · Feng Wang⁸ · Jim Fava⁹ · Llorenç Milà i Canals⁸ · Mauro Cordella¹⁰ · Peter Arbuckle¹¹ · Sonia Valdivia¹² · Sophie Fallaha¹³ · Wladimir Motta¹⁴



ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

Sustainable Production and Consumption

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/spc

Circularity for circularity's sake? Scoping review of assessment methods for environmental performance in the circular economy.

Steve Harris^{a,*}, Michael Martin^{a,b}, Derek Diener^c

The International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11367-020-01810-z>

LCI METHODOLOGY AND DATABASES



Is mainstream LCA linear?

Reinout Heijungs^{1,2}

Int J Life Cycle Assess (2017) 22:832–837
DOI 10.1007/s11367-017-1267-1



CONFERENCE REPORT

How can LCA support the circular economy?—63rd discussion forum on life cycle assessment, Zurich, Switzerland, November 30, 2016

Melanie Haupt¹ · Mischa Zschokke²



Review

Sustainable Agri-Food Processes and Circular Economy Pathways in a Life Cycle Perspective: State of the Art of Applicative Research

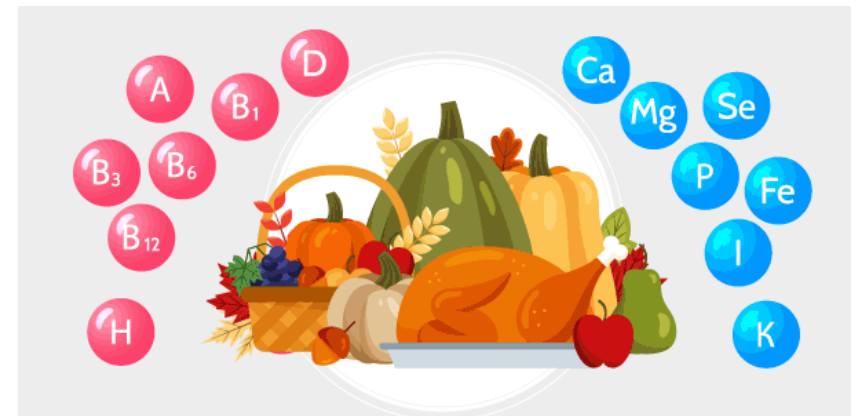
Teodora Stillitano, Emanuele Spada, Nathalie Iofrida^{*}, Giacomo Falcone and Anna Irene De Luca

A suitable method to assess performances of CE strategies

- Quantification of emissions, material losses, use of natural resources
- Compare env. performances of different end-of-life options
- Identify environmental trade-offs between impacts (particularly with energy)

Support selection of most essential foods

- Env. performances are generally calculated per **kg of (edible) protein** (or ton wet weight)
- **PUFAs and micronutrients** content make aquatic food essentials (compared to other ASF)
- Toward **nutritional LCAs** (McLaren et al. 2021)
 - Alternative functional units
 - Weight nutrients based on availability
 - Other solutions



Incorporate feed-food competition issues

- Results expressed per **gross** unit (not net) of food/nutrients produced
- Animals are not necessarily **net producers of nutrients** (FCR, feed composition, edible yields, etc.)
- Env. impacts per **net unit of food produced**
 - Allocation methods?
 - New impact categories?
 - Functional unit?

Assessing performances at broader scale

- Impacts are often calculated from **cradle to farm** gate, = performances at farm-scale
- Some CE strategies can imply alternative land uses
- In this case, env. performances should be evaluated at a broader scale, e.g. **at territory scale**
- Territorial LCAs ? (Loiseau et al. 2018)

Conclusion

- LCA can help implementing circularity principles
- Other tools should be used and combined with LCA
- Methodological developments needed
- More complete view of env. performance of aquatic foods

Thank you!

Contact information



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Zodiac Building, De Elst 1, 6708 WD, Wageningen

References

- Loiseau, E., Aissani, L., Le Féon, S., Laurent, F., Cerceau, J., Sala, S., and Roux, P. 2018. Territorial Life Cycle Assessment (LCA): What exactly is it about? A proposal towards using a common terminology and a research agenda. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 176: 474–485.
- McLaren, S., Berardy, A., Henderson, A., Holden, N., Huppertz, T., Jolliet, O., De Camillis, C., *et al.* 2021. Integration of environment and nutrition in life cycle assessment of food items: opportunities and challenges. Rome. 161 pp. <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb8054en/>.
- Muscat, A., de Olde, E. M., Ripoll-Bosch, R., Van Zanten, H. H. E., Metz, T. A. P., Termeer, C. J. A. M., van Ittersum, M. K., *et al.* 2021. Principles, drivers and opportunities of a circular bioeconomy. *Nature Food* 2021 2:8, 2: 561–566. Nature Publishing Group. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s43016-021-00340-7>.

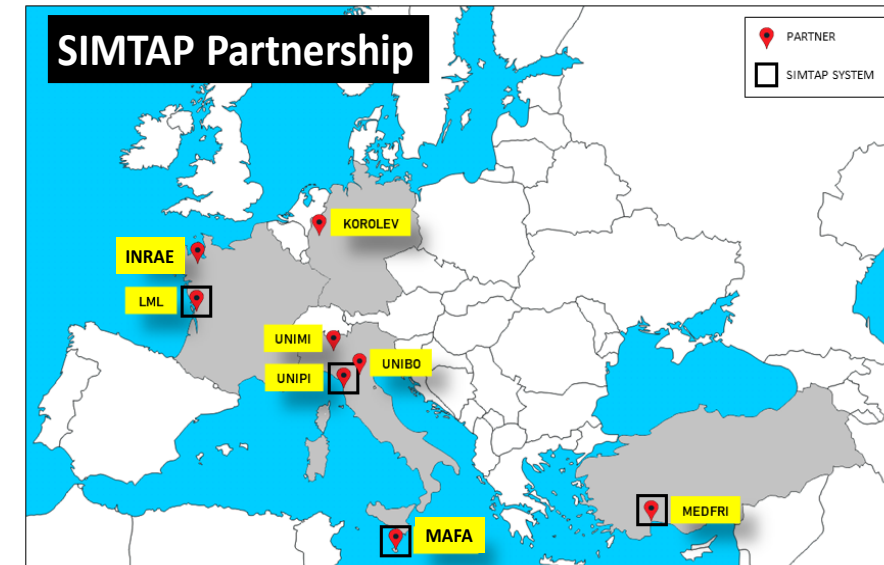
“The SIMTAP project”

Alberto Pardossi - University of Pisa
[alberto.pardossi@unipi.it]

SIMTAP: Self-sufficient Integrated Multi-Trophic AquaPonic systems for improving food production sustainability and brackish water use and recycling.

The partnership

1. **UNIPi**: University of Pisa (ITALY); PI/TL: Alberto Pardossi and Carlo Bibbiani.
2. **UNIBO**: University of Bologna (ITALY), TL: Daniele Torreggiani.
3. **UNIMI**: Università di Milano (ITALY); TL: Jacopo Bacenetti.
4. **INRAE**: INRAE-Agrocampus, SAS Sol Agro et hydrosystème Spatialisation, Rennes (FRANCE); TL: Joel Aubin.
5. **LML**: Lycée de la Mer et du Littoral, Bourcefranc le Chapus (FRANCE); TL: Vincent Gayet.
6. **MEDFRI**: Mediterranean Fisheries Research Production and Training Institute, Antalya (TURKEY); TL: Mehmet Ali Turan Koçer.
7. **MAFA**: Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Rights, Agriculture Directorate Marsa (MALTA); TL: Iman Busuttil.
8. **KOROLEV**: Korolev GmbH, Bonn (GERMANY); TL: Rainer Linke.



www.simtap.eu

Main goals:

- to assess the performance of four SIMTAP prototypes built in France, Italy, Turkey, and Malta
- to identify the main drawbacks and obstacles to the application of the SIMTAP concept to saltwater aquaponics
- to assess the sustainability of SIMTAP through LCA, LCC, EA etc.

Kickoff: 1 June 2019

Expected end: 31 May 2022 (M36)

Extended end: 31 May 2023 (M48)

Workpackages:

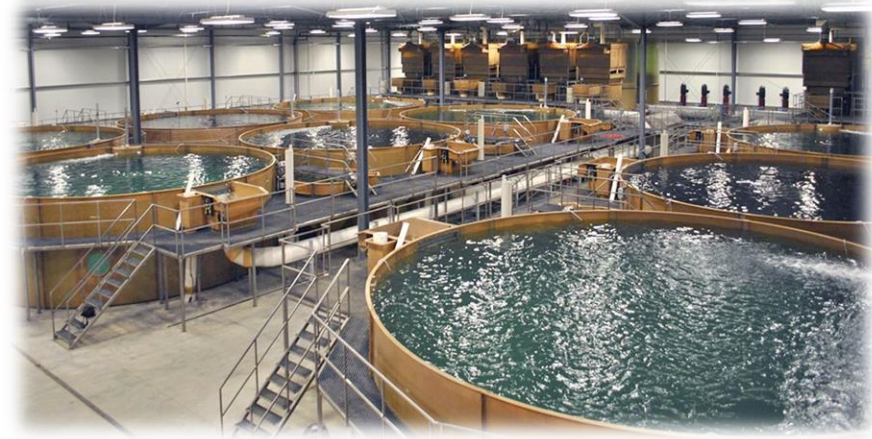
WP No	WP title	WP leader
0	SIMTAP coordination and management	UNIFI
1	Ecosystem based approach for SIMTAP	UNIFI
2	Implementation and test of SIMTAP	MEDFRI
3	Integration of SIMTAP in current hydroponic systems to enhance market transferability and sustainability	UNIBO
4	Assessing the quality of the food end-products	UNIFI
5	Economic and environmental sustainability assessment	INRAE
6	SIMTAP recommendations and guidelines	UNIMI
7	Communication, dissemination and exploitation	UNIBO

SIMTAP: expected benefits.

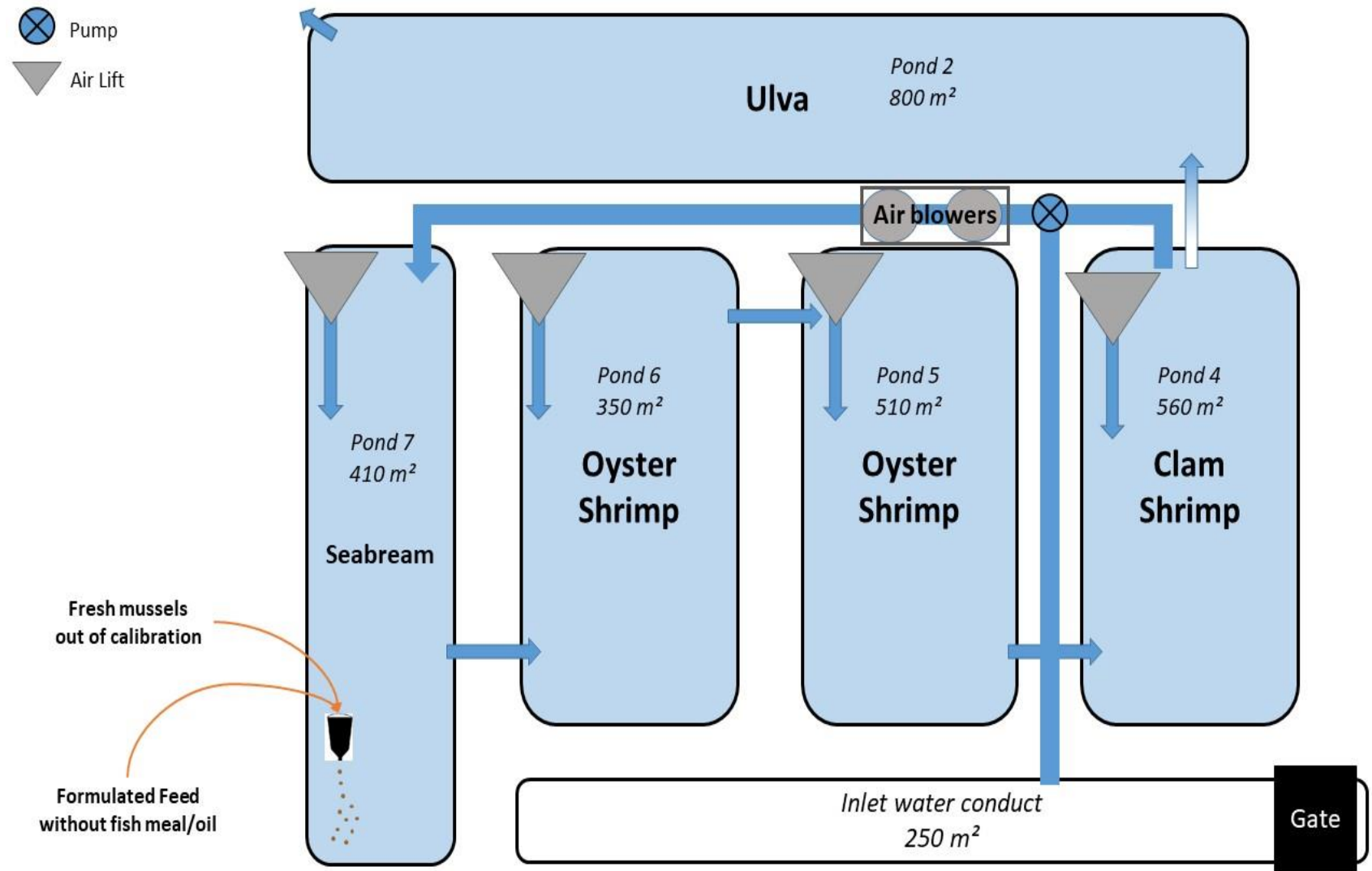
- Lower use of commercial fish feed based on fish meal and fish oil in land-based aquaculture
- Reduced water use and contamination
- Re-use of greenhouse effluents.



versus



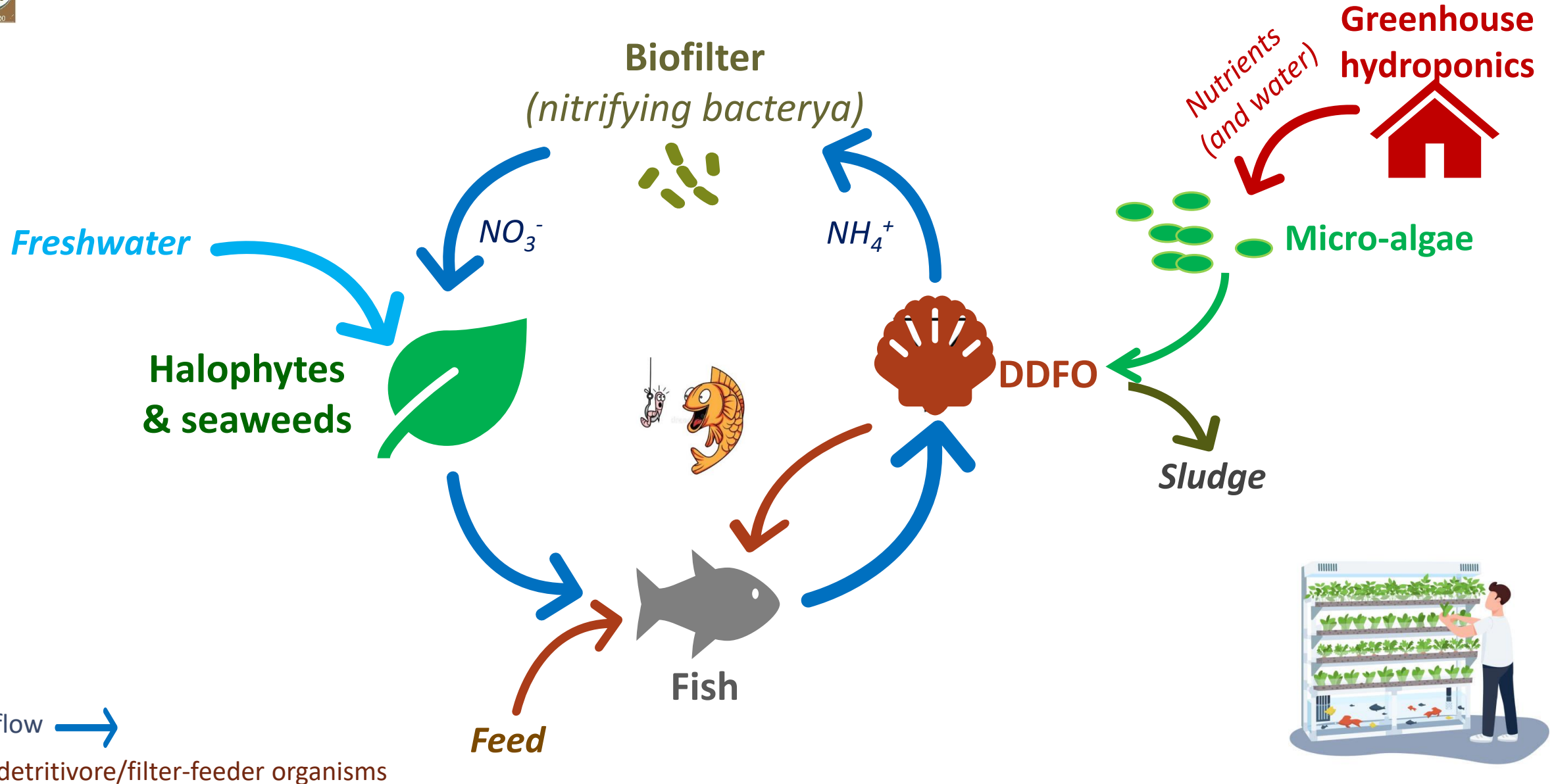
SIMTAP in France



SIMTAP in France



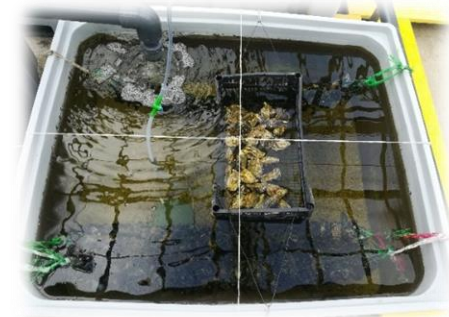
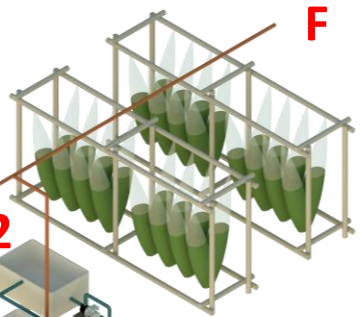
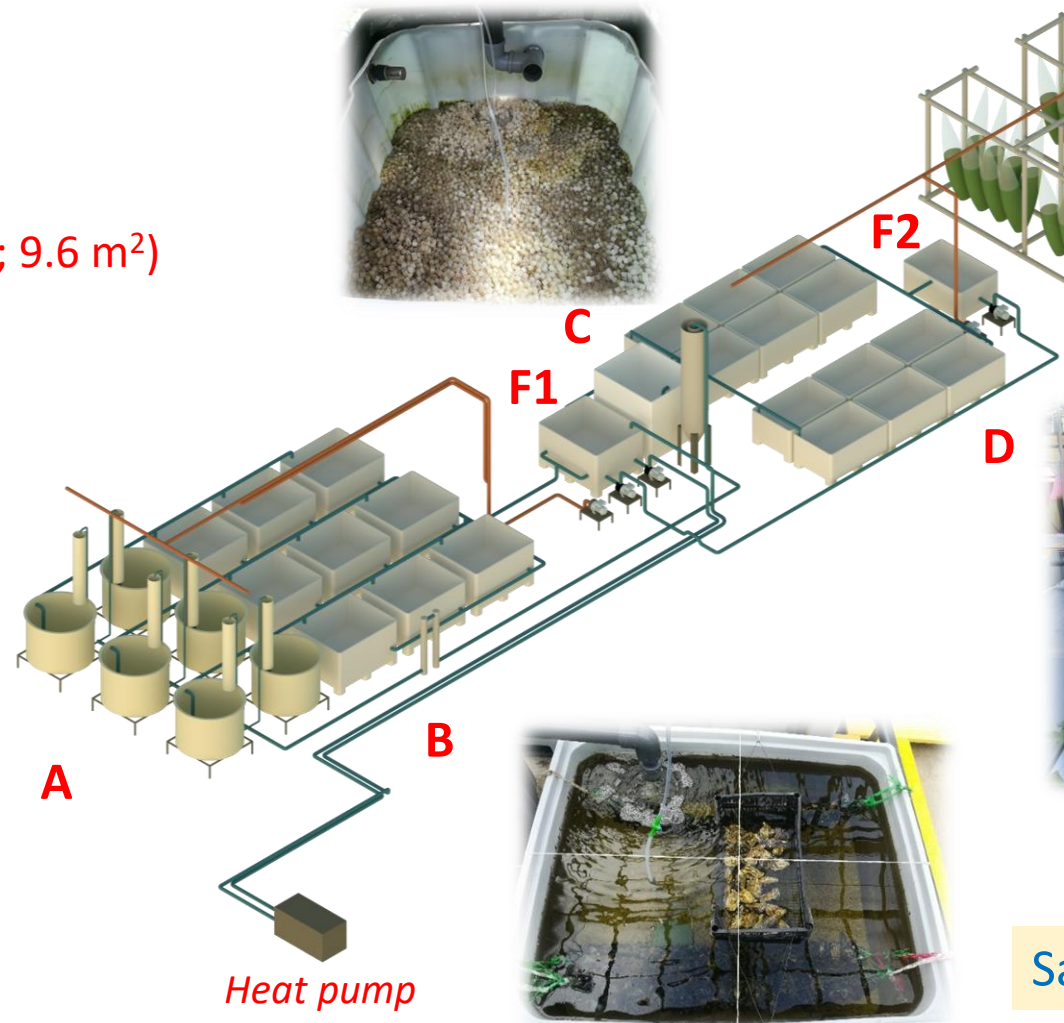
SIMTAP in Italy



SIMTAP in Italy

Sections:

- A: fish (2.5 m³; 3.5 m²)
- B: DFFO (4.0 m³; 9.0 m²)
- C: biofilter (0.5 m³)
- D: halophytes & seaweeds (4.5 m³; 9.6 m²)
- F: sumps (0.5 m³)
- G: (100-L) photobioreactors
- A+B+C+D+E: 12.5 m³; 22.1 m²)



Salinity: 25 (2021) or 10 (2022) ppt

SIMTAP: Fish & crops.

European sea bass
(*Dicentrarchus labrax*)



Gilthead seabream
(*Sparus aurata*)



Salicornia europaea L.



15.00 €/kg



9.90 €/kg

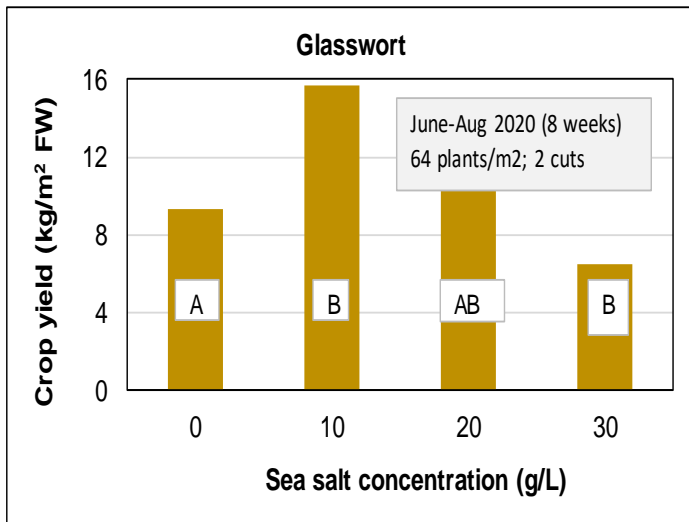
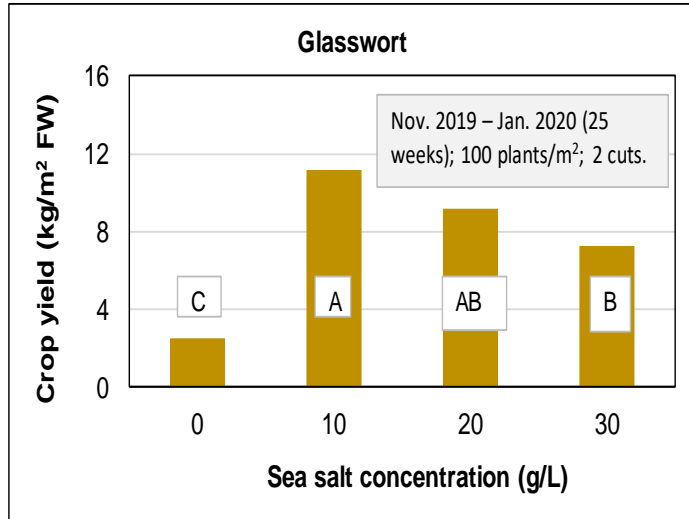
Israel



Italy



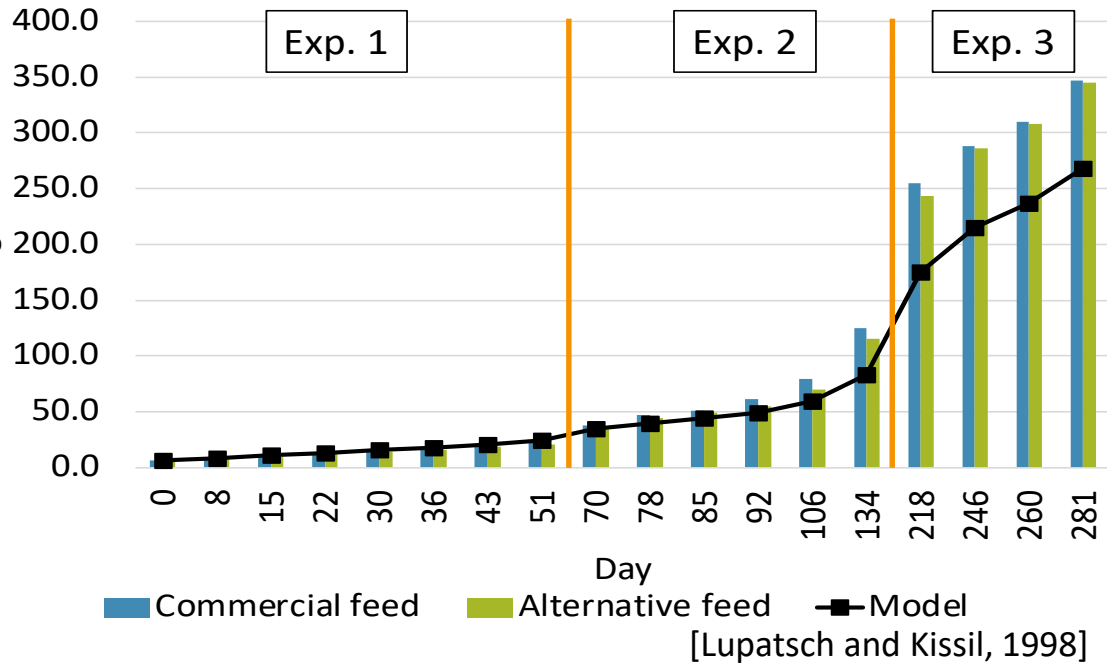
SIMTAP crop plants: *Salicornia europaea*.



IO-0 IO-10 IO-20 IO-30

Crop yield (fresh shoots) in *Salicornia europaea* (glasswort) in closed-loop hydroponic system under greenhouse in different seasons and with different concentration of synthetic sea salt Instant Ocean™ in the nutrient solution. Mean values (n=3) keyed by the same letter are not significantly different according to Tukey test (p<0.05).

Feeding experiments with Gilthead seabream (*Sparus aurata*) – Pisa, 2021



Experiment	Commercial feed [g]	Alternative feed [g]*	Rearing density [kg/m ³]
Exp. 1	23.6 ± 0.4 (n=632)	20.8 ± 3.9 (n=615)	10.9
Exp. 2	125.2 ± 15.0 (n=161)	115.4 ± 12.6 (n=161)	15.2
Exp. 3	346.8 ± 41.0 (n=83)	344.4 ± 39.7 (n=128)	35.0

Initial weight [g]	Final weight [g]	Duration [days]	Weight gain [g/day]	System
6.8	345.7	281	1.2	SIMTAP
0.4	450.0	274	1.6	RAS ^[1]
2.4	474.6	420	1.1	Sea cages (Black sea) ^[2]
11.0	307.3	480	0.6	Sea cages (Tyrrhenian sea) ^[3]

References: [1] Tal et al., 2009; [2] Kaya Öztürk et al., 2020; [3] Di Marco et al., 2017

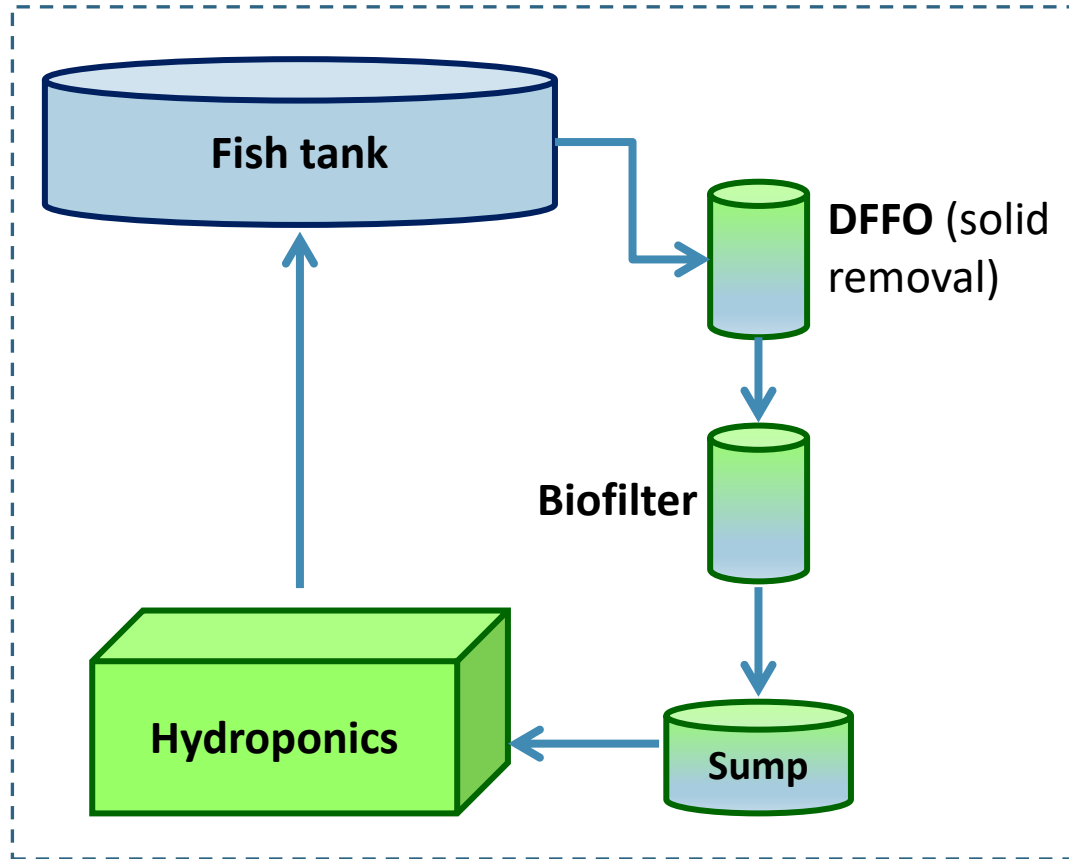


SIMTAP: pros and cons.

