



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO  
DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE AGRARIE E AMBIENTALI

# *Carbon footprint of the French-Italian beef production chain*

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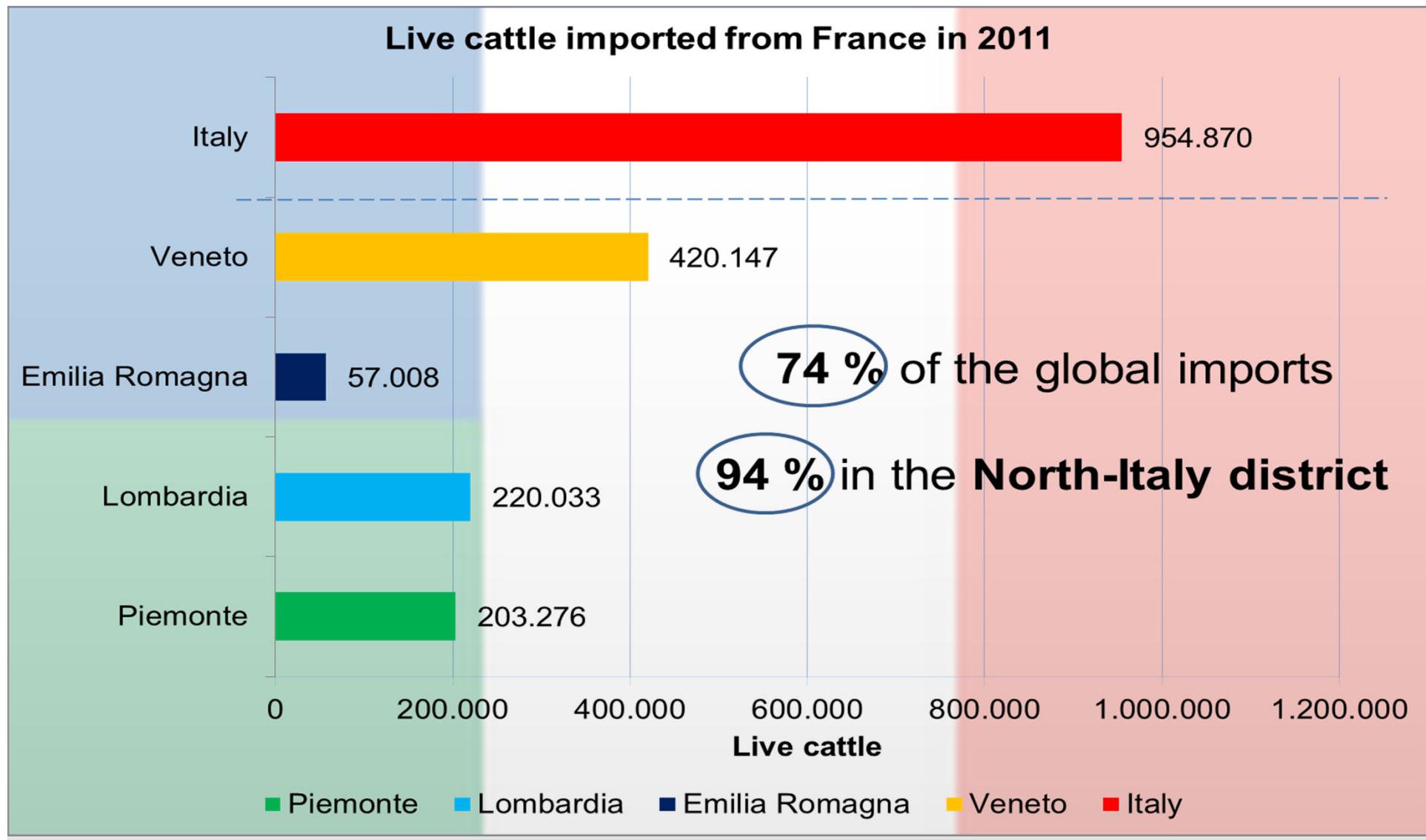
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Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2014 Session 31. Competitiveness of European beef production

