

# Greek Organic Aquaculture –



## FutureEU Aqua results

Elena Mente



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## .... solutions / advice

Eat more fish

Buy from sustainable production only

Buy eco-labelled products

Buy only organic

Food losses and food waste to be reduce

Regional products only locally produced

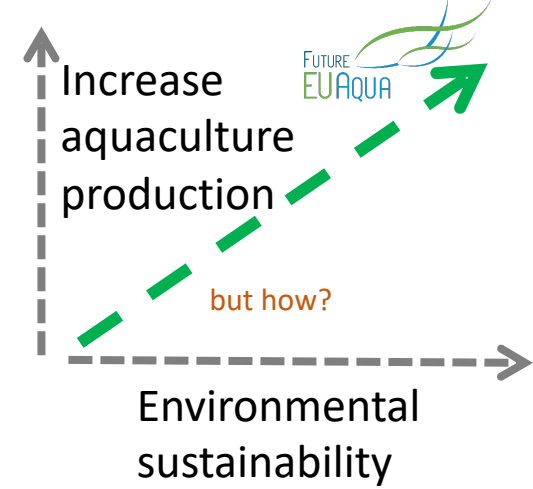
Agriculture and aquaculture play a key role in meeting the EU's ambition for **a carbon neutral Europe by 2050** by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. **Organic farming** uses a number of management practices that contribute to climate change mitigation, with additional benefits for the environment and biodiversity.

**Oct 2014** – Recommendation of the COMMITTEE ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY:

“Make **fish** a visible, integral element in **food security and nutrition strategies**, policies and programs ....”

European Commission 2022:

.....**promote sustainable aquaculture practices such as organic production.**



## What should be the long term goals?

**Organic production as a system of farm management and food production**

# Organic production in the 21st century



Farmed Organic production (%)	Country
6.5	Hungary
8.1	France
9.7	Germany
10.9	Denmark
11.0	Greece
15.8	Italy
25.1	Austria

With the European Green Deal the farm to fork strategy and the biodiversity strategy the EU has set targets of reaching **at least 25% of the EU's agricultural land under organic farming by 2030** and significantly increasing organic aquaculture

The organic production method plays **a dual societal role**, where it on the one hand provides for a specific market responding to a consumer demand for organic products, and on the other hand, **delivers public goods contributing to the protection of the environment and animal welfare**, as well as to rural development.

# European Organic aquaculture

The organic aquaculture sector has developed rapidly but has been **constrained** by a number of factors

- *Sourcing and certifying organic juveniles*
- *Availability and cost of suitable organic feeds*
- *Conditions of broodstock management*
- *High inspection and certification costs and the associated administrative burdens*
- *Markets*
- *Veterinary and parasite treatments*

Organic production: a challenge and opportunity for the society



# Organic aquaculture regulation

***Commission Regulation (EC) No 710/2009 5 Aug 2009  
[...] laying down detailed rules on organic  
aquaculture animal and seaweed production  
Official Journal of the European Union***

Organic fish feed is currently produced according to the EU regulations 834/2007, 889/2008, 710/2009, 1358/2014, 673/2016, **848/2018**.

**AIM:**

**Tailored-made,  
species-and-life stage  
specific regulation  
based on research  
results**

***Overall, these regulations aim to  
certain objectives following a number  
of fundamental principles.***

Regulation (EU) **2017/625** is commonly referred to as the official controls regulation "OCR" and has been adopted in April 2017.

It entered into force in the same year and it becomes gradually applicable. The main application date will be 14 December 2019. It is worth pointing out that this new regulation applies **to all food and feed, including organic products..**

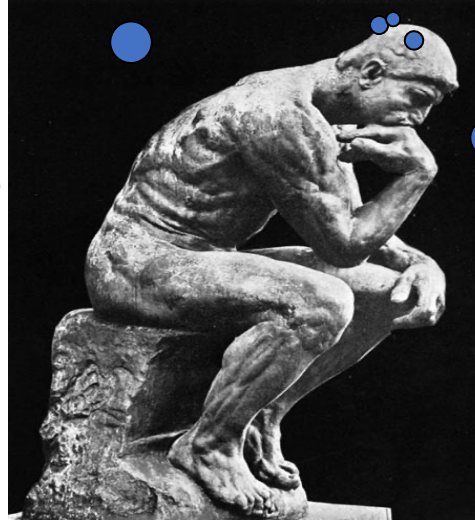
At the end of **2021** a further wide revision of the organic regulations was announced by the Commission. This new regulation will entry into force from **1<sup>st</sup> January 2022** also provides that further details relating to some defined subjects will be issued with specific delegated acts. However, one new element to mention is the obligation for Member States to establish a free-of-charge public databases to check the availability of organic juveniles at national level.