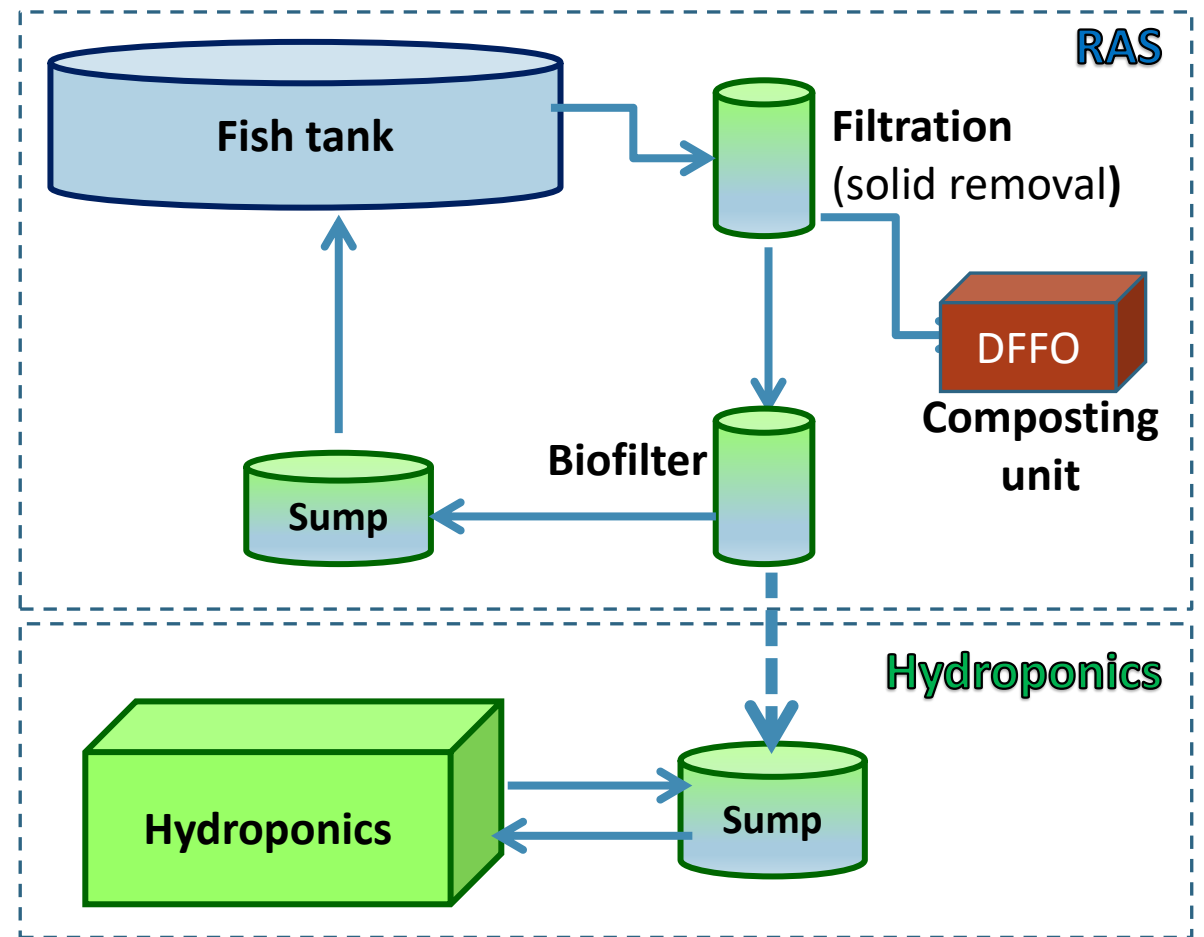
- ✓ Fish can reach market size in 10 months with alternative feed consisting of only DDFOs.
- ✓ Native polychaete worm *H. diversicolor* showed good adaptation to SIMTAP (25 ppt).
- ✓ Salicornia is a good candidate crop; it grows well and fast in spring-summer but much more slowly in winter.
- ✓ Culture of bivalves was unsuccessful.
- ✓ Lower water salinity (<5 ppt) increases the list of candidate crops but makes it more difficult the maintenance of high-quality water environment in a system without mechanical filtration.



Coupled SIMTAP



De-coupled SIMTAP



Workshop “Life Cycle Schedule Assessment in aquaculture” Milan, 5th December 2022



THANK YOU VERY MUCH

The PRIMA programme is supported under Horizon 2020, the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation



INSECT FOR AQUAFEED

LAURA GASCO



WHY AND HOW INSECTS?



Population, aquaculture growth & sustainable ingredients

Nutritional value

Bioconversion

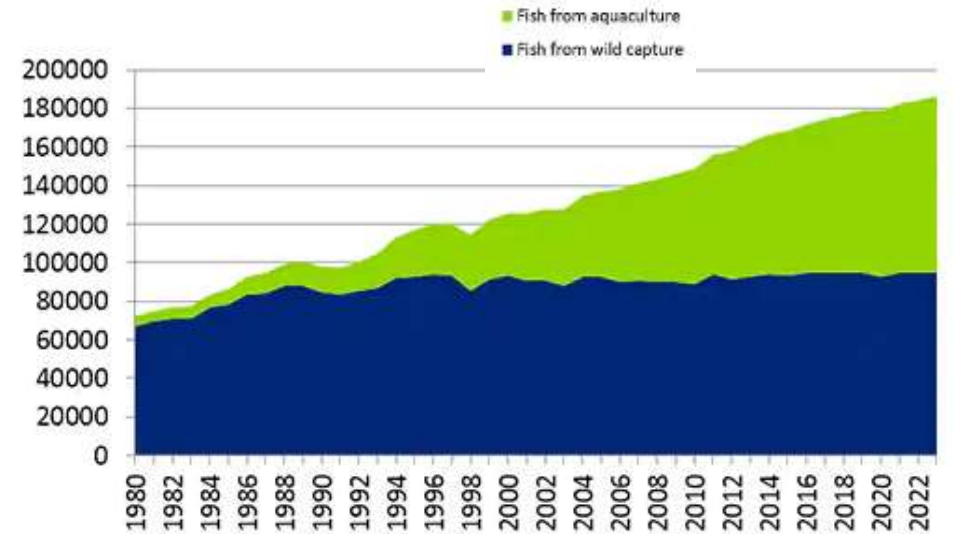
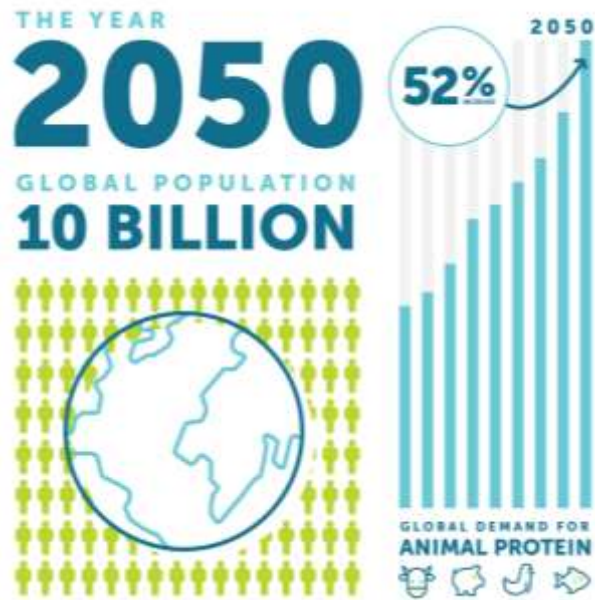
Impact

Bioactive compounds

Circular economy

Aquafeed applications

POPULATION, AQUACULTURE GROWTH & SUSTAINABLE INGREDIENTS



51.4 mt

FEEDS
Ingredients (proteins) shortage



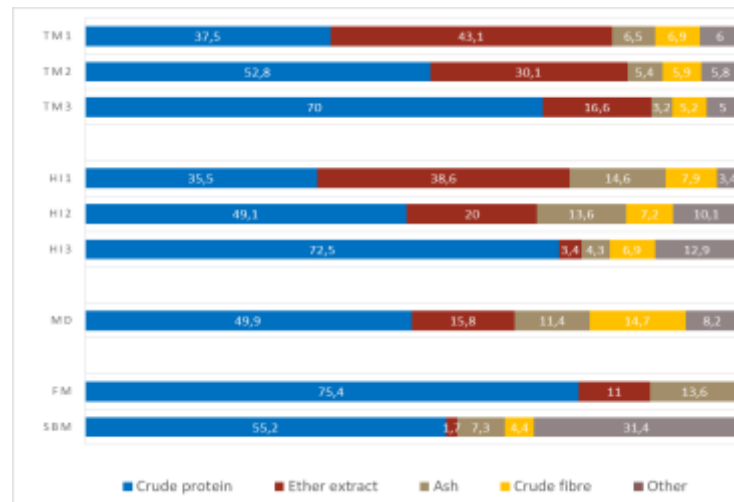
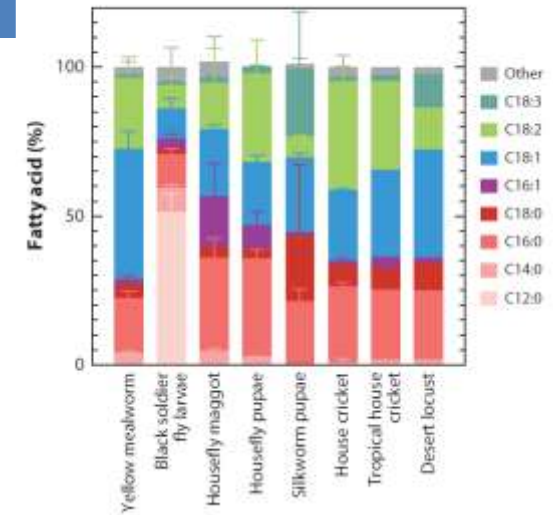
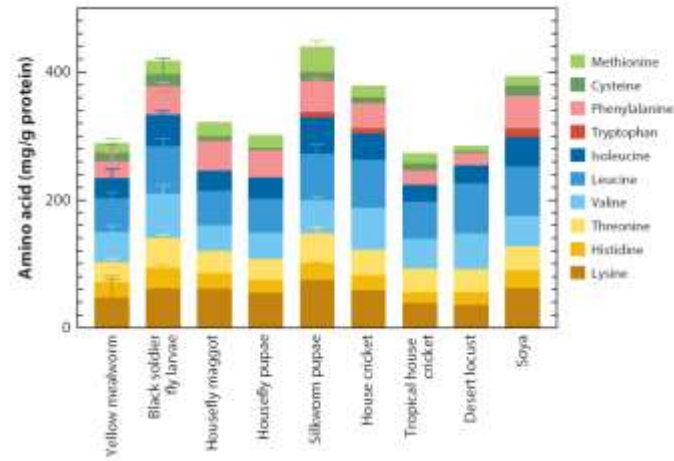
INSECTS

=

new & sustainable ingredients

NUTRITIONAL VALUE

- Proteins (EAA)
- Lipids (FA)
- Vitamins
- Minerals



- specie
- stage
- substrate
- process

BIOCONVERSION



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Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

ScienceDirect

Current Opinion in

Green and Sustainable Chemistry

From waste to feed: A review of recent knowledge on insects as producers of protein and fat for animal feeds

Laura Gasco¹, Irene Biancarosa^{2,3} and Nina S. Liland³



Prevent
If you can't prevent, then...

Prepare for reuse
If you can't prepare for reuse, then...

Recycle
If you can't recycle, then...

Recover other value
If you can't recover value, then...

Dispose
Landfill if no alternative available.



IMPACT



- Low (no) water & soil use
- Low GHG emissions
- FCR
- Rapid growth
- Controlled mass production
- Natural diet

- T°
- Substrates





Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Resources, Conservation & Recycling

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/resconrec



Full length article

Sustainable use of *Hermetia illucens* insect biomass for feed and food: Attributional and consequential life cycle assessment

Sergiy Smetana^a, Eric Schmitt^b, Alexander Mathys^{c,*}



non-utilized side-streams = key factor

legislation

Upscaling of insect production (improved efficiency of feed conversion and processing) reduced environmental impact making *H. illucens* biomass competitive to feed protein sources. Further application of non-utilized side-streams or alternative sources of energy for processing will result in a more beneficial source of proteins than most known alternatives. However, the availability of non-utilized side-streams, usable for the insect production is a key factor which would determine the further development of the insect industry. The environmental impact of insect production additionally would depend on substitution of non-utilized biomass treatment, alternative utilization options and their geographic distribution. The consequential LCA indicated that transforming organic residuals into *H. illucens* biomass could result in lower environmental impacts if composting or anaerobic digestion (as a waste treatment technology) is avoided.

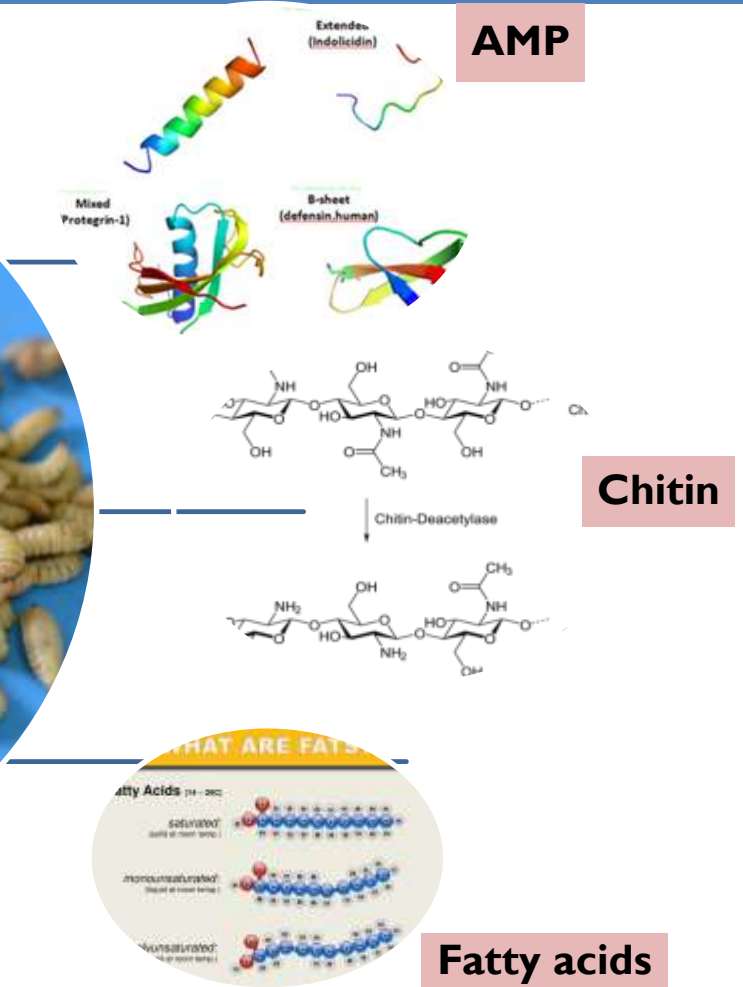
BIOACTIVE COMPOUNDS

Bioactive compounds

- antimicrobial effects
- antioxidant effects
- immune system stimulation
- microbiota modulation

Antimicrobial resistance = biggest threats to global health, food security and development

“natural” biomolecules ↓
animal feeds



Journal of Insects as Food and Feed, 2021; 7(5): 715-741

SPECIAL ISSUE: *Advancement of insects as food and feed in a circular economy*



Beyond the protein concept: health aspects of using edible insects on animals

L. Gasco^{1*}, A. Józefiak² and M. Henry³

Immunostimulation

TM: 0%, 9%, 18%, 27%

in fish fed 18% TM

- decrease in plasma MDA content + increase in plasma SOD activity
- increase in plasma
 - lysozyme activity
 - IgM levels
- up-regulation of immune related genes (MHC II, IL-1, CypA, Img, HE)
- increase of survival rate after **challenged** with *Edwardsiella ictaluri*



TM could **improve immune response & bacterial resistance**

TM

Fish & Shellfish Immunology 69 (2017) 59–66

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Fish & Shellfish Immunology

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/fsi

Full length article

Effects of dietary *Tenebrio molitor* meal on the growth performance, immune response and disease resistance of yellow catfish (*Pelteobagrus fulvidraco*)

CrossMark

Antibacterial effect

TM

Article

Replacement of Fish Meal by Defatted Yellow Mealworm (*Tenebrio molitor*) Larvae in Diet Improves Growth Performance and Disease Resistance in Red Seabream (*Pargus major*)

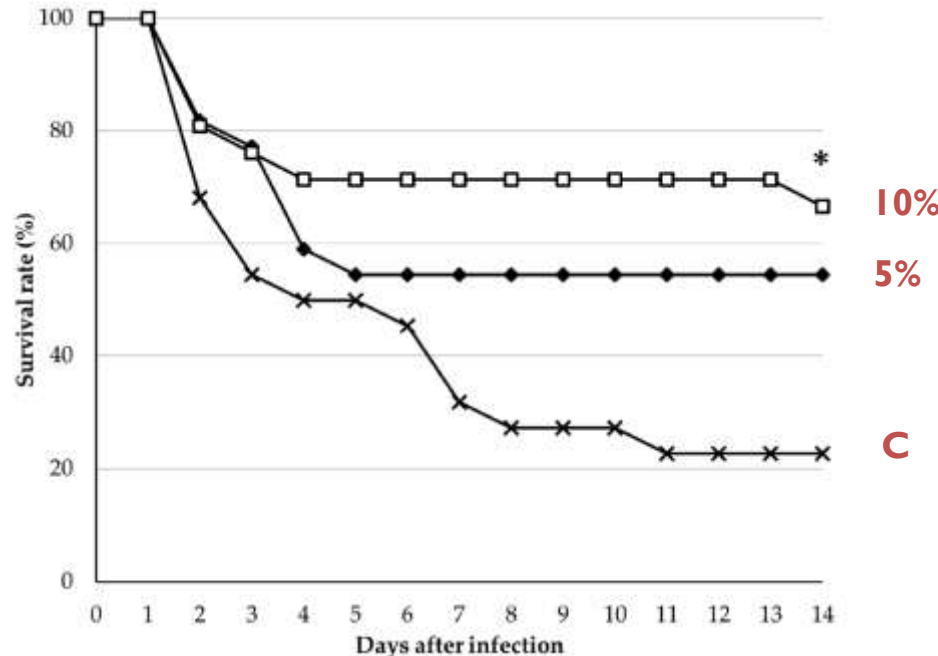
growth trial

25 – 40 – 65% TM

increased performances

challenge test

5 – 10% TM



increased protection against *Erdwardsiella tarda*

TM chitin or AMP or other bioactive compounds?

Microbiota modulation


BSF

inclusion: 0% - 10% - 20% - 30%

Rev Fish Biol Fisheries (2019) 29:465–486
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11160-019-09558-y>

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

Rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) gut microbiota is modulated by insect meal from *Hermetia illucens* prepupae in the diet

Genciana Terova  · Simona Rimoldi · Chiara Ascione · Elisabetta Gini · Chiara Ceccotti · Laura Gasco

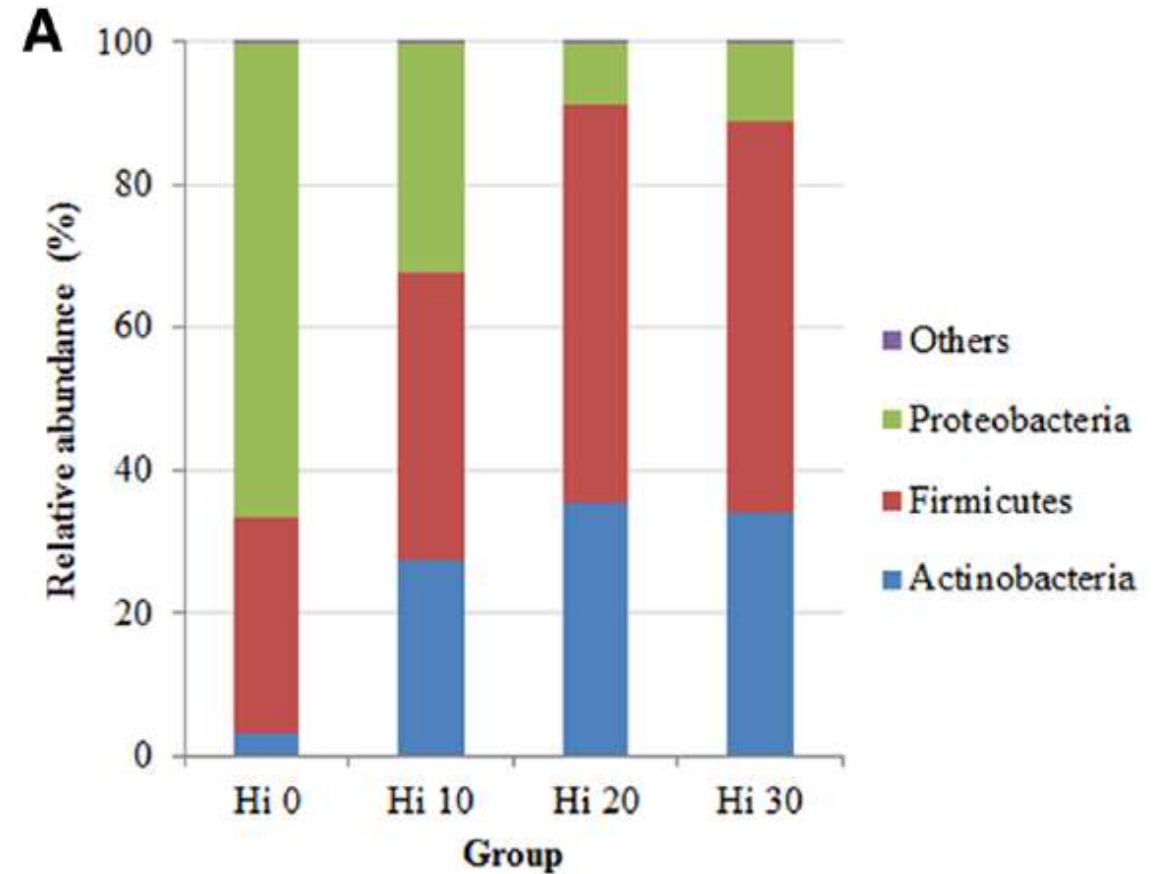


Actinobacteria, Firmicutes & Proteobacteria

- increasing microbiota diversity & richness
- increasing lactic acid- & butyrate- producing bacteria



contribute to the global fish health



Microbiota modulation

Weththasinghe *et al.* *Animal Microbiome* (2022) 4:9
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s42523-021-00161-w>


Animal Microbiome

RESEARCH ARTICLE

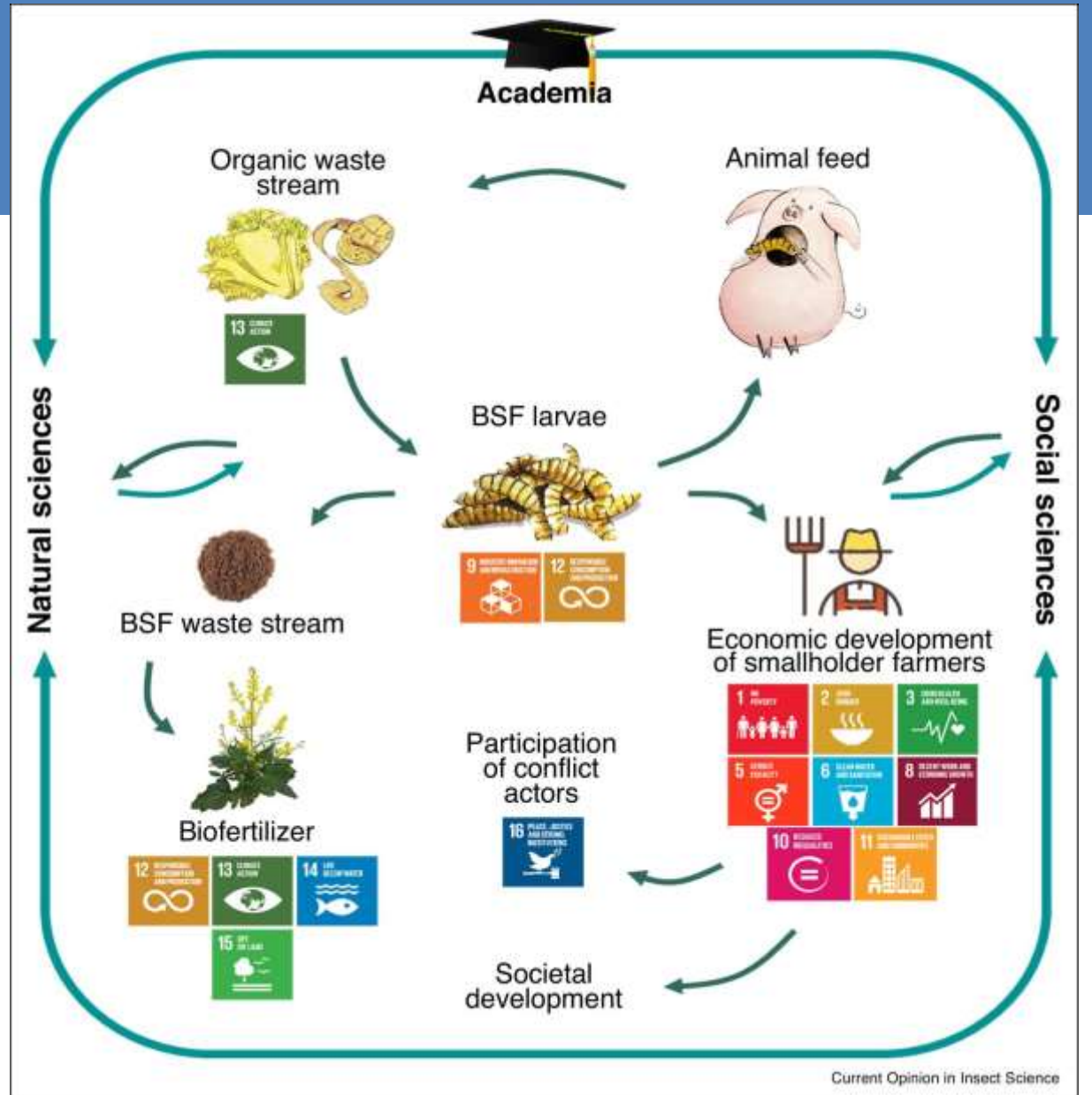
Open Access

Modulation of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) gut microbiota composition and predicted metabolic capacity by feeding diets with processed black soldier fly (*Hermetia illucens*) larvae meals and fractions



Pabodha Weththasinghe^{1*}, Sérgio D. C. Rocha¹, Ove Øyås^{1,2}, Leidy Lagos¹, Jon Ø. Hansen¹, Liv T. Mydland¹ and Margareth Øverland^{1*} 

CIRCULAR ECONOMY



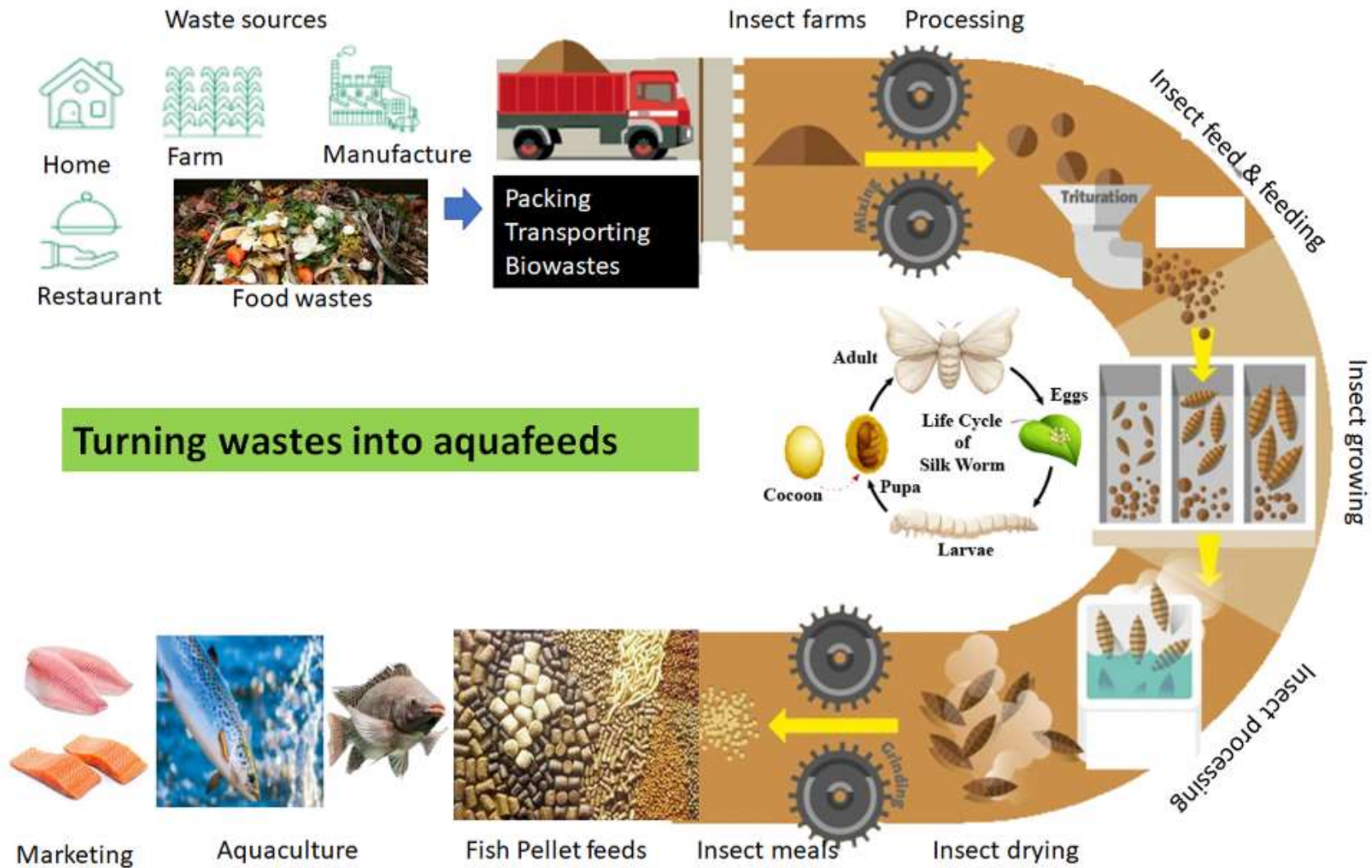


Fig. 2. Turning wastes into proteins using insects to produce insect meals to replace fishmeal in aquafeeds for fish culture.

