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# **The benefits of having national farm networks**

*agri benchmark* Beef and Sheep Conference, Pretoria S.A.  
June 21, 2012

# Contents

- A. Why networking?
- B. The Spanish network structure
- C. The process of consolidation
- D. Benefits and challenges

# Contents

## A. Why networking?

## What is often available?

1. National and regional research studies
2. Agric. Economic observatories
3. Agric. Year book (outlook) – annual reports

One stakeholder view

Not frequently updated

Different methods for calculating results

## Why networking?

1. Participatory approach (stakeholders together – sharing problems and solutions)
2. To have chain analysis approach
3. To create a platform for sector analysis (updated information)

## Why benchmarking?

1. To define production systems, efficiency and competitiveness
2. To standardize and homogenize methods of analysis for the interpretation of results
3. To understand regional differences and economic rationality behind production systems and farmers reactions

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A. Why networking?

B. The Spanish network structure

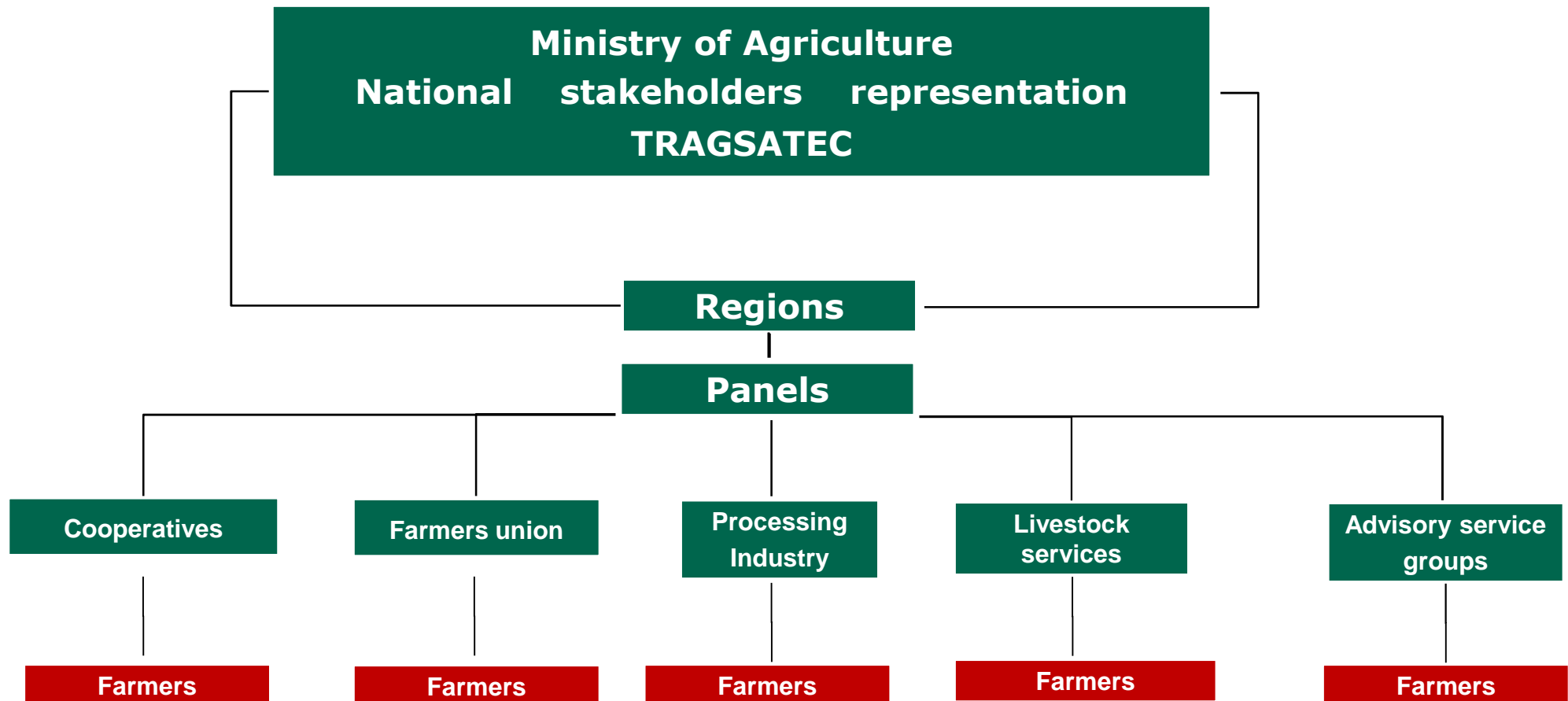
## Background

1. Livestock is an important component of the agricultural economy
2. Intensive production systems have develop during the last 20 years (Dairy, beef, sheep, pigs and poultry)
3. There is a need to measure economic performance and benchmark results (monitoring)
4. EU livestock sector has been (will be) facing important changes
  - Where are we?
  - Where are we goin to?
  - How do we know we are going in the right direction?
  - How do we know we have arrived?

