

# Nutritional quality assessment of traditional sheep products from the northern Spain (Cantabrian area)

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Lipids in Ruminants  
PhD project presentation

21 September 2016 - Ghent

Grupo de Investigación  
  
Research Group

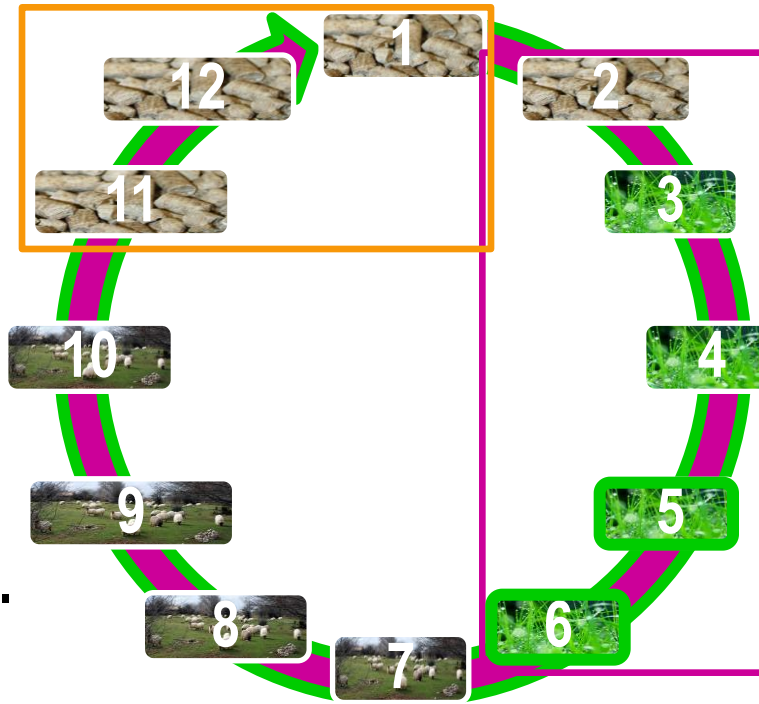
  
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Latxa autochthonous dairy sheep → Semi-extensive production system.

Winter → fed by concentrates and conserved forages → lambs are born.



Milking period → February - late June (late lactation).

Grass availability increases → Gradual incorporation to pastures → by May on → almost completely grass fed.



## CHEESE



The milk is almost exclusively used to make Idiazabal P.D.O. cheese



## LAMB



The lambs are slaughtered and commercialized at early age



The characterization and differentiation of the nutritional and sensory quality of locally produced animal foods will contribute to the sustainability of local breeds and extensive production systems.

## Quality assesment of

- i) Latxa milk and 'Idiazabal' cheese  
extensively produced at different altitudes  
(valley & mountain grasslands)
- ii) lamb commercialized in Basque region  
(northern Spain)

## i) Dairy products

- Milk and cheese fatty acid (FA) profile as affected by pasture composition
- Sensory analysis of cheese



## ii) Lamb

- Assessment of the variability of FA composition (Bravo-Lamas et al., 2016)
- Sensory analysis
- Volatiles & odour analysis



## i) Dairy products

- Milk and cheese fatty acid (FA) profile as affected by pasture composition
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**Milk** 6 flocks x 3 collections (bulk milk) x 2 sampling months (May & June) → **n=36**

**Pastures  
(valley/mountain)**

**Botanical sp. were  
collected**

**in 2 samplings  
(May & June)**



Aralar Natural Park





# M & M

Freeze-dried



Lipid extraction



Direct methylation of lipids  
(Alves *et al.*, 2008)



Methylation of lipids  
(Aldai *et al.*, 2013)



**SP-2560, 100m**  
**GC (175°C) - total FAME**  
(Kramer *et al.*, 2008)



**GC-FID**

**SP-2560, 100m**  
**GC (175°C) - total FAME**  
**GC (150°C) - *trans*-18:1**  
(Kramer *et al.*, 2008)  
**SLB-IL111, 100m**  
**GC – CLA & others**  
(Delmonte *et al.*, 2012)