AQUAFEED APPLICATIONS



Received: 16 November 2021 | Revised: 4 February 2022 | Accepted: 7 February 2022

DOI: 10.1111/raq.12666

REVIEW

REVIEWS IN Aquaculture

Systematic review and meta-analysis of production performance of aquaculture species fed dietary insect meals

Hung Quang Tran¹ | Tram Thi Nguyen¹ | Markéta Prokešová¹ | Tatyana Gebauer¹ | Hien Van Doan^{2,3} | Vlastimil Stejskal¹

Aquaculture 530 (2021) 735732



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Aquaculture

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/aquaculture



A meta-analysis of the effects of replacing fish meals with insect meals on growth performance of fish

Katheline Hua^{a,b,*}





- authorized species [Reg (EU) 2017/893 + Reg (EU) 1925/2021]
- insect-derived products used (full fat – defatted meals / oils)
- target conventional protein source: FM
- inclusion vs substitution
- N-P conversion factor
- digestibility
- impact on product quality & consumer



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access



Modulation of Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*) gut microbiota composition and predicted metabolic capacity by feeding diets with processed black soldier fly (*Hermetia illucens*) larvae meals and fractions

Pabodha Weththasinghe^{1*}, Sérgio D. C. Rocha¹, Ove Øyås^{1,2}, Leidy Lagos¹, Jon Ø. Hansen¹, Liv T. Mydland¹ and Margareth Øverland^{1*} 

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CHINESE ROOTS
GLOBAL IMPACT

Aquaculture and Fisheries

journal homepage: www.keaipublishing.com/en/journals/aquaculture-and-fisheries



Insects as a feed ingredient for fish culture: Status and trends

Yuzer Alfiko^{a,1}, Dizhi Xie^{b,1}, Retno Tri Astuti^{c,1}, Joey Wong^{d,1,*}, Le Wang^{e,**}



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Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

Aquaculture

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/aquaculture



Effect of feeding with insect meal diet on the fatty acid compositions of sea bream (*Sparus aurata*), tench (*Tinca tinca*) and rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) fillets



Dmitri Fabrikov^a, Fernando G. Barroso^{a,*}, M^a. José Sánchez-Muros^a, M^a. Carmen Hidalgo^b, Gabriel Cardenete^b, Cristina Tomás-Almenar^c, Federico Melenchón^c, Jose Luis Guil-Guerrero^d

Consumer attitude and acceptance toward fish fed with insects: a focus on the new generations

L. Baldi , T. Mancuso , M. Peri , L. Gasco  , M.T. Trentinaglia 

*Corresponding author: laura.gasco@unito.it

Journal of Insects as Food and Feed: 8 (11)- Pages: 1249 - 1263

<https://doi.org/10.3920/JIFF2021.0109>

OPEN
ACCESS



laura.gasco@unito.it



ECO-FORMULATION OF FISH FEEDS:

A promising efficient solution to limit aquaculture impacts on the environment. Application to rainbow trout

Aurélie Wilfart¹, Florence Garcia-Launay², Frederic Terrier³,
Espoir Soudé³, Pierre Aguirre³, Sandrine Skiba-Cassy³

1INRAE, Institut Agro, SAS, 35000 Rennes, France

2INRAE, Institut Agro, PEGASE, 35590 Saint-Gilles, France

3INRAE, Univ. Pau & Pays Adour, E2S UPPA, NUMEA, 64310 Saint Pée-sur-Nivelle, France.

ECO-FORMULATION OF FISH FEEDS: A promising solution or crazy idea of mathematicians ?

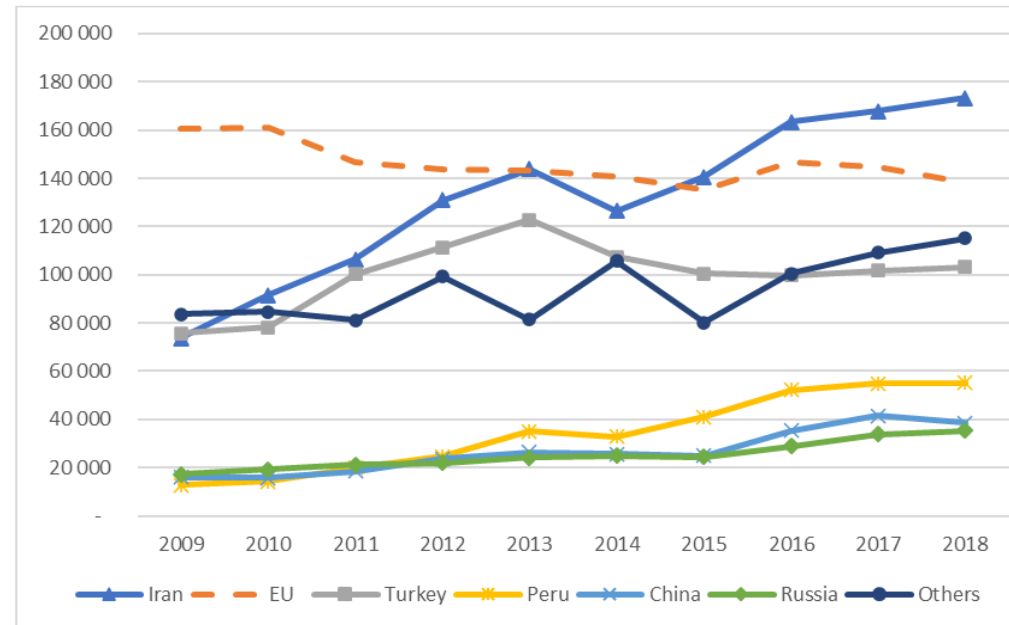
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➤ Rainbow trout production

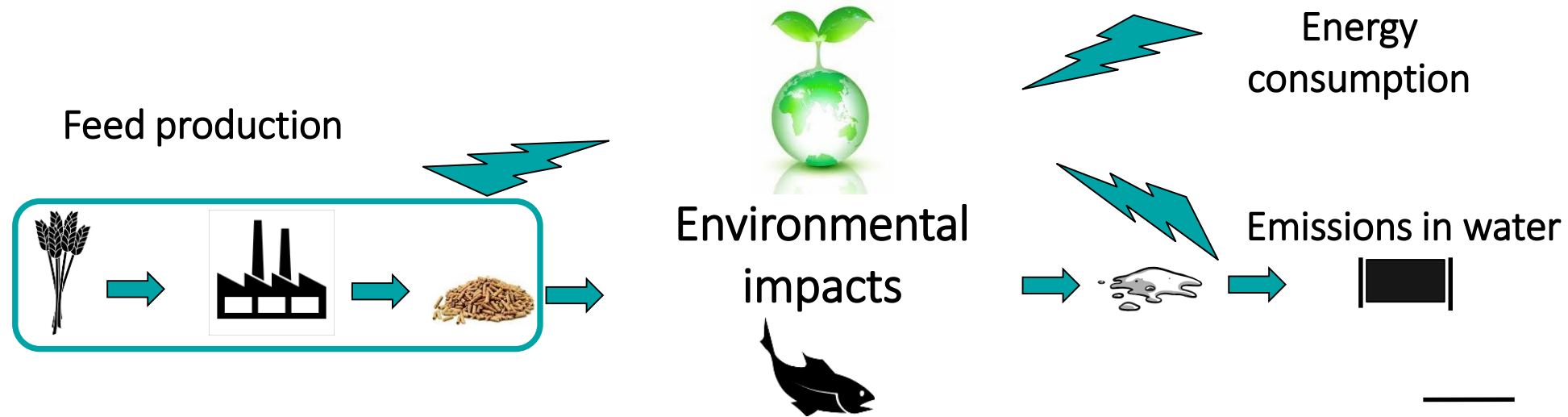


FAO, 2018

- ✓ Leading freshwater farmed species in Europe (156,000 t)
- ✓ Mainly for portion size-fish (200-300 gr)
- ✓ Almost all rainbow trout on the EU market comes from aquaculture

EUMOFA, 2021

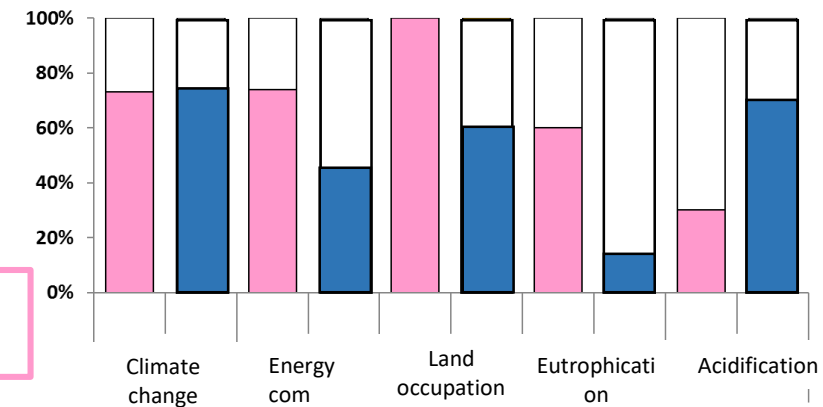
➤ Environmental impacts of aquaculture



- ✓ 65-95% of the environmental impacts (Wilfart et al, 2018)
- ✓ 60-75 % of production cost (Hoffman et al, 1997)



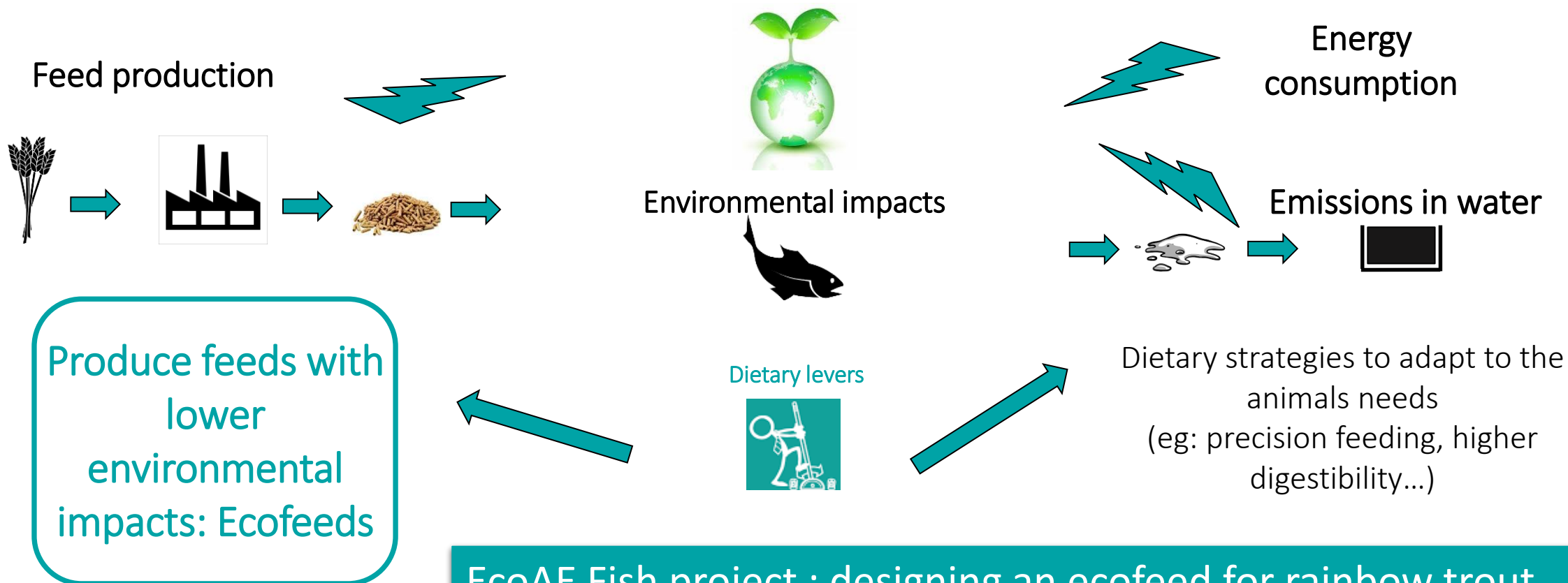
Basset-Mens &
van der Werf, 2005
Dourmad et al. 2014



Aubin et al., 2009
Boissy et al., 2011
Wilfart et al, 2013,

Feed contribution to LCA impacts for 1 kg of life weight at farm gate

➤ Environmental impacts of aquaculture



EcoAE Fish project : designing an ecofeed for rainbow trout and test its digestibility, the consequences on animal growth performances and its environmental impacts

➤ EcoFeed: multi-objective formulation concept

- ✓ Formulate : combine feed ingredients into feed by using linear programming to meet user-defined animal requirements with an objective to optimize



➤ EcoFeed: multi-objective formulation concept

Eco-formulation

Multi-objective formulation



Environmental impacts of raw materials

Eco-feed

Least-cost formulation

Cost of raw materials and nutritional requirements



Traditional feed

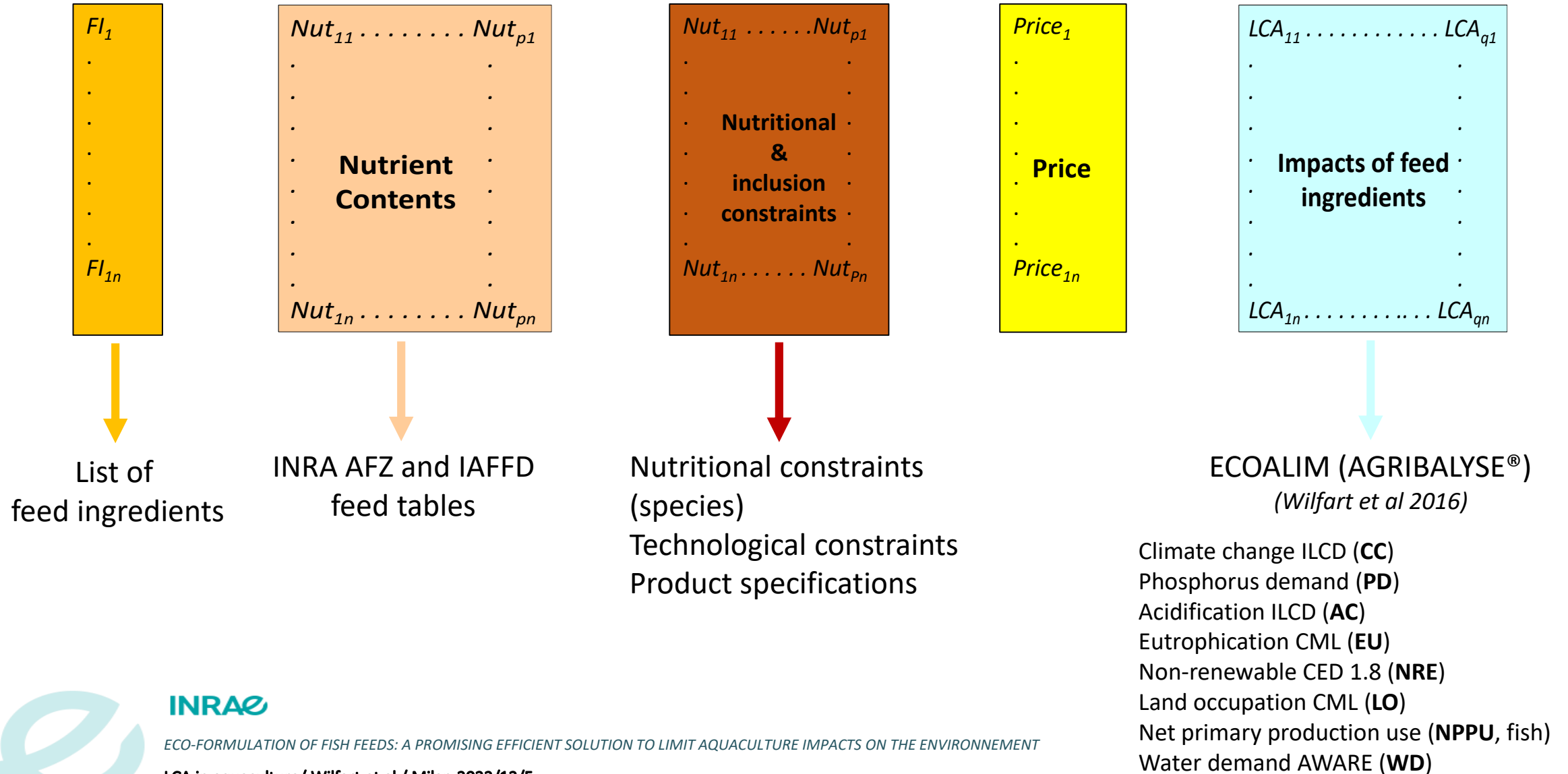


➔ Feed with less environmental impact and controlled cost

➔ Lower cost feed



➤ Feed Formulation matrix



➤ Multi-objective formulation algorithm

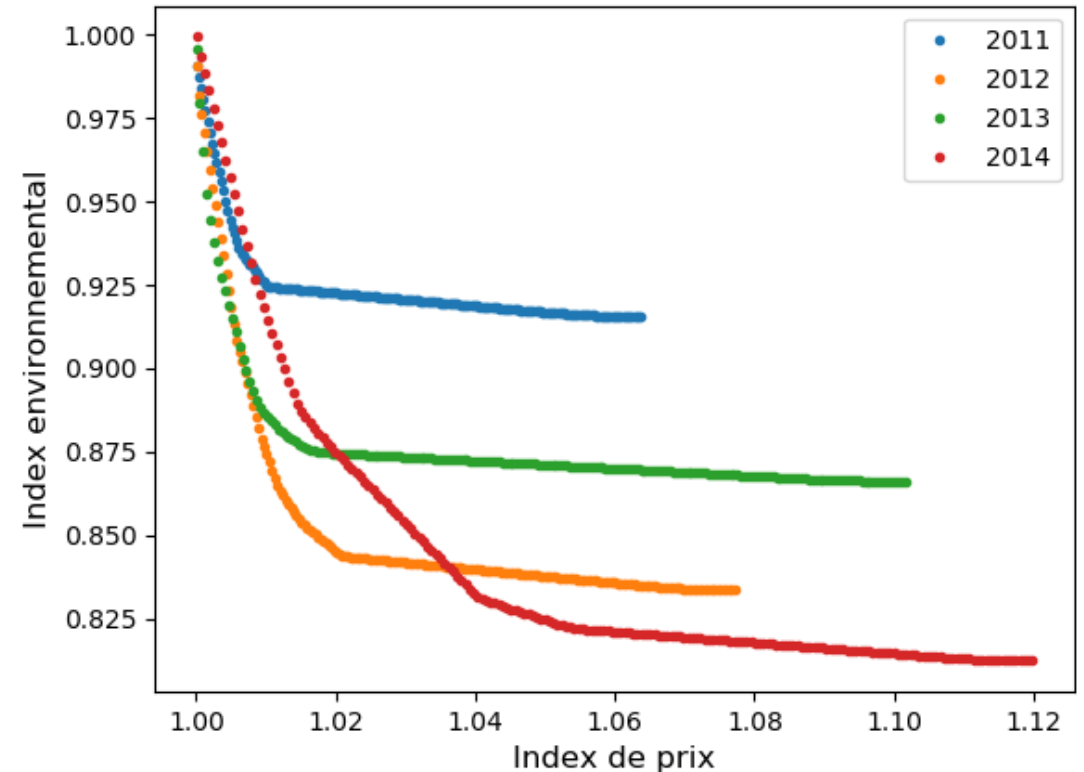
$$f(x) = \sum_{i \in I} \text{coef}_i \frac{\text{Impact}_i^t x - \text{Min}_i}{\text{Ref}_{\text{impact}_i} - \text{Min}_i}$$

$$c^t x \leq \epsilon \quad \epsilon = \{\text{Ref}_{\text{prix}}, \dots, \text{Max}_{\text{prix}}\}$$

$$\text{Impact}_i^t x \leq 1.05 \times \text{Ref}_{\text{impact}_i}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} q_{\min} \\ n_{\min} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \leq \begin{pmatrix} Q \\ N \\ 1^t \end{pmatrix} x \leq \begin{pmatrix} q_{\max} \\ n_{\max} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$i = [\text{CC}, \text{AC}, \text{EU}, \text{NRE}, \text{LO}, \text{PD}, \text{NPPU}, \text{WD}]$



Trade-off economy/environment

➤ Feed formulas : ingredients

2 different formulations approaches

- ✓ **Commercial formulation** in accordance with practices in commercial farms (**C-diet**)
- ✓ **Ecodiet** with MO-formulation considering feed cost and environmental impacts (**ECO-diet**)

Major ingredients (%)	C-diet	ECO-diet	
Wheat	2.00	17.31	
Fababean	17.01	-	
Fish meal	16.01	7.24	-45 %
Fish oil	6.53	3.61	
Gluten meal	8.50	-	
Oilseed meal	16 raw materials	23 raw materials	
Poultry meal (blood, feather)		15.58	
Oilseed oil	1276.9 €/t	1171.5 €/t	-8 %
Guar meal/Soy lecithin	-	2.97/5.76	
Pea protein concentrate	25.01	20.00	
Premix and additives	4.35	4.4	

➤ Feed formulas: chemical composition and environmental impacts

Chemical composition	C-diet	ECO-diet	
Dry matter (g/kg)	966.4	973.4	
Crude protein (g/kg)	473.7	476.7	
Crude lipid (g/kg)	237.0	237.9	
Starch (g/kg)	91.5	111.1	
GE (kJ/g DM)	25.7	24.6	
Environmental impacts /kg of feed)			
Climate change (kg CO ₂ -eq)	1.387	0.751	- 46 %
Non renewable energy (MJ)	14.851	8.547	- 57 %
Acidification (molc H ⁺ -eq)	0.017	0.012	
Eutrophication (kg PO ₄ ³⁻ -eq)	0.007	0.00458	
NPPU (kg C)	21.593	12.150	- 44 %
Land occupation (m ² year)	1.625	1.240	
Water demand (m ³)	10.321	5.759	- 44 %
Phosphorus demand (kg P)	0.007	0.00556	

➤ Consequences on the formula: take home message

- Reduction >50% of fishmeal and fish oil
- Elimination of soybean meal and soybean protein concentrate
- Introduction of new yeast ingredients such as yeast
- Reduction of feed cost (8%)

But :

- Increase in the number of ingredients (16 → 23)
- Significant use of animal by-products : hydrolysed feather protein, poultry blood meal, poultry oil
- Introduction of raw materials in very small quantities: 0.02% linseed oil, 0.01% potato protein concentrate



➤ Digestibility and growth trials

- ✓ Triplicate groups of 27 fish (initial BW 60 g) per diet
- ✓ 84 d of experiment (Growth) – 21 d (digestibility)
- ✓ C-diet or Ecodiet
- ✓ Feeding ad libitum twice a day
- ✓ Biomass weighing every 21 days
- ✓ Total quantity of feed distributed
- ✓ Control of physico-chemical parameters (O_2 , N- NH_4 , $^{\circ}C$)
- ✓ Calculation of growth performance parameters



NuMÉA, Donzacq experimental facilities

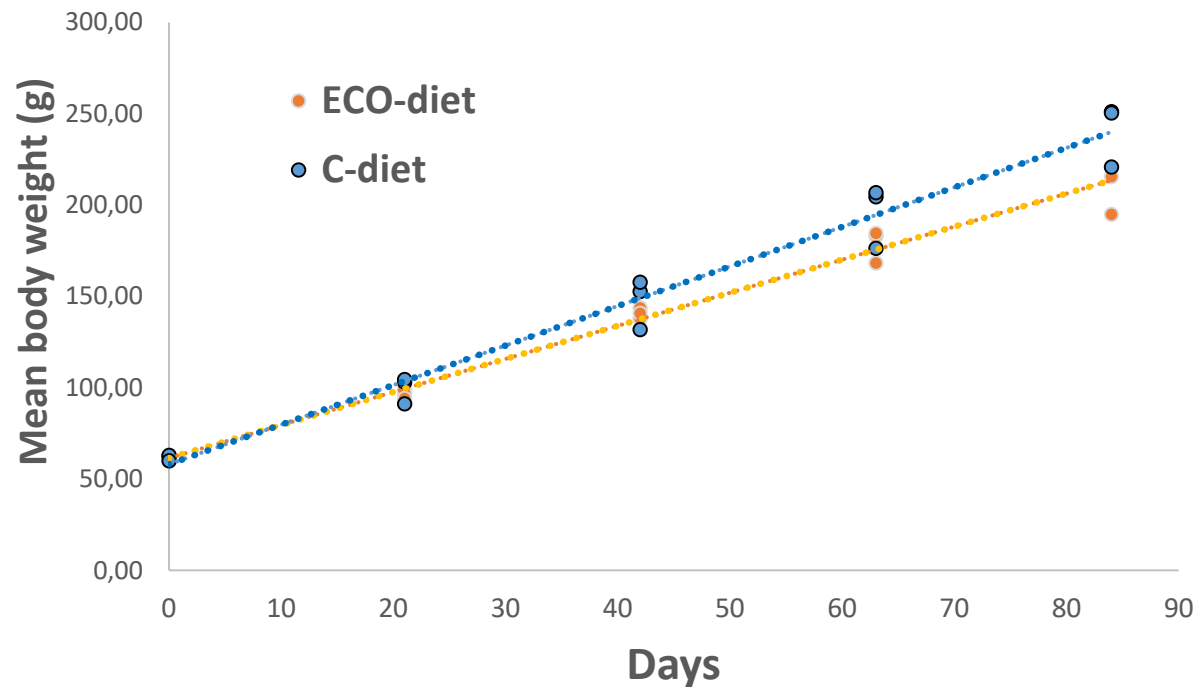
➤ In vivo performance of the Eco-diet

	C-diet		ECO-diet		P-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Initial BW, g	61.73	1.54	61.23	1.54	0.71
Final BW, g	240.74	17.32	210.37	13.72	0.08
SGR, %	1.62	0.06	1.47	0.08	0.07
DFI, g kg ⁻¹ day ⁻¹	16.17	0.03	15.03	0.02	0.009
FCR	1.15	0.02	1.15	0.05	0.93

	C-diet		ECO-diet		P-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
ADC (%)					
Protein	91.69	0.23	91.01	0.17	0.08
Lipid	95.56	0.27	93.99	0.08	0.0003
Starch	92.51	0.48	97.66	0.32	0.0003
Energy	89.07	0.34	87.27	0.29	0.02
Ash	44.93	1.36	38.81	0.3	0.04

- No effect on body composition, final BW, nutrient retention and nutrient gain except for protein
- Energy and lipid gain are lower with ECO diet
- ECO-Diet significantly affected daily feed intake

➤ In vivo performance of the Eco-diet



IMPORTANT

Eco-feed consumption does not affect animal performance

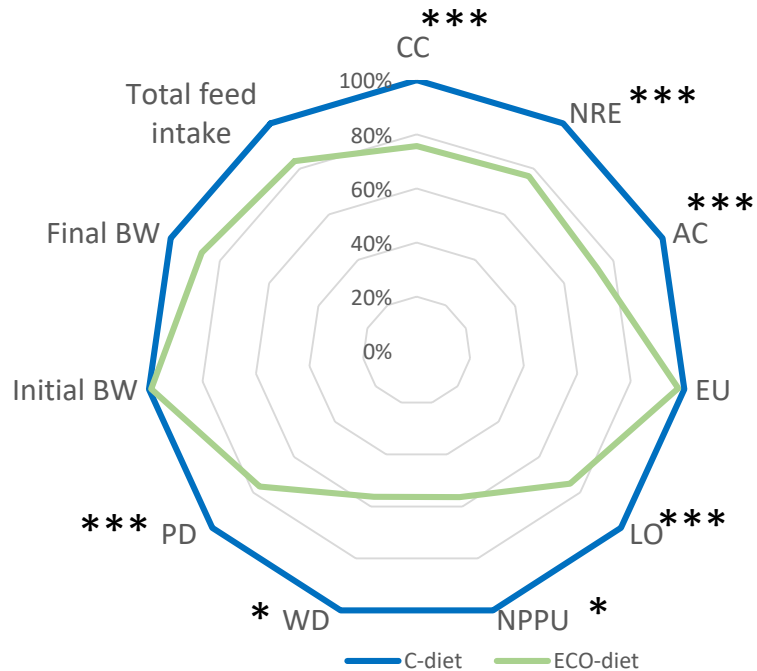
- Good growth performance
- No significant difference after 84 days ($p=0.07$) but to be confirmed over a longer rearing period
- No difference in body composition

➤ LCA methodology

- ✓ LCA was conducted for each tank according to tank performance and feed consumption. Electricity and water consumption for feed production were measured directly on the experimental feed facility
- ✓ The functional units and the main components considered in LCA model were:
 - ✓ One kg of feed at factory gate, including resources and emissions to the production of feed and transportation to plant (ECOALIM dataset, Wilfart et al 2016)
 - ✓ One kg of live body weight gain at the end of experiment which included the uses of resources (oxygen, energy, water) and emissions during the experiment.
- ✓ The impacts considered were climate change (CC), acidification (AC) obtained by ILCD method, eutrophication (EU by CML IA) and non renewable energy demand (NRE by CED v1.08), water demand (WD by AWARE) as implemented in Simapro® v8.3.0.0 and net primary production use (NPPU, Papytryphon et al 2004) and phosphorus demand (Wilfart et al 2016)
- ✓ Background data base : Agribalyse 3.0 including ECOALIM dataset (Wilfart et al, 2016) for agricultural machineries, Ecoinvent v3.8



➤ LCA results at the end of the experiment



* P< 0.05, **P<0.01, ***P<0.001.