Organic fish  
feeds  
Novel  
ingredients  
technology



Consumers  
acceptance  
in organic  
aquaculture

FutureEUAqua  
and organic  
aquaculture



Environmentally  
sound organic  
aquaculture

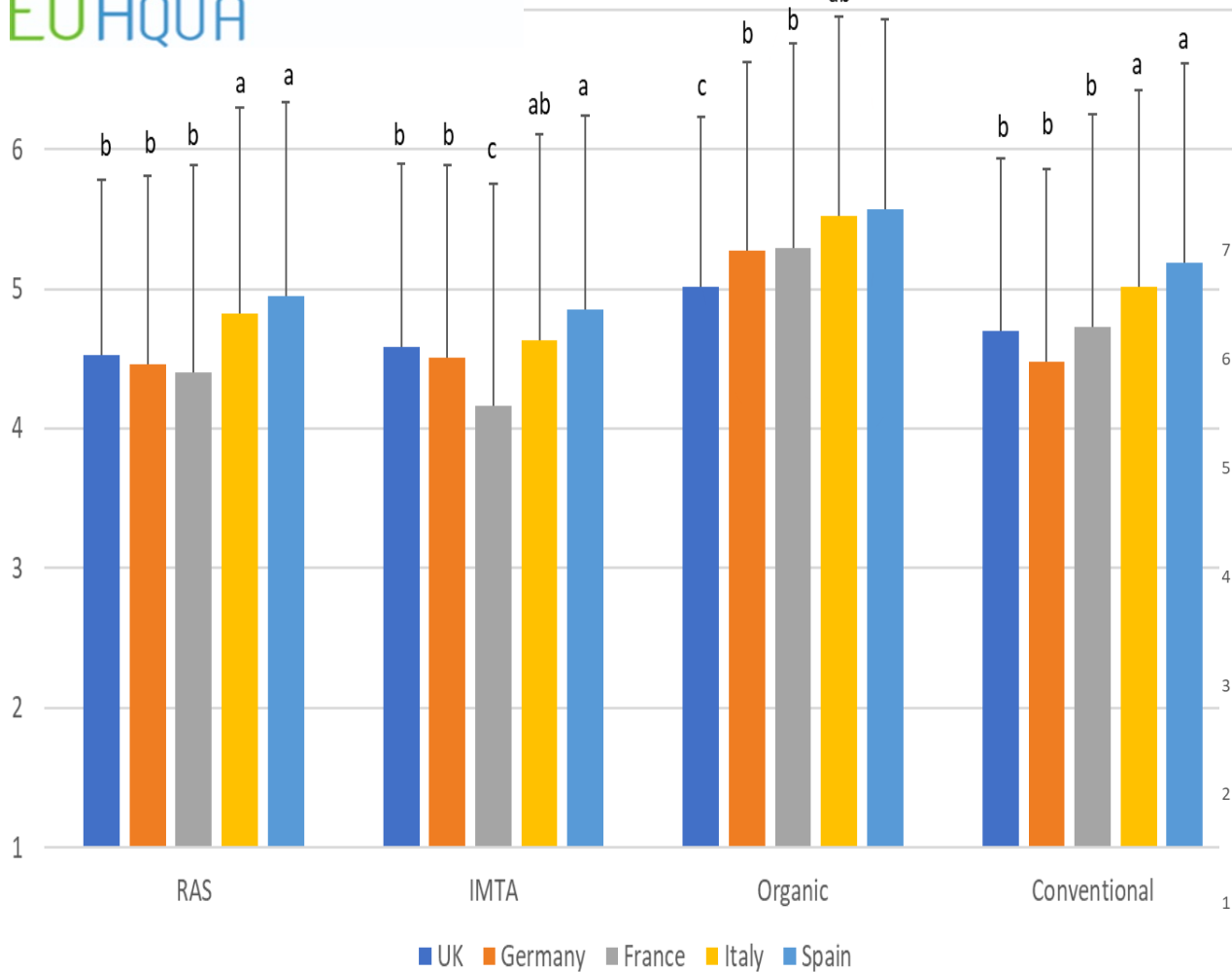


Animal  
welfare in  
organic  
aquaculture

European research and innovation that, while achieving the research needed, provides the base necessary for knowledge management for organic aquaculture in the future.

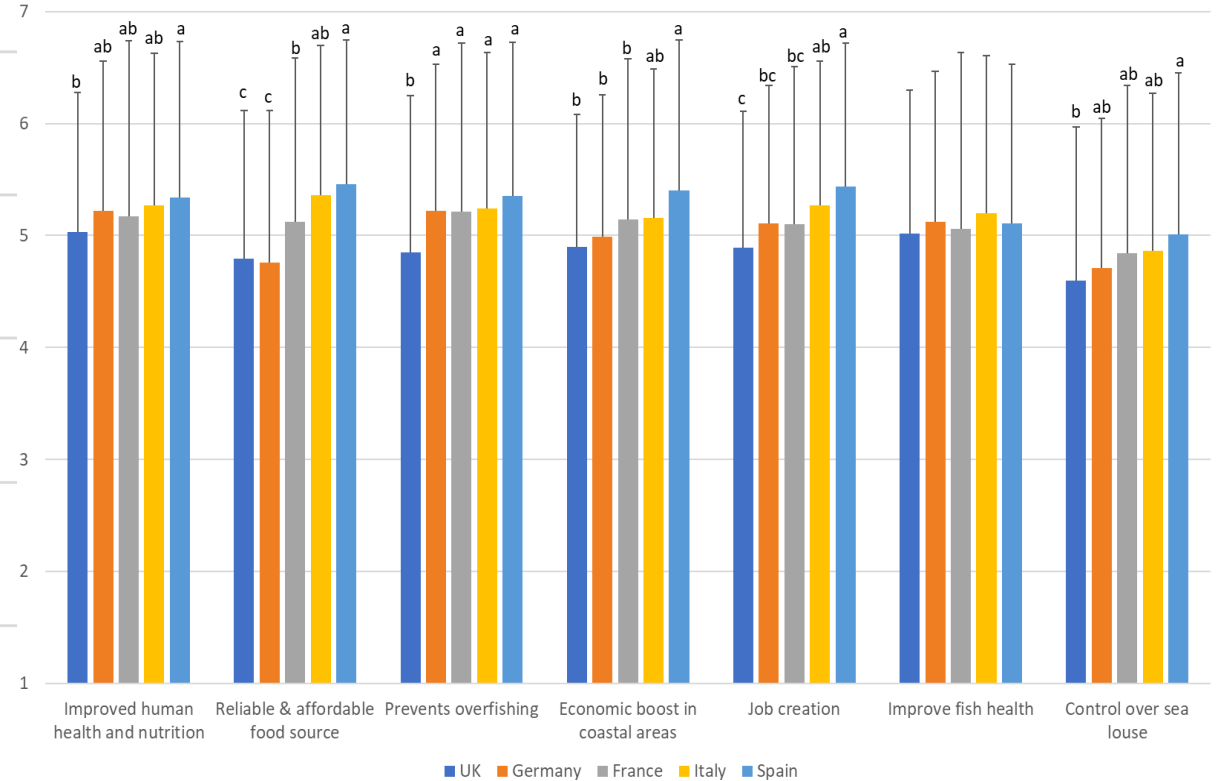


# Consumers attitude



*Consumer attitude towards aquaculture production systems in five European countries.*  
*Scale: 1 = Very negative and 7 = Very positive*

*Consumer perception of benefits related to organic aquaculture production systems in five European countries.*  
*Scale: 1=No benefits, 7=Major benefits*



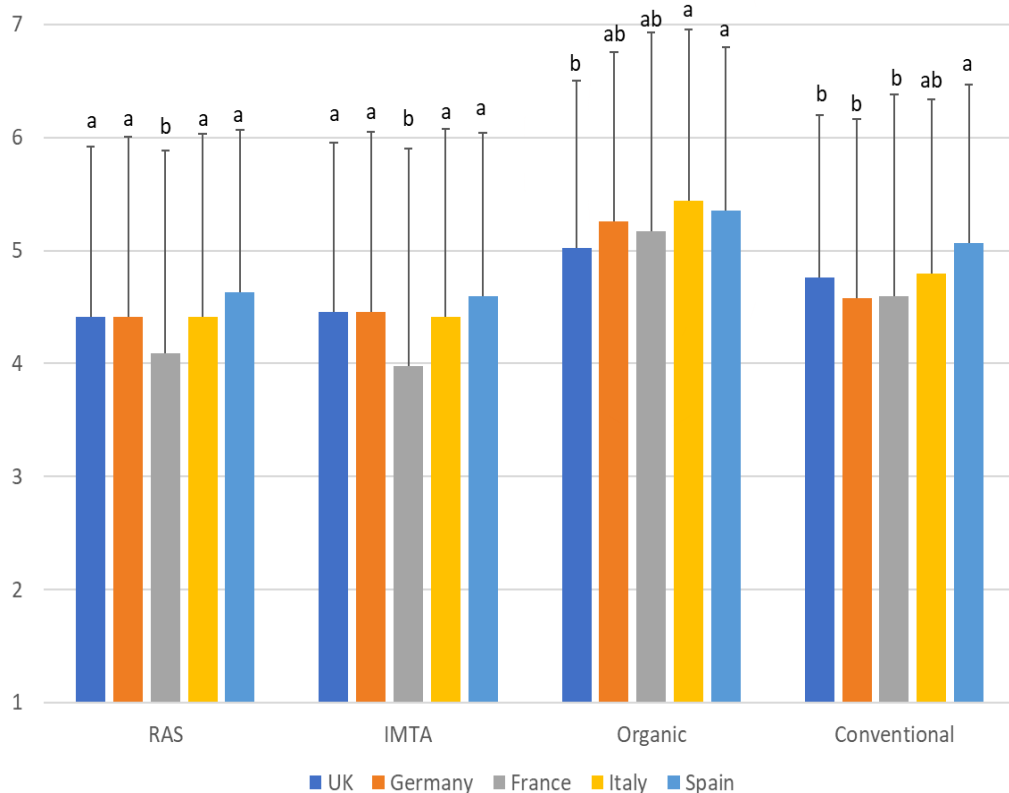


# Consumers attitude

Themistoklis Altintzoglou, Pirjo Honkanen (NOFIMA)