**y = Pasture type + Sampling month  
+ P\*S**

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+ Flock(Pasture) + P\*S**

- PASTURE:** Estimated FA composition (g/100g total FAMES)

	Valley		Mountain		SEM	P	Sign.	
	May	June	May	June			S	P*S
<b>SFA</b>	29.9	25.0	24.2	24.5	1.35	ns	ns	ns
16:0	20.7	18.0	16.7	16.2	1.02	ns	ns	ns
18:0	2.41	2.10	1.91	2.25	0.11	ns	ns	ns
<b>MUFA</b>	6.42	7.13	5.88	6.18	0.27	ns	*	ns
3 <i>t</i> -16:1	1.80	2.34	1.60	1.72	0.16	ns	*	ns
9 <i>c</i> -18:1	3.34	3.59	3.19	3.20	0.09	ns	ns	ns
<b>PUFA</b>	59.4	63.1	65.1	63.0	1.44	*	ns	ns
18:2 <i>n</i> -6	18.2	16.6	17.1	17.0	0.33	ns	ns	ns
18:3 <i>n</i> -3	40.9	46.1	47.5	45.5	1.44	*	ns	ns

SEM, standard error of the mean; ns, not significant; \*,  $P \leq 0.05$ ; P, pasture type (valley, mountain); S, sampling month (May, June); P\*S, interaction term; FA, fatty acid; SFA, saturated fatty acids; MUFA, monounsaturated FA; PUFA, polyunsaturated FA; *t*, *trans*; *c*, *cis*.

