



Country Report for Spain

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Topics of demonstration

Related to the topics faced, in the animal husbandry demonstration, the most common topics are related to Animal Health, Housing, Pasture and Nutrition. In the crops demonstration, topics as Biodiversity and nature management are the most common, beside New varieties and Crop protection.

Providers and purpose of demonstration

We have identified in the Spanish inventory up today, 34 farm demonstration and 26 organisations demonstrations, a total of 60 demonstrations. The number of attendees involved is 5,868. Demonstrations in commercial farms was the more common scenario, where peer to peer learning processes is taking place.

The most common demonstrations collected in Spain are focused mostly in animal husbandry with 33 demonstrations (17 dairy cattle and 10 sheep husbandry), and crops/trees with 23 demonstration (all vegetables, arable crops, grapevine), and others, with a total 60 demonstrations in the inventory at the moment of preparing this report.

We can notice how, when talking about Animal husbandry demonstrations are more linked to the farms, while demonstrations for crops are more supported by organizations.

History

The first demonstrations took place in 1980. The attendees were local farmers. They were organized by the public advisory service and with public funding: Open day of machinery for silage and Open day of varieties of cereals. Since then, demonstrations related to crops innovation, have been one of the more appreciated activities of INTIA, as a public advisory service. **New Varieties, fertilization and crop protection have been the most demanding topics.** Machinery demonstrations have been along this 40 years the most populated events. **In livestock the demonstrations are more linked to reference farms and production systems.**



Types of Demonstrations

The demonstrations are made by visiting the farm itself in the case of livestock, and through a guided field walk in the case of crops.

Related to the topics faced, in the animal husbandry demonstration, the most common topic is related to **Animal Health management and welfare** (20 cases), Housing and rearing systems (19 cases), Pasture management (18 cases) and animal nutrition (17 cases). You must know that it is very common in demonstrations, to face more than one topic at the same event.

In the crops demonstration, topics as **Biodiversity and nature management** are the most common (14 cases) and also very well selected other three topics are relevant, as New varieties/planting material (12 cases), Crop protection (12 cases) Low input farming (12 cases).

Access Issues

In the northern area of Spain, where the inventory is more implemented for the moment, there are **more livestock farms than in the south**. Specifically, the sample is of the Cantabrian cornice where there are a greater number of dairy cattle farms. Taking into account the whole Spanish country, it is expected to harvest a **more relevant number of crops demonstrations** in the coming weeks.

The 30/51 of the demonstrations was 50/50 male/female the profile of the attendees, but in **21/51 demonstrations there were dominant male attendees**. It was expected to have this unbalanced participation on the demonstrations because we are referring to a male dominant sector of economical activity. Perhaps this is changing in the last years and a significant number un female have access to the sector.

At least 35% of the assistants can be considered young people, fewer than 40 years old. Young farmer are more actives in innovation and is not casual to find them in the first line of demonstrations. It's a certain guarantee of the success of this kind of events.

Other Issues

The role of farmers was relevant, both as organiser and funder. Half of the events were organised by farmers directly or throughout some organisation. The 52% of the demonstration were financed by the farmers themselves and only a 13% were financed with public recourses

Distinguishing Characteristics

- The sample of 60 demonstrations that are currently in the Inventory of Spain, is a sample biased towards the northern part of Spain, the disclosure of the Inventory to the south of Spain have been done and we are waiting for the results.
- In the northern area of Spain there are more livestock farms than in the south. Specifically, the sample is of the Cantabrian cornice where there is a greater number of dairy cattle farms.



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