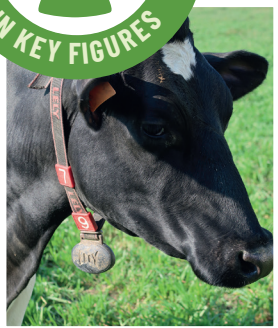
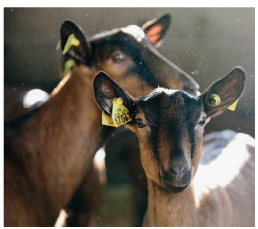
UNDERSTANDING & EXPLAINING IN KEY FIGURES

THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY RUMINANT LIVESTOCK FARMING





Confédération Nationale de l'Elevage
CNE

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EDITORIAL

"To raise public consideration about livestock farming, we want to share with elected officials and our fellow citizens, reliable, scientifically proven information on all the services that ruminant farming provides to society."

To raise awareness about the benefits of ruminant farming, we want to share reliable, scientifically proven information with elected officials and our fellow citizens about its advantages and the services it provides to society. In addition to providing high-quality food and helping to revitalize rural areas, the French livestock farming model ultimately responds well to societal challenges. It is based on 13 million hectares of grassland that store carbon, regulate water flow and quality, promote biodiversity, enhance albedo, and thereby limit global warming and ensure open, high-quality landscapes. We felt it was important to explicitly highlight the value of all these services, and we asked Institut de l'Élevage (the French Livestock Institute) to produce fact sheets on the subject, some of whose key figures are included in this booklet.

To learn more about all the topics covered, I encourage you to explore the complete fact sheets *via* the QR codes provided throughout the pages.

Patrick BÉNÉZIT
Chairman of the National Livestock Confederation

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SUMMARY

This document presents 18 areas in which french ruminant farming provides services, each of which is detailed below and sourced from a fact sheet available on the CNE website, *via* the 18 QR codes found throughout the pages. At the end of the document, examples of actions and tools implemented by the sector to make further progress are presented.

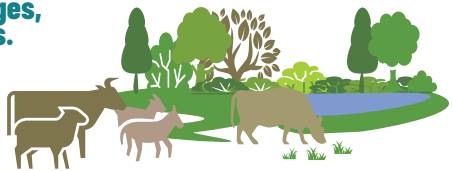
More information on the CNE fact sheet

BIODIVERSITY: A RICHNESS PRESERVED THANKS TO GRASSLANDS

THROUGH ITS GRAZING-BASED PRACTICES, LIVESTOCK **FARMING MAINTAINS**

13 million hectares of grasslands not counting **hedges, ponds and slopes.**

Source: Annual Agricultural Statistics, 2023



IN FRANCE, 20% OF THE TERRITORY IS COVERED WITH MEADOWS.

1 hectare OF PERMANENT GRASSLAND **= 160 m** OF HEDGES

compared to 56 meters of hedges per 1 hectare of arable land

FARMERS AND LIVESTOCK MAINTAIN **700,000 km** OF HEDGES ALONG MEADOWS AND FIELDS

Source: Idele estimate, based on Teruti Lucas (Agreste) survey, 2010 – Institut de l'Élevage, 2018

MEADOWS ARE HOME to many wild animal species, which find food resources, habitat, shelter, hunting and movement areas **as well as a diverse flora** that attracts pollinators and insects.

88% of species of butterflies depend on natural grasslands

32 is the average number of different plant species in a permanent meadow.

BETWEEN **2 and 7 times more** animal and plant biodiversity in grassland soils, compared to arable land

+ 50% microbial biomass and **22 times more** earthworms under a grassland than under plowed land

Sources: Yan Swaay *et al.*, 2006 – Alkemade *et al.*, 2009 – Launay *et al.*, 2011 – Petitjean, 2018 – GIS Avenir Elevages, 2023

Livestock farming maintain plots with complex shapes, of varying sizes, often with hedgerows, which contribute to the landscape mosaic.

The mixed farming system maintains semi-natural or temporary grasslands and crops that ensure **a year-round supply of food resources and shelter for wildlife.**

SOME BEST PRACTICES FOR PRESERVING BIODIVERSITY

MOWING DIFFERENTLY

- Mowing starting from the center of the plot avoids trapping animals.
- Mowing certain areas late gives young animals (birds, mammals) time to develop.

PROTECTING AGRO-ECOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Maintaining or installing hedges, slopes, and ponds is beneficial to biodiversity.

MAKING USE OF LIVESTOCK EFFLUENT

Introducing grasslands and organic fertilization (livestock manure) into a rotation can increase beneficial soil bacteria and fungi by up to 50%.

INTRODUCING GRASSLANDS INTO CROP ROTATIONS

The integration of temporary grasslands into crop rotations maintains soil fertility by reducing tillage and increasing carbon input, thereby preserving soil organic matter and microfauna.

TO GO FURTHER

France is one of the countries with the richest genetic biodiversity of domestic animals:

54 CATTLE BREEDS

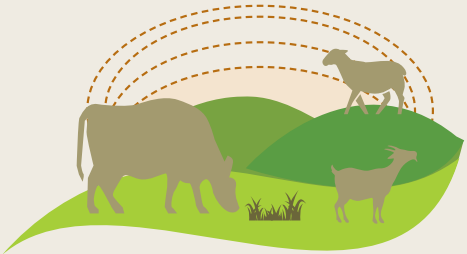
59 SHEEP BREEDS

15 GOAT BREEDS

Source: Idele, 2022

More information on the CNE fact sheet

MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE:
A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION FROM RUMINANT FARMING



IN FRANCE,
RUMINANT FARMING CONTRIBUTES FOR

10.5% of national greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions

Source: Citepa, 2023 – Processing by the Institut de l'Élevage

ENTERIC METHANE,
the main GHG emitted by ruminants,
is produced naturally during the digestion of plants
that make up their rations.