CC = climate change (kg CO₂eq); NRE = non-renewable and fossil energy demand (MJ); AC = acidification (molH⁺eq); EU = eutrophication (kg PO₄-eq); LO = land occupation (m².y); NPPU = net primary production use (kg C); WD = water demande (m³); PD = phosphorus demand (g P)

Per kg of BW gain, Eco diet reduced all the impact except for EU.

Major reduction for NPPU and WD (44 %)
Others impacts are reduced by about 25 %

The reduction at « farm » level is smaller than that observed at the feed level

IMPORTANT

Ecodiet: It works !

- ✓ By formulating with environmental impacts, it is possible to reduce the environmental impacts of trout feed
- ✓ ECO diet use more raw materials than a commercial diet
- ✓ To compensate the substitution of fishmeal and fish oil, more animal co-products are needed in the ECO diet
- ✓ Despite a tendency to reduce growth, ECO diet reduce significantly environmental impacts per kg of BW gain
- ✓ The interest of the multi-objectives formulation has to be validated for longer rearing times and on other fish species

➤ Thank you for your attention !

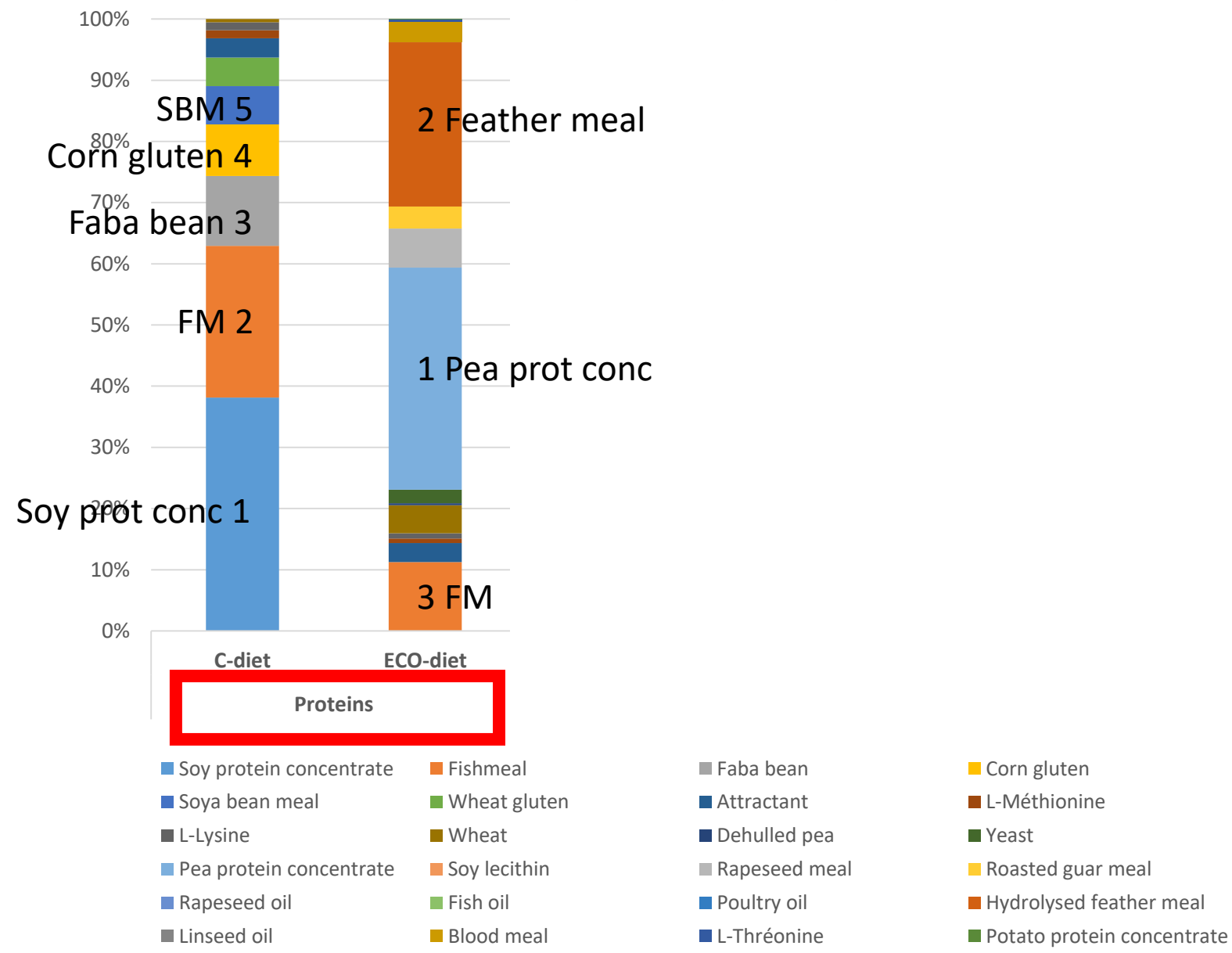
aurelie.wilfart@inrae.fr

https://www6.inrae.fr/ecoalim_eng/

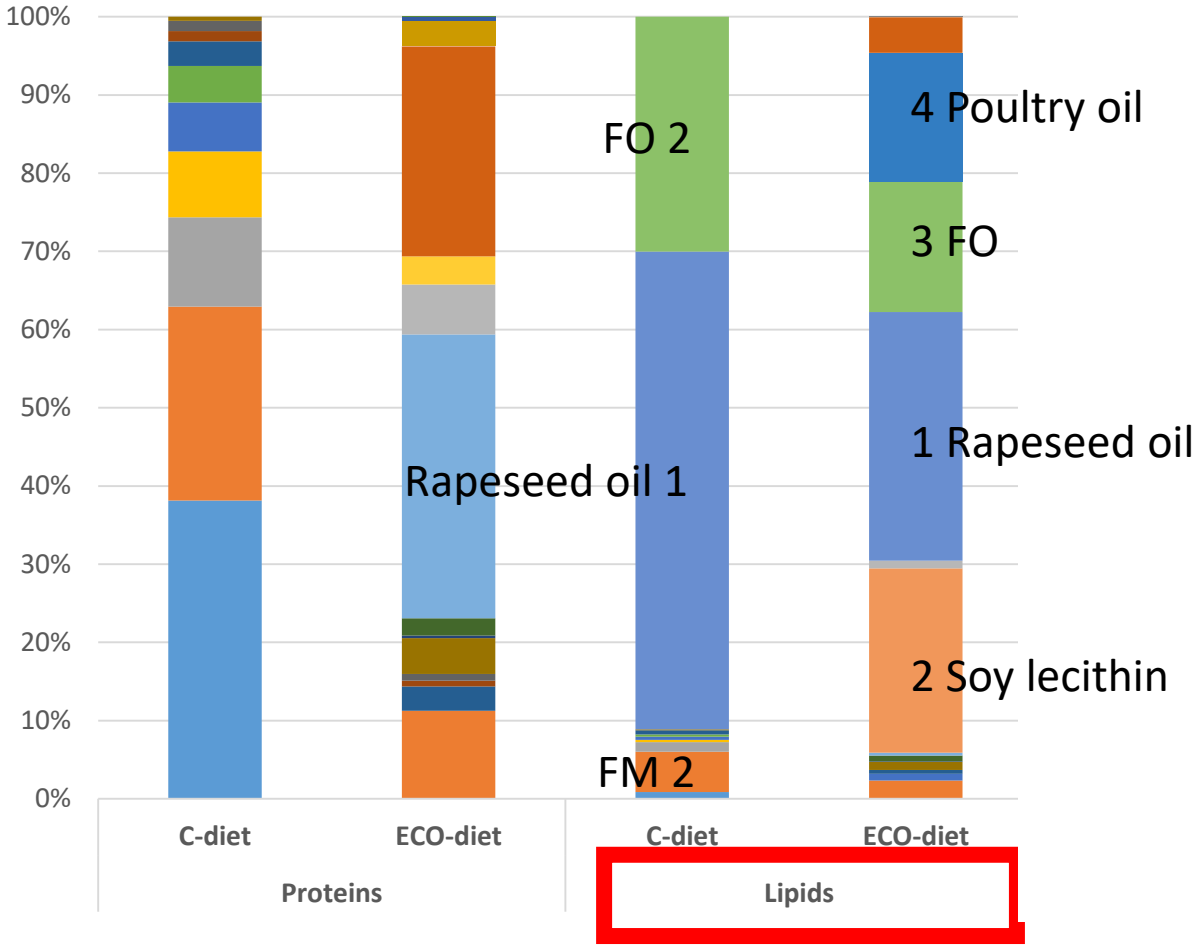
The screenshot shows the website interface for the ECOALIM data base, which provides LCA data on feedstuffs for animal feed. The website includes a header with the logo 'AMT élevages & environnement' and a navigation menu. Below the header, there is a welcome message and a list of partners including ifip, ARVALIS, ITAVI, INRA, Terres Inovia, and FEEDSIN Avenir. The main content area displays a table with the following columns: Feedstuffs, Perforateur, Average date / subcategory, Country of production for the raw feedstuff, Country of transformation for the feedstuff, Atmospheric consumption (kg TS), CED L & non renewable (kg CO2 eq), Climate change RCD (kg CO2 eq), Acidification RCD (kg SO2 eq), Eutrophication (kg N eq), Land competition (kg N eq), and Land use change (kg N eq). The table lists various feedstuffs such as 'Maïs humide (Région Nord)' and 'Maïs humide (Région Sud)' with their respective LCA impact values.

Want to know more ? Read our article in *Aquaculture*
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aquaculture.2022.738826>

Contribution of feed ingredients to protein, lipid and starch content



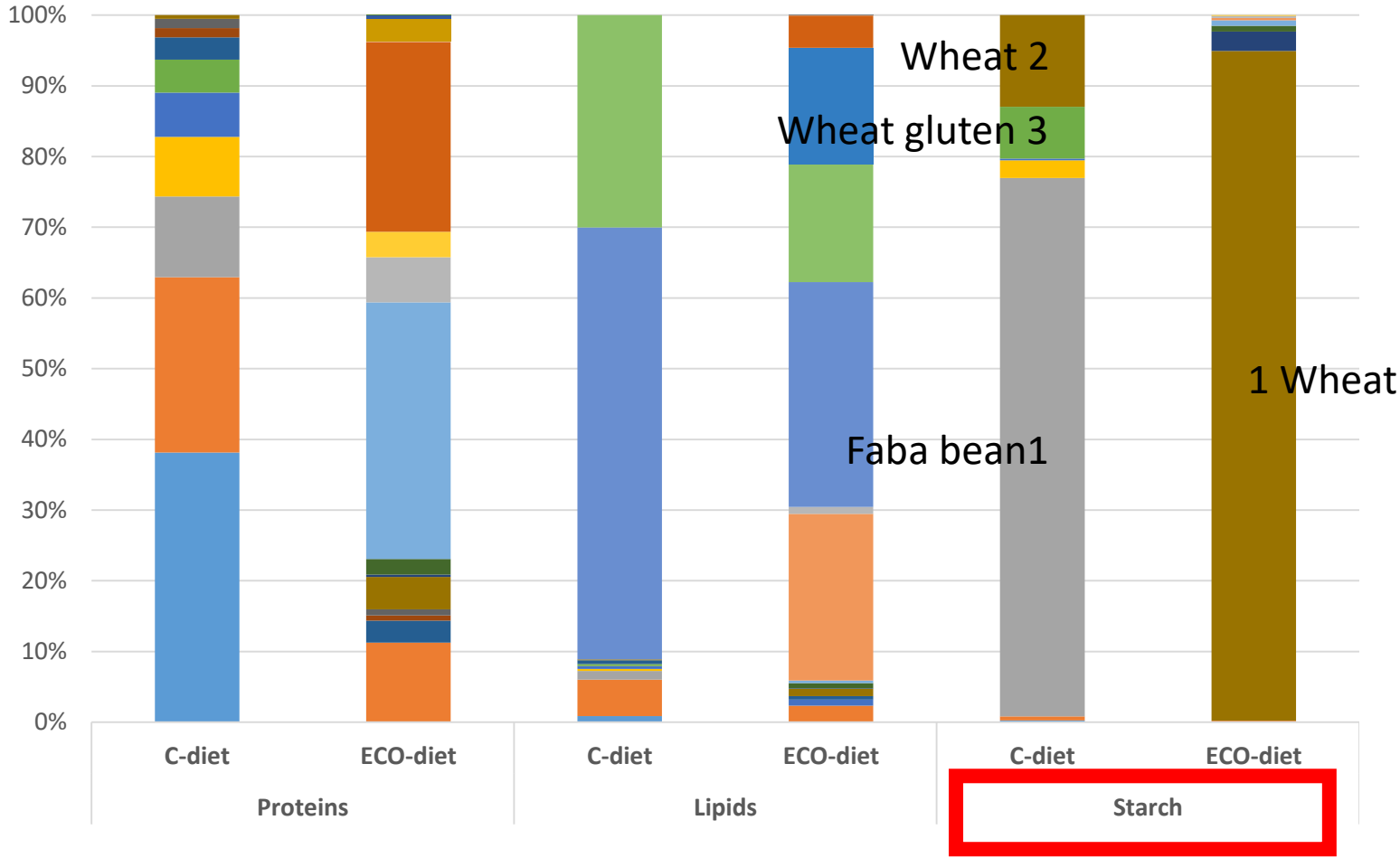
Contribution of feed ingredients to protein, lipid and starch content



- Soy protein concentrate
- Fishmeal
- Faba bean
- Corn gluten
- Soya bean meal
- Wheat gluten
- Attractant
- L-M thionine
- L-Lysine
- Wheat
- Dehulled pea
- Yeast
- Pea protein concentrate
- Soy lecithin
- Rapeseed meal
- Roasted guar meal
- Rapeseed oil
- Fish oil
- Poultry oil
- Hydrolysed feather meal
- Linseed oil
- Blood meal
- L-Thr onine
- Potato protein concentrate



Contribution of feed ingredients to protein, lipid and starch content



- Soy protein concentrate
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UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI MILANO



DiSAA
DIPARTIMENTO
di SCIENZE
AGRICOLE e
AMBIENTALI



Agrifood
LCA Lab



Consiglio per la ricerca in agricoltura
e l'analisi dell'economia agraria



ministero delle
politiche agricole
alimentari e forestali



LCA and shellfish farming - case study of organic Manila clam aquaculture

Arianna Martini

CREA - Council for Agricultural Research and Economics, Research Centre for Animal Production and Aquaculture

arianna.martini@crea.gov.it

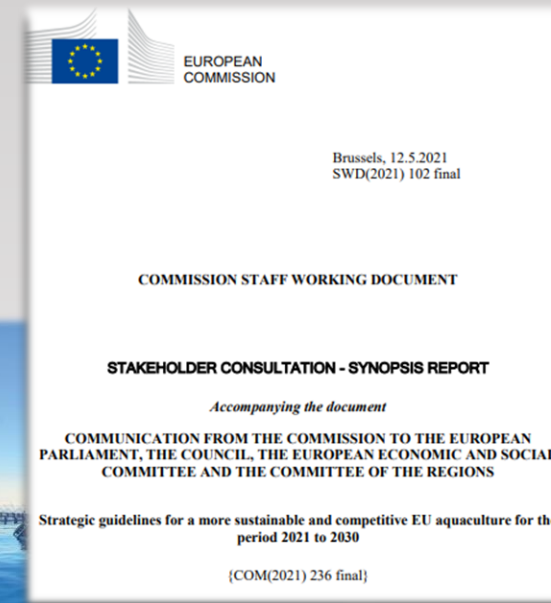
Milan, 5th December 2022 – Workshop - Life Cycle Assessment in Aquaculture

Low-impact aquaculture: a sector with high growth potential



Sustainable food system (SFS)
deliver food security and nutrition for all in
a **sustainable way**

- **Ecological transition** towards food systems having **zero or positive impacts** and that can provide multiple **ecosystem services**
- Quantification of the **positive** and **negative** environmental **impacts** of food supply chains



Shellfish aquaculture → well-established ecosystem services

Supporting services

Services necessary for the production of other ecosystem services



restoration of degraded seabed habitats, increase biodiversity at all trophic levels



play a role in the storage and cycle of fundamental nutrients in aquatic environments

Provisioning services

products obtained from ecosystems



provision of high-quality animal proteins and omega-3 PUFA



shells as construction materials, fertilisers

Regulating services

Benefits obtained from the regulation of ecosystem processes



mitigation of the effects of eutrophication



Reduced rates of shoreline and bed erosion

Cultural services

Non-material benefits obtained from ecosystems

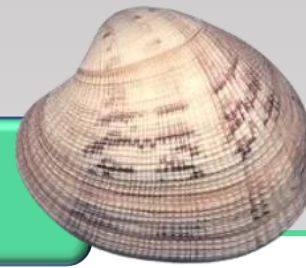


Education, tourism, seafood festivals and symbolic and spiritual benefits



van der Schatte Olivier et al., 2020

Manila clam aquaculture



Ruditapes philippinarum

Manila clam aquaculture gives the opportunity to describe an important European food supply chain and inform future management plans

- In the EU, *R. philippinarum* is an economically important sector
- Italy is the leader MS for Manila clam production (24,453 tonnes in 2020, > 95% of EU production, 36% of Italian aquaculture production value)
- Faster growth rate than *R. decussatus*, tolerance to salinity and temperature variations and eutrophication



CLIMATE CHANGE



OVEREXPLOITATION



HABITAT DEGRADATION



LACK OF AVAILABLE
NATURAL SEED

DECLINE IN MANILA
CLAM PRODUCTION

RELIANCE ON HATCHERIES
to guarantee seed
provisioning to on-
growing clam facilities

Despite the relevance of Manila clam farming in Italy, there is only one clam hatchery





Producing certified and controlled Manila clam seed could be an opportunity for the development of ORGANIC clam aquaculture



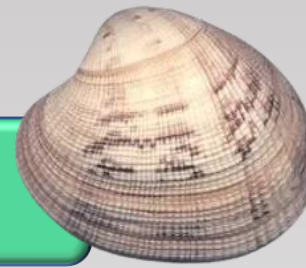
The start of organic Italian clam production was allowed by the establishment of the first certified hatchery in 2017



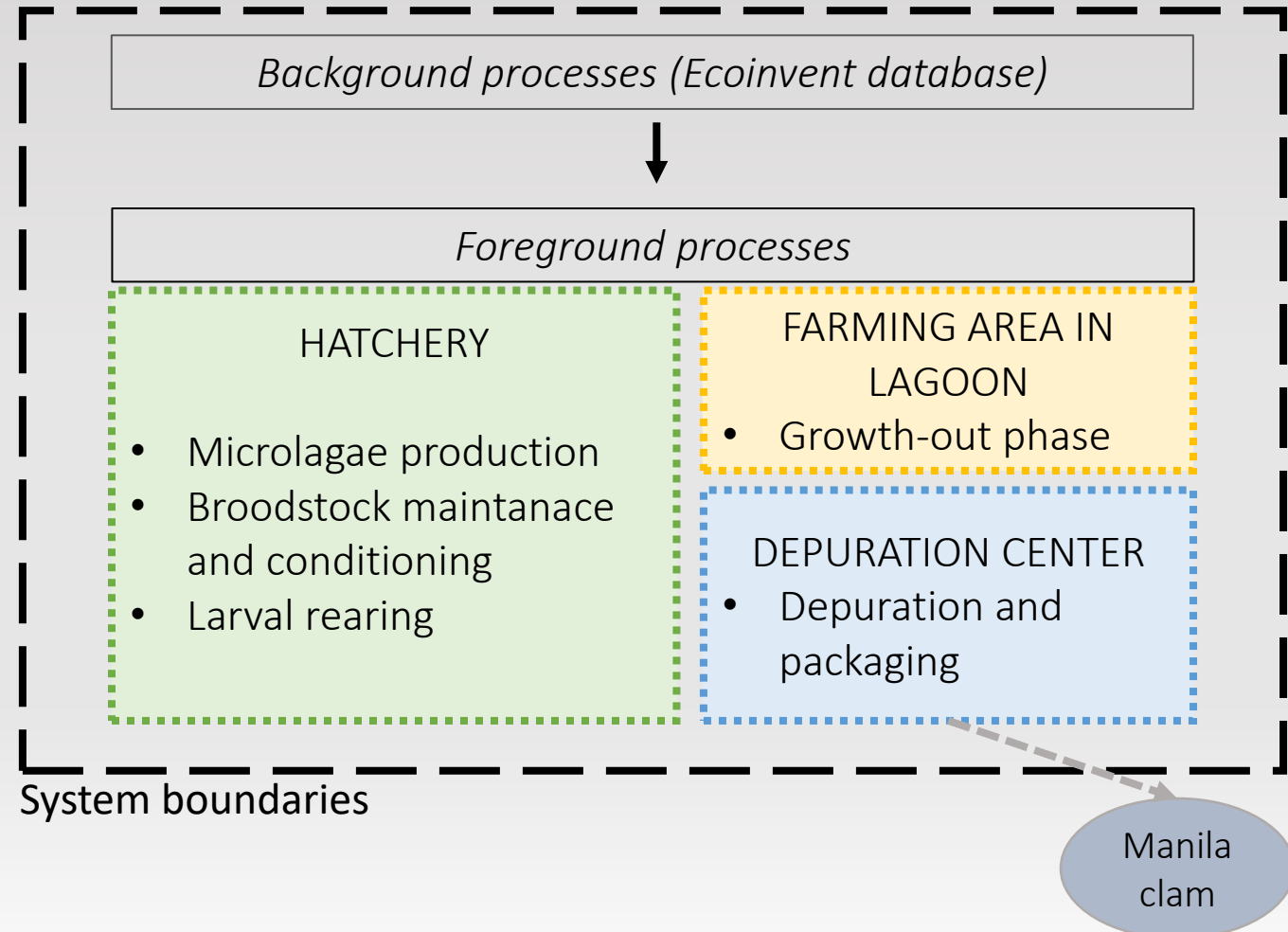
From 2015 to 2018 the production increased from 20 to 291 tonnes

BUT just one hatchery unit is not sufficient to provide spat for all the on-growing national facilities and seed is almost all imported from USA and other EU MS

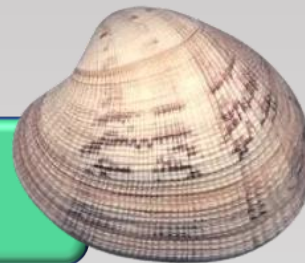
LCA of organic Manila clam aquaculture



- ❑ **Case study:** organic Manila clam supply chain in the North Adriatic Sea – the three phases are carried out in a restricted area (Goro, Emilia-Romagna)
- ❑ Assessment of the **environmental performance**, identification and quantification of major sources of impacts
- ❑ Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) (**cradle-to-gate analysis**)
- ❑ Impact Assessment method: **ReCiPe 2016 Midpoint (H) V1.04**
- ❑ Functional Unit: **1 kg** of packed organic clam
- ❑ Software: Simapro 9.1.0.7

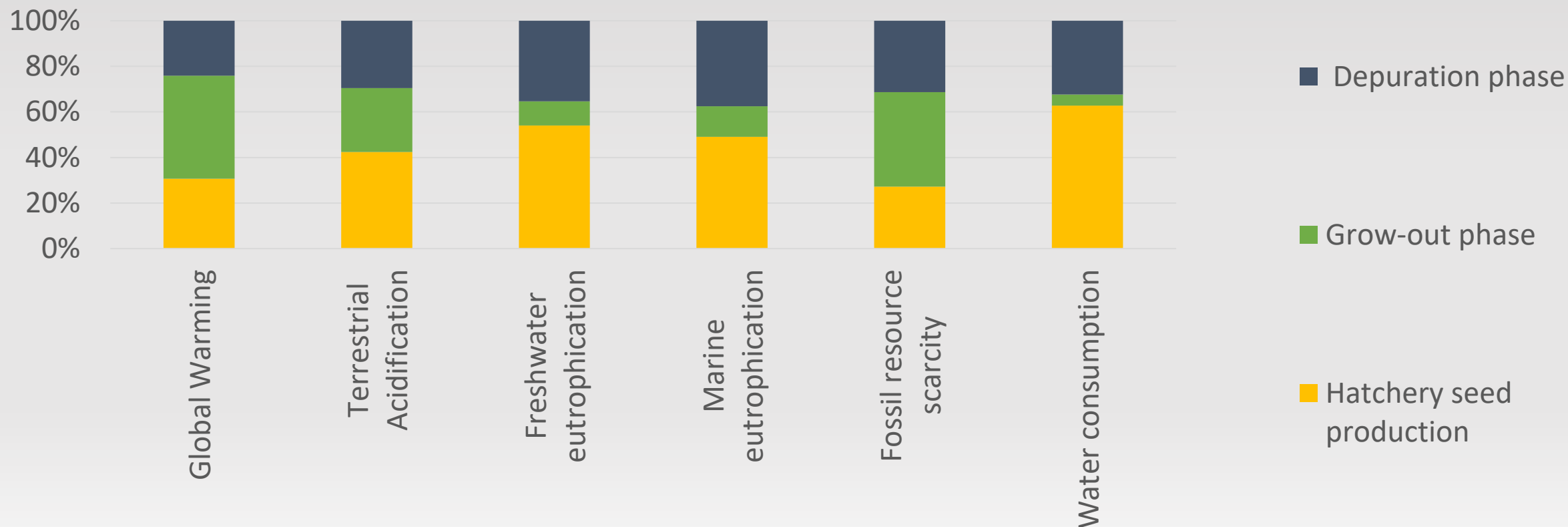


LCA of organic Manila clam aquaculture



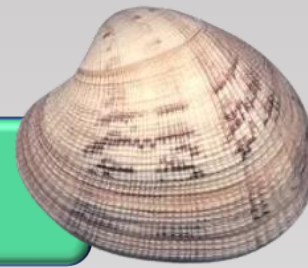
CONTRIBUTION ANALYSIS (preliminary results)

Organic Manila clam supply chain

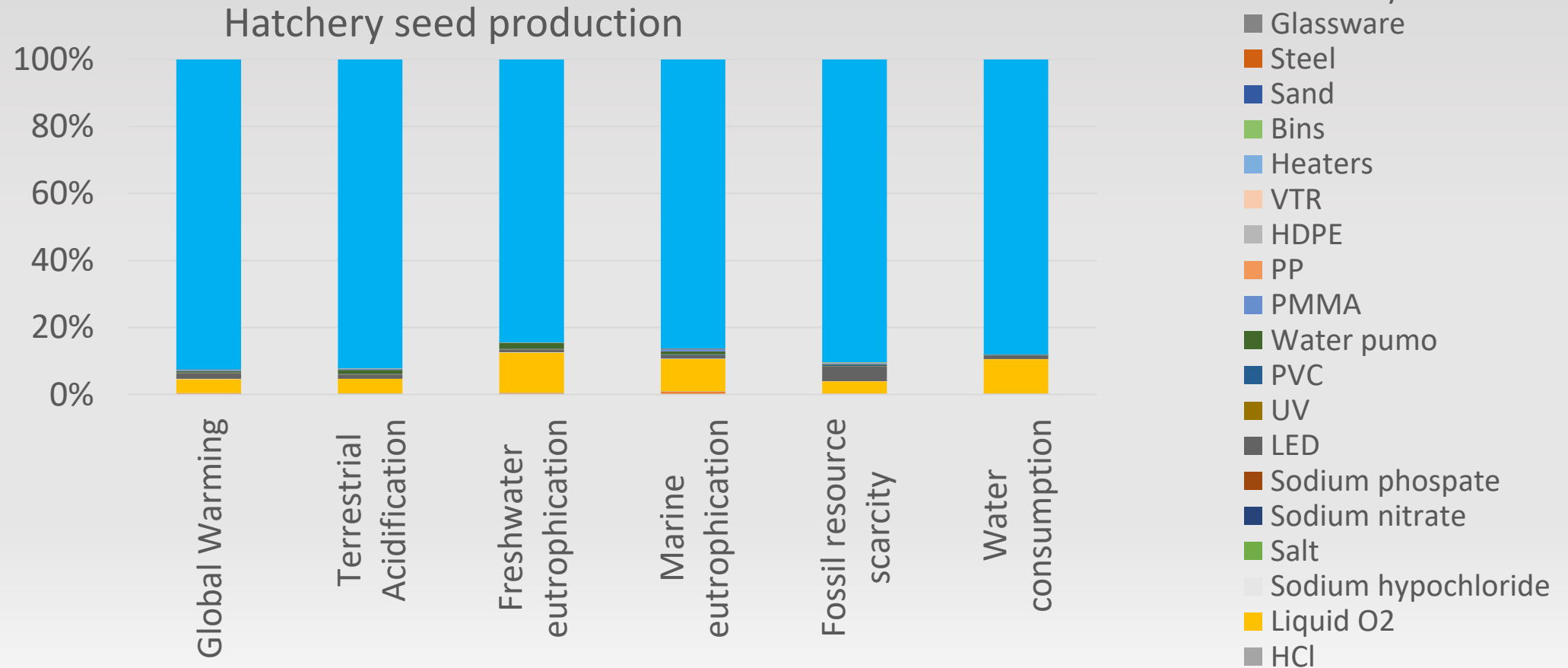


Results are referred to the functional unit: **1 kg** of packed organic clam

LCA of organic Manila clam aquaculture

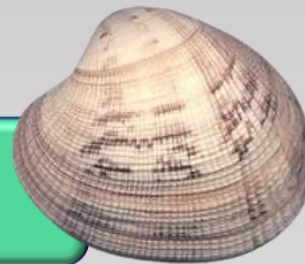


CONTRIBUTION ANALYSIS (preliminary results)