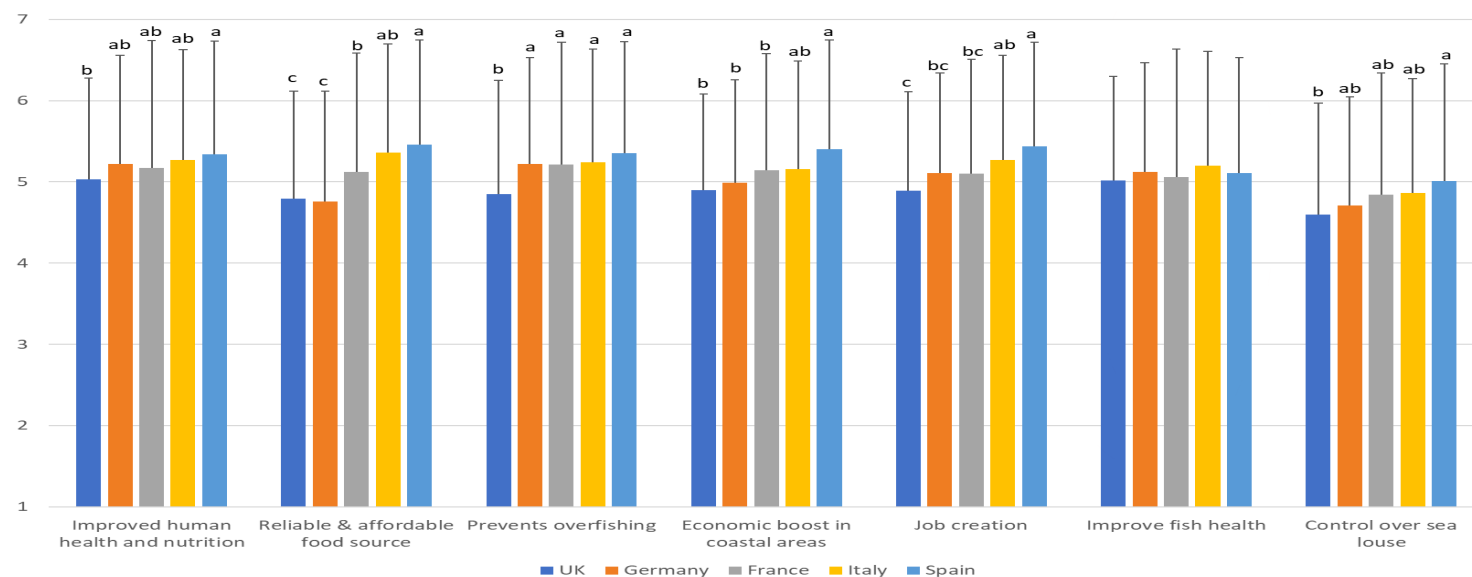
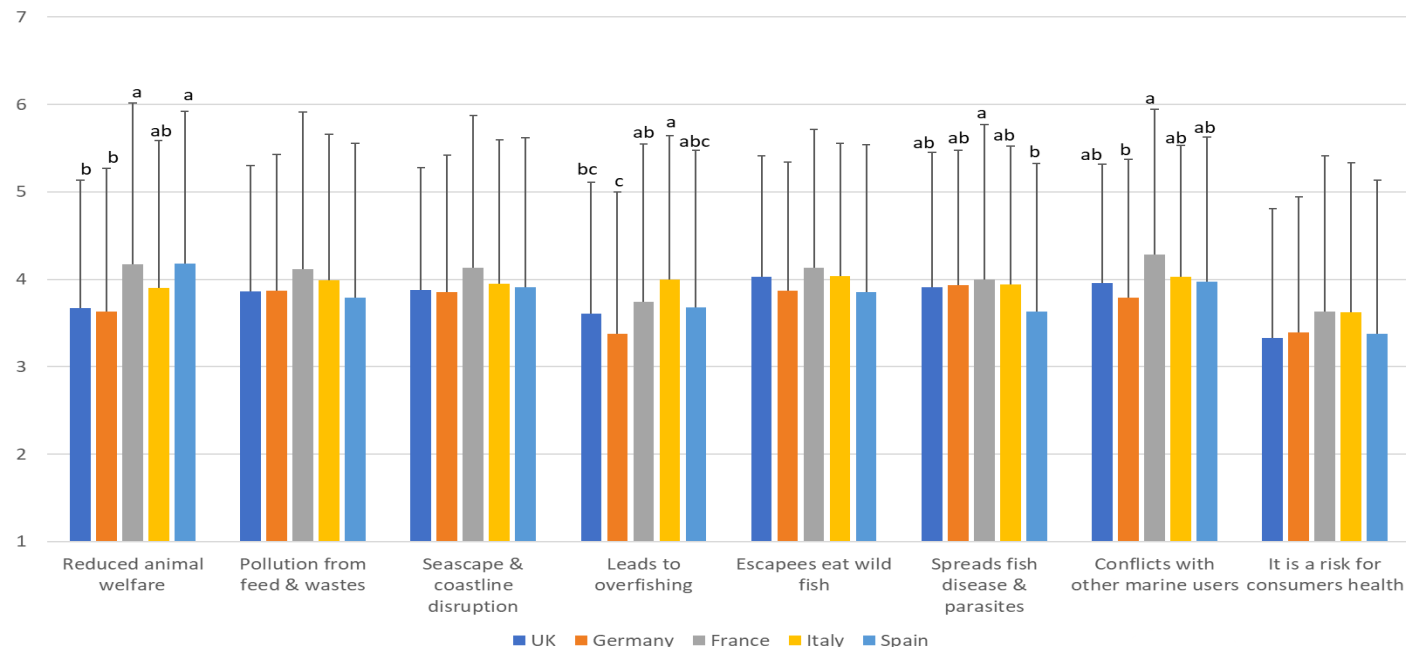
*Consumer willingness to buy products made in aquaculture production systems in five European countries.*

*Scale: 1=Definitely not, 7= Definitely yes*



*Consumer perception of negative impacts related to organic aquaculture production systems in five European countries.*