# The French - Italian beef production chain



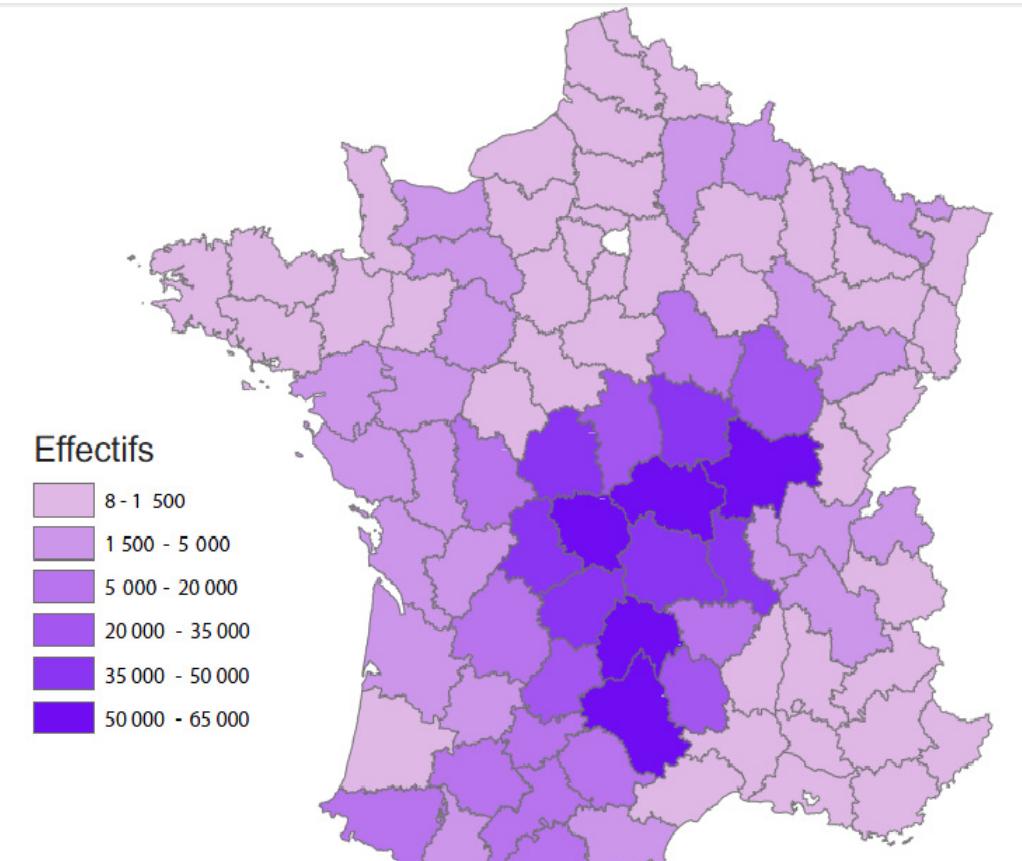
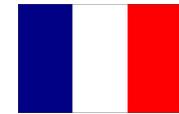
# Aim



To estimate  
the whole carbon footprint  
of the French - Italian beef production chain



# Materials and Methods



Cas type Atelier  
allattant spécialisé

Région Bourguignonne

race Charolaise en  
zone herbagère avec  
production de  
broutards repoussés

Institut de l'Elevage, 2013. Résultats 2011 des exploitations bovine viande.  
Synthèse Nationale des Réseaux d'Elevage, Juin 2013.



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# Materials and Methods

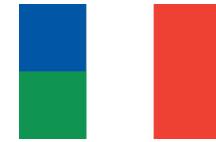


10 Italian finishing farms



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# Materials and Methods



|                                 | F    | I     |
|---------------------------------|------|-------|
| UAA, ha                         | 100  | 67    |
| MFA, ha                         | 90   | 37    |
| MFA/UAA, %                      | 90   | 62    |
| Maize silage/MFA, %             | 0    | 78    |
| LU, n                           | 116  | 223   |
| LU/ha, n                        | 1,16 | 4,87  |
| Turnover rate, %                | 21   | -     |
| Young bulls sold, no            | -    | 626   |
| Finished animals LW,<br>kg/head | 410  | 670   |
| LW production, kg/head          | 362  | 305   |
| Production cycle, d             | 345  | 221   |
| ADG, kg/head/d                  | 1,05 | 1,38  |
| Sale price, €/head              | 667  | 1.779 |