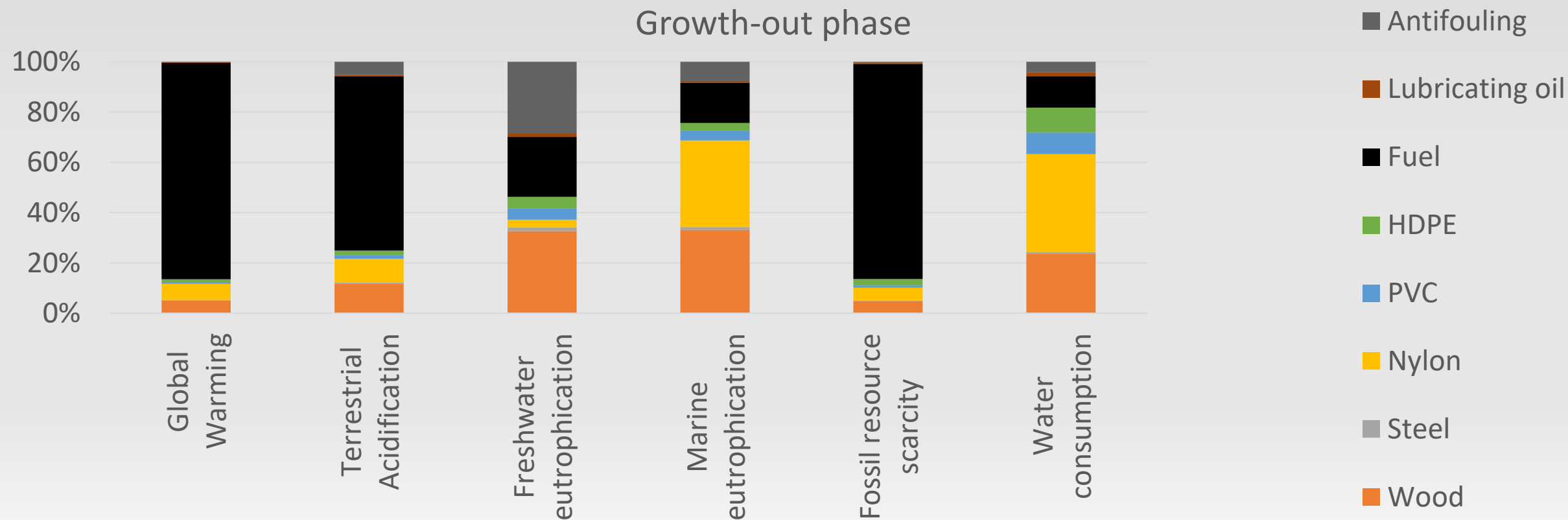


Results are referred to the functional unit: **1 kg** of packed organic clam

LCA of organic Manila clam aquaculture

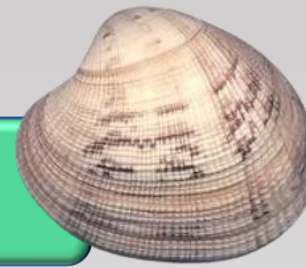


CONTRIBUTION ANALYSIS (preliminary results)

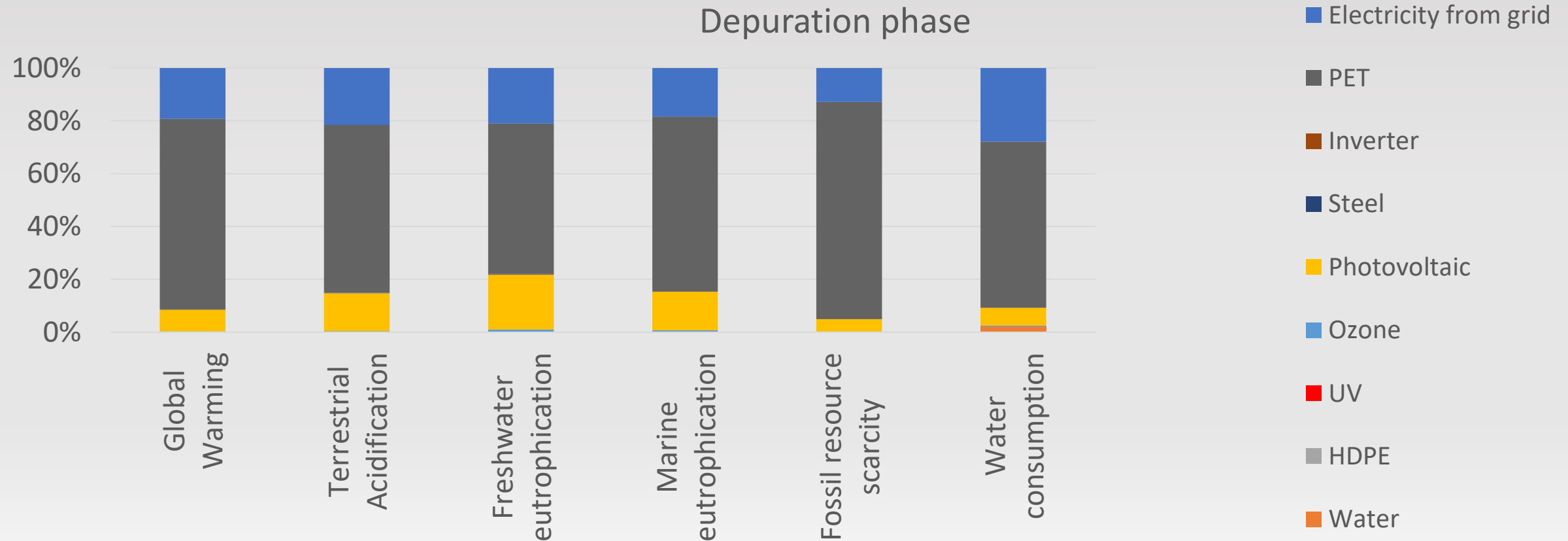


Results are referred to the functional unit: **1 kg** of packed organic clam

LCA of organic Manila clam aquaculture



CONTRIBUTION ANALYSIS (preliminary results)



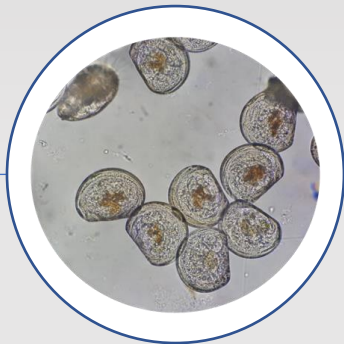
Results are referred to the functional unit: **1 kg** of packed organic clam

Main results

An organic clam supply chain carried out entirely in a restricted area has rather modest environmental impacts


The three production phases differently contribute to the different midpoint impact categories selected

HATCHERY

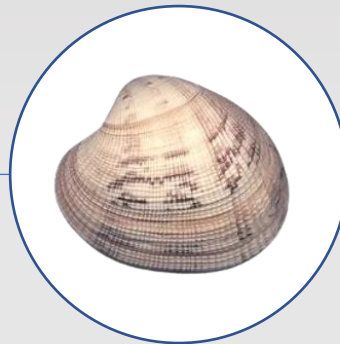


>40% contribution

- a. TERRESTRIAL ACIDIFICATION
- b. FRESHWATER AND MARINE EUTROPHICATION
- c. WATER CONSUMPTION


Major contributor: **ELECTRICITY** 

GROW-OUT



>40% contribution

- a. GLOBAL WARMING
- b. FOSSIL RESOURCE SCARCITY


Major contributor: **FUEL** 
Other contributors: **NYLON** and **WOOD**

DEPURATION



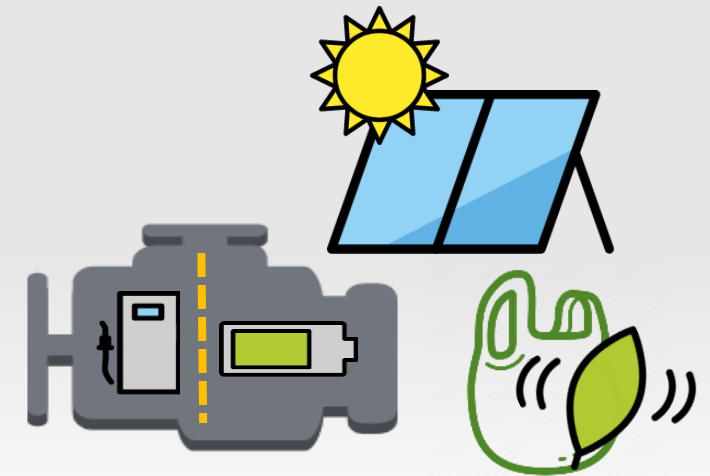
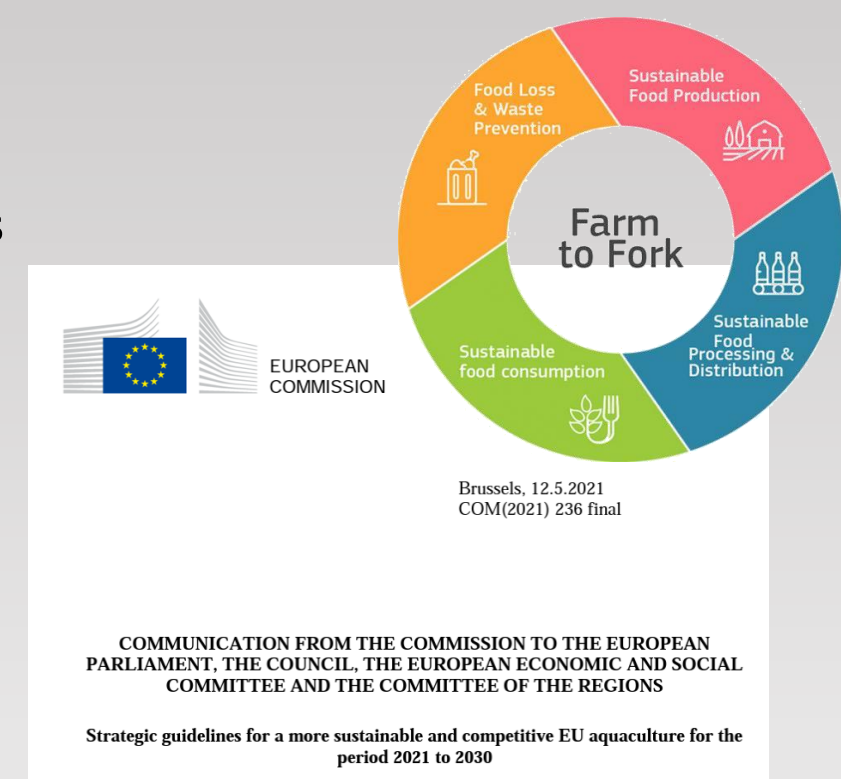
<40% contribution

- a. ALL IMPACT CATEGORIES

Major contributor: **PLASTIC** 
ELECTRICITY from photovoltaic plant

Conclusions

- The increasing gap between **natural seed availability** and **demand needs** to be faced
- The build up of a **national network of clam hatcheries** should be the answer
- It should **reduce the impact of seed transfer** from other countries, but its environmental impact should be assessed
- It should also give the opportunity for the **development of the organic clam farming**, as requested by the EU Strategic Guidelines
- **Mitigation strategies** must be implemented in clam farming to reduce impacts in the three different phases:
 1. the impact of electricity and fuel use
 2. The impact of plastic materials



Thanks for your attention

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06 - 90090263

arianna.martini@crea.gov.it



<https://acquacolturacrea.fish/>



LCA of aquaponics

Daniele Brigolin, Università Iuav di Venezia

(associate professor of ecology – urban and territorial planning degree)

dbrigolin@iuav.it

Outline

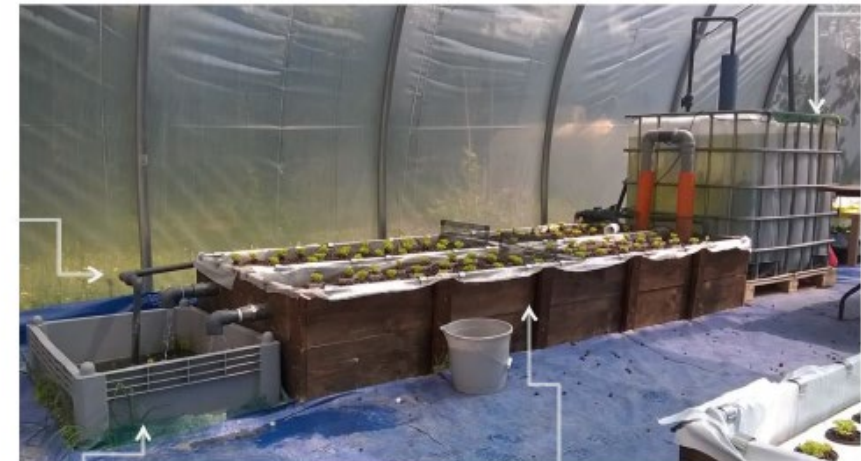
Approaching LCA of aquaponics (methodology)

Comparing results from 4 different systems

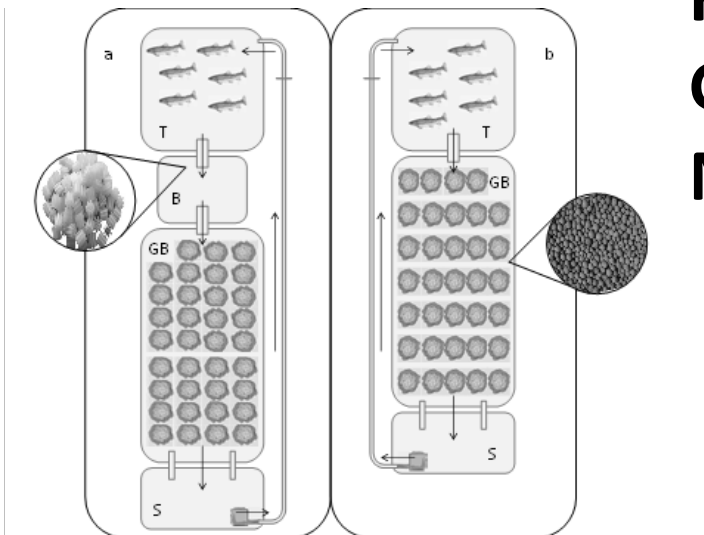
Limitations and future perspectives







Upper view scheme of the aquaponic system: RAFT (a) and MFBS (b). T: tank; B: biofilter; P: water pump S: sump tank, GB: grow bed.



Fish tanks 2 m³
Growth beds 10 m²
No temp. control

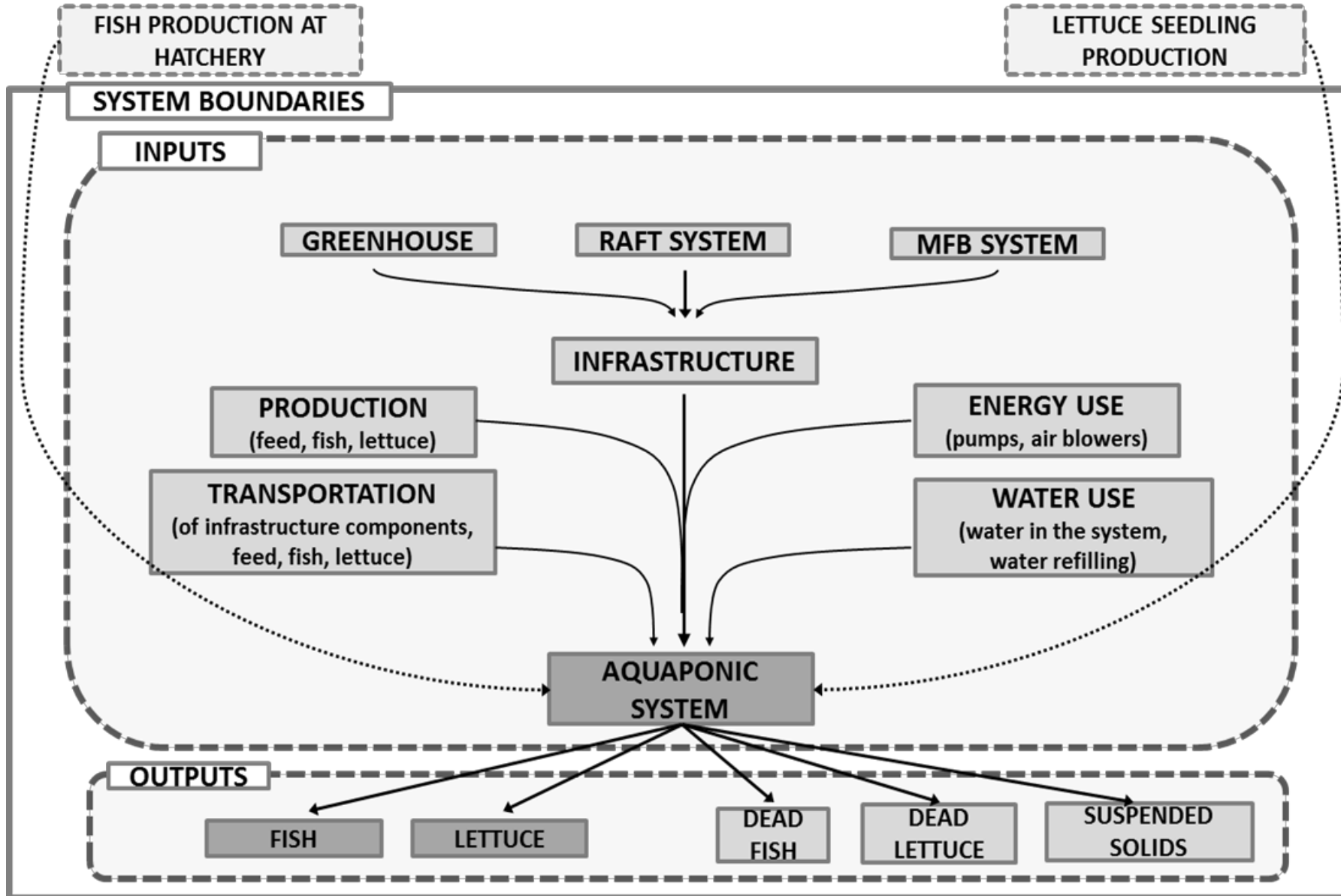
Tabella 1. Riporta i risultati della produzione di pesce e lattughe di un ciclo della durata di un mese

	DWC		MFB	
	t ₀	t _f	t ₀	t _f
Mortalità pesce (morti/mese)	6 morti (1.71%)		5 morti (1.42%)	
Peso medio pesci (g)	27.82 ± 8.88	35.18 ± 8.84	28.01 ± 9.04	35.36 ± 9.62
Lunghezza media pesci (cm)	11.10 ± 1.28	12.28 ± 1.53	11.35 ± 1.81	12.63 ± 1.33
Biomassa totale di pesce (kg)	9.74	12.10	9.80	12.20
FCR	1.21		1.26	
Peso medio lattuga (g)	4.81 ± 0.56	180.25 ± 39.29	4.82 ± 0.64	158.80 ± 46.93
Biomassa totale lattughe (kg)	0.43	16.22	0.43	14.29
Produzione lattughe (kg·m ⁻²)	5.4		4.76	

- All primary data with respect to building materials and transportation;
- Primary data with respect to system functioning;
- LIMITATION: time span of monitoring during functioning (only 1 year project duration)



Buondaries and FU



FU “1 kg of lettuce produced by the aquaponic system”

allocation to lettuce: 73.18%;
allocation to tench = 26.82%

Building the inventory: LCA main inputs and outputs for the aquaponic system.

Consumptions	
Water (m ³)	1.69
Electricity (kWh)	7.8
Fish feed (kg)	36.71
Truck (t/km)	53.9
Car (km)	750.6
Outputs	
Lettuce (<i>Lactuca sativa</i>) (kg)	60.93
Tench (<i>Tinca tinca</i>) (kg)	22.19
Nitrogen (Emission in the soil) (kg)	0.043
Phosphorous (Emission in the soil) (kg)	0.01
Nitrogen (Emission in the water) (kg)	0.77
Phosphorous (Emission in the water) (kg)	0.16

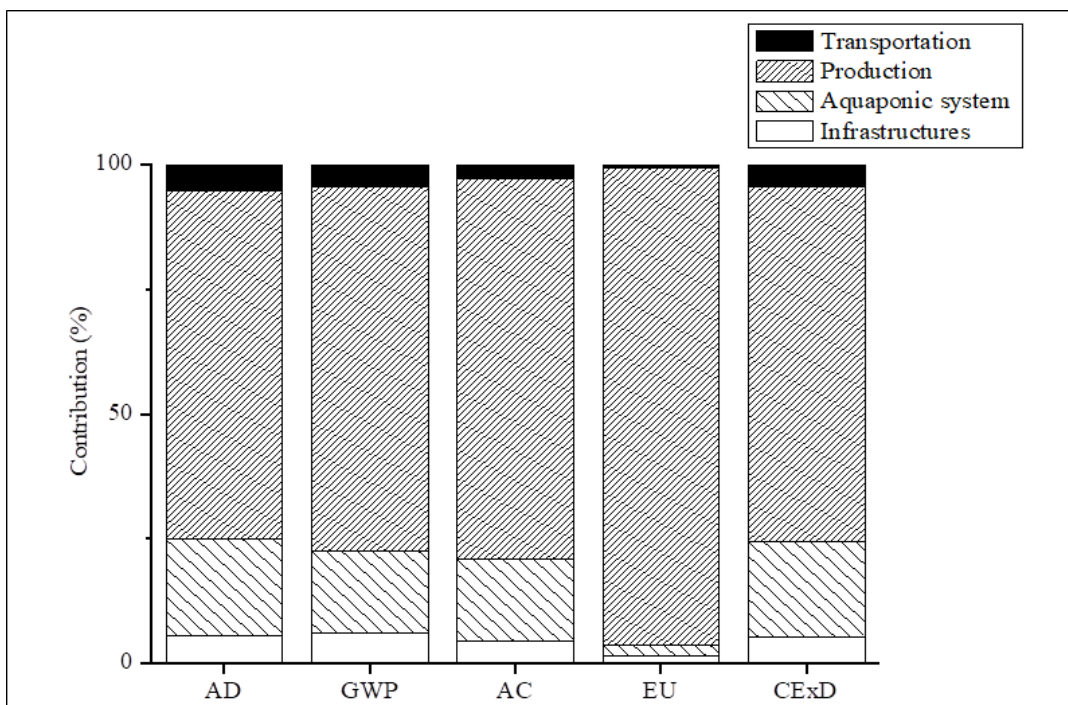
MATERIALS (kg)	
Greenhouse	
Iron (pipes, small items)	272.85
Nylon (tarpaulin, strips)	46.74
PE (tarpaulin, small items)	5.94
Aluminium (small items)	0.92
Aquaponic unit - RAFT	
PVC (tanks, pump, pipes, small items)	43.54
PE (tank, pots, bacterial carriers)	118.14
PS (floating units)	0.36
Tinder wood (grow bed)	27.98
Expanded clay (substrate)	27.06
Perlite (substrate)	1.2
Aquaponic unit - MFB	
PVC (tanks, pump, pipes, small items)	26.18
PE (tank, tubes, net, small items)	64.63
Tinder wood (grow bed)	27.98
Expanded clay (substrate)	568.26

LCIA

METHOD	IMPACT CATEGORY	UNIT	
CML-IA (Version 3.01/World 2000)	Abiotic Depletion (AD)		
	Global Warming Potential 100a (GWP)	MJ kg CO ₂ eq	
	Acidification (AC)	kg SO ₂ eq	
	Eutrophication (EU)	kg PO ₄ ³⁻ eq	
Cumulative Exergy Demand V1.03	Cumulative Exergy Demand	MJ	
Boulay et al 2011 (v1.01)	Water scarcity - WSI	m ³	*
Life Cycle Costing	Cost	Euro	

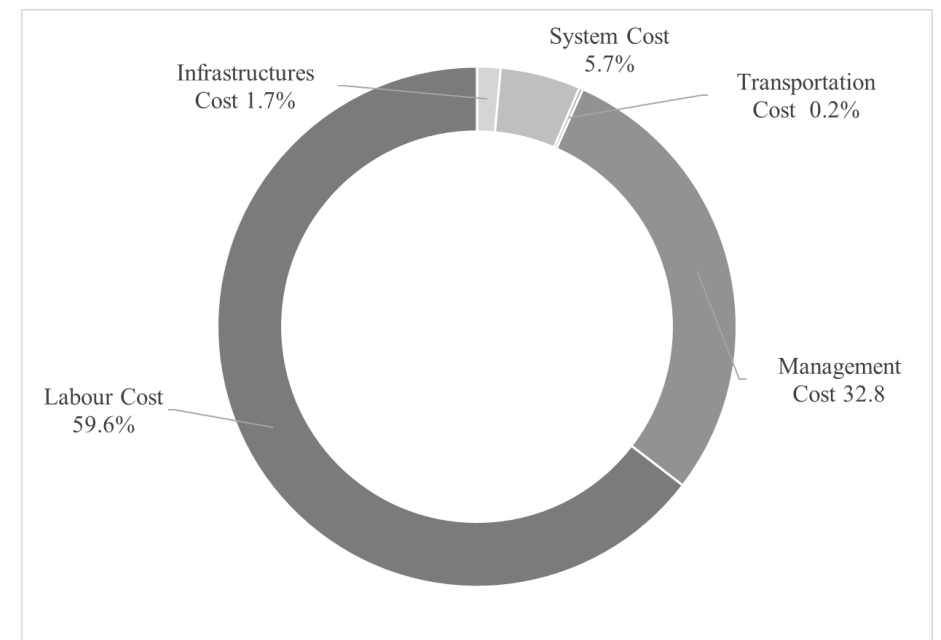
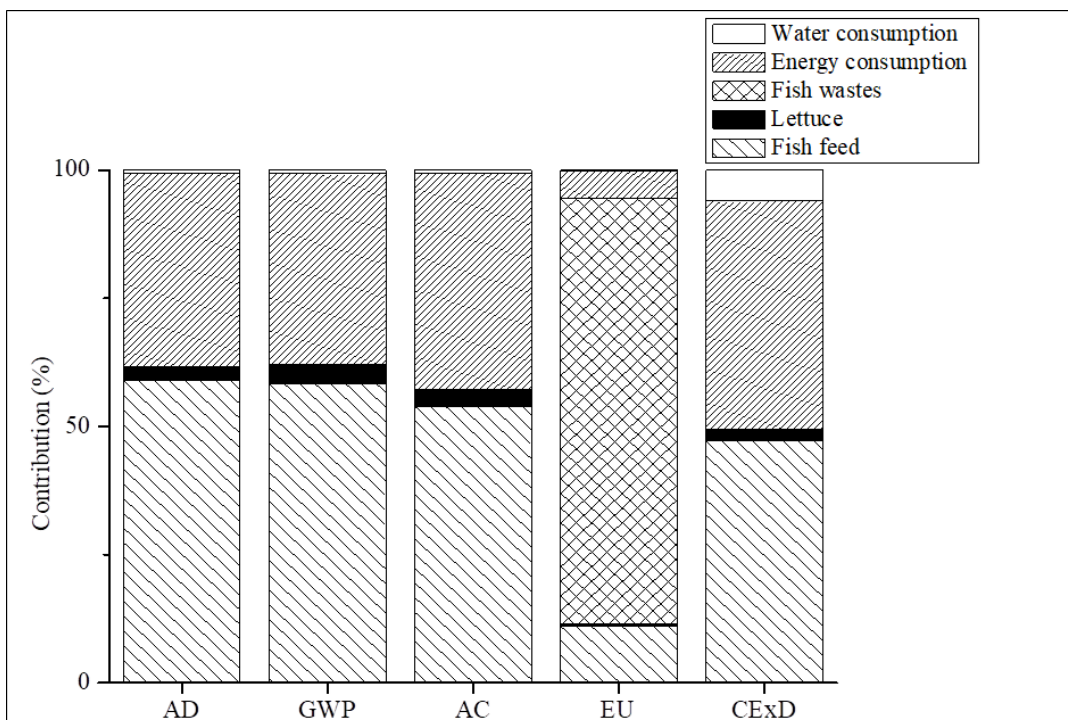
Processes characterizing the system were aggregated in 4 macro-categories

* Not considered in all the applications presented here

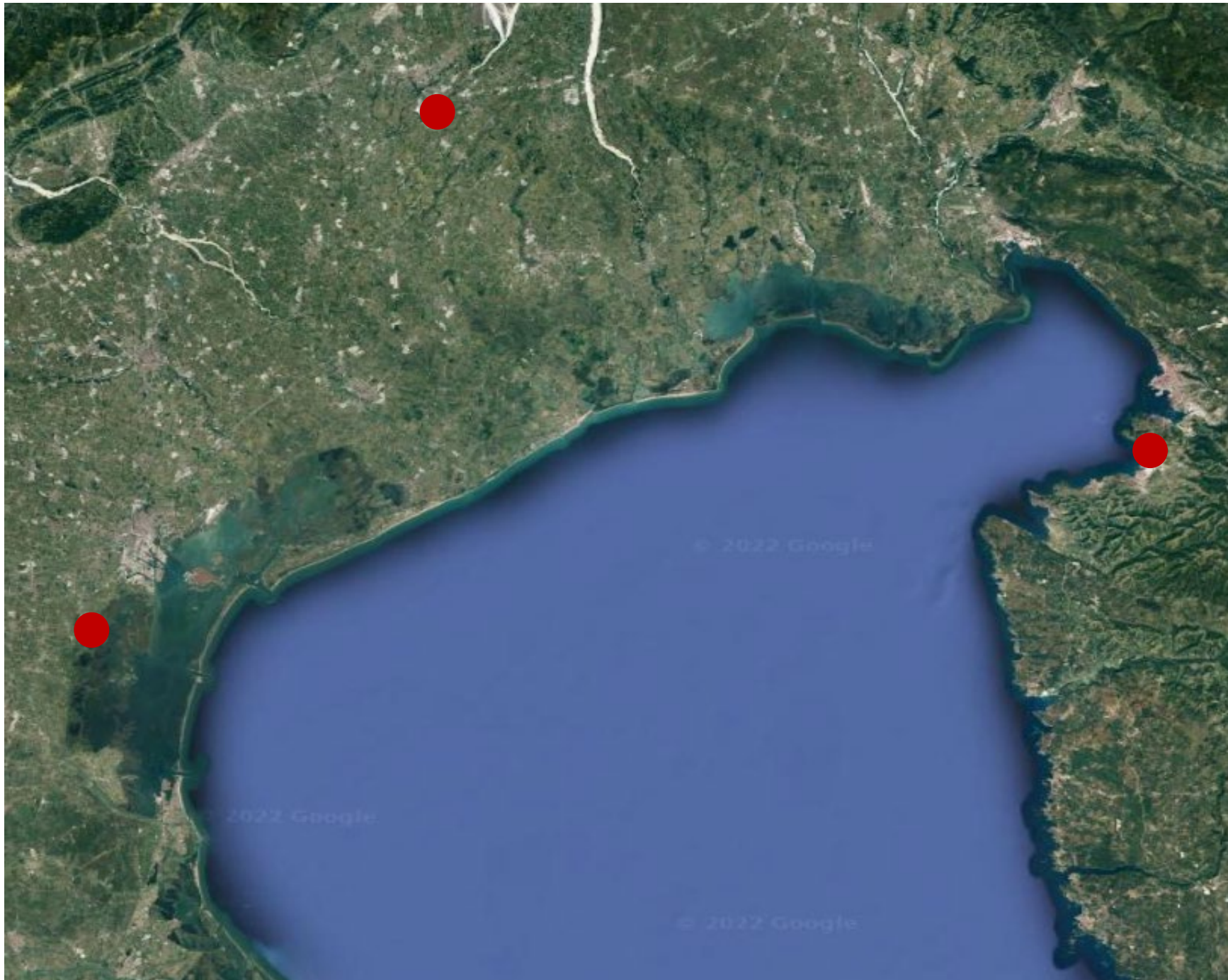


From May 2017 to July 2017, no mortality was recorded for plants and 60.9 kg of lettuce were harvested. During this period, fish were fed with a total of 36.7 kg of feed, resulting in a 22.2 kg increase in biomass, with a calculated Feed Conversion Ratio (FCR) of 1.65. The recorded tench mortality was 1.5% on a weight basis.