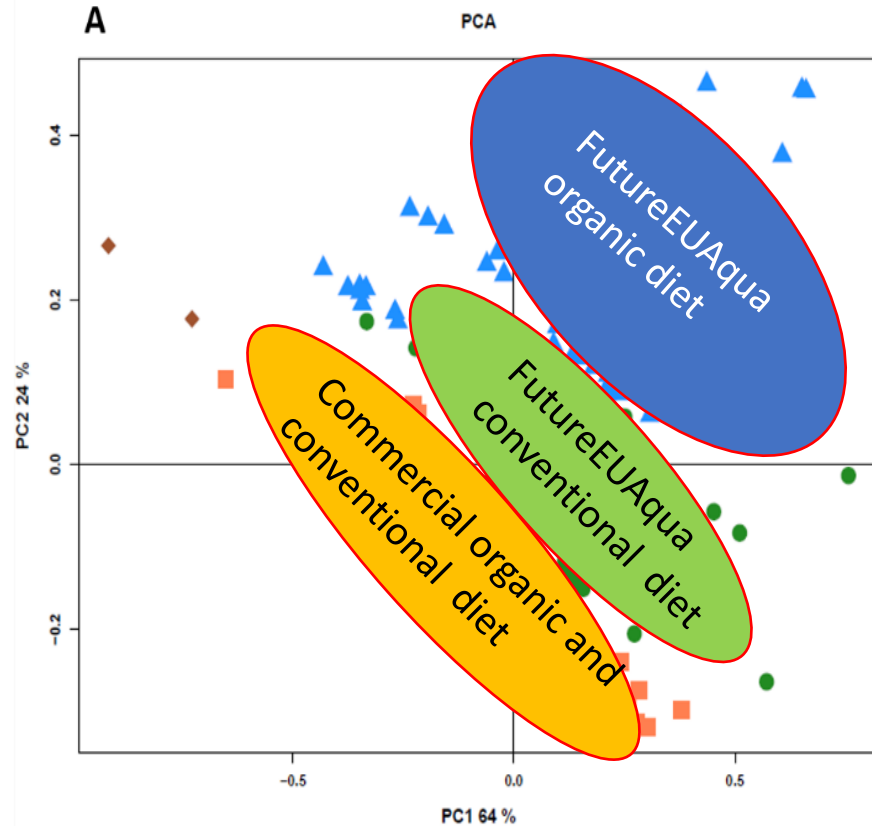
*Scale: 1=No impact, 7=major impact*





# Fish metabolome

Gianfranco Picone and Francesco Capozzi (UNIBO)



- There is no difference between the two commercial diets.
- FutureEUAqua organic diet modify fish metabolome in a different way

# Aquafeeds-Sourcing



40 essential nutrients



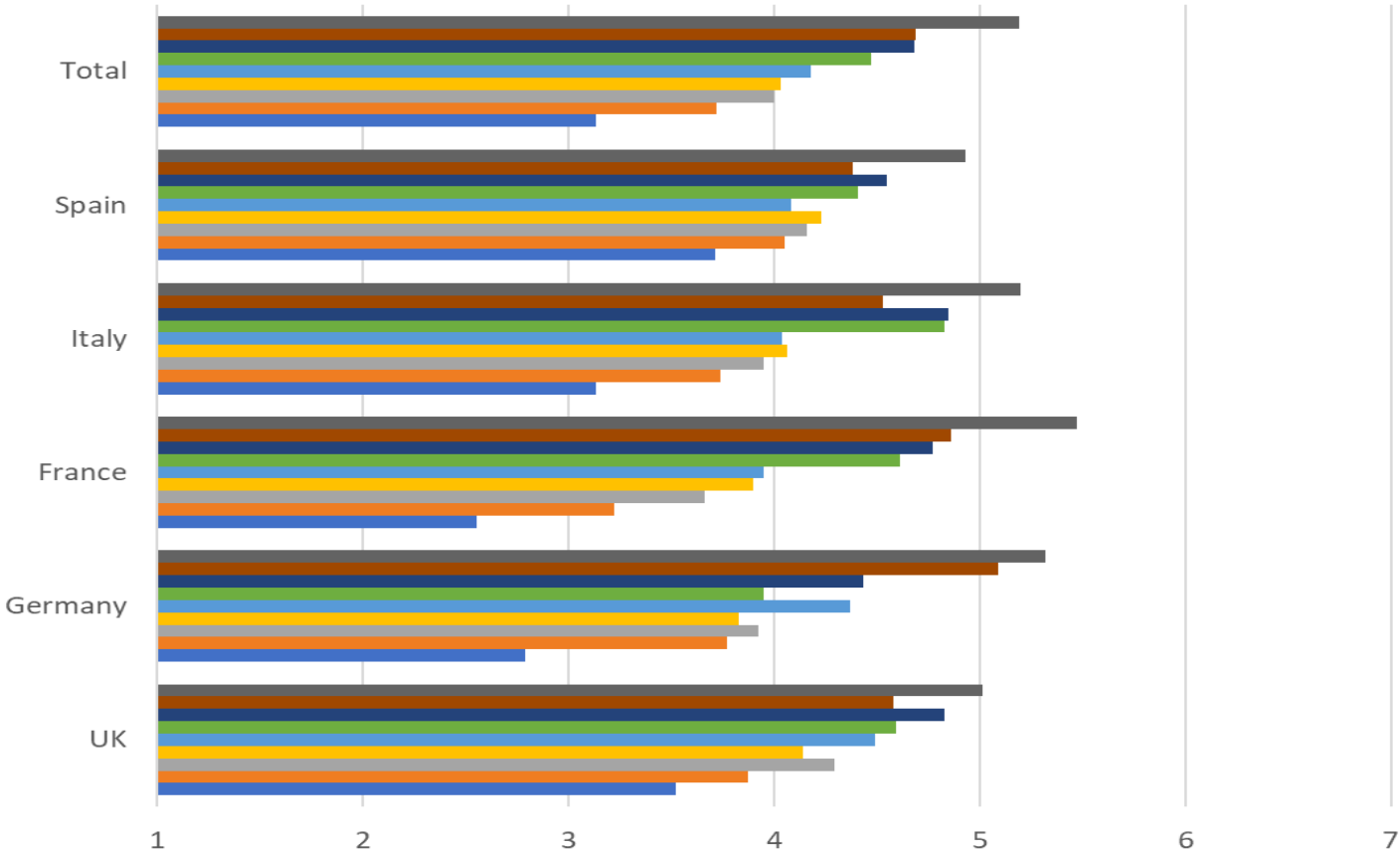
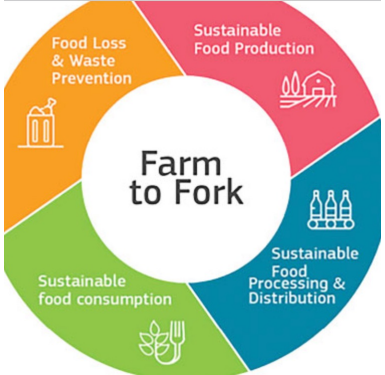
microalgae



