

## Q&A Report

Highlands.3 Webinar Series: "Sustainable Development in Mountain Areas"

### Session 4: Food studies and mountain agriculture

Feb 10, 2021 11:56 AM (UTC/GMT)

#### Question Details

1 Please, let me know more about the use of mobile in the genetic system. Thank you. What kind of control for the wolf and other predators (especially dogs)?

- Dear L., we are using an application for mobile, aiming at support the mating strategies. Farmers can find info on males ready for mating with the level of "potential inbreeding" with their flock. We have done some genomic analysis to implement the database, the idea is to trace the "pedigree" in the next years
- If you visit the link at the end of the presentation you can find more info, even in english, and we are writing a paper

2 For Greece case study: long-distance movement: how many hours or kms please?

- Predators: two systems: i) electric fences for semipermanent farms; ii) dogs for transhumant flocks. (The answer is in the ppt).
- Interesting :) Thanks for the explanation and have good luck in your research.
- Thank you, if you are interested I'm always available for collaboration. E. [enrico.sturaro@unipd.it](mailto:enrico.sturaro@unipd.it)

3 Thanks M. for your presentation. There are many similarities with transhumance activities here in Argentina and should be interesting to look at these similarities and also differences.

- Thank you very much R.! You are more than welcome to exchange experiences and data, it would be very interesting for us to do so to! Please feel free to email me at [karatzia@rias.gr](mailto:karatzia@rias.gr) to establish a communication between our teams!
- Transhumance is for sure an important activity, which will be compared within the project Highlands.3. We have several scientists working in this topic in different countries and from different disciplinary perspectives. I am very happy in starting the exchange in this topic!

4 I wonder if there is cheese production during the transhumance period and if there are any problems with sanitary rules which would be a problem for producers

- M., I can say something on the Alps (even if I believe your question is for K.): with dairy cows in Eastern Alps milk and cheese are produced during transhumance: the summer farms are in several cases equipped with milking parlours or at least pipelines. Even in this area, there are situations in which the cows are milked on summer farms but the cheese is produced in the dairy plants located in the main valleys.
- Transhumant sheep are used only for meat (and wool but with a low income)
- Dear M., usually during summer when the animals are on pasture, the time coincides with the end of lactation, so milk production is limited. Depending on whether there is a village near by, milk may be transferred to cheese making factories, or pasteurized by the farmers on location and used for producing small quantities of local varieties of cheese.

- Thank you both for your answers. I am in fact interested in the impact of sanitary rules on traditional practices and more particularly on raw-milk cheese-making. It appears to be more relevant in the Alps, in Greece it seems that all is now pasteurized?
- We are studying exactly this at the moment, it is a practice that takes place in Greece (not only in mountainous areas but also in islands, both for sheep and goat milk) and we are in the process of mapping the practices and methodologies applied. It would be very interesting to compare notes if you'd like, I think that we would come up with very interesting conclusions. If you'd like, you could send me an email to start a discussion (karatzia@rias.gr). Thank you!
- Thanks for your answer! It is very stimulating to imagine possibilities of collaboration. I let you my email too: mathilde.lagrola@gmail.com
- we are also interested on this topic: enrico.sturaro@unipd.it
- Thanks Enrico, I already noted your adress

5 How does transhumance impact (positively or negatively) biodiversity ? How Natura 2000 sites account for this activity? (do they need to put in place specific measures ?)

- Dear F., transhumance has been found to have positive effects on biodiversity, either by transferring seeds across great distances or sequestering carbon, or even providing food for vultures (dead animals left behind). No special-specific measures are put into practice, due to the fact that specific routes and sites-pastures are used by farmers. Additionally, there is a system of self-moderation on behalf of the farmers, so that overgrazing is avoided and water sources are distributed equally.

6 Karatzia, please what are the criteria that you have considered to judge the adaptation of the local breed to the environment? Thank you in advance.

- Dear L., we have not presented any data on breed adaptation in this presentation. Significant work on this issue has been done in previous projects like Domestic, Perform etc. As transhumance only includes indigenous breeds whose adaptability to the specific management system and the environment where it is applied is known, we try to build on the knowledge and the extend of this adaptability under the scope of climate change and sustainable management of available resources.

8 Thanks Maria. I will contact you by e-mail soon.

- Great, looking forward to your message!

11 Mabelle, I haven't grasped the name of the different milk products you talked about (apart from the Kishk). Would you please remind it for me?

- Hello M., I talked about 2 goat dairy products: kishk and ambarees
- Thanks. I am curious because I am doing my PhD on food safety in raw-milk cheese production and the impact of food-safety reglementations on local know-how. Lebanon is very far from my own fieldwork in France, but I am still curious to discover other contexts.

12 Marie, What is the main strategy you recommend to strengthen the inclusion of mountain stakeholders in the project? Thank you

- live answered

13 In this project have you addressed not only direct beneficiaries but other players (larger sellers of inputs, buyers of products, banks) that have a key role in the value chains?

- live answered

15 Para o Hugo Gomes. Sendo natural da Serra da Estrela, quais os apoios existentes para implementar uma das ideias/projetos apresentados??

- Dear A., In Serra da Estrela classified as UNESCO Global Geopark the strategy developed is to be implemented with resources from local national and international funds. We prepare different applications to funding some of this activities."