



Fish meal reduction for growing Meagre (*Argyrosomus regius*)

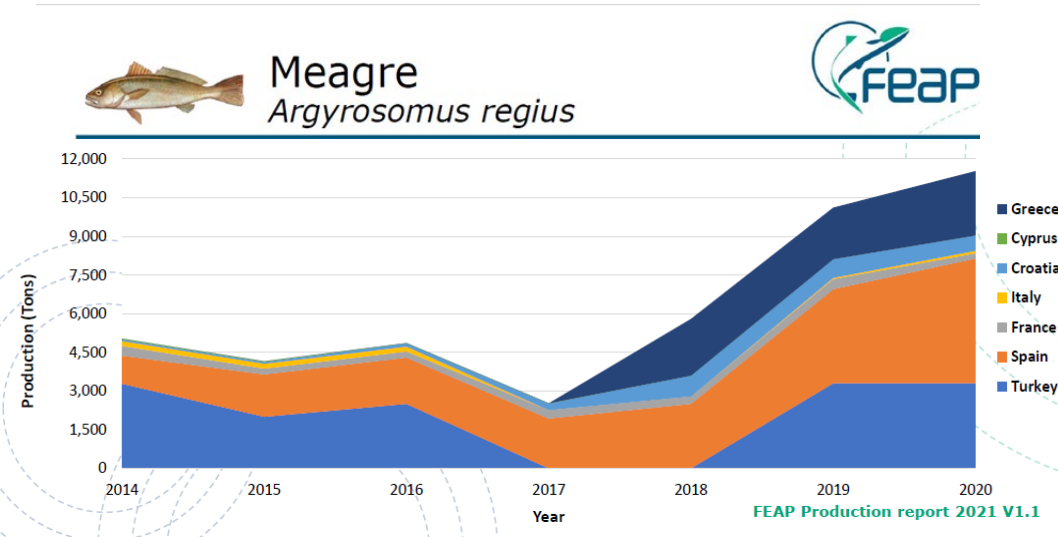
Innovation Forum “INNOVATIONS IN NUTRITION AND FEEDING”

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KNOWLEDGE NEED

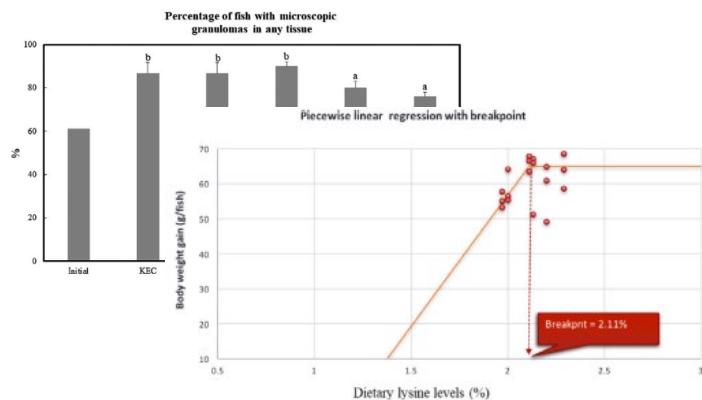
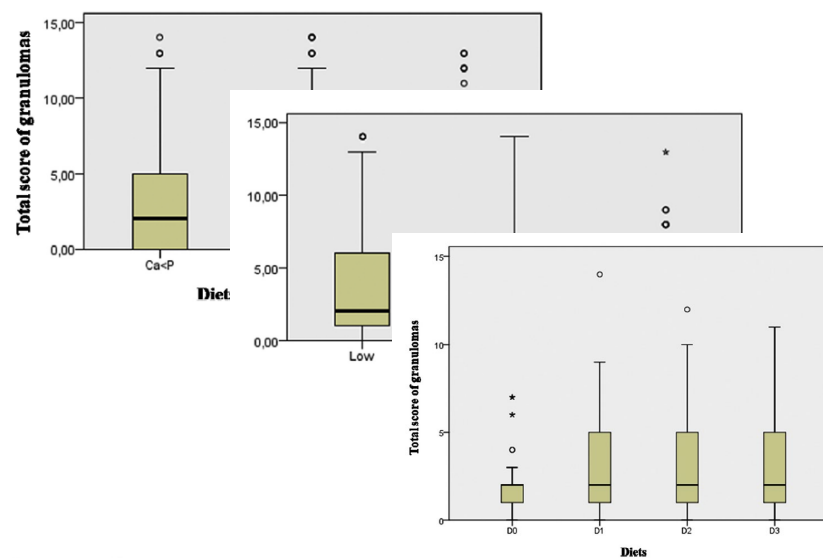
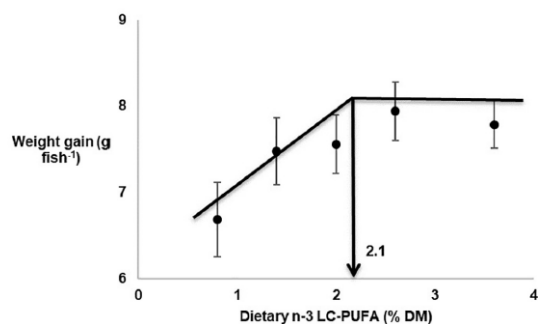