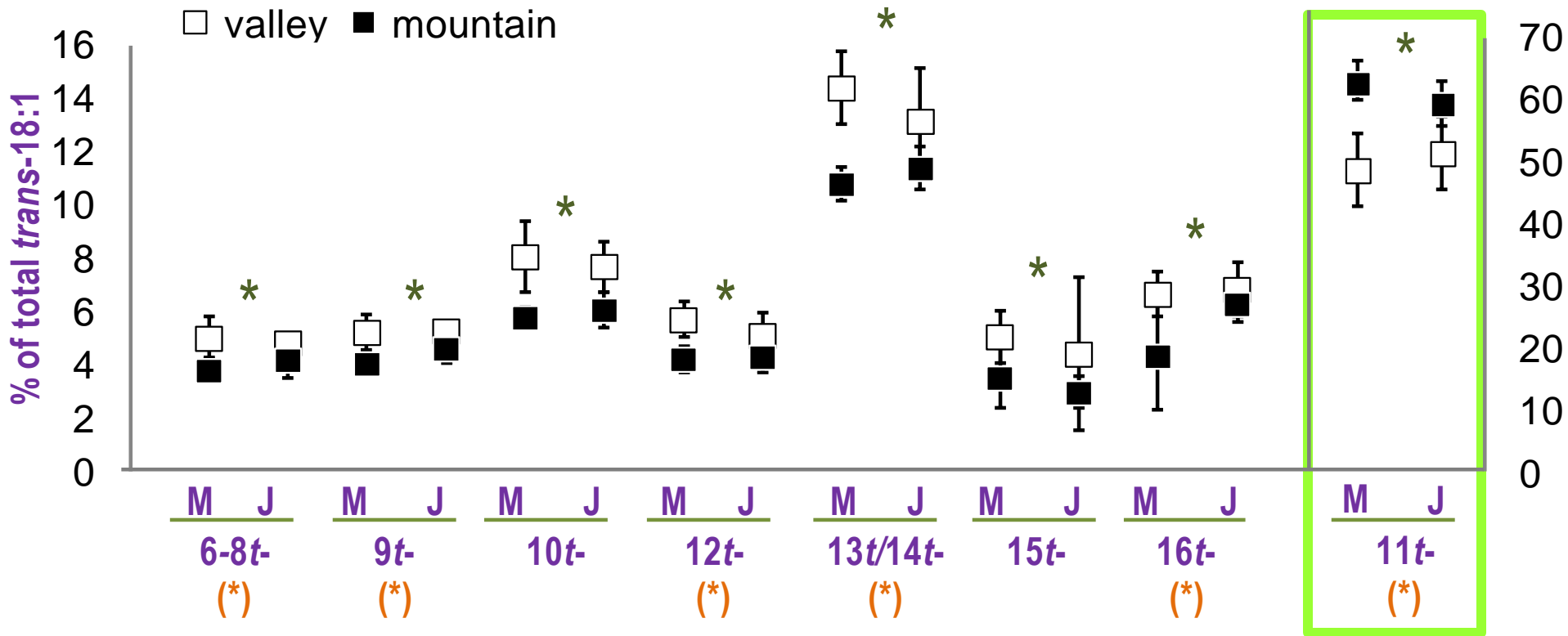
# Results

- MILK:** Fat (%) and fatty acid composition (g/100g fat)

	Valley		Mountain		SEM	P	Sign.	
	May	June	May	June			S	P*S
Fat	7.43	7.96	8.34	8.55	0.09	*	*	ns
SFA	62.5	58.7	56.4	55.1	0.38	*	*	*
MUFA	26.1	29.4	29.6	31.1	0.27	*	*	*
<i>t</i> -MUFA	5.58	6.18	7.95	7.21	0.10	*	ns	*
10 <i>t</i> -18:1	0.39	0.41	0.40	0.38	0.01	ns	ns	*
11 <i>t</i> -18:1	2.44	2.79	4.39	3.74	0.09	*	*	*
10 <i>t</i> -/11 <i>t</i>	0.17	0.15	0.09	0.10	0.01	*	ns	*
nc-dienes	1.31	1.45	1.77	1.71	0.03	*	ns	*
nc-trienes	0.29	0.27	0.41	0.38	0.01	*	*	ns

SEM, standard error of the mean; P, pasture type (valley, mountain); S, sampling month (May, June); P\*S, interaction term; SFA, saturated fatty acid; MUFA, monounsaturated fatty acid; nc-, non conjugated. \*,  $P \leq 0,05$ ; ns, not significant

- MILK:** *Trans*-18:1 isomers (%) relative to the total *trans*-18:1 content



\*,  $P \leq 0,05$ ; M, may; J, june.