## National Network of Typical Farms

- It started in 2003, promoted by the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture and coordinated by the Livestock Direction.
- Implemented by TRAGSATEC, company which provides technical assistance to the Ministry.
- TRAGSATEC is an institution working with private schemes and structure, using exclusively public funds.
- It has been implemented using concepts and methods from agri benchmark (Typical farm approach, panels, models, ab tool box kit, national conferences and reports)

## Regional and national structure



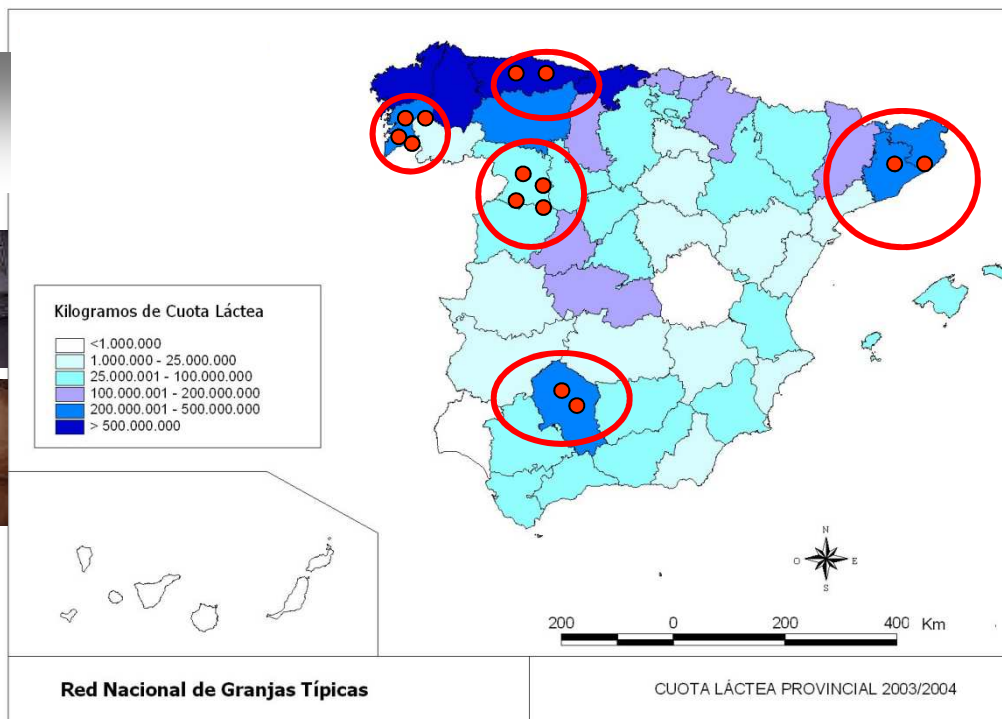


## Dairy Regions and production systems (15 typical farms)

**Galicia - Lugo y Asturias**  
Medium size and yield  
Grass + concentrates  
**38GAL, 103GAL, 75AST**



**Galicia - Pontevedra**  
Small size – low yields  
grassland  
**25GAL, 36GAL, 40GAL, 60GAL**



**Castilla y León - Zamora**  
Medium and large size  
Regular yields  
Forraje- irrigated + concentrates)  
**50CYL, 75CYL, 165CYL, 170CYL**



**Andalucía - Córdoba**  
Medium size – high yields  
catering  
**60AND, 64AND**



## Beef finishing regions and production systems (10 typical farms)

**Cornisa  
Cantábrica  
Small size  
Weaners (native)**



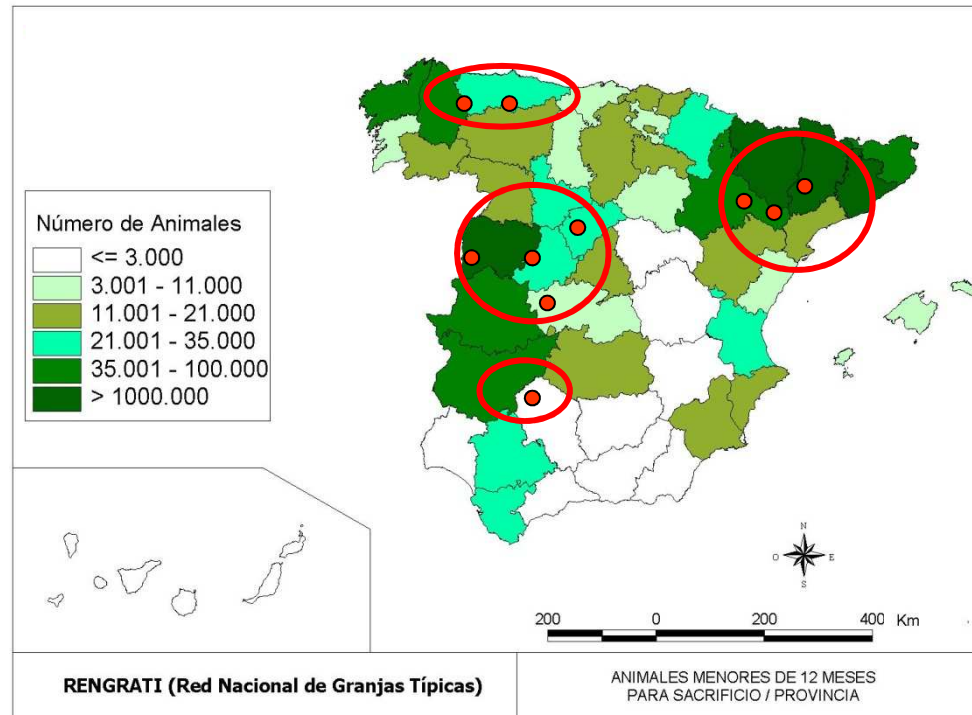
**Castilla y León – Castilla-  
La Mancha  
Average size and communal  
fattening centres**