Bacterial protein



yeast



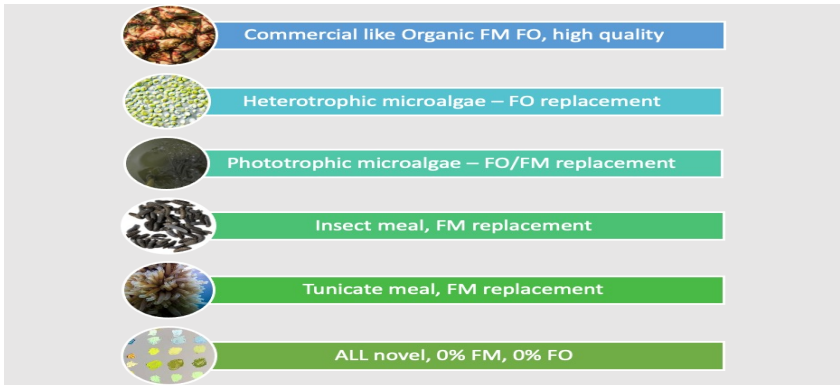
- Microalgae (microscopic algae from the sea)
- Insects
- GMO-free vegetable proteins (e.g. Soy, wheat, etc.)
- Wild fish
- Vegetable oil
- Fish trimmings
- Bacterial proteins (protein made by fermentation of bacteria)
- Purified proteins extracted from food waste (e.g. food processing byproducts, carcasses, etc.)
- Genetically modified yeast and vegetables



Themistoklis Altintzoglou, Pirjo Honkanen (NOFIMA)

Katerina Kousoulaki, Sveen, Krasnov, Johansson, Noren, Richardson, Espmark

Ivar Lund, Alfred Jokumsen, Manuel Gesto (DTU)



Organic trout farming

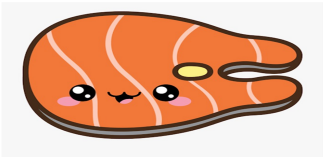
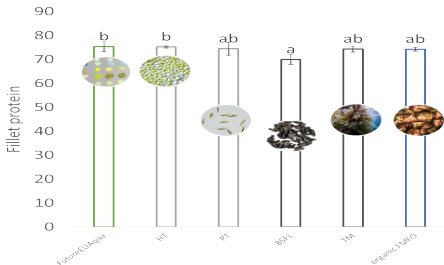
Fish meal protein concentrate processed from trimmings

Why ?

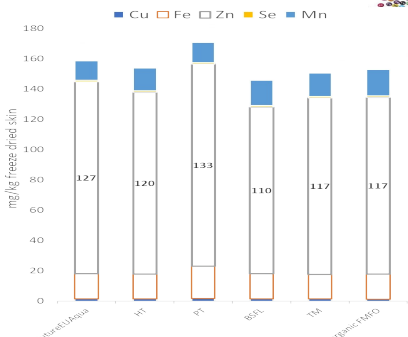
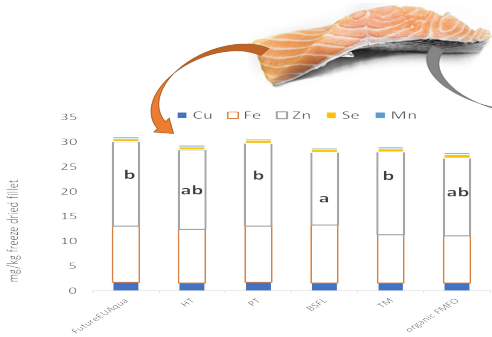
Traditional fish meal or fish trimmings has an environmental draw back with a high phosphorus (P) content.

New technology has developed this type with low P content and high protein content (>80 % protein) - thus allowing high protein and high energy – not common in organic diets.