LCC analysis estimates a total cost of 7.38 euro to produce 1 kg of lettuce in the aquaponic pilot system.



**Differences in design?? (farmed species,
infrastructure, tech level)**



Porcia (Agroittica Friulana)

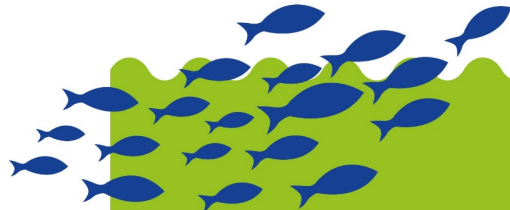


+ tech



- tech

Koper (KZ-Agraria)

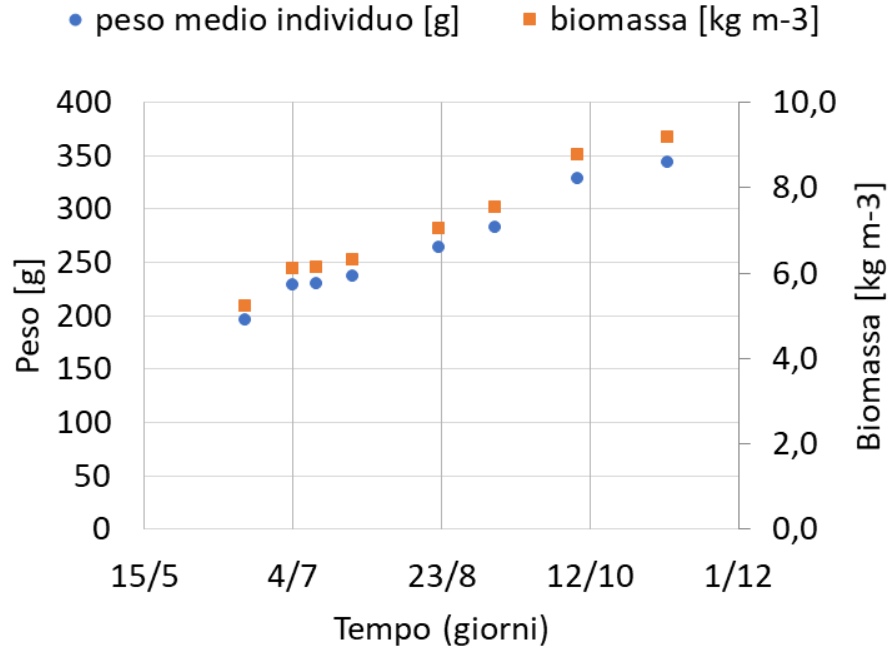


	Porcia	Koper
Infrastructure	6+6 m containers	Existing greenhouse
cultivation system	DWC; MFB; NFT	DWC; MFB; NFT
Number of production lines	2	1
Fish tanks volume	3.6 m ³	Fish tanks 2 m ³
Growth beds surface	10 m ²	10m ²
Fish species	Striped bass Tench	Common carp Perch
Solids removal	Sand filter	Mechanical filter (vortex)
Temperature control	Heating and cooling	No

Porcia	Koper
Lettuce	Lettuce
Basil	Basil
Barbatelle di vite – grape roots	Cauliflower
Green zucchini	Radicchio
Cucumber	
Cauliflower	
Red chard	
Red turnip	
Fennel	
Chicory	
Radicchio	
Coriander	
Mint	

Growth cycle stabilized and monitored for LCA purpose for approximately 6 months

Example, striped bass + lettuce in Porcia

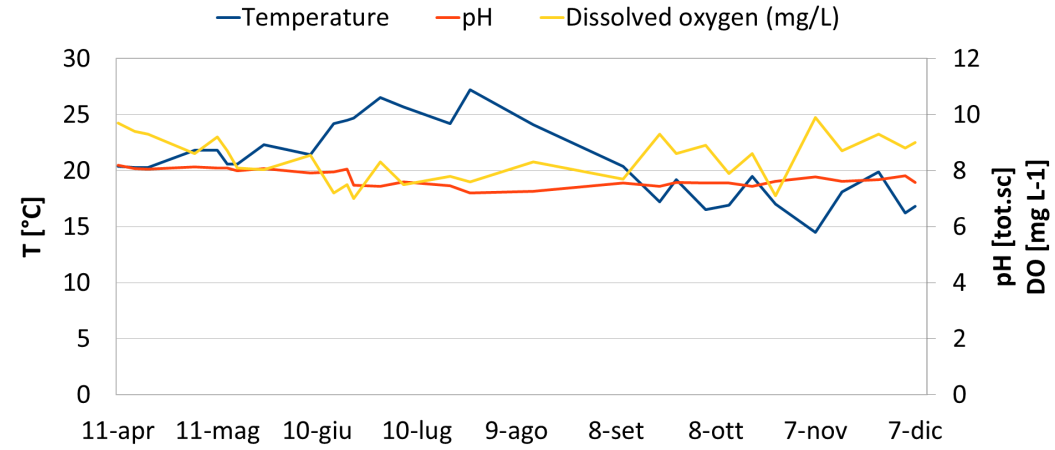


Overall good conditions – no mortality

Plants ok

Low Fe

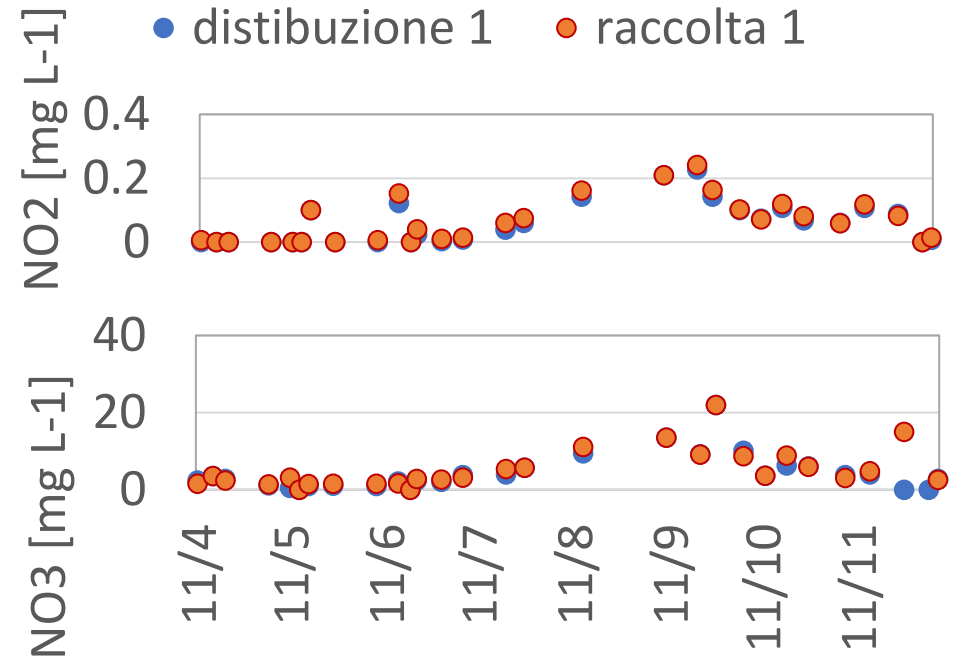
High energy demand for conditioning



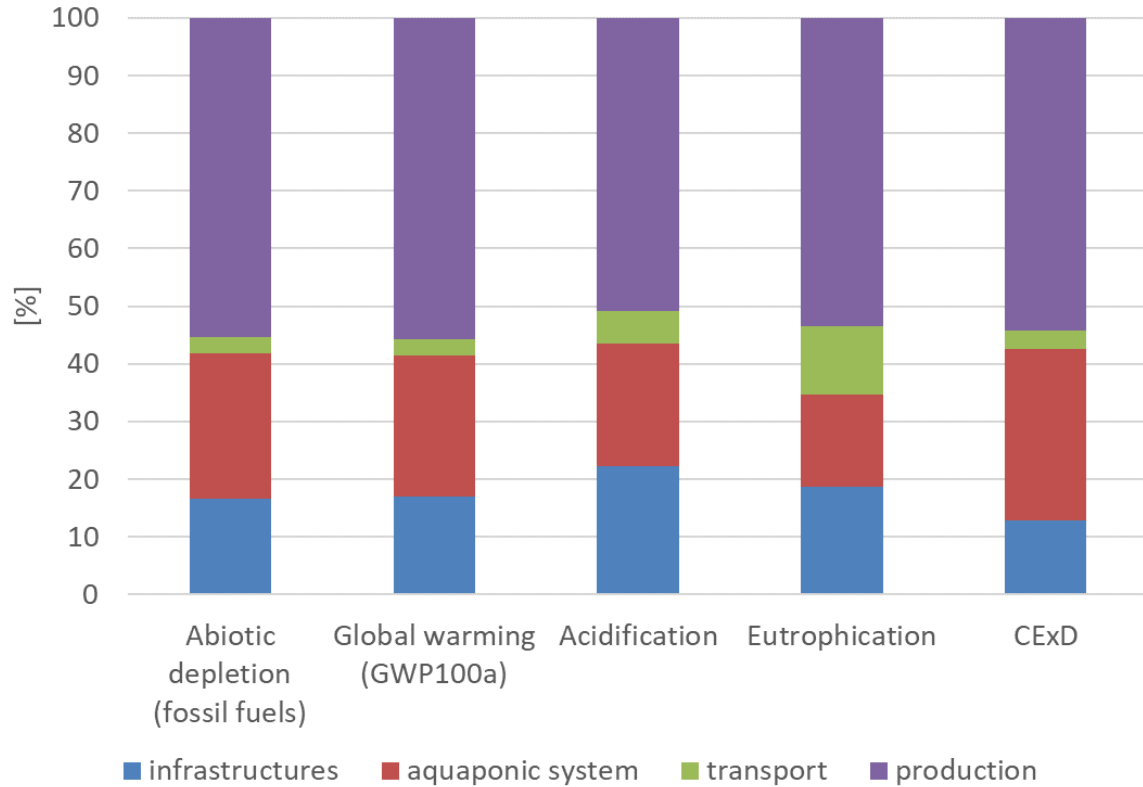
Additional variables monitored:

Ca²⁺ Mg²⁺ Carb. Cl⁻ K⁺ SO₄²⁻ Fe²⁺ PO₄

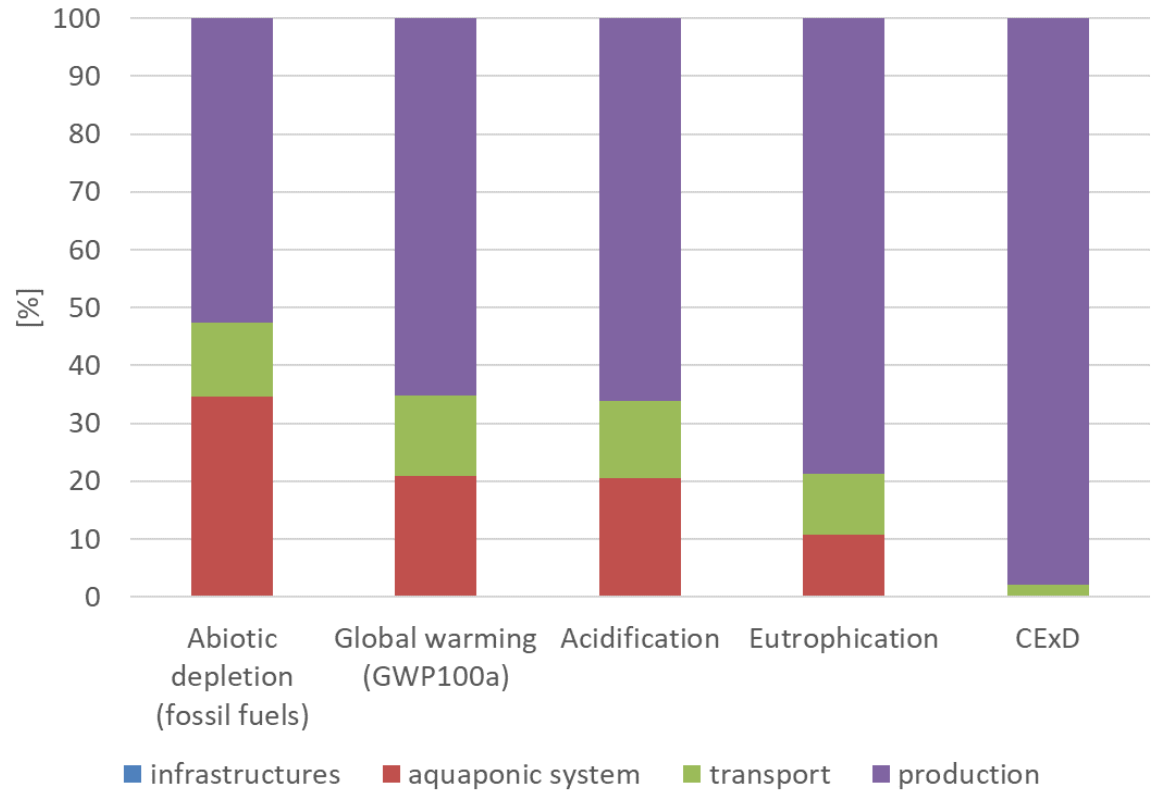
C:N:P sludge Solids – suspended/sedimented



Porcia – Striped bass



Koper – common carp



Duration of the production cycle

Stability of farming conditions

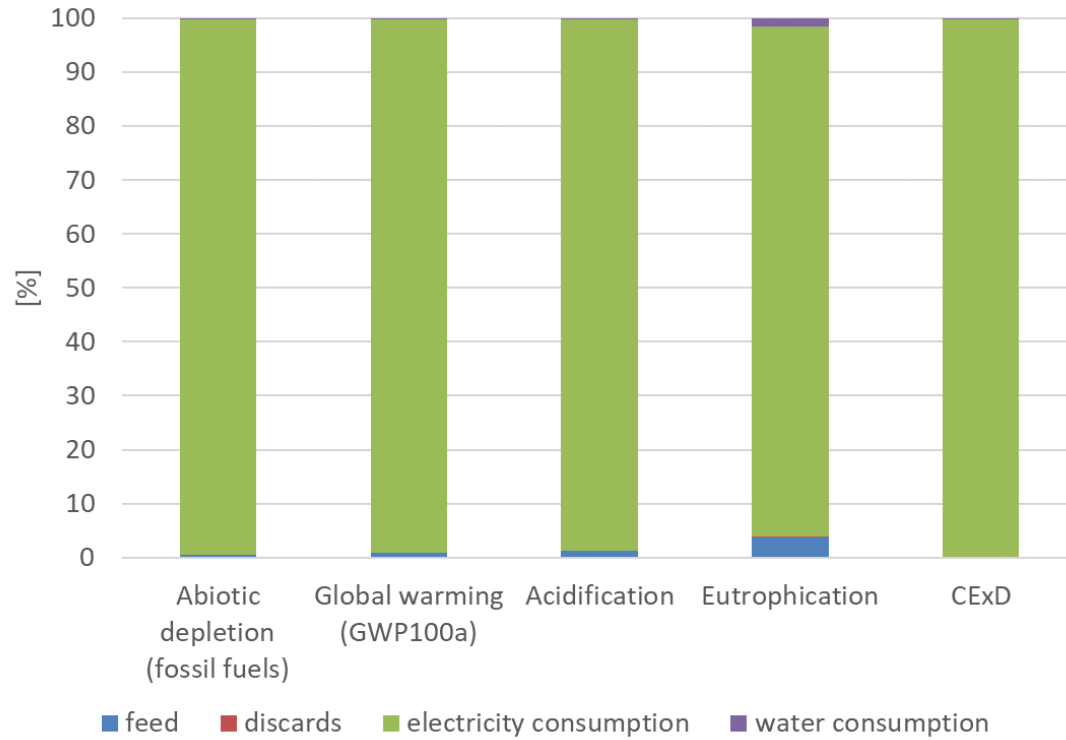
Life span of infrastructures and aquaponic system

Estimated cost of 1 kg of lettuce: **€ 4.06** Koper; **€ 12.8** Porcia !!

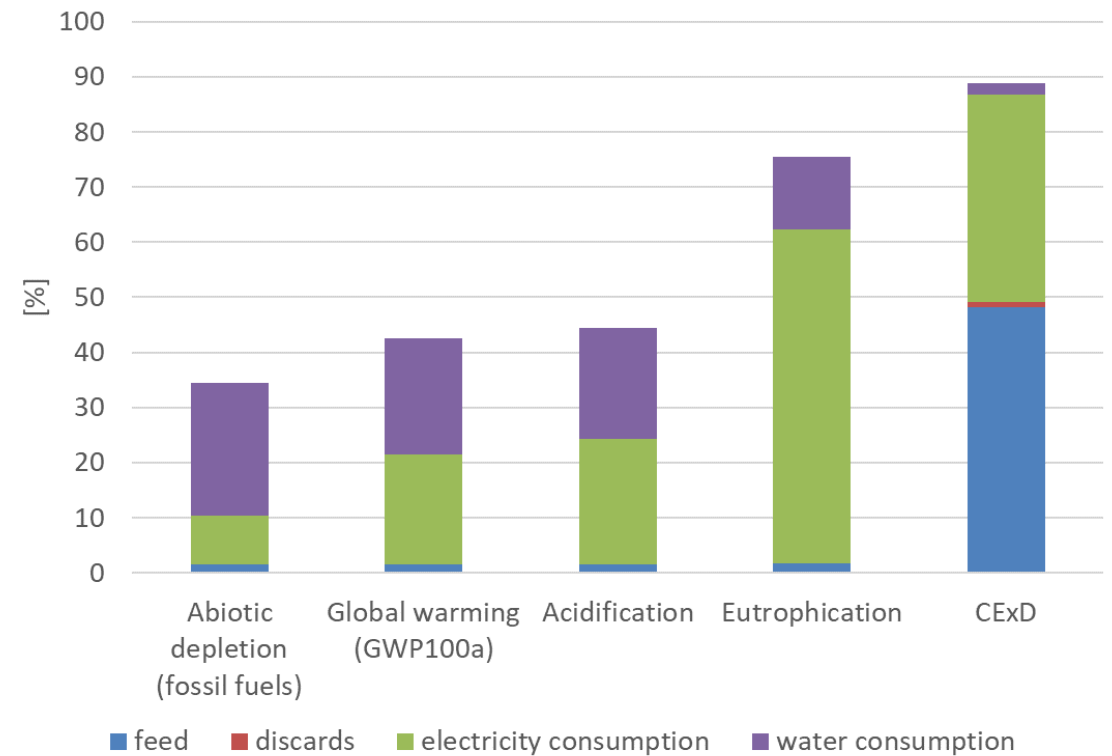


Production

Porcia – Striped bass

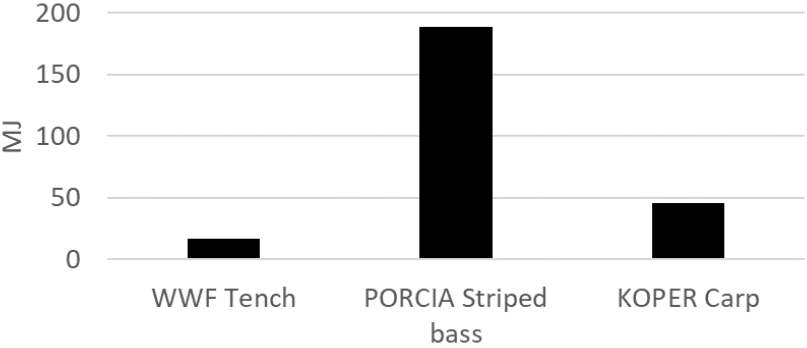


Koper – common carp

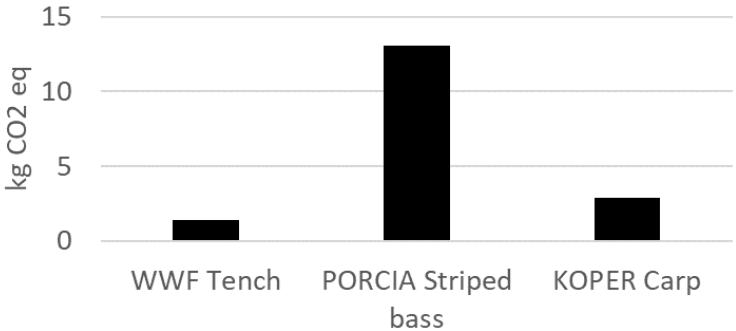


Comparing absolute values

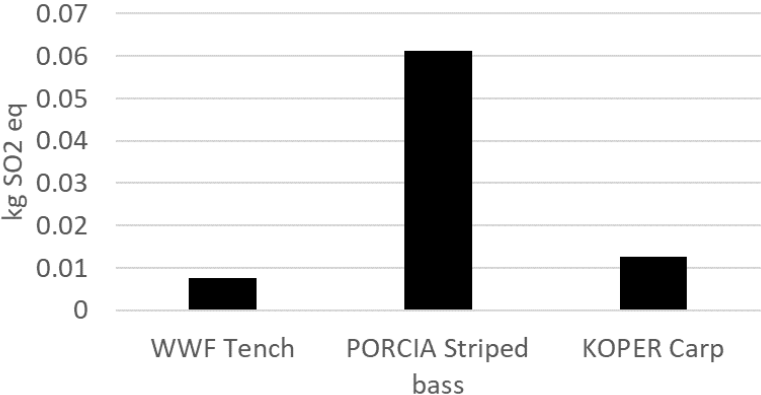
Abiotic depletion (fossil fuels)



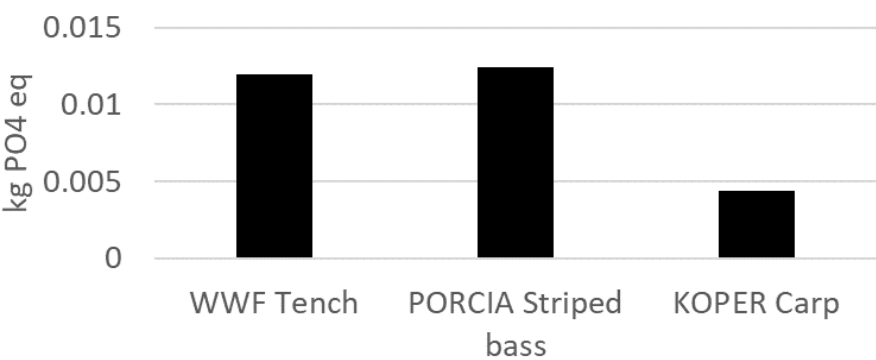
Global warming (GWP100a)



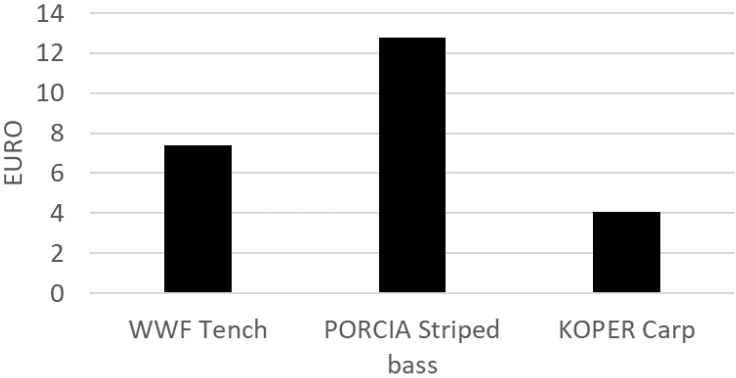
Acidification



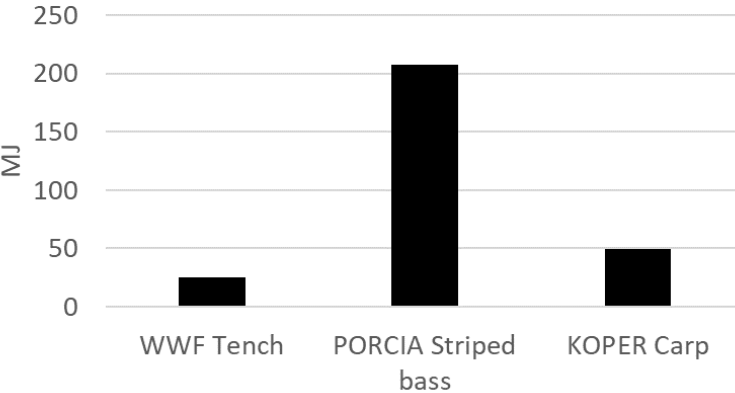
Eutrophication



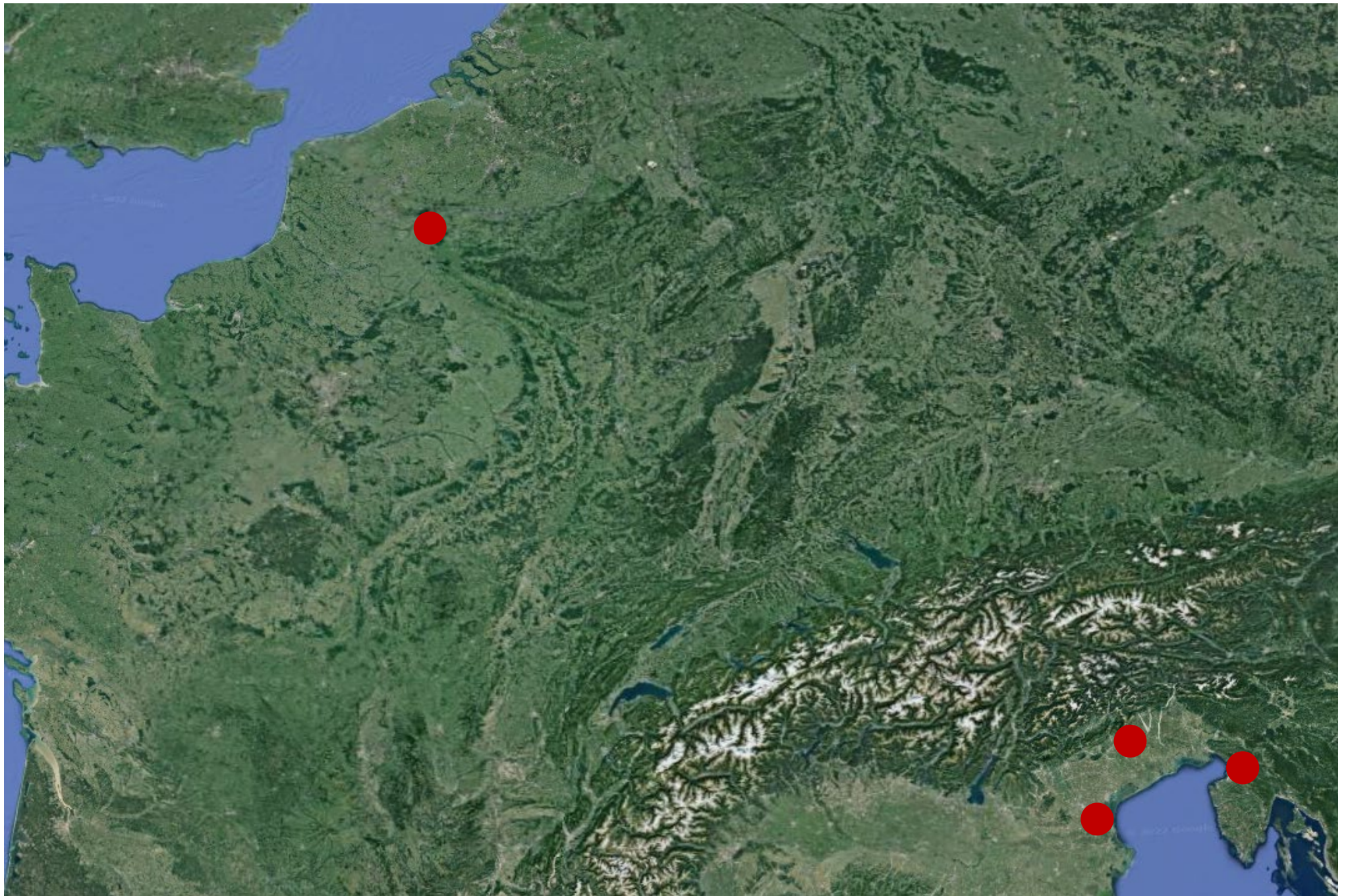
Economic Impact



CExD



**what about stability of the
production in the longer term ??**





Développement de la perculture en aquaponie



htw saar



Interreg 
 Grande Région | Großregion
 Perciponie

Fonds européen de développement régional | Europäischer Fonds für regionale Entwicklung