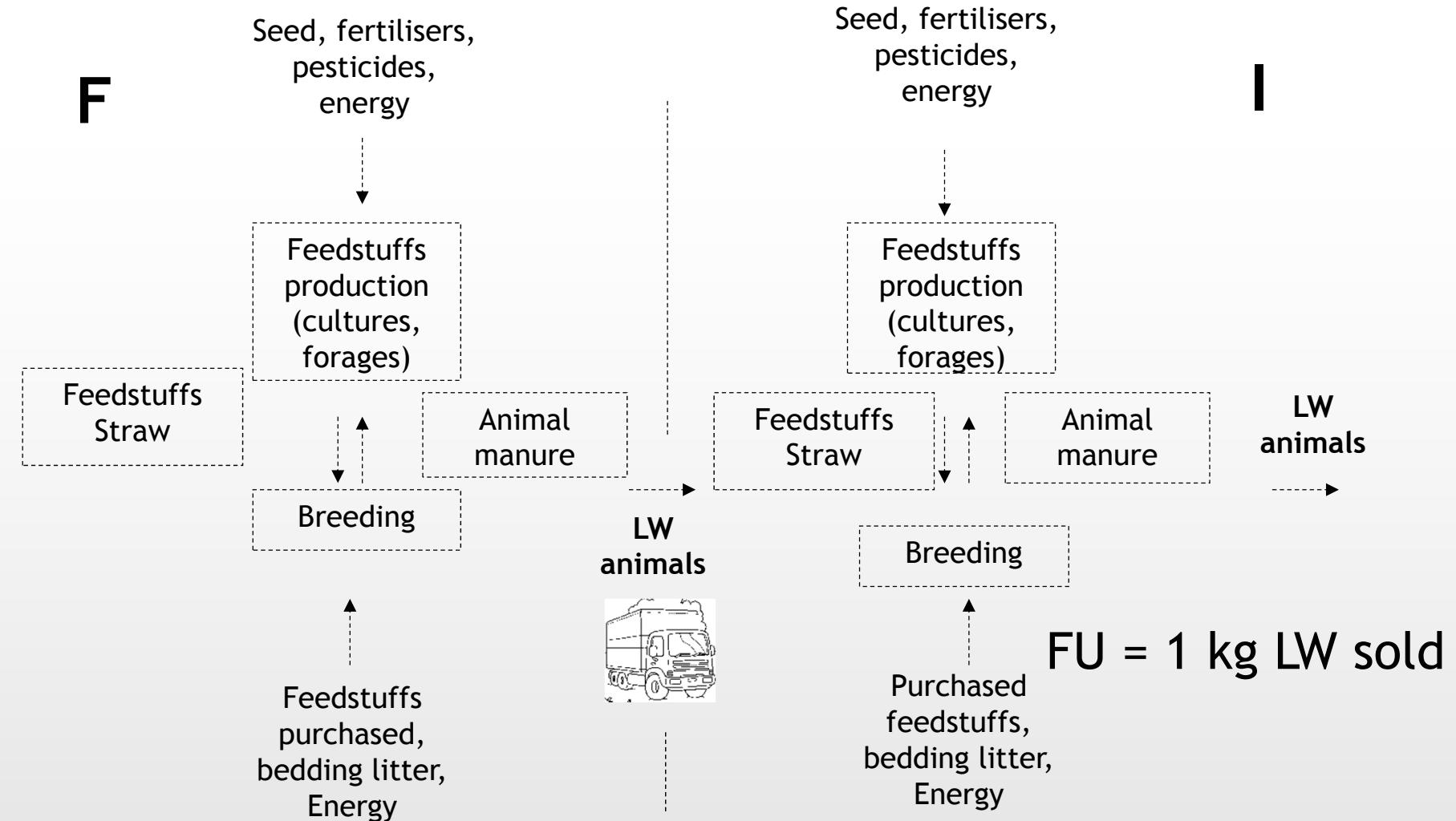
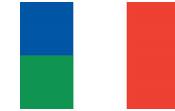
# Materials and Methods