7. PRODUCT QUALITY, FILLET PROTEIN



7. HEALTH (SKIN AND FILLET MINERALISATION) AND QUALITY



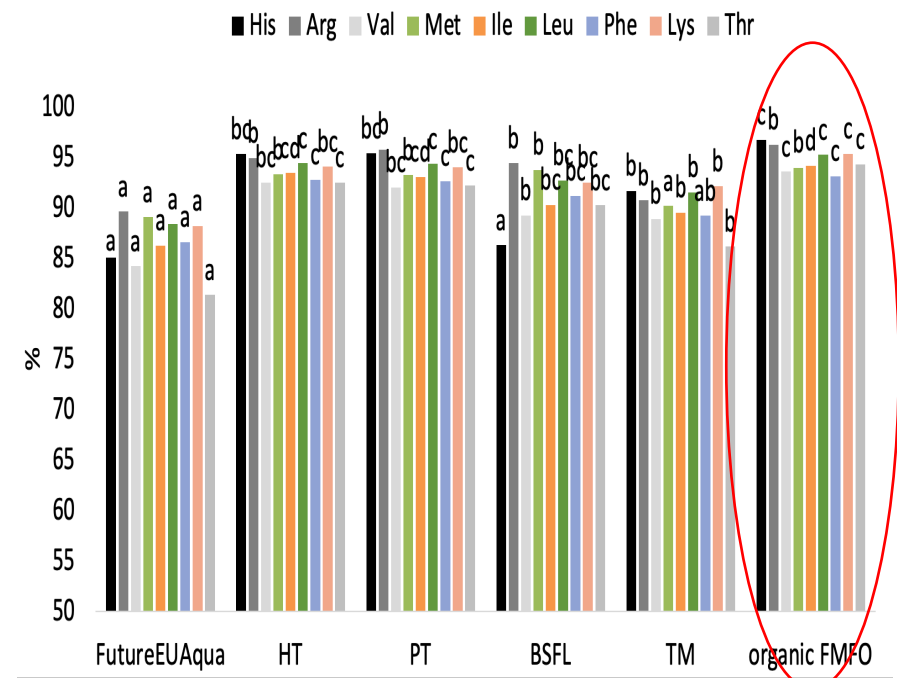
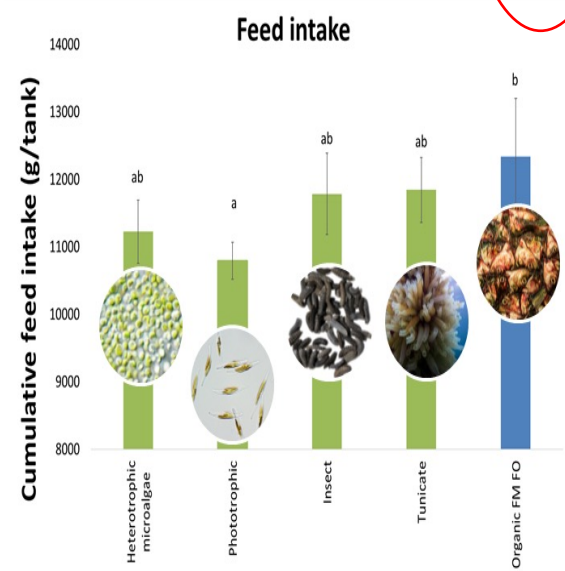
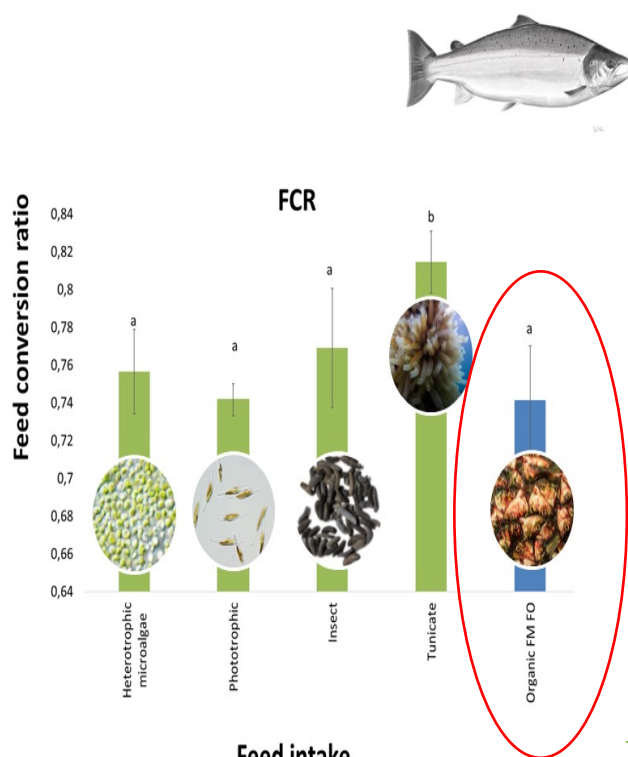
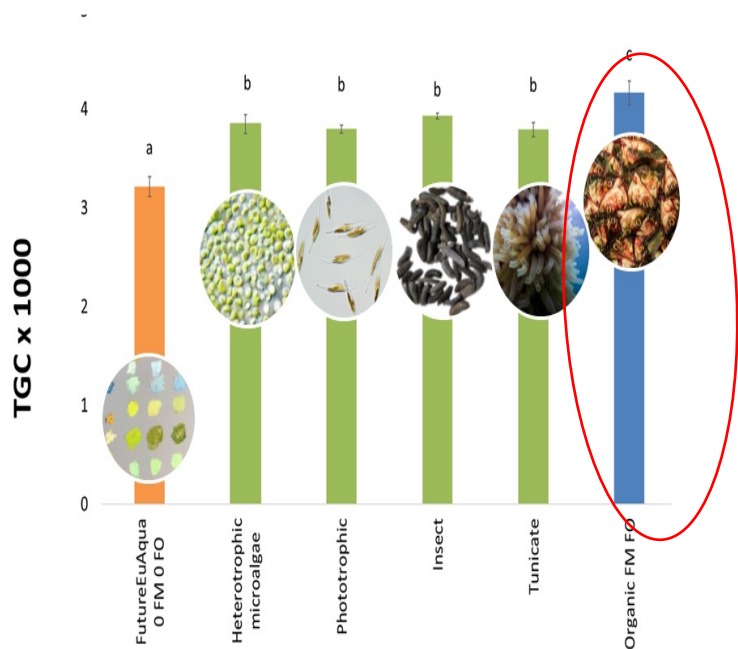
INCREASED FILLET AND SKIN ZN LEVELS IN THE PT MICROALGAE GROUPS

There were no significantly differences in SGR, FCR between diets.

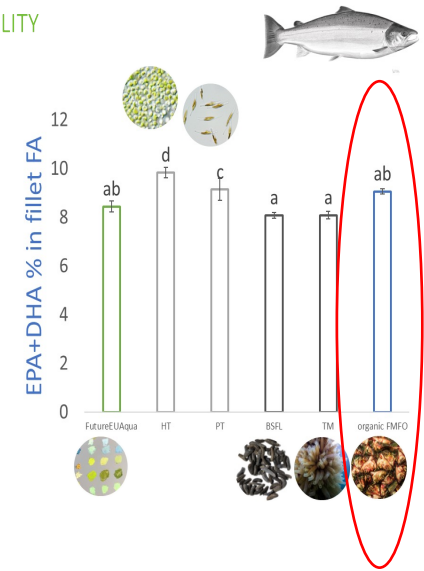
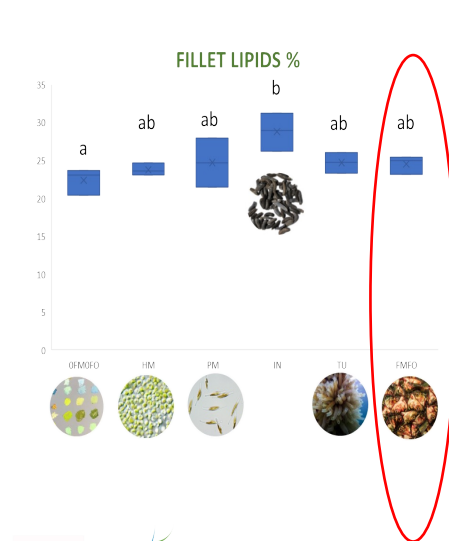


# 7. FISH PERFORMANCE

Kousoulaki, Sveen, Krasnov, Johansson, Norén, Richardson & Espmark



## 7. LIPID/ENERGY METABOLISM AND PRODUCT QUALITY

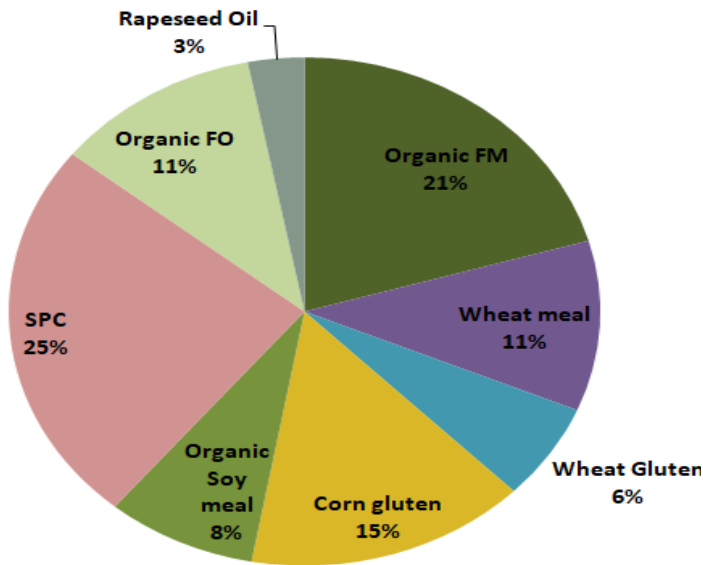
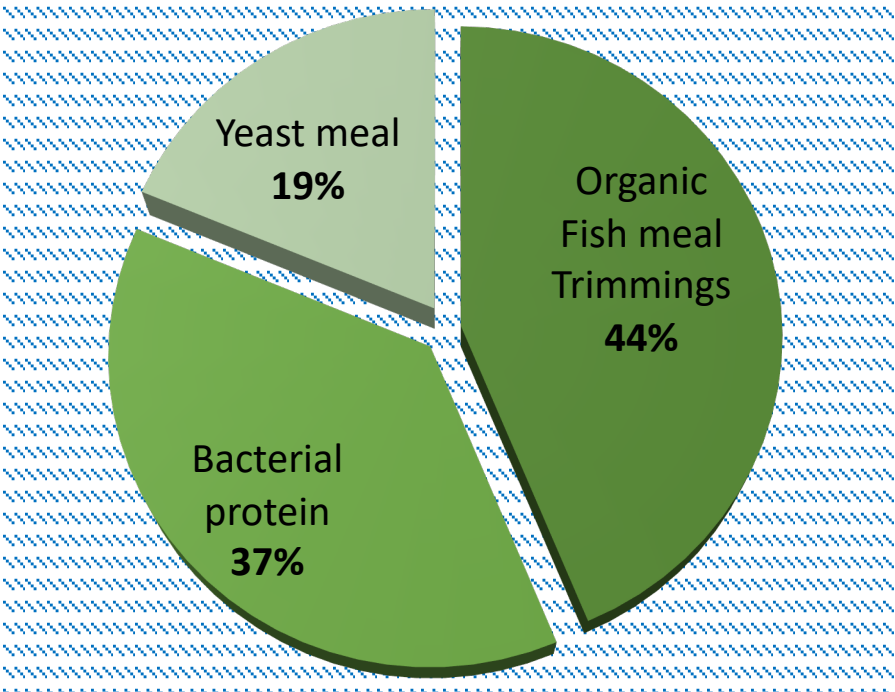