LE FONDS EUROPÉEN DE DÉVELOPPEMENT RÉGIONAL ET LA WALLONIE INVESTISSENT DANS VOTRE AVENIR

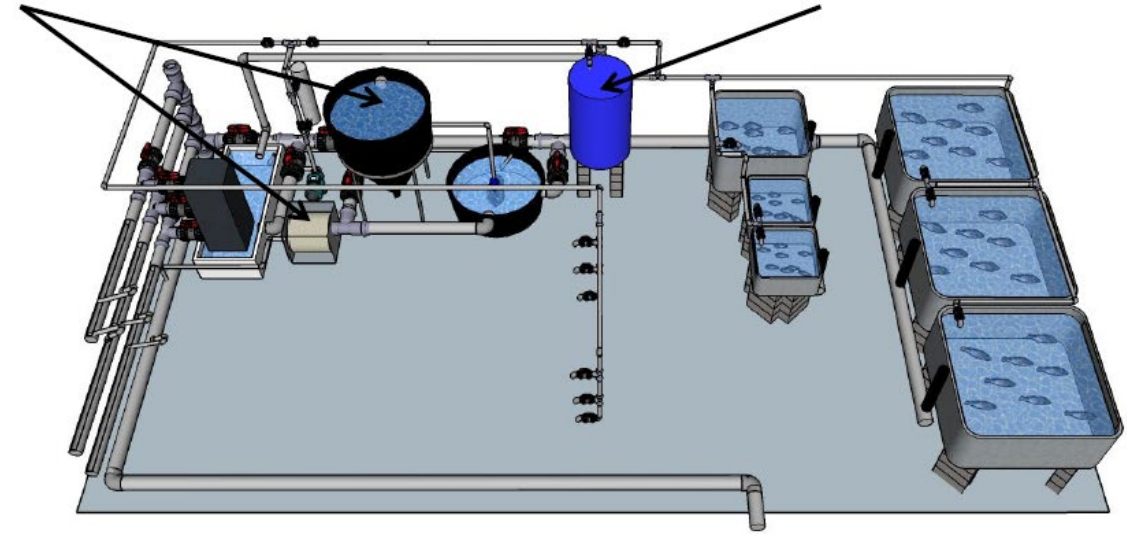
CERER CERER PISCICULTURE ASBL

AQUAPONIC SYSTEM

- LOCATION: STREE, BELGIUM
- INDOOR SYSTEM
- FISH TANKS TOTAL VOLUME: 6.4 m³
- GROW BEDS TOTAL SURFACE: 50 m²
- IN OPERATION SINCE 2019
- DETAILED PRIMARY DATA WITH RESPECT TO BUILDING MATERIALS AND TRANSPORTATION
- PRIMARY DATA FOR SYSTEM FUNCTIONING (>1 YEAR BOTH FOR TILAPIA AND PIKEPERCH)
annual production 211-553 kg fish, 1194-1680 kg vegetables

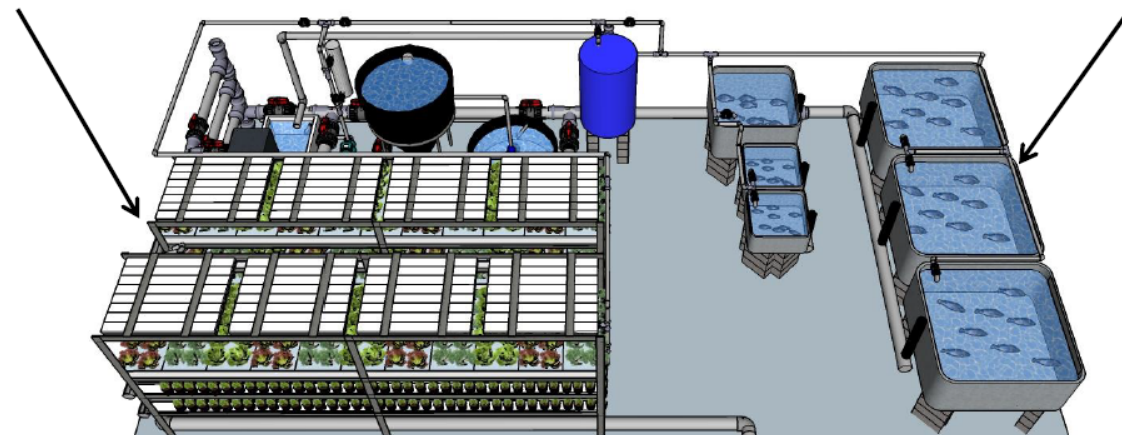
Mechanical filtration

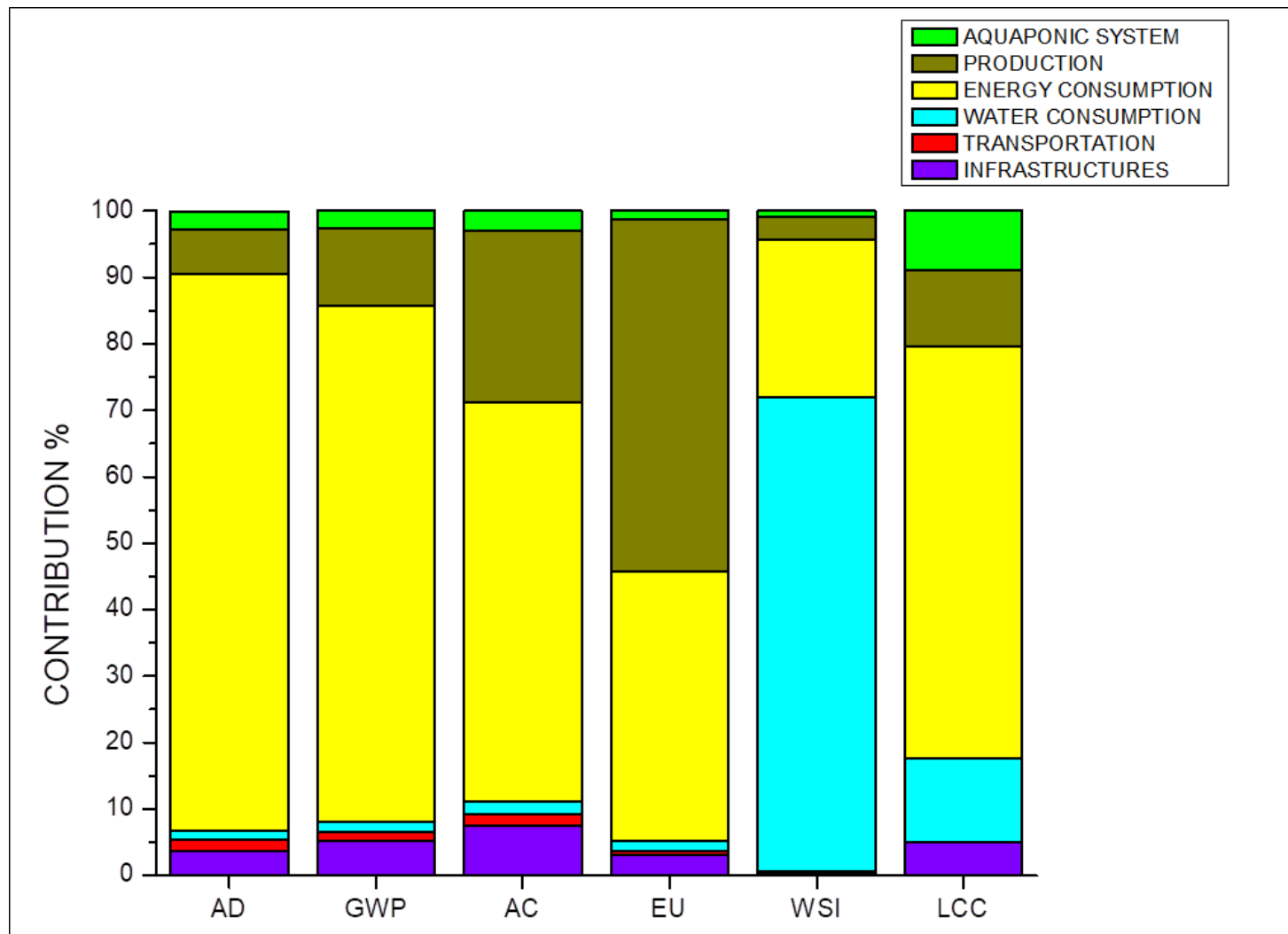
Biofilter



Hydroponic culture

Fish rearing tanks

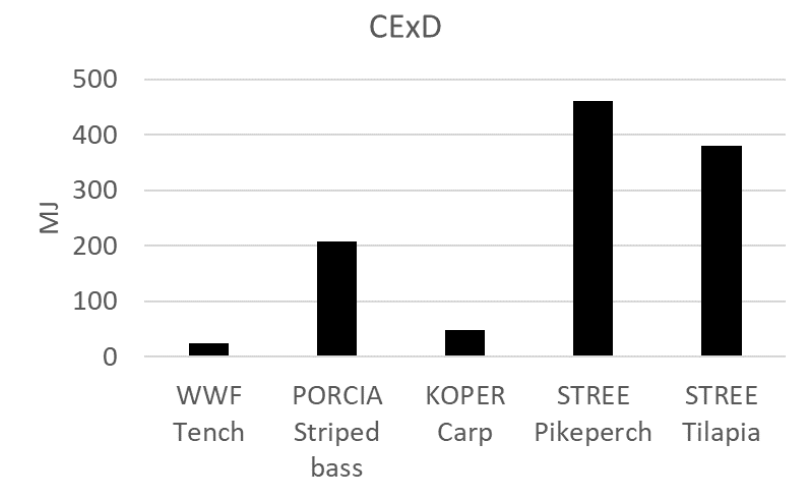
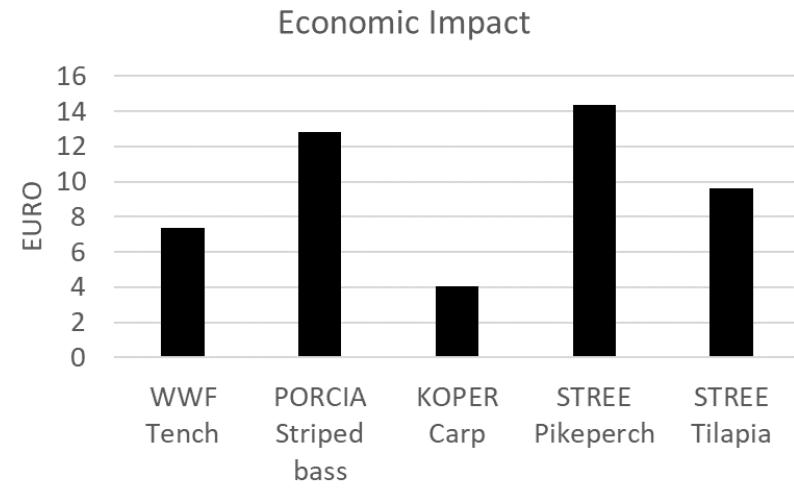
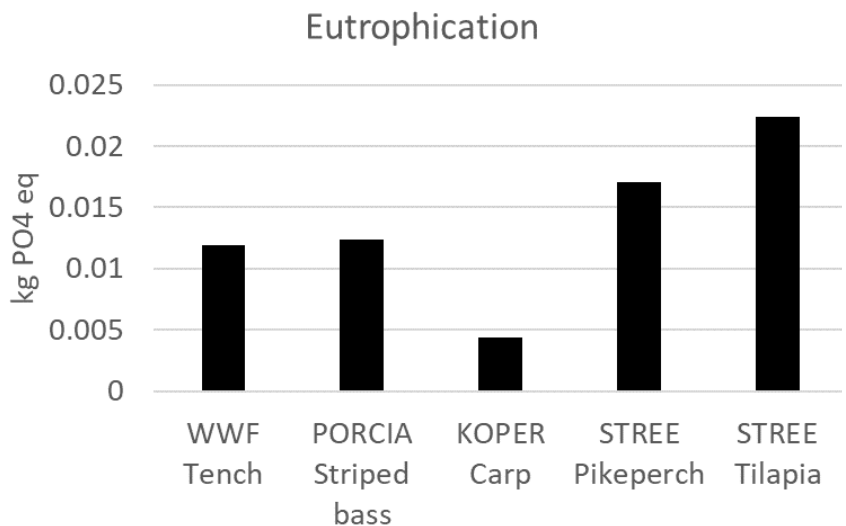
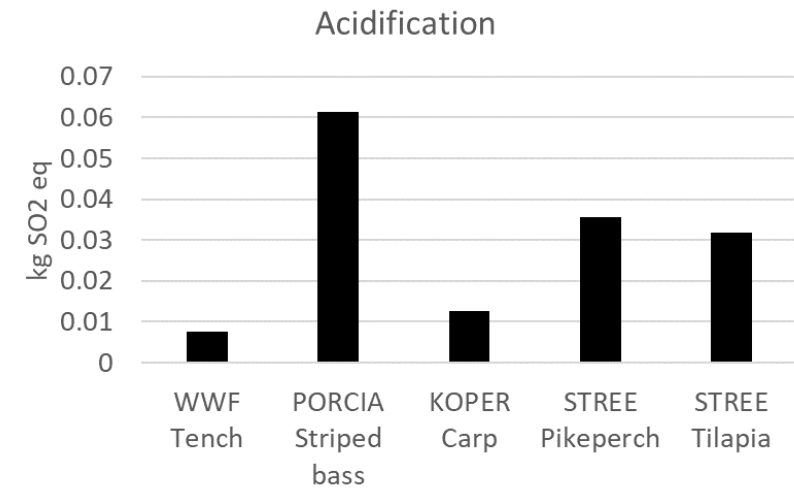
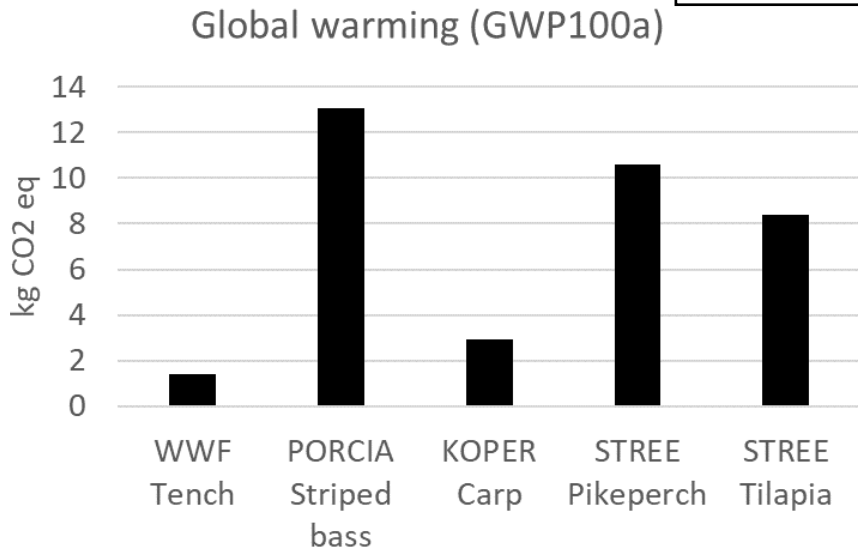
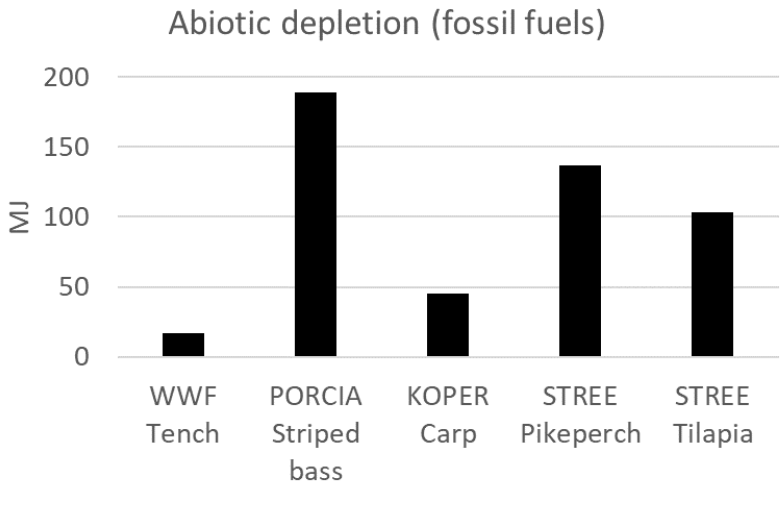




Aggregated differently; energy consumption highly relevant; comparison between different production models in the same system; Estimated cost of 1 kg of lettuce: € 14.35 Pikeperch; € 9.65 Tilapia

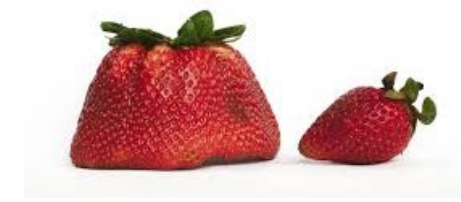
Comparing absolute values

WWFT: 26.82F; 73.18V
 PSB: 12.8F; 87.2V
 KOPC: 9.8F; 90.2V
 SP: 14.95F; 85.05V
 ST: 24.76F; 75.24V



A classification of aquaponics according to different design principles.

Design goal	Categories
Objective or main stakeholder	Commercial crop production Household sufficiency Education Social enterprise Greening and decoration
Size	L large (>1000 m ²) M medium (200–1000 m ²) S small (50–200 m ²) XS very small (5–50 m ²) XXS micro systems (<5 m ²)



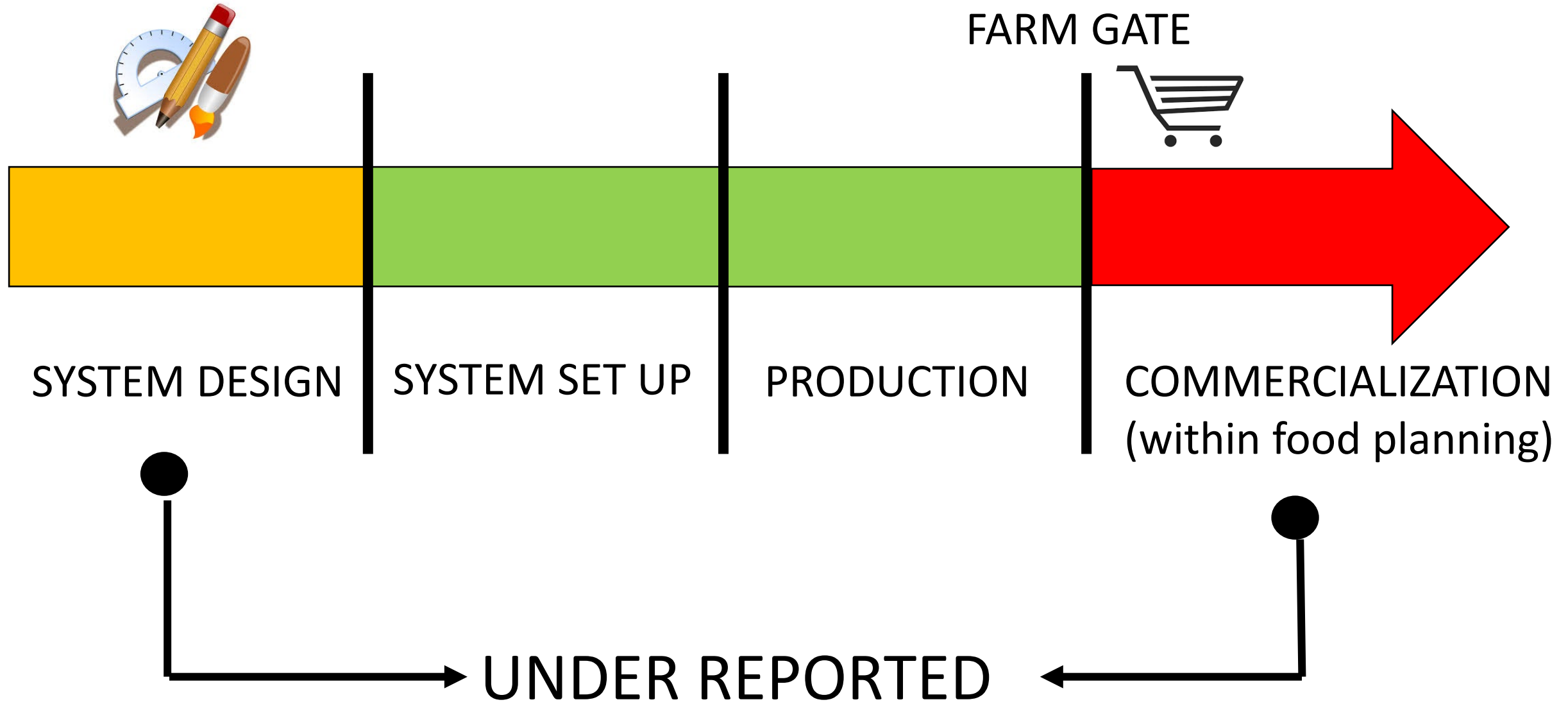
Mostly, LCA studies has been performed on XXS or XS aquaponics systems



Maucieri et al., 2018. Journal of Cleaner Production 172: 3119-3127

Scaling issues and difficulties to extend the results...

LCA and the different steps of the process



Concluding remarks

- Possibility to cross-compare systems is good (methodology issues; no «one size fits all» sistem);
- Importance of system «stability» for LCA (operational over a wide time frame);
- Low tech vs High tech and seasonality;
- Scaling of analysis to support larger systems design;
- Assessing sustainability by comparing aquaponics vs other production methods?
- Extending the set of assessment methods and/or impact categories?
- Screening LCA supporting system design and business plan;
- Aquaponics in cities and LCA role in supporting urban food planning.

Thank you! (dbrigolin@iuav.it)

Special thanks to Andrea Alberto Forchino, Roberto Pastres, Elio Cannarsa, Vincent Gennotte

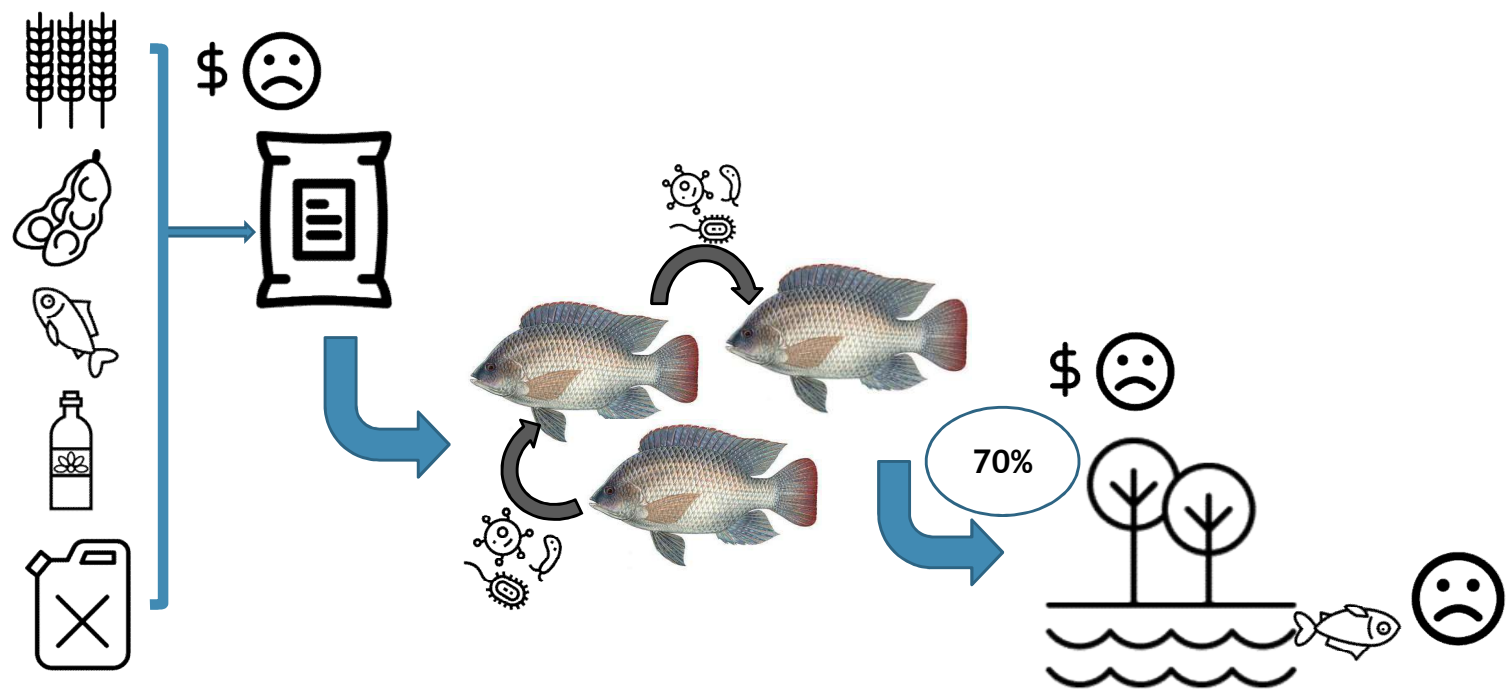
Environmental assessment of circular systems: Questions and results of LCA application in SIMTAP

Joël Aubin (INRAE), Michele Zoli (UniMi)

Jacopo Bacenetti, Lorenzo Rossi, Carlo Bibbiani, Baldassare Fronte, Aurélie Wilfart, Christophe Jaeger, Mehmet-Ali Koçer, Huseyin Sevgili, et al.

The PRIMA programme is supported under Horizon 2020, the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation

Modern linear aquaculture



Guide the change

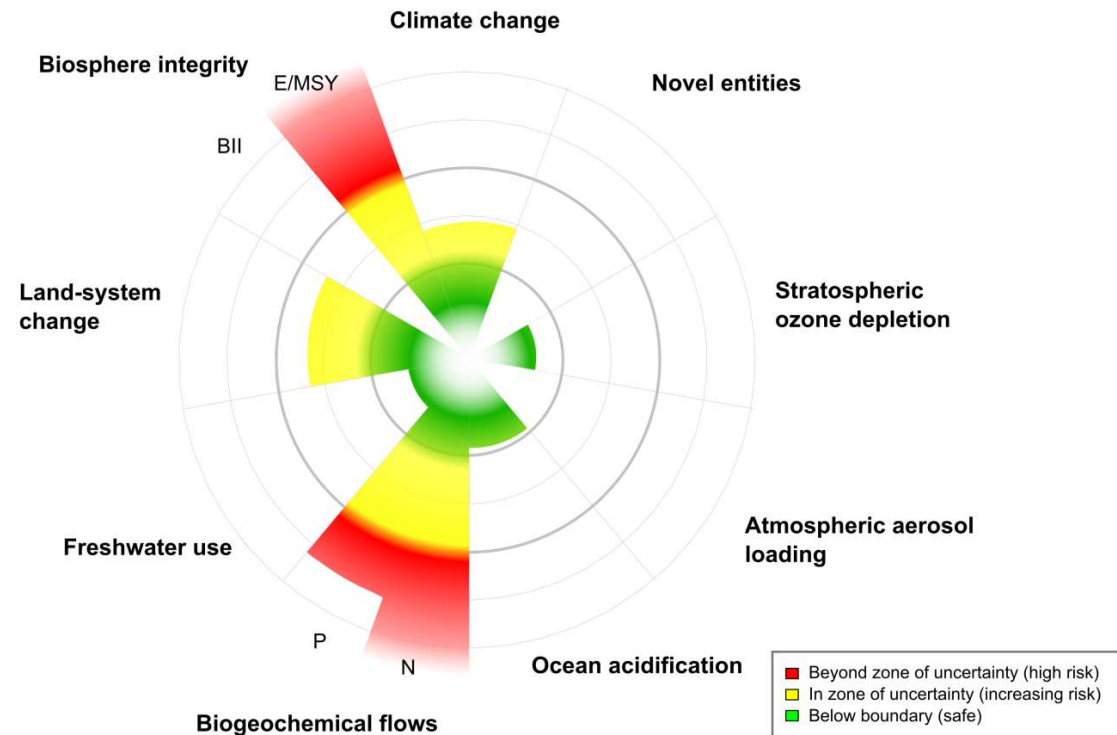
Proposing new circular aquaculture systems seems a good approach to solve the nutrient loss hot spot.