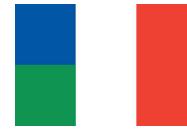
|                                    | F            | I            |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Concentrate purchased,<br>kg/kg LW | 1.52         | 1.58         |
| CP, g/kg DM                        | 124.0        | 139.7        |
| N intake, kg/head/year             | 65.0         | 75.9         |
| N excretion,<br>kg/head/year       | 54.0         | 62.3         |
| Surface applied N,<br>kg/head/year |              | 42.3         |
| MIPAF, 2006 Nitrate<br>Directive   | Kg/head/year | Kg/t LW/year |
| Young bulls 400 kg LW              | 33.6         | 84.0         |



# Materials and Methods



# Materials and Methods



F

I

## *CH<sub>4</sub> emissions*

Enteric                              Equation 10.21 (IPCC, 2006)

GE content per feed                INRA, 2007                      Schiemann, 1988

Manure                              Equation 10.23 - 10.24 (IPCC, 2006)

## *N<sub>2</sub>O emissions*

N excretion                              Equation 10.31 (IPCC, 2006)

N retention                              CORPEN, 2001                      ERM/AB-DLO, 1999

Manure                              Equation 10.28 and 10.29 (IPCC, 2006)

Soil, direct                              Equation 11.2 (IPCC, 2006)

Soil, indirect                              Equation 11.11 (IPCC, 2006)

## *CO<sub>2</sub> emissions*

Animal transport                              Blonk et al., 2011

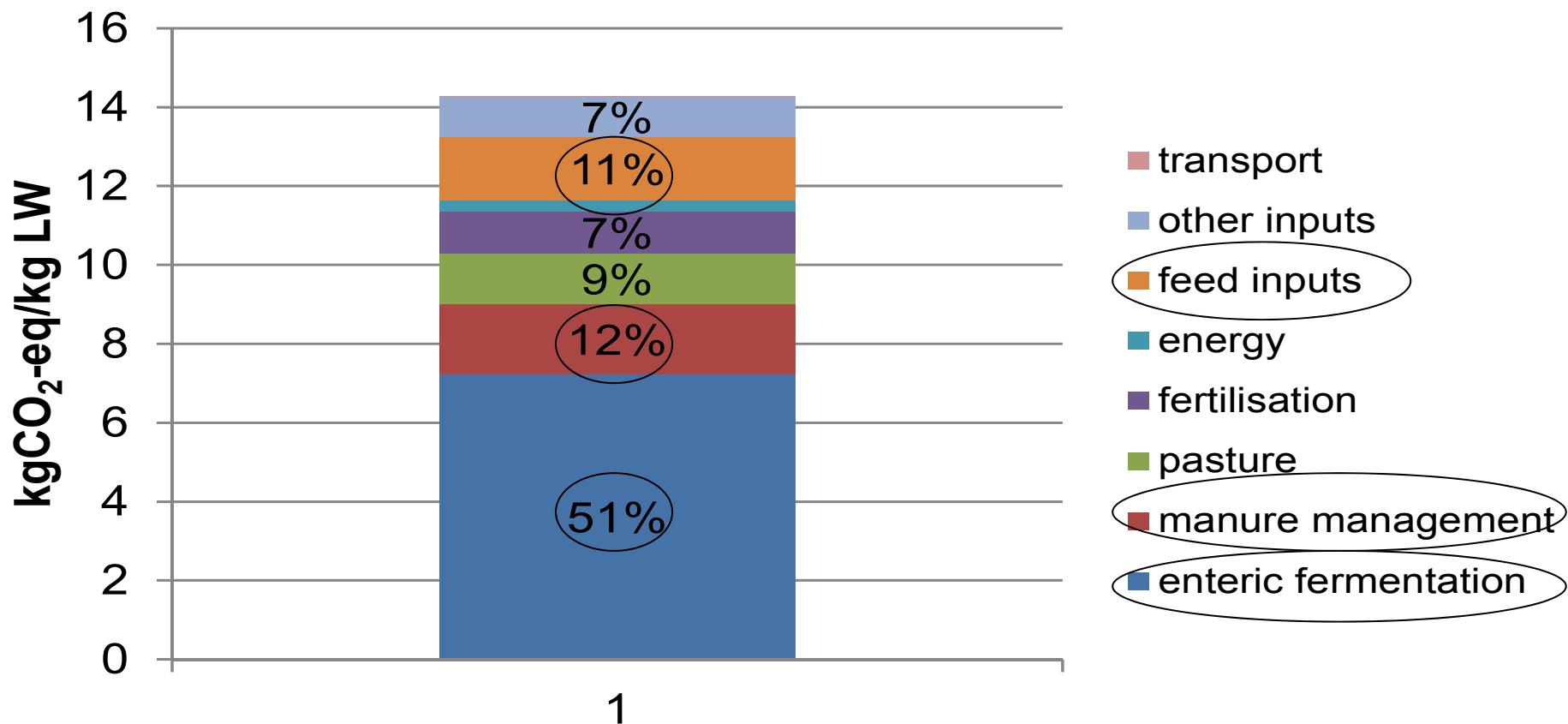
Farm inputs                              Nemecek and Kagi, 2007; Agribalyse®; FeedPrint