Anna Tampou (UTH), Antigoni Vasilaki, HCMR)  
Ioannis Nengas (HCMR) Elena Mente (AUTH)

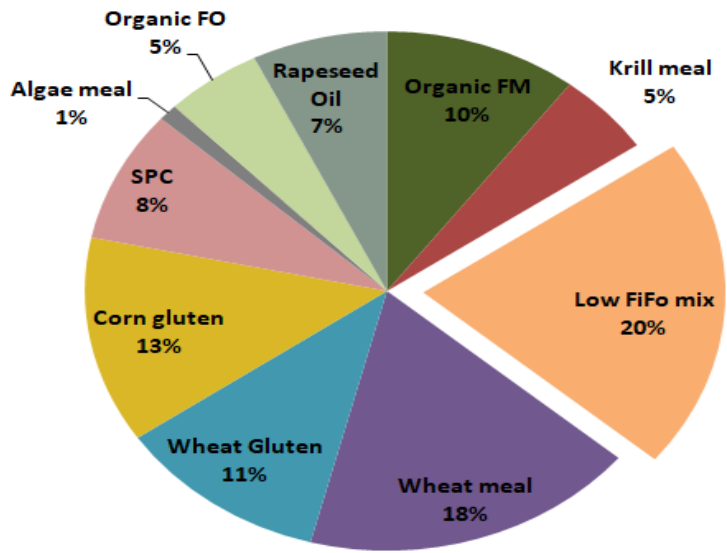


Diet 1 0% Low FiFo  
Diet 2 20% Low FiFo  
**Diet 3 25% Low FiFo**  
Diet 4 30% Low FiFo

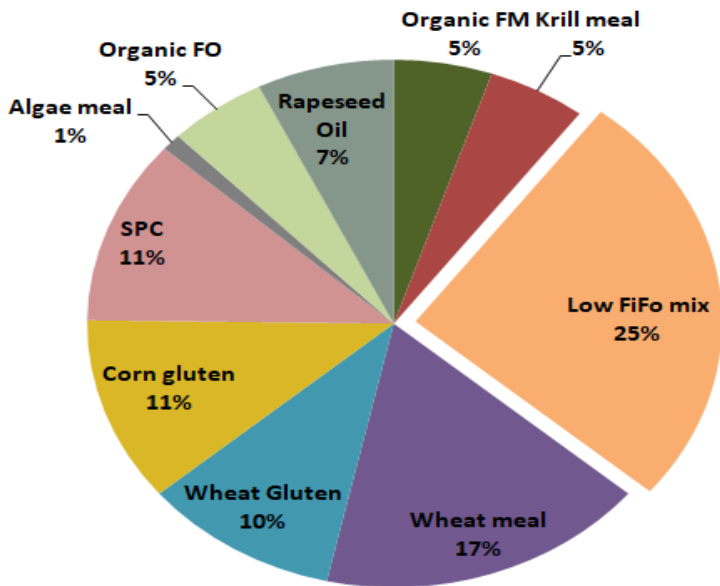
# Low FiFo for organic diets



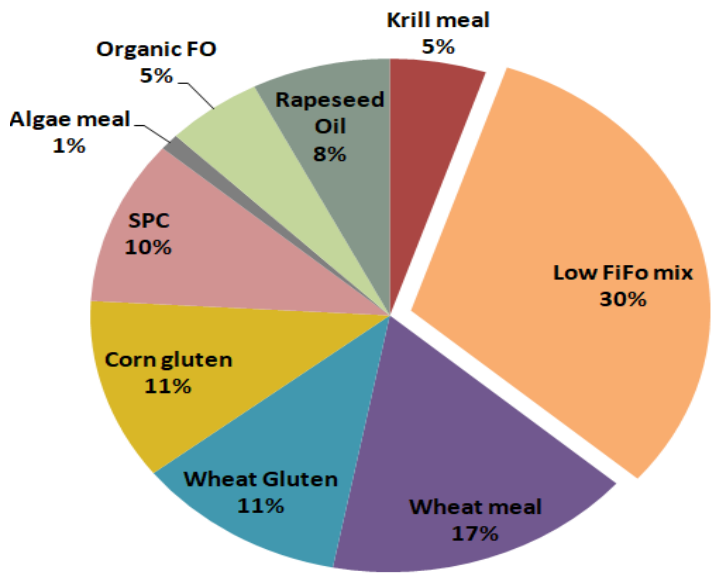
Diet 1



Diet 2



Diet 3



Diet 4





Health evaluation

Anna Tampou (UTH), Antigoni Vasilaki, HCMR)  
Ioannis Nengas (HCMR) Elena Mente (AUTH)