- Meagre production in Europe has more than doubled since 2014
- Meagre is carnivorous and juveniles have a high dietary protein requirement but information on exact requirements is scarce

Further research is needed to be able to **formulate nutrient well-balanced diets** based on knowledge of alternative protein sources (either plant or land-based animals by products) for Meagre

KNOWLEDGE NEED

Fish meal is a source of essential nutrients like P, Lys or EPA & DHA



SOLUTION (RESULT)



- ✓ It's possible to **decrease fish meal inclusion in Meagre diets from 40% down to 15%** with either plant protein (i.e. wheat gluten, soy protein concentrate) ingredients or poultry by-products, as part of a balanced diet in terms of amino acids, minerals and vitamins
- ✓ No differences in growth performance, voluntary feed intake, feed utilisation or health on Meagre

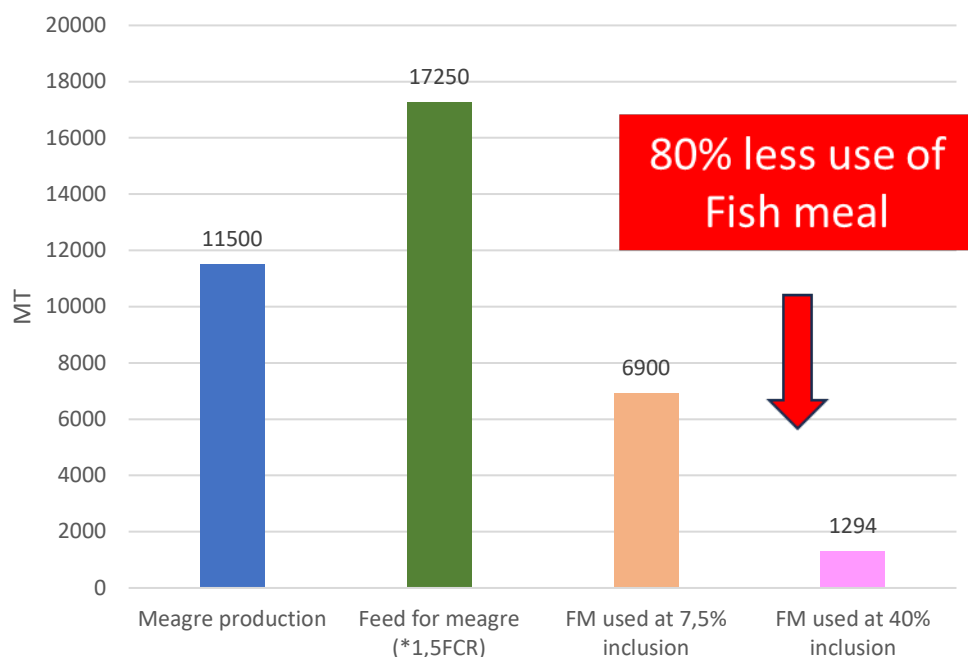
TARGET MARKET



- ✓ Aquafeed producers could produce more sustainable, plant-based diets that are well suited to Meagre needs
- ✓ Meagre farmers could use the feed to feed their fish in a more sustainable and cost-efficient way

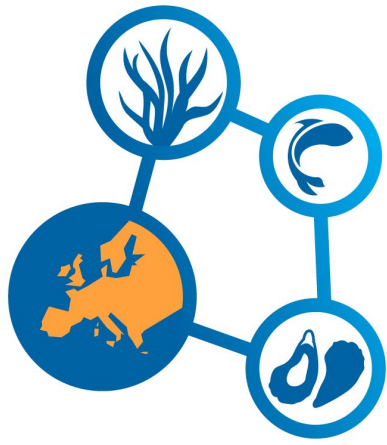


IMPACT



- ✓ Meagre is a promising candidate for the diversification of the Mediterranean aquaculture industry.
- ✓ Information on specific dietary requirements is necessary to improve the competitiveness of meagre farming.
- ✓ Meagre production will benefit from more **sustainable diets** with less use of marine resources





AQUA EXCEL 3.0

AQUAculture infrastructures
for EXCELlence in European
fish research 3.0



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Thank you!

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