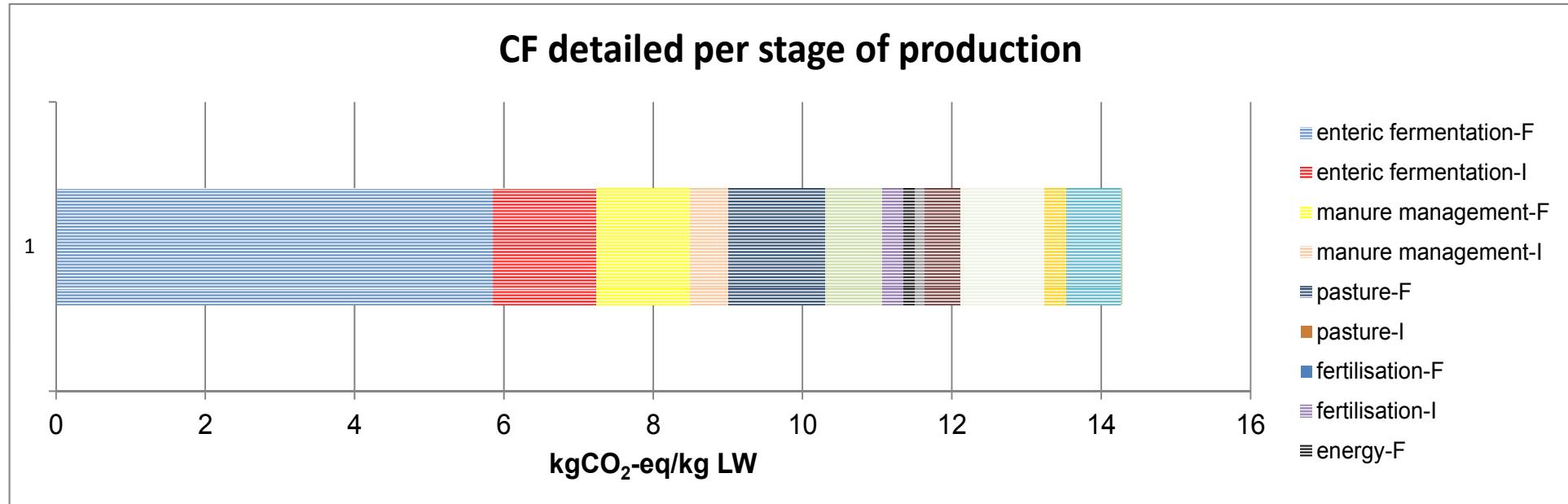
# Results



## Contribution of the different emission sources to the whole CF



# Results



F

Enteric fermentation 41%  
Manure management 9%  
Pasture 9%

71 %

I

Enteric fermentation 10%  
Feed inputs 8%  
Other inputs 5%

29 %

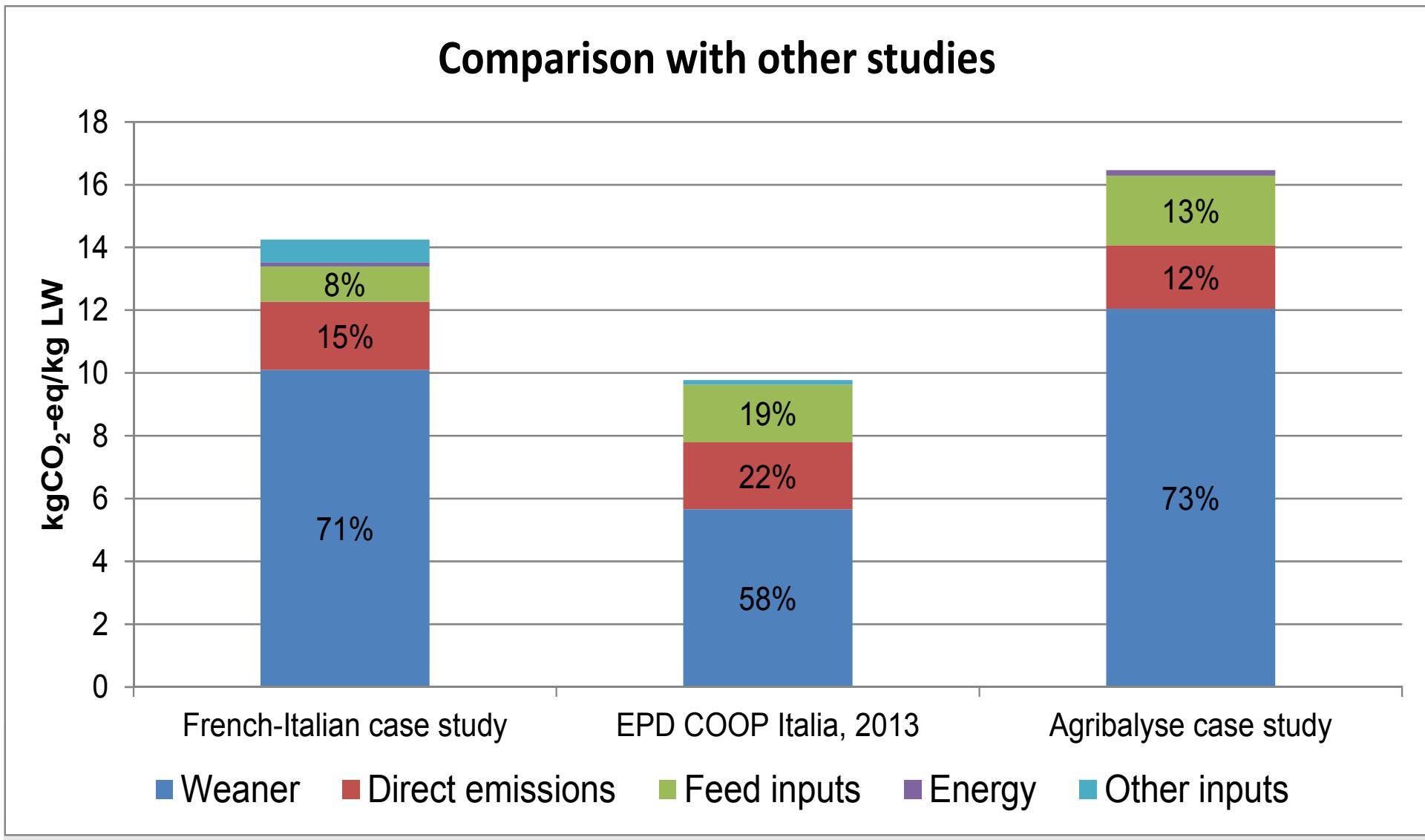
$$1 \text{ kg LW} = 0.54 \text{ kg F} + 0.46 \text{ kg I}$$



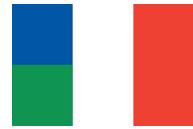
# Results



## Comparison with other studies



# Next step



- Estimating other impact categories such as acidification, eutrophication, resource use and land use;
- Estimating the environmental impact of the other main Italian beef production systems;
- Analysis of different scenarios: soybean meal substitution with alternative protein source such faba bean or pea



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Thank you  
for  
your attention

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