**Aragón -Cataluña  
Different sizes  
Vertical integration  
Calves and weaners  
imported**

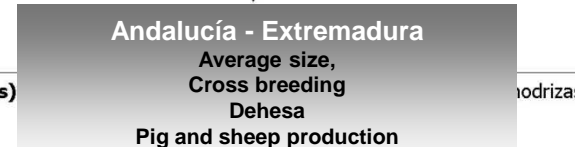
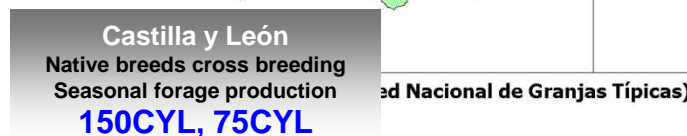
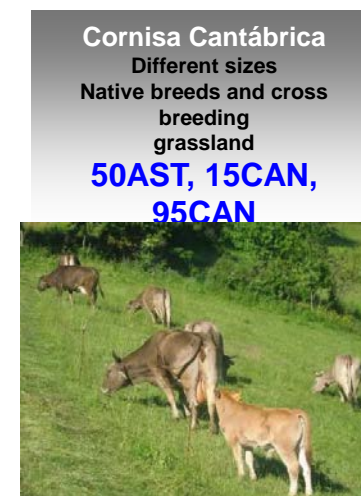
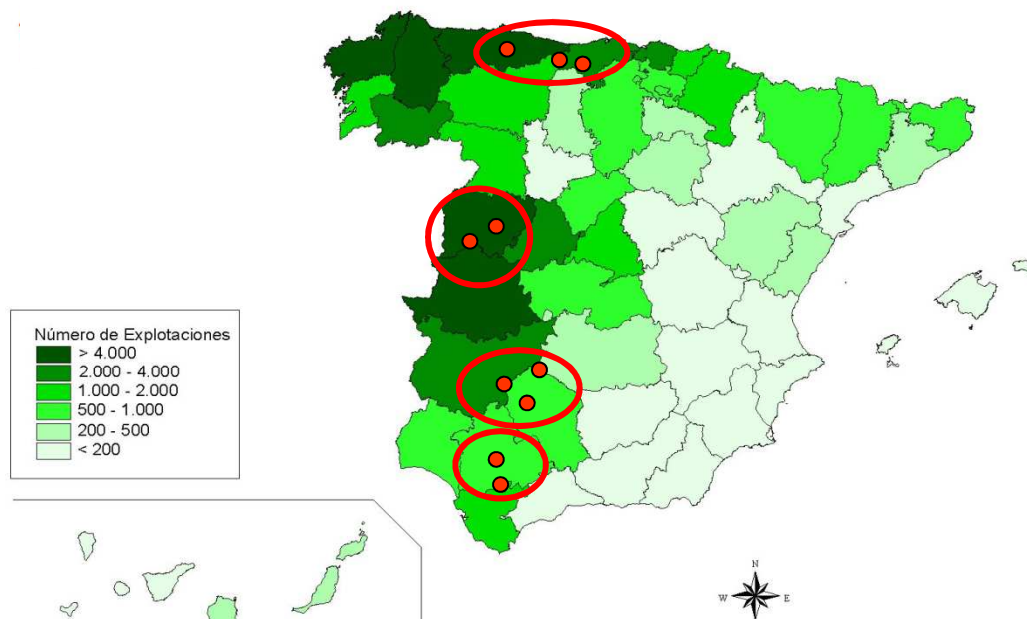