How can we be sure that we will not induce environmental impact transfers?

How can we be sure that the environmental gains are superior to the costs?

In SIMTAP project :

- **Life Cycle Assessment**
- **Multicriteria decision analysis - Dexi**



Steffen et al. (2015)

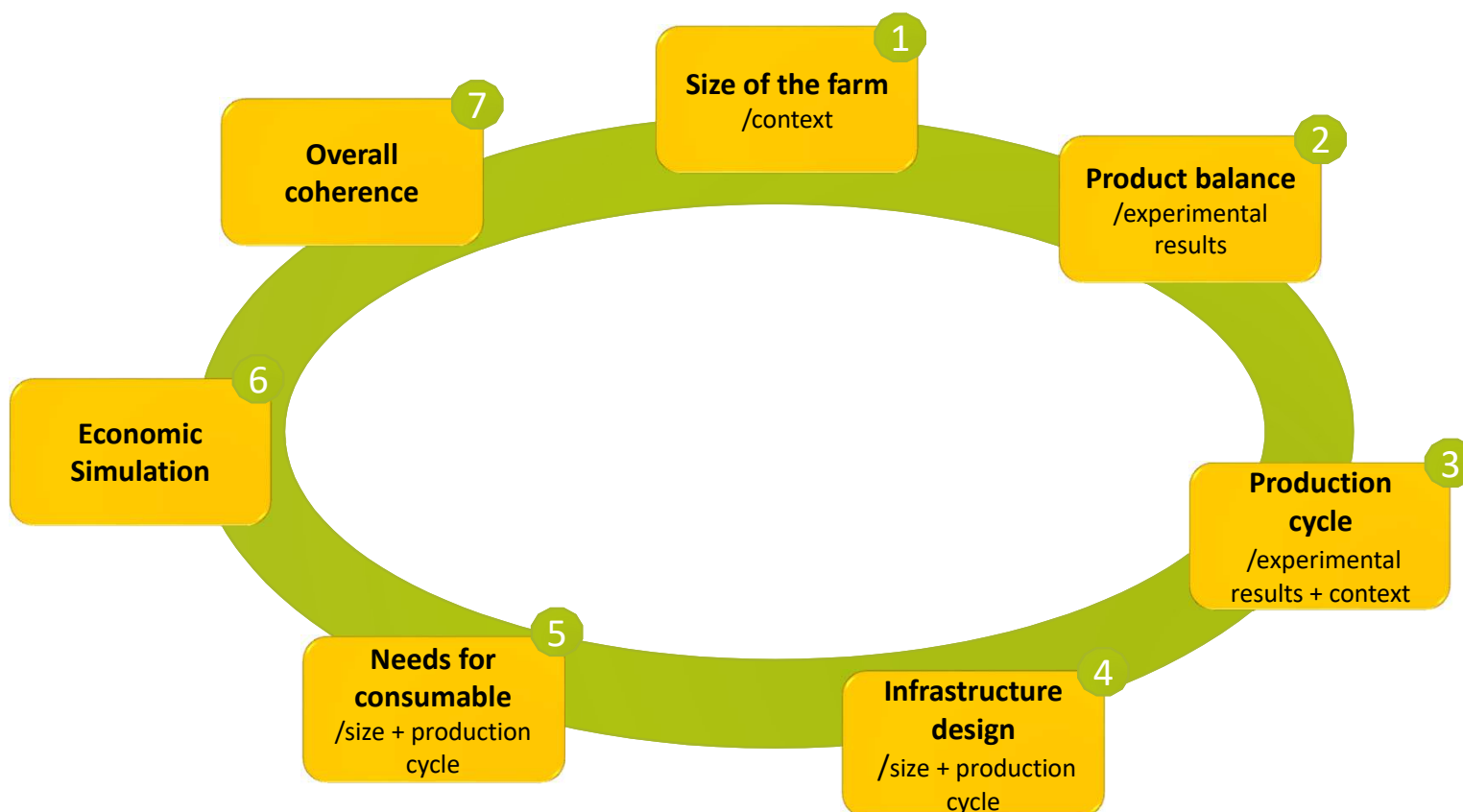
LCA application in experimental framework

... rises several questions:

- How to propose an upscaling of experimental results to an economic scale?
- As there is no reference value in LCA, how to conduct a fair comparison with reference systems?
- What is the most appropriate functional unit for multiple-outputs systems?
- ...

=> solutions used in SIMTAP project

A framework to guide upscaling



Choosing the adequate reference



- Choosing a reference system in the same area (climate, economic, social and physical contexts)
- Producing the same main target species
- Reflecting the conventional practices

- Illustration : the Italian SIMTAP and references case studies

- Comparison on the basis of 2 functional units agregating the different products in a single function:
 - Feeding people: kCal
 - Earning money: 1000 € turnover

Reference systems

Offshore plants

Italian commercial farm
Turkish commercial farm



Primary data: feed composition and consumption; quantity of “seeded” fry; energy consumption (electricity, fuel for boat fleet management); mortality; oxygen consumption; productive yield.

Secondary data: nutrient emissions by fish metabolism (mass balance, solid and dissolved N&P estimated based on: i) amount supplied by feed and amount assimilated; ii) digestibility of feed components, iii) not ingested feed, iv) fish mortality, v) fry composition) & Emissions due to fuel combustion.

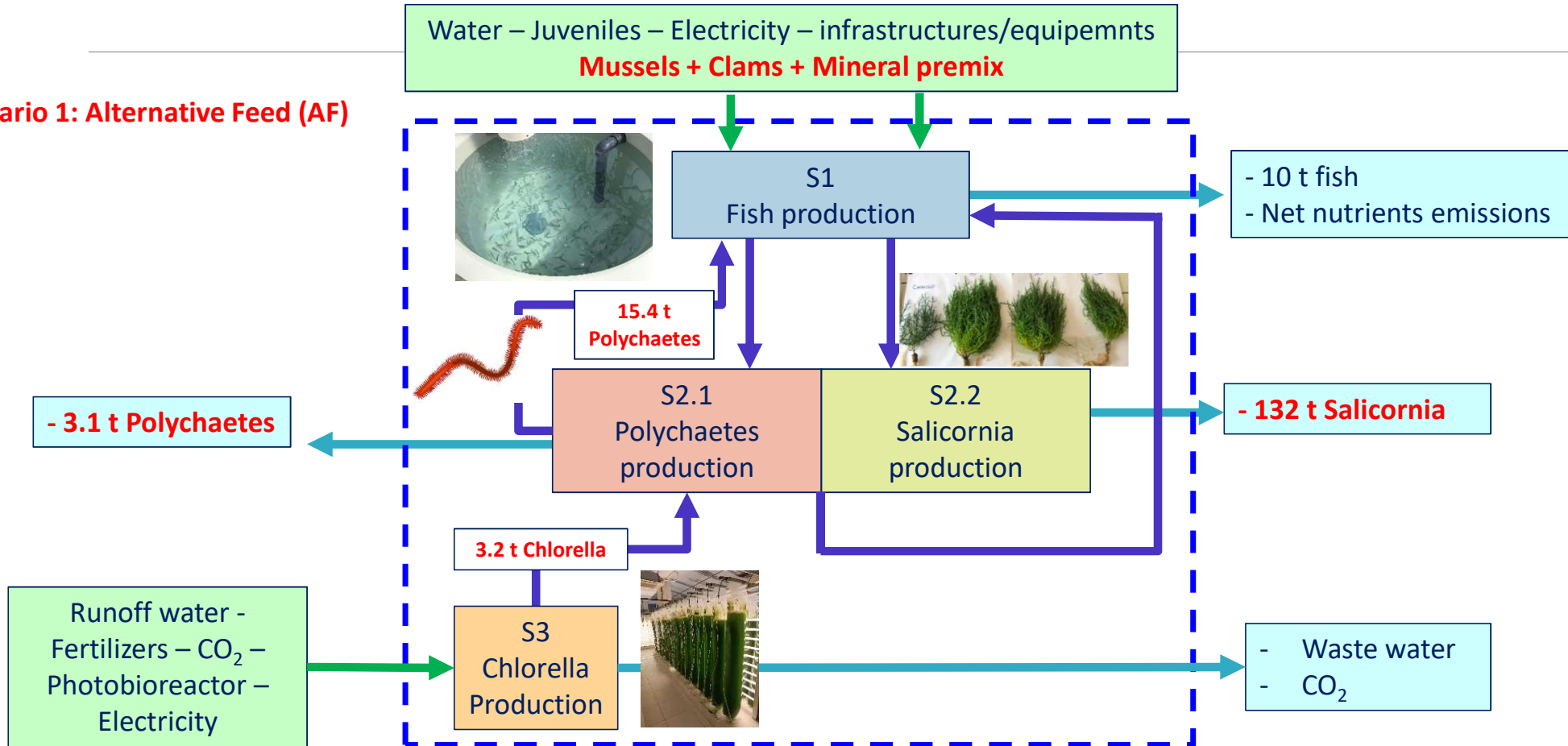
Mix of primary and secondary data for sea cage (energy and materials consumption for manufacturing, lifespan, diesel for maintenance), pump, fishing vessel and equipment.

Inland plant

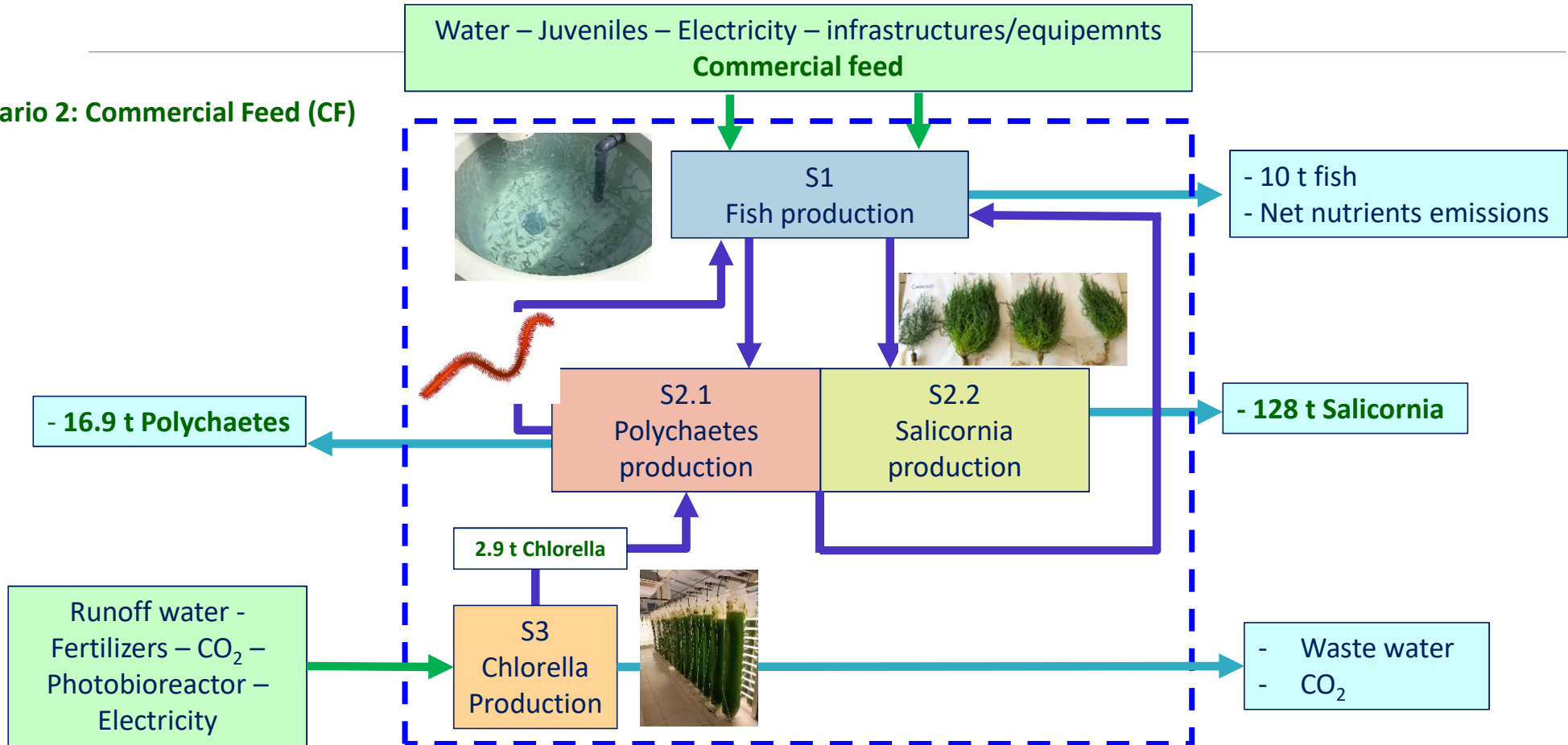
Italian commercial farm



Scenario 1: Alternative Feed (AF)

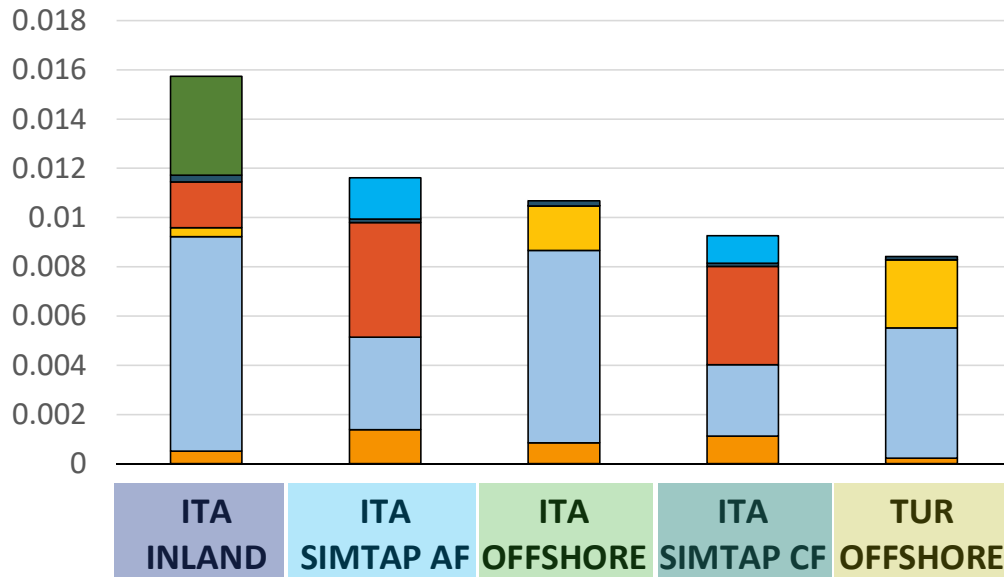


Scenario 2: Commercial Feed (CF)

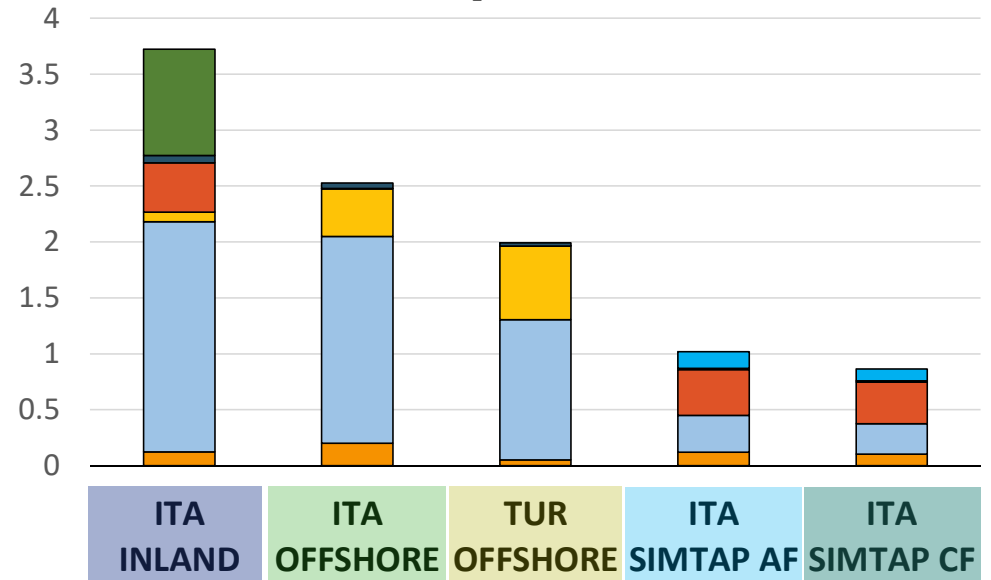


LCA Results

Acidification
Kg SO₂ eq/1000kCal



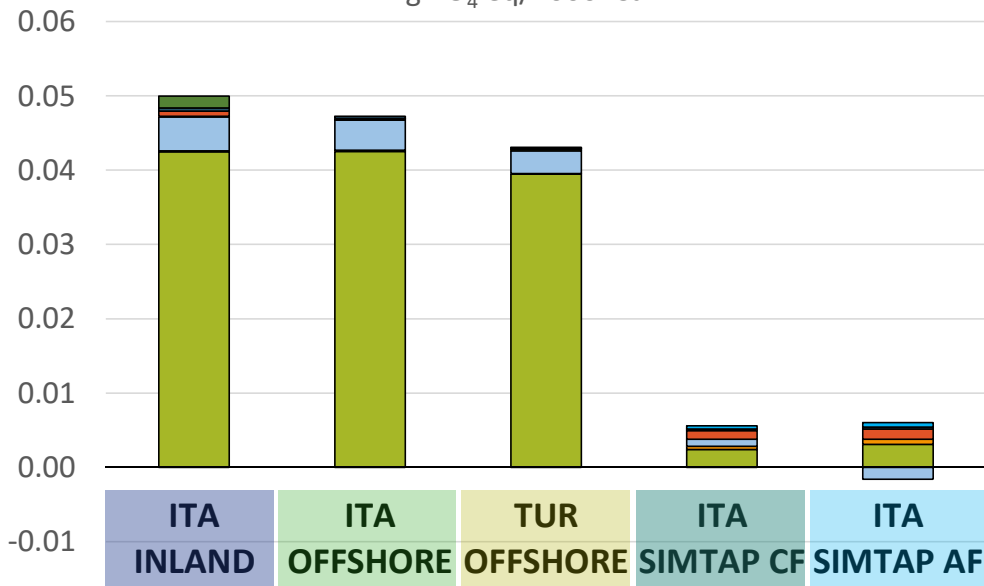
Acidification
Kg SO₂ eq/1000€



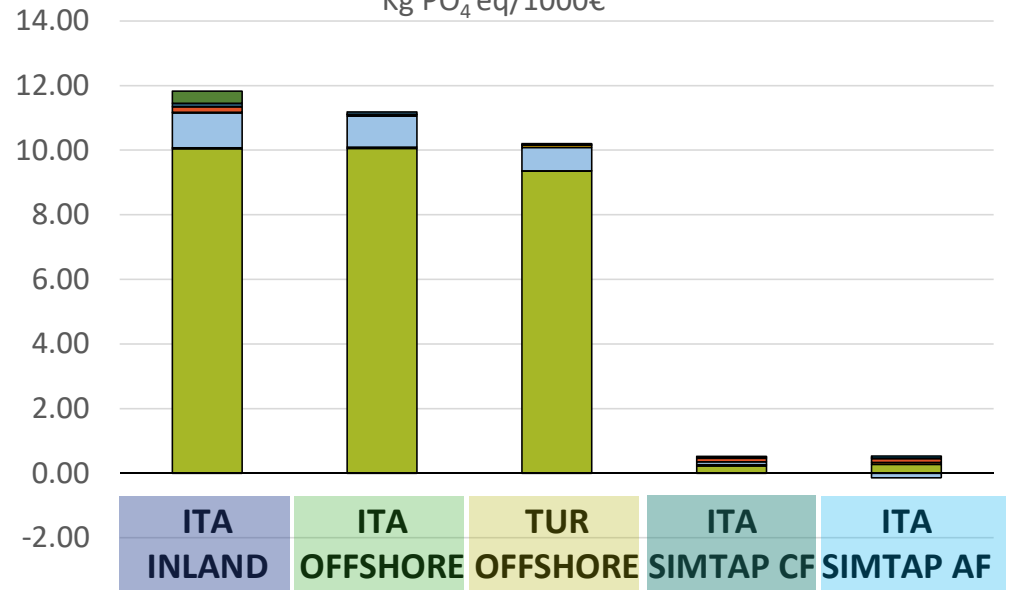
- Microalga prod.
- Fry production and supplying
- Fuels consumption
- Total facilities & equipment
- Oxygen consumption
- Electricity
- Feed production and supplying
- Gilthead seabream/Seabass production

LCA Results

Eutrophication
Kg PO₄ eq/1000kCal



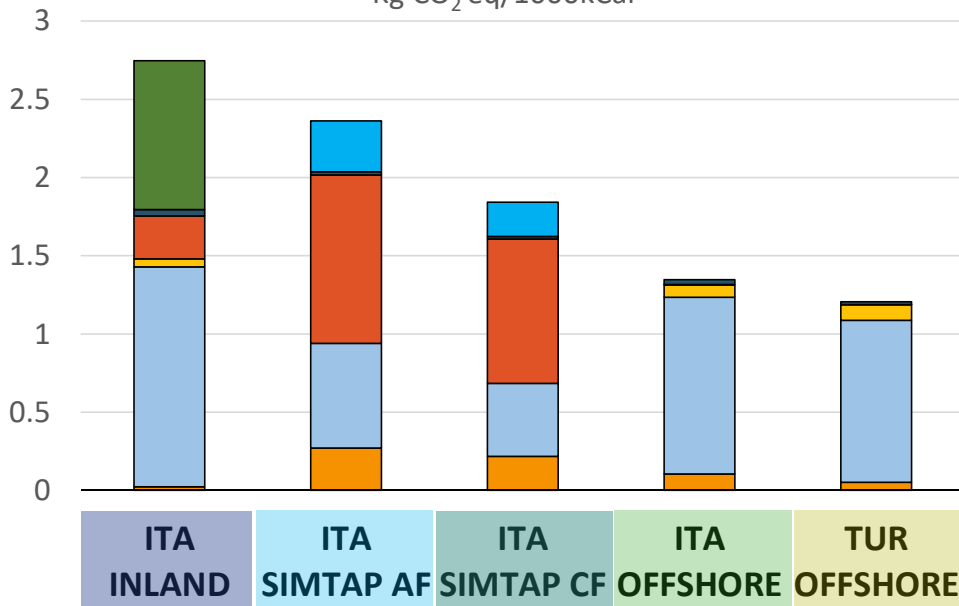
Eutrophication
Kg PO₄ eq/1000€



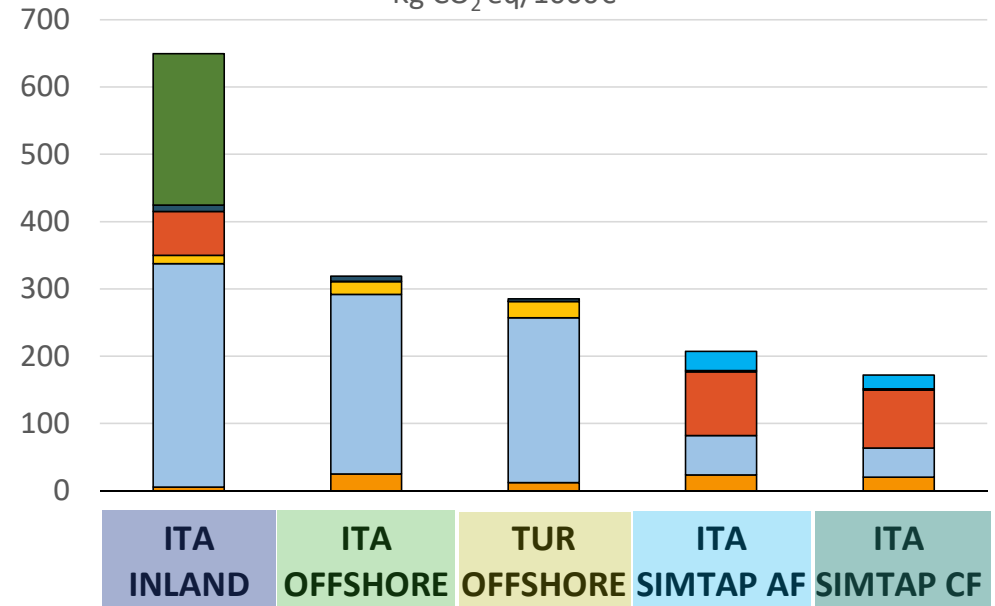
- Microalgae prod.
- Fry production and supplying
- Fuels consumption
- Total facilities & equipment
- Oxygen consumption
- Electricity
- Feed production and supplying
- Gilthead seabream/Seabass prod

LCA Results

GWP
Kg CO₂ eq/1000kCal



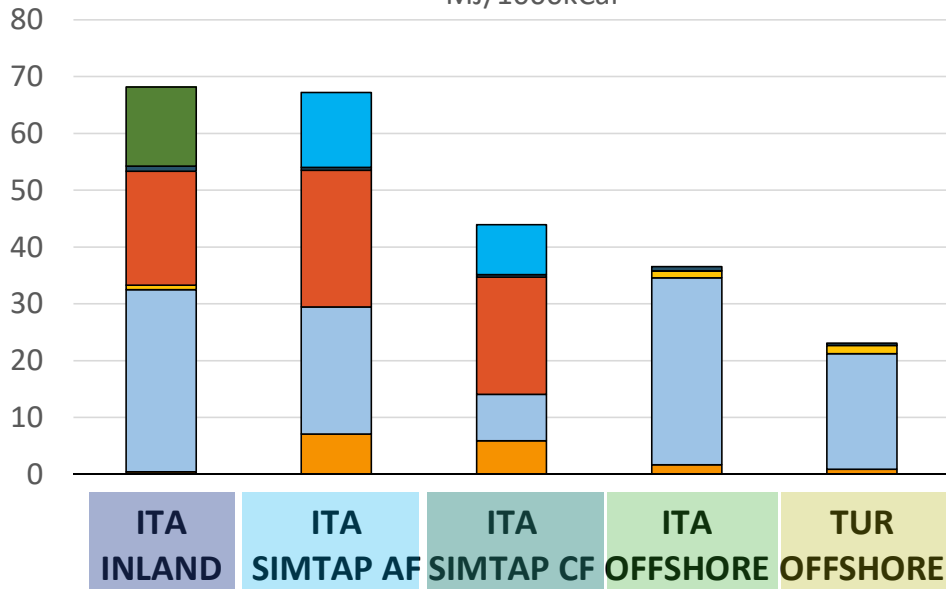
GWP
Kg CO₂ eq/1000€



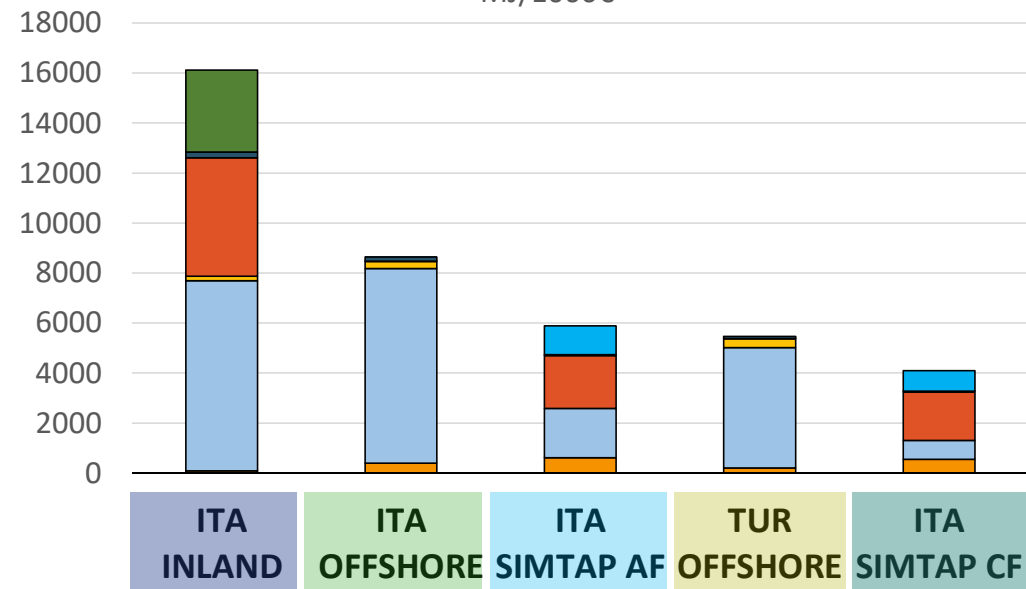
- Microalga prod.
- Fry production and supplying
- Fuels consumption
- Total facilities & equipment
- Oxygen consumption
- Electricity
- Feed production and supplying
- Gilthead seabream/Seabass production

LCA Results

CED
MJ/1000kCal



CED
MJ/1000€



- Microalga prod.
- Oxygen consumption
- Fry production and supplying
- Electricity
- Fuels consumption
- Feed production and supplying
- Total facilities & equipment
- Gilthead seabream/Seabass production

Lessons

LCA is a robust framework, but the devil is in the details

- The choice of function is not only communication, it reflects the assessment goal, and objectives of producers
 - Our primary objective: improve fish culture and co-cultivation of halophytes; finally: 10 ton of fish but 130 t of salicornia! A real change in view point!
 - SIMTAP has an important potential improvement in nutrient losses (eutrophication)
 - There is a potential of improvement through nutritional loops in SIMTAP compared to conventional systems
 - A high sensitivity to production yields
 - Energy use (and related impacts) is a hot spot in recycling systems: the upscaling of experimental results is a delicate exercise
- In the next steps:
- Inclusion of uncertainty in the analysis to increase the robustness of the comparisons
 - Complete the environmental impact assessment in sustainability multicriteria assessment (Dexi)

