

Ecopastoral management plan

Goal	Implement an ecopastoral management plan to assure production as well as good conservation of habitats
Short description of the measure	<p>Pastoralism is a complex issue in that sense that it deals with a high diversity of situations, which need local diagnosis. The pastoral habitats host an important biodiversity richness with a high level of endemism.</p> <p>In Mediterranean regions, these habitats are shaped and maintained by agro pastoral activities. At European level, more than 60 % of open pastoral habitats have been evaluated as having an “unfavourable” conservation status, making them some of the worst preserved.</p> <p>A three steps methodology that involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Global understanding of the farming system (goals, feeding livestock strategy) ▪ Ecopastoral diagnosis (understanding the interaction between pastoral practices and rangelands, conservation habitats issues) ▪ Farmer guidance: management plan <div data-bbox="451 976 1310 1128" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><i>For each animal group :</i></p>  <p>Animals needs X Resources available</p> </div> <p>Example of scheme that translate the feeding livestock strategy of a farmer, 19th EGF Symposium Life+ Mil’ouv, 2017</p> <p>The methodology involves a trio composed by a naturalist, a livestock specialist and the breeder him- or herself.</p>
Quality elements of soundly implemented biodiversity measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grazing calendar that includes for a time grazing : animal type, number of days, effective date, exist date, livestock density ▪ A discussion of the breeder in order to understand the practices and choices
Effects on biodiversity (ecosystems, species, soil biodiversity)	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pastoral habitats conservation ▪ Preservation of biodiversity richness ▪ Soil : Limitation of overgrazing and trampling
Other positive effects/benefit for the farmer	Good pastoral management plan can lead to reduce feed costs (and particularly forage bought)
Indicator/key data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Share of the pastoral surfaces under an ecopastoral management plan (%) ▪ Share of grazing link to pastoralism (% of total forage amount) ▪ Registration of grazing practices (calendar, entry, exit of plot, livestock density,...)

Reference

- LIFE+ Mil'ouv - Mediterranean open pastoral habitats
- http://www.hnvlink.eu/download/France_Diagnosisandadviceforfarmers_LifeMilOuvproject.pdf
- <http://idele.fr/reseaux-et-partenariats/life-milouiv/publication/idelesolr/recom-mends/life-milouiv-mediterranean-open-pastoral-habitats-are-an-important-re-source-lets-share-our-know.html>

Further information: [Knowledge Pool](#)

This Action Fact Sheet belongs to the training package for managers of standard organisations and companies and was developed within the project LIFE Food & Biodiversity (Biodiversity in Standards and Labels of for the Food Industry). The main objective of the project is to improve the biodiversity performance of standards and sourcing requirements in the food industry by helping standard organisations to integrate efficient biodiversity criteria into their schemes and motivating food processing companies and retailers to include comprehensive biodiversity criteria into their sourcing guidelines.

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