**Andalucía  
Fattening centre  
High technology – economy of scale  
Weaners (cross breeding)  
**4880AND****

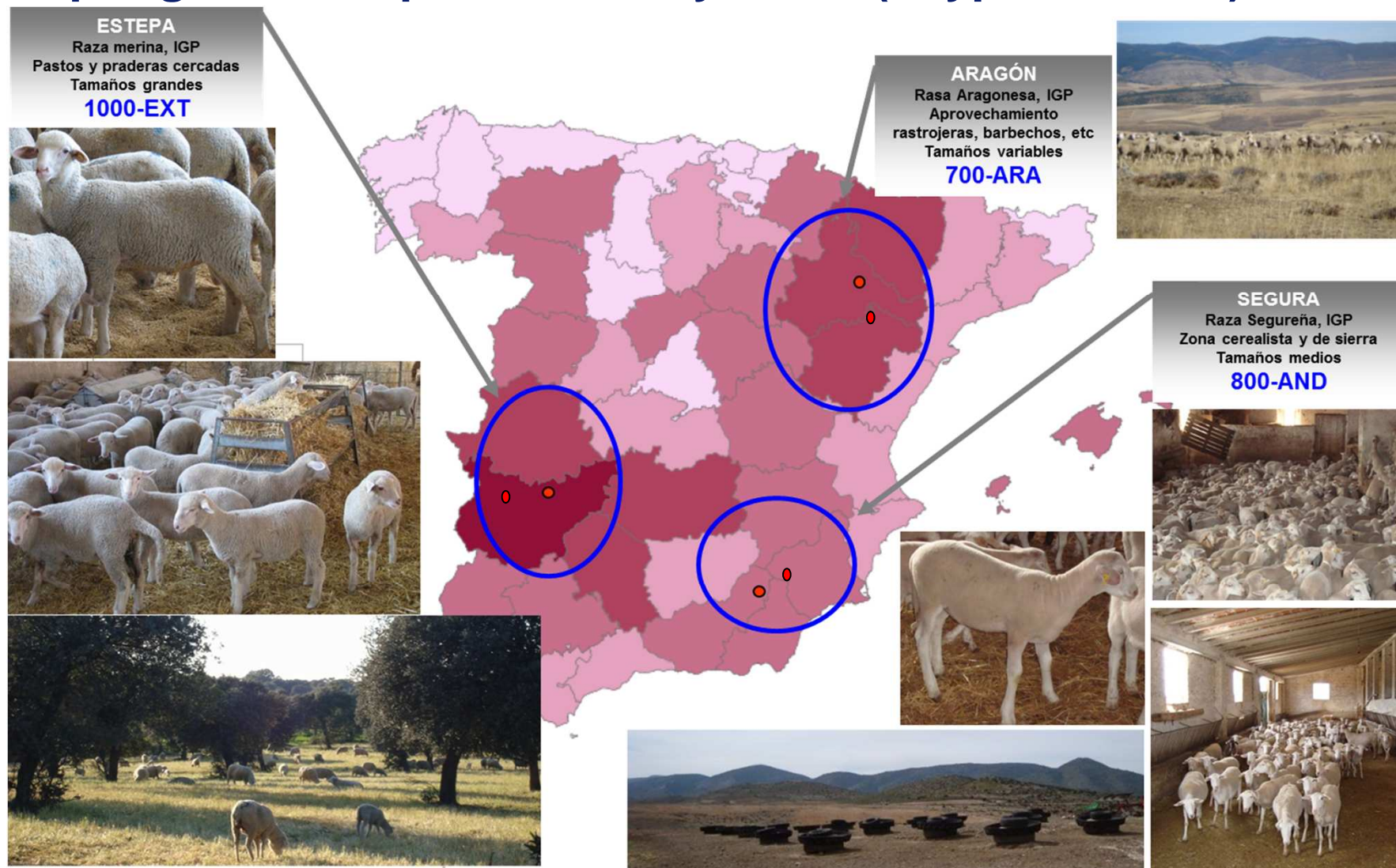




## Cow-calf regions and production systems (10 typical farms)



## Sheep regions and production systems (6 typical farms)



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C. The process of consolidation