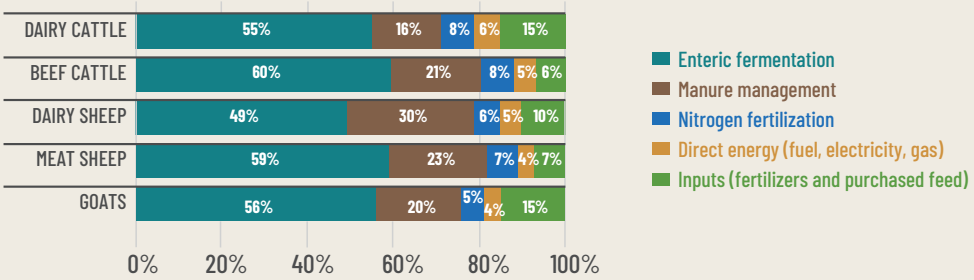
FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS, THE FRENCH LIVESTOCK SECTORS HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTING MEASURES TO LIMIT THEIR IMPACT ON THE CLIMATE... AND THEY ARE BEARING FRUIT!

-17%
greenhouse gases from ruminant livestock between 1990 and 2020

AND THE MOMENTUM CONTINUES THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF THE SECTORS

Source: Citepa, 2023 - Processing by Institut de l'Élevage

MAIN SOURCES OF GREENHOUSE GASES EMISSIONS IN CATTLE, SHEEP, AND GOAT FARMING



Grasslands are true carbon sinks.
As much carbon is stored under a grassland as under a forest: **85 t C/ha**

Thanks to carbon storage in the soil,
livestock farming offsets **30%** of its total greenhouse gases emissions.

SOME BEST PRACTICES FOR LIMITING GHG EMISSIONS

ON FARM, OPTIMIZING ENERGY CONSUMPTION...

... as well as fertilization, limits CO_2 and N_2O consumption.

IMPROVING PROTEIN SELF-SUFFICIENCY

To end dependence on imported foods whose production generates greenhouse gases, the sectors are improving their protein autonomy by planting more protein crops and legumes-rich grasselands.

OPTIMIZING THE USE OF LIVESTOCK MANURE

Optimal utilization of livestock manure increases soil carbon stocks and reduces the need for mineral fertilizers, thereby reducing direct N_2O emissions.

CONVERTING CULTIVATED LAND INTO GRASSLANDS

Converting cropland into grasslands increases soil organic carbon by 26%, while converting grassland to cropland results in a 16% decrease.

TO GO FURTHER

PRACTICES TO STORE EVEN MORE CARBON

Grazing more permanent grasslands:
+265 kg C/ha/year

Planting an intermediate crop:
+246 kg C/ha/year

Planting a hedge:
+125 kg C /100 linear meters/year

Inserting a temporary meadow for 2 or 3 years instead forage corn in a rotation:
+466 kg C/ha/year

Sources: Study 4 for 1000 - INRAE, 2019
Arrouays *et al.*, 2002

More information on the CNE fact sheet

SOIL QUALITY: FARM FERTILIZERS AND GRASSLANDS THAT FEED AND PROTECT

SOIL EROSION IS LIMITED IN LIVESTOCK FARMING AREAS

Meadows' grass that covers the soil, and organic matter which Increases its stability, limit the risk of erosion

Source: Pellerin *et al.*, 2020

Less erosion in grasslands

Source: Cerdan *et al.*, 2010

Soil loss under grassland: 0,3 t/ha/year

compared to 3.6 t/ha/year under annual crops

LIVESTOCK MANURE FROM RUMINANTS, NATURALLY ENRICHES THE SOIL WITH ORGANIC MATTER AND REDUCES THE NEED FOR MINERAL FERTILIZERS

6.2 million hectares of arable crops and grasslands are fertilized exclusively with organic fertilizers, i.e.

1/4 of french agricultural land

Sources: Ademe, 2018 - Agreste, 2020

GRASSLANDS PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOIL BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITY

MICROBIAL BIOMASS ACCORDING TO LAND USE, IN FRANCE

GRASSLANDS	FORESTS	CROPS	VINEYARDS AND ORCHARDS
11,6 µg microbial DNA per g of soil	**10,4** µg microbial DNA per g of soil	**8** µg microbial DNA per g of soil	**5,7** µg microbial DNA per g of soil

Source: Idele, 2018

MIXED FARMING SYSTEMS USE FEW PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS, THANKS TO THEIR GRASSLANDS AND THEIR DIVERSIFIED CROP ROTATIONS

95%
of grasslands receive **no herbicide**

Source: Dephy Ecophyto Farms, 2009-2011

IN RUMINANT FARMING,
40% reduction
in plant protection products on crops in rotation

Limit the use of herbicides

A rotation introducing 6 years of temporary grassland compared to a rotation that does not introduce any **= 25 to 50% FEWER WEEDS**

Source: Schuester *et al.*, 2019

SOME BEST PRACTICES FOR PROTECTING SOIL

INTEGRATING TEMPORARY GRASSLANDS INTO CROP ROTATIONS...

... increases organic matter in the soil, limits the use of mineral fertilizers and plant protection products.

PROTECTING OR DEVELOPING MEADOWS, HEDGES, SLOPES...

... to limit erosion and preserve soil quality.

FERTILIZING CROPS WITH FARM FERTