

Production of organic ewe milk with an autochthonous sheep breed (Lacha) of Spain



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INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE

At present the diversity of the animal production systems is an added value and not a brake to the advance like in previous decades. In this direction the present study tries to advance in the knowledge of a sustainable system of ecological production of milk of sheep on the basis of the utilization of autochthonous races as it is the race Lacha in conditions of shepherding

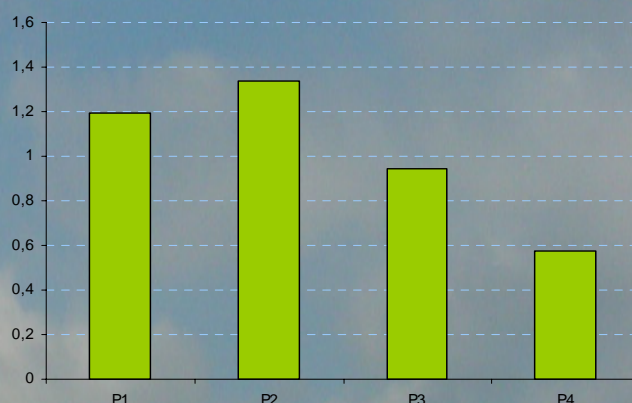
MATERIAL AND METHODS

Along two campaigns (March to July: 2007 and 2008) there has been analyzed the quality of ewe's raw milk of a flock of 300 sheep during the different nourishing managings that are necessary in a farm of the Navarre Pyrenees (900 m of altitude) and in organic production. They have differed 4 periods: beginning of lactation with nourishment of hay and concentrate respecting 60/40 of the regulation on organic production (P1); gone out for shepherding (April) with concentrate supplement (P2); total shepherding (P3); the end of lactation (July) (P4). To determine the physico-chemical composition of the milk was used the Milkoscan method (PE/ALVO/02) and the total somatic cells (RCS) was determined by Fossomatic (10^3 a $10 \cdot 10^6$ cel/ml) (PE/ALVO/03).

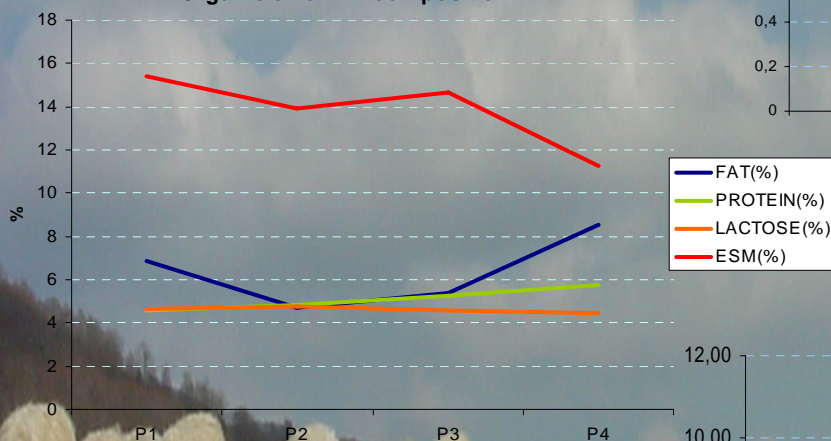
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

	P1	P2	P3	P4
FAT (%)	6,86	4,7	5,4	8,54
PROTEIN (%)	4,57	4,81	5,23	5,76
LACTOSE (%)	4,65	4,77	4,56	4,44
DM (ESM(%))	10,39	10,91	10,67	11,23
RCSx1000cel/ml	450,84	513,96	603,33	690,24
MILK Production (l/d)	1,194	1,336	0,942	0,578

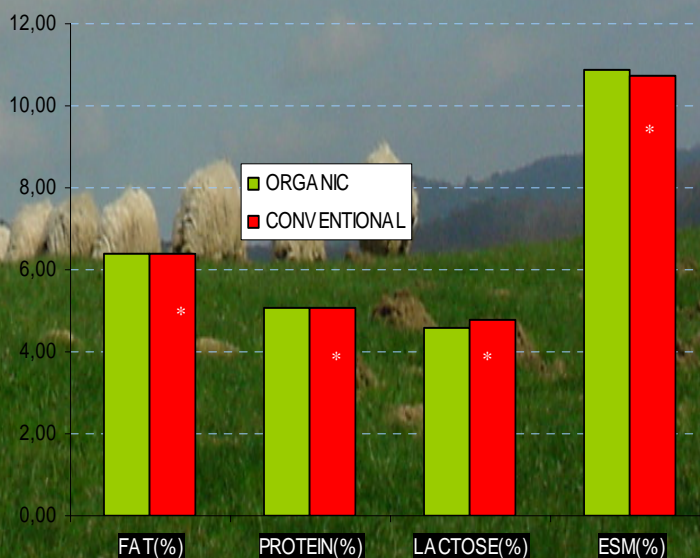
MILK Production (l/d)



Organic ewe milk composition



ORGANIC MILK VS. CONVENTIONAL MILK



CONCLUSION

The results obtained allow to conclude that the physicochemical quality of the milk changes along the lactation and with the type of diet but never is lower than the milk of flocks of race Lacha in a conventional management. With regard to the microbiological quality in all the cases it has been ideal. A good management of the natural resources (to preserve or shepherding) is very necessary in a system of organic production, and it allows to obtain products of high quality.

* Average dates of ITGG (2008)