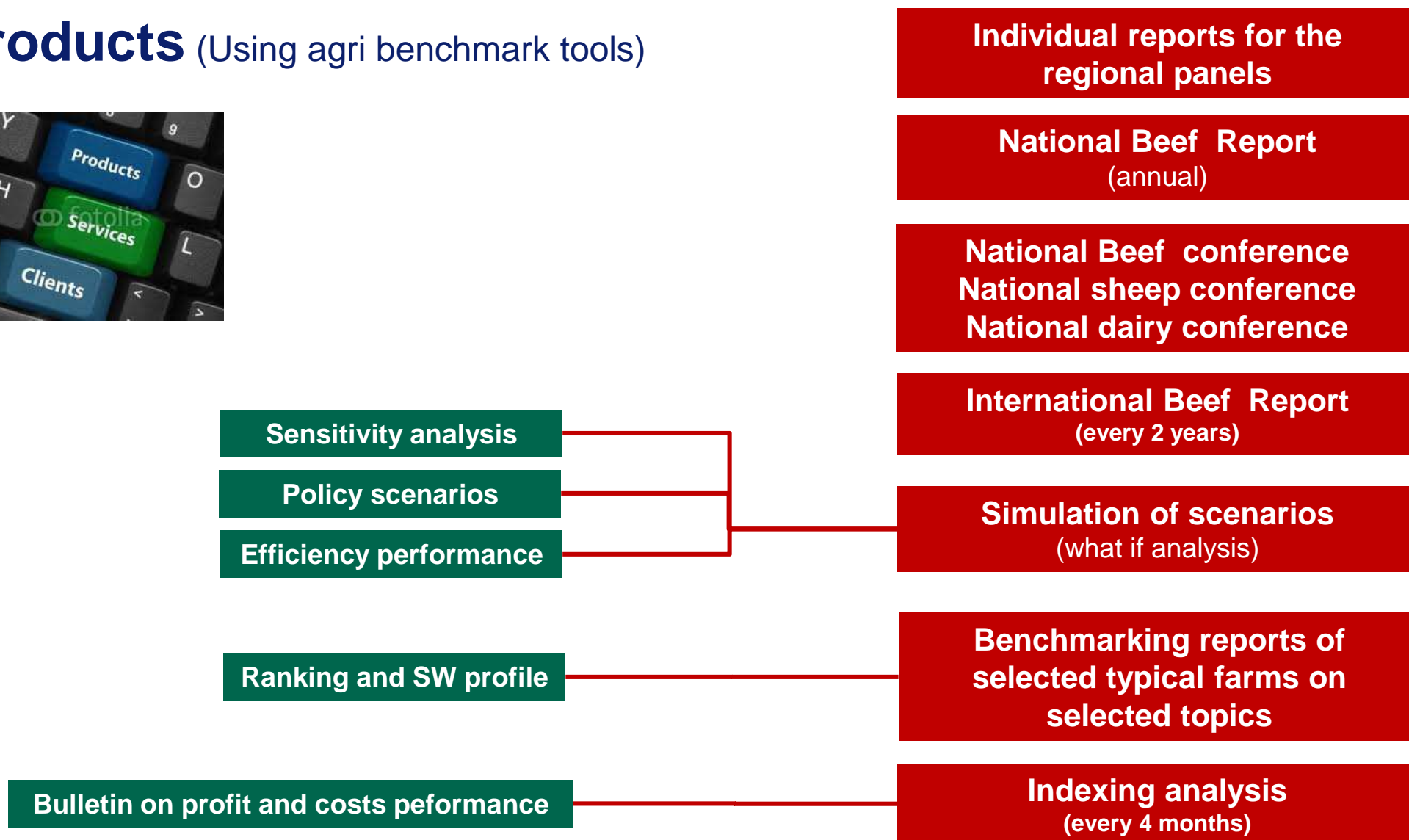


## Consolidation is a process

1. Identify the main stakeholders and have them involved  
(seduction process)
2. Define your clients and identify their needs
  - Regional panels (technical advisors, farmers, farm suppliers)
  - National stakeholders representation (farmers assoc., Agric. Coop. Federat.)
  - The government
4. Define your products
5. Refine your products

**NETWORK TEAM  
CONSOLIDATION**  
(LONG LEARNING CURVE)

## Products (Using agri benchmark tools)



# Products (examples)

## Strengths/weak profile

## Comparación de la media de granjas en España versus selección internacional de granjas

## Feed costs ranking

Valores en ES > valores en selección granjas

Media de 9 granjas

Valores en selección

Aproximación de costes de alimentación - valores absolutos (€/ 100 kg canal vendidos)

### INDICADORES FÍSICOS

Ganancia media diaria

Rendimiento en canal

### INGRESOS TOTALES

Venta de carne

Pagos directos acoplados

### COSTES DE LA CUENTA DE EXPLOT.

Animales

Alimentación

Otros

### BENEFICIOS

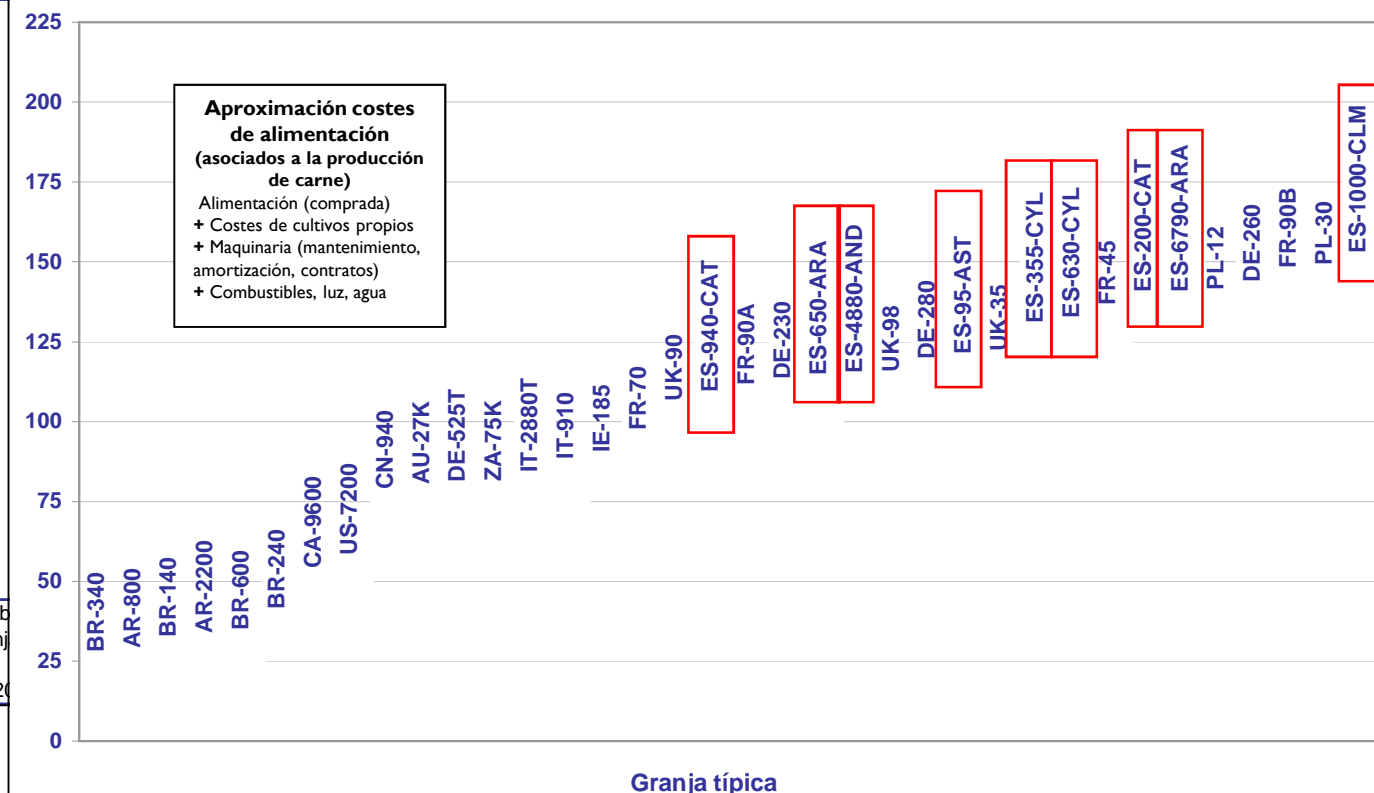
Beneficio según cuenta de explot.

Fortalezas de las granjas en España en verde, deb

Fortalezas de las granjas de la selección en naranja

Cifras redondeadas a un dígito.

Fuente: Cálculos de agri benchmark y Rengrati, 20

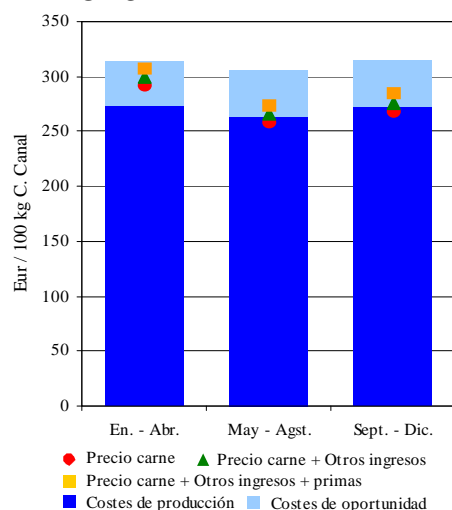




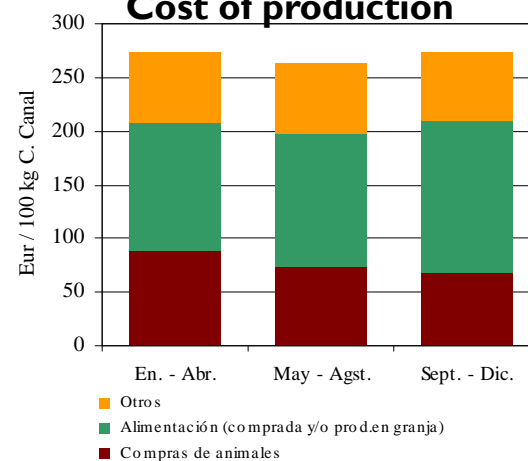
# Products (examples)

## Indexing analysis (4 month bulletin)

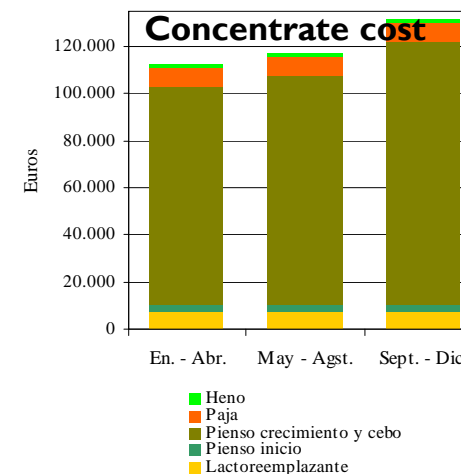
### Profit



### Cost of production



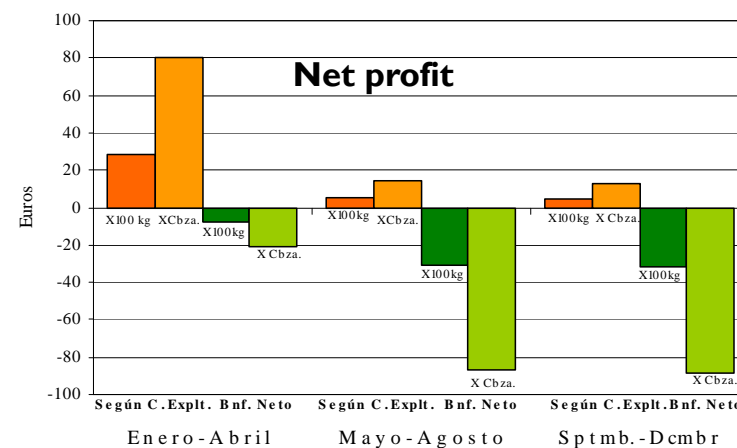
### Concentrate cost



### Break even points (beef price)

	€/ kg	Precio carne Sept.-Dic.-07 €/ kg	Diferencia %
Precio de la carne necesario para alcanzar un flujo de caja positivo	2,518	2,680	-6%
Precio de la carne necesario par alcanzar un beneficio positivo según la cuenta de explotación	2,636		-2%
Precio de la carne necesario para alcanzar un beneficio neto positivo (cubrir costes totales)	2,989		12%