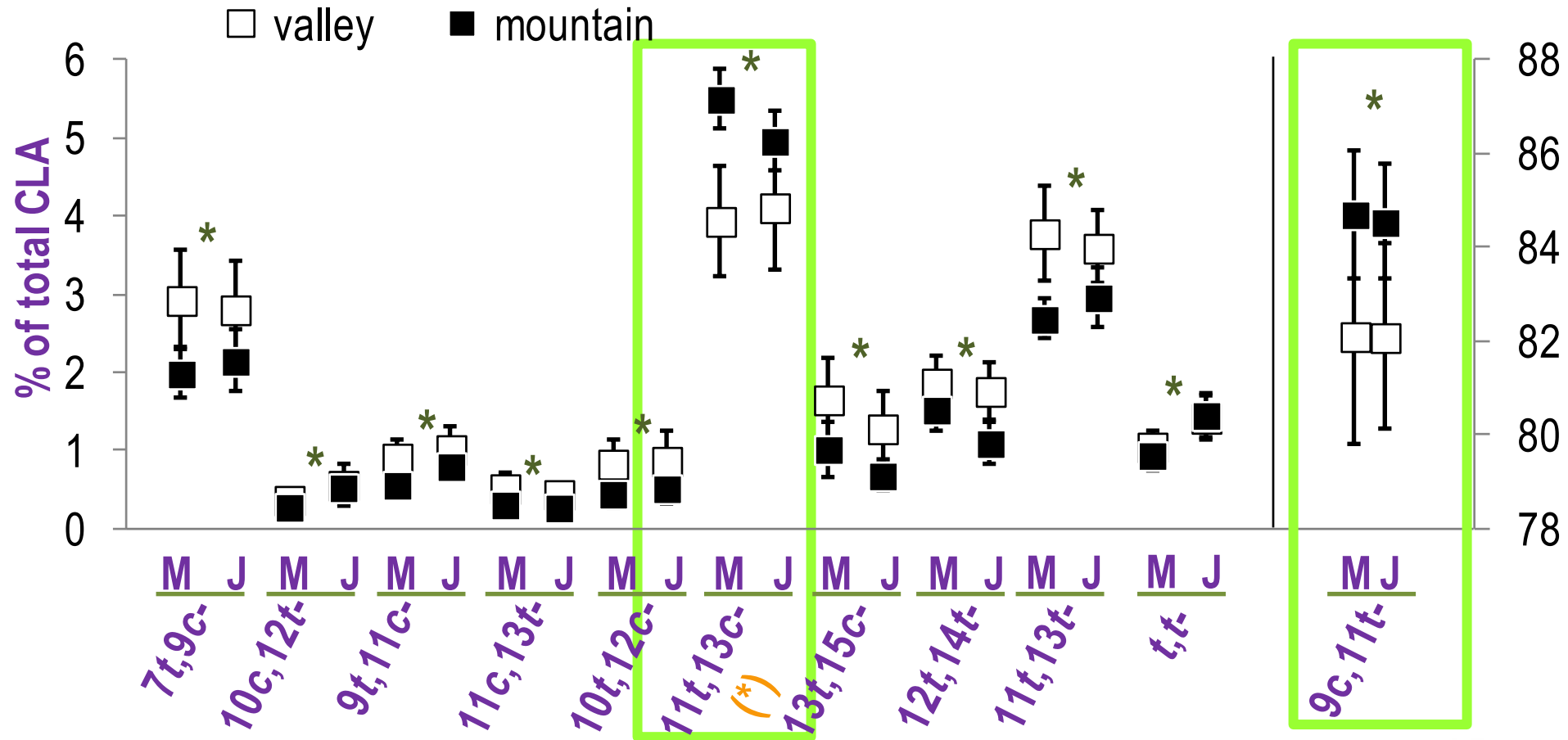


- MILK:** Fatty acid composition (g/100g fat)

n=36	Valley		Mountain		SEM	P	Sign.	
	May	June	May	June			S	P*S
PUFA	3.32	3.45	4.02	4.22	0.05	*	*	ns
n-6	2.17	2.25	2.18	2.31	0.027	ns	*	ns
18:2n-6	1.72	1.70	1.69	1.81	0.024	ns	ns	*
n-3	1.15	1.20	1.84	1.91	0.030	*	ns	ns
18:3n-3	0.82	0.83	1.36	1.43	0.023	*	ns	ns
CLA	1.69	2.04	2.81	2.62	0.06	*	ns	*

SEM, standard error of the mean; P, pasture type (valley, mountain); S, sampling month (May, June); P\*S, interaction term; PUFA, polyunsaturated fatty acid; CLA, conjugated of linolenic acid. \*,  $P \leq 0,05$ ; ns, not significant.

- MILK:** CLA isomers (%) relative to the total CLA content



\*,  $P \leq 0,05$ ; M, may; J, june.



## SPECIFIC CONCLUSION

- Milk from ewes reared in **mountain pastures** provided a higher fat content with a **healthier fatty acid profile**, with a characteristic **biohydrogenation** products from **linolenic acid**.

## Ph.D. GENERAL CONCLUSION

- The results from this ph.D. Project will contribute to the **added-value of animal foods with “quality labels”** produced from **local breeds** and **extensive production systems**.

# Acknowledgments:

Ghent University & Specialist course on Lipids in Ruminants organizers



**EUSKO JAURLARITZA**

HEZKUNTZA, HIZKUNTZA POLITIKA  
ETA KULTURA SAILA



**GOBIERNO VASCO**

DEPARTAMENTO DE EDUCACIÓN,  
POLÍTICA LINGÜÍSTICA Y CULTURA



NAZIOARTEKO  
BIKAINASUN  
CAMPUSA  
CAMPUS DE  
EXCELENCIA  
INTERNACIONAL



**Thank you**

