

The case of the corsican sheep breed and its products



INRA LRDE

**KICK OFF MEETING OF THE DOMESTIC
PROJECT 04/07/12**

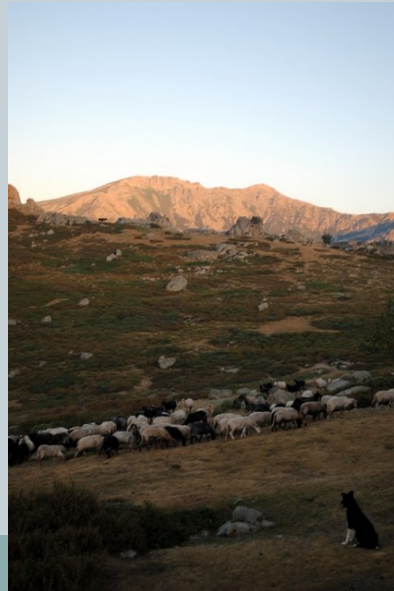


Photo A.Lauvie

The corsican sheep breed

Historical importance



- Sheep breeding has an historical importance in the farming systems and the pastoral history in Corsica
- Sheep are bred for milking purpose
- Cheese processing tradition with 5 types of cheeses + the Brocciu, made from whey, with a PDO from 1983 (on its simple AO form and completed in 1998 as PDO) . About 500 tons Brocciu/year (source Syndicat)
- Corsica is one of the 3 french areas where ewes are bred for milking purposes (with the Roquefort area and the Atlantic Pyrénées area)

The corsican sheep breed

A few figures (From Carayol-Costa, 2011)



- About 85000 ewes in Corsica (corsican breed)
- About 9 to 10 million liters of milk /year (7 to 8 for milk industry)
- About 400 farmers with less than 60 breeders in the official selection scheme

The corsican sheep breed

The breeding scheme



- **Creation of the breeding scheme in the 80's (breed recognised in 1987)**
- **1996 UPRA Brebis corse**
- **1999 CORSIA**
- **2006 OS Brebis Corse**

Previous works at INRA LRDE about the breed



- A lot of research concerning sheep breeding in Corsica since 1980
- INRA played a role in the building up of the breeding scheme
- Few recent works; about AI, horns

The new questions raised



- **Links between farming systems and breed management (from farm level to collective level) (with JC Paoli)**
- **Add value to the lamb product (throw a PGI application) and link with the milk production (with PhD student comparing this case to Sardinia)**