### Net profit

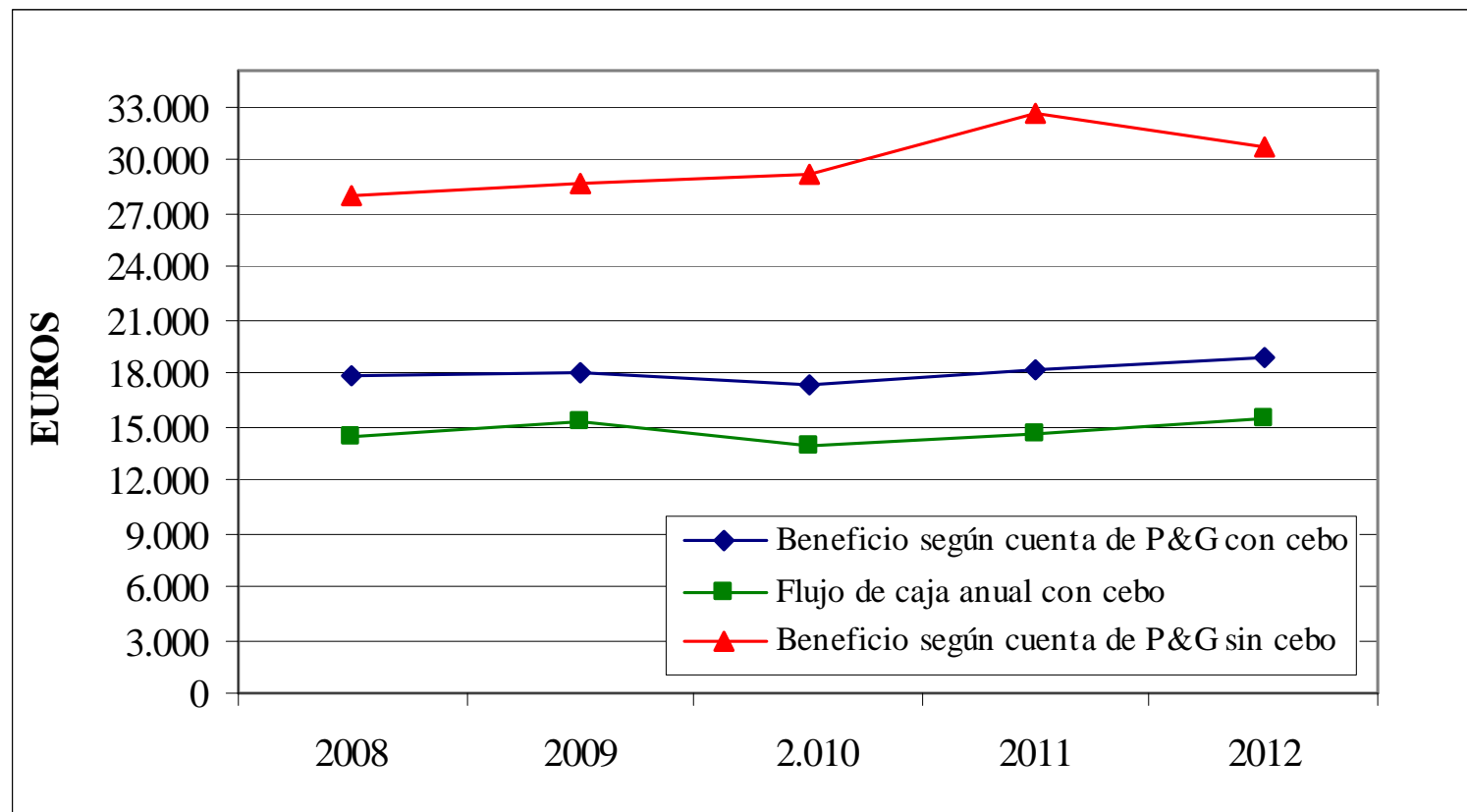


## Products (examples)

### What if analysis

¿Analysis of management strategies  
Cow-calf producer as a finisher?