Growth evaluation

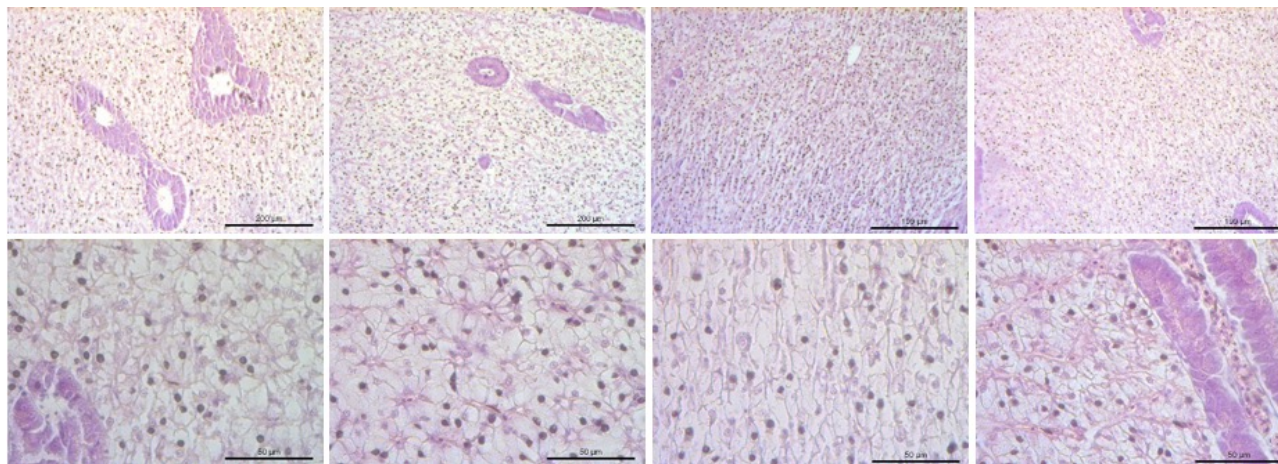
Higher growth performance  
for **LFiFo25** diet compared  
to control diet

Control Diet

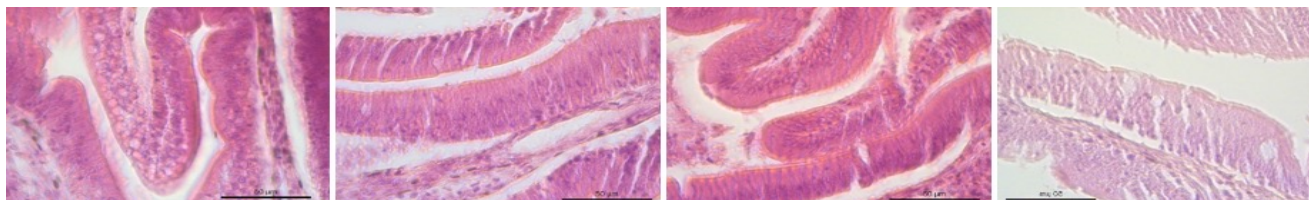
LFiFo20

LFiFo25

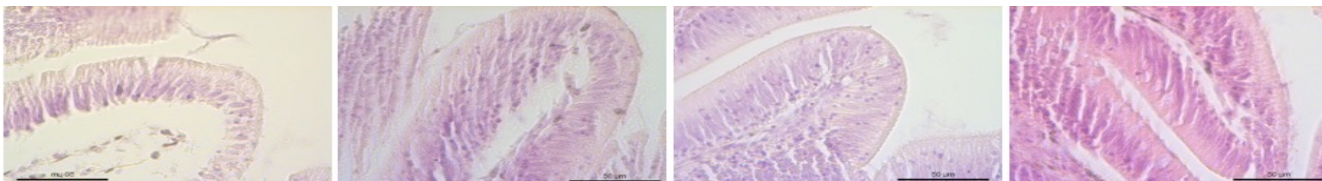
LFiFo30



Liver in control diet appears to have normal structure, but in replacement diets there is a slight nuclei displacement due to lipid droplets.



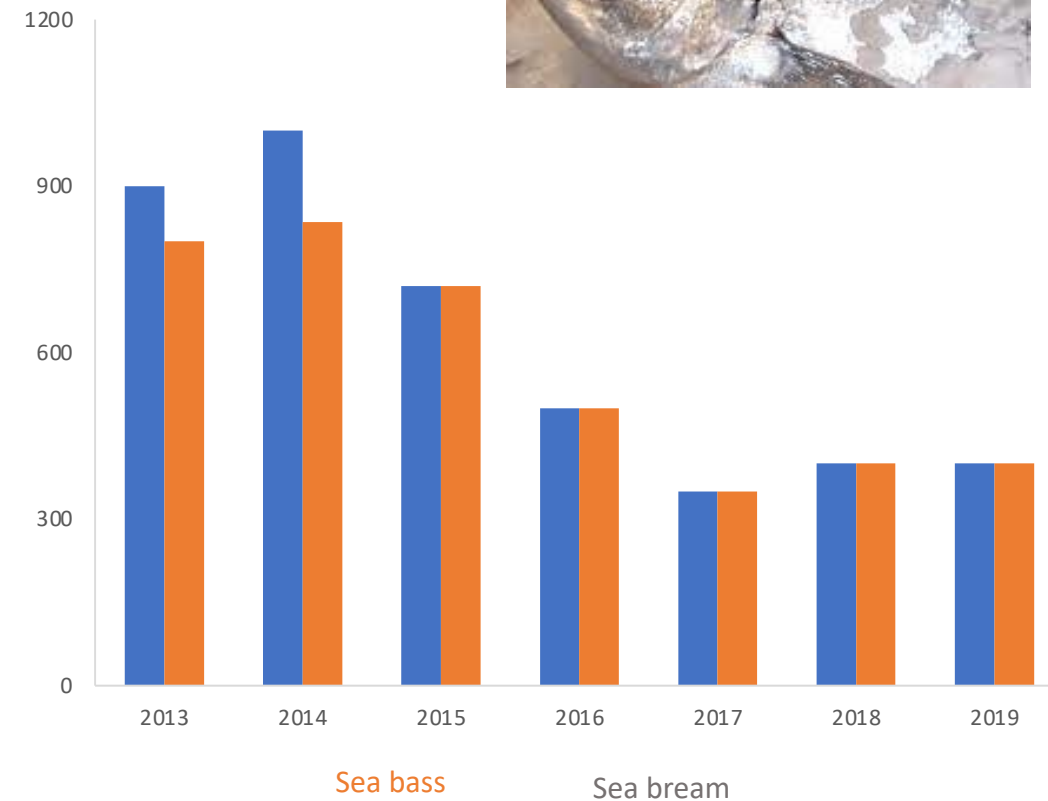
Anterior gut appears to have normal structure in all dietary groups with normal distribution of goblet cells.



Posterior gut appears to have normal structure in all dietary groups with normally distribution of goblet cells. There are no signs of inflammation.

# Greek organic aquaculture

- 60% more expensive than conventional.  
e.g. Sea bream: 8.5€/kilo organic – 4.98 €/kilo conventional
- There only two fish farms that are certified for organic sea bream and sea bass in Greece (Galaxidi marine farms and Kefalonia fisheries).  
Together they produce 400 tones of sea bream and 400 tones of sea bass.
- For 2020, the 800 tonnes of organic sea bass and sea bream represent only the 0,7% of the total production of the two species.
- Only 62% of the 800 tonnes were sold as organic, while the rest was sold as conventional.





# Greek organic aquaculture

Sustainable, productive, climate-resilient, healthy, organic sea bream/sea bass aquaculture farming system to provide consumers with affordable, safe, traceable food while minimizing pressure on the aquatic ecosystem and restoring and enhancing biodiversity



Kefalonia Fisheries



Galaxidi Marine farm