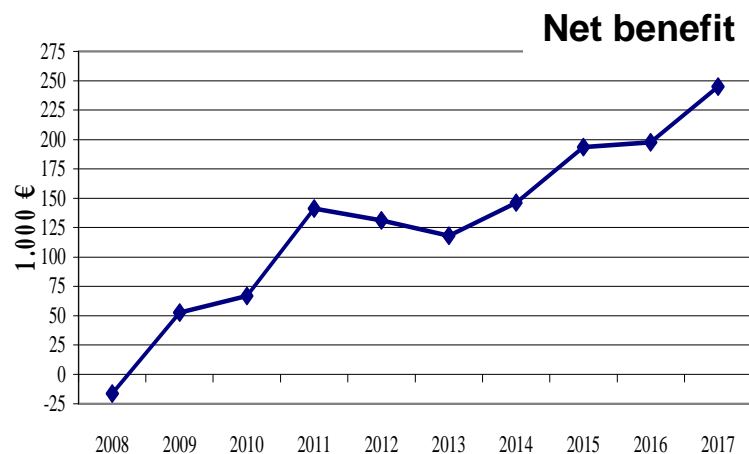
Net benefit and cash flow - farm 90AND



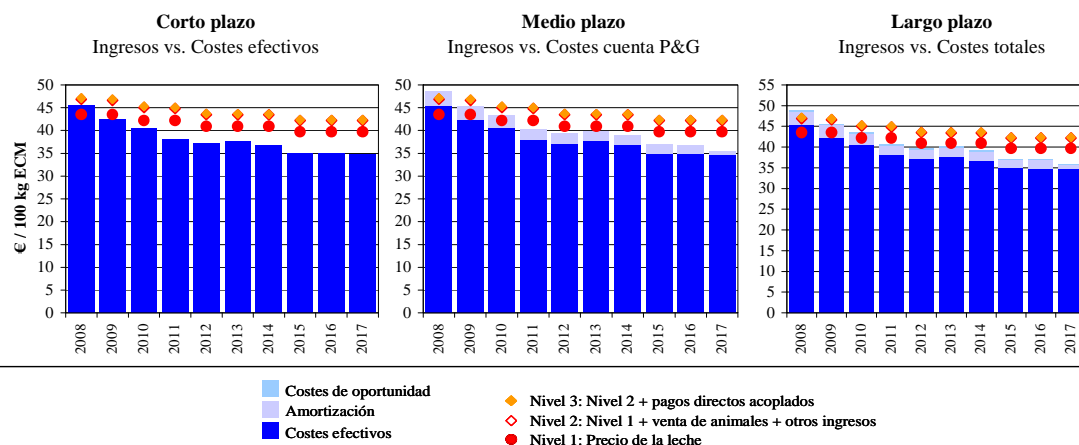
## What if analysis

## Associative dairy farm program

# Products (examples)



## Cost of production



## Cash flow analysis

	36-GAL	300-GAL Modelo asociativo										
	2007*	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2023**
Beneficio según P&G excluy. P.Único	53.460	-16.465	52.615	66.591	141.202	131.011	117.837	146.337	193.494	197.577	244.911	340.581
Mano de obra	0	145.056	149.408	186.760	192.362	192.362	237.760	237.760	244.893	244.893	244.893	244.893
Alquiler tierras	0	47.100	47.100	47.100	47.100	47.100	47.100	47.100	47.100	47.100	47.100	47.100
Alquiler cuota	0	58.083	58.083	58.083	58.083	58.083	58.083	58.083	0	0	0	0
Total	53.460	233.774	307.206	358.533	438.747	428.556	460.780	489.280	485.487	489.570	536.903	632.573
<b>Ingreso x socio</b>	<b>53.460</b>	<b>29.222</b>	<b>38.401</b>	<b>44.817</b>	<b>54.843</b>	<b>53.570</b>	<b>57.597</b>	<b>61.160</b>	<b>60.686</b>	<b>61.196</b>	<b>67.113</b>	<b>79.072</b>

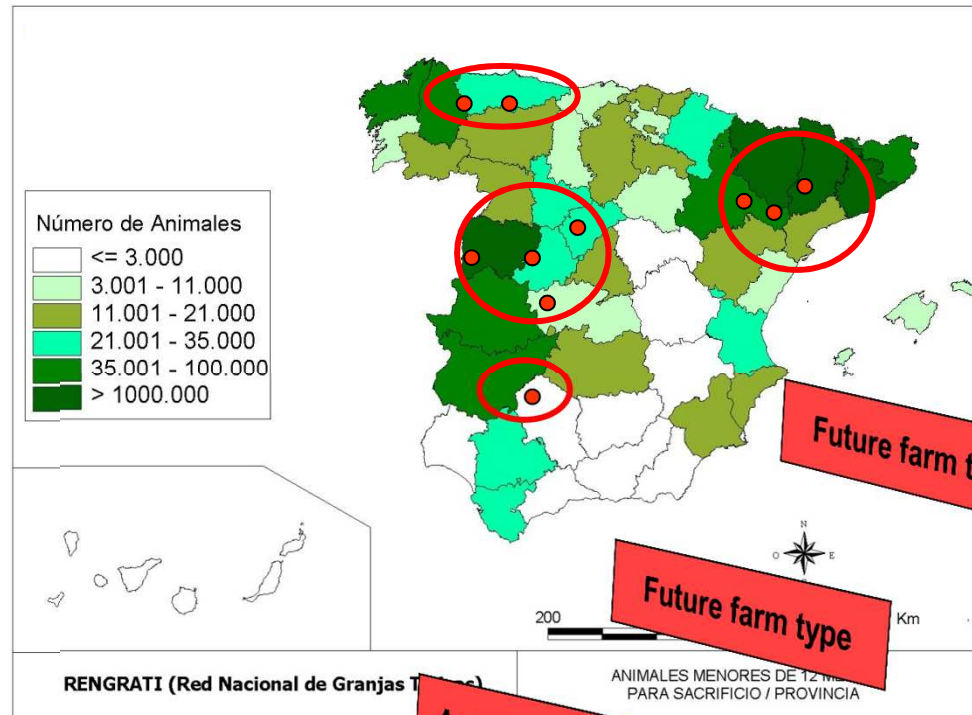
\* Valores aprox. de la granja 36-GAL de similares condiciones (287.000 kg cuota-36 vacas) a la de cada uno de los socios. Precios leche e insumos actualizados

\*\* Beneficio calculado después de finalizar el pago del crédito utilizando los valores del 2017

# Products (examples)

## Investment analysis

### The future farm type (Panel approach)



Future farm type

Future farm type

Average farm type

Average farm type

Average farm type

### Average farm type

Aragón -Cataluña  
Different sizes  
Vertical integration  
Calves and weaners  
imported



Anlucía

Fattening centre

High technology – economy of scale  
Weaners (cross breeding)

4880AND



Future farm type



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## Benefits for the sector

1. Stakeholders' involvement
2. Platform analysis provided
3. Information as a public good
4. Providing support for strategic decisions
  - Where are we?
  - Where we are going to?
  - How do we know we are going in the right direction?
  - How do we know we have arrived?

## Benefits for farmers and advisors

1. Communication channel provided
2. Visibility
3. Thinking globally
4. Economic rationality behind decisions

## Benefits for the Government

1. Visibility
2. Coordination role provided
3. Better informed to make decisions
4. Better institutional perception



## Benefits for the industry

1. Stakeholders interaction
2. Better understanding of the chain vision
3. Better institutional perception
4. Testing chain members reactions

## Challenges

1. Sustainability (funding)
2. Independancy (own visibility)
3. Team consolidation
4. Incorporation of Information Technologies (Online services)
5. Current economic situation

**To move to a consortium scheme  
involving stakeholders**

*"We know that we loose money*

*We know that we were loosing money*

***Now, with the network,***

*we know how much money do we loose*

*we know how to loose less money*

*And we know that in other parts of the world,  
they (the farmers) are also loosing money"*

***A beef farmer***

**Thanks for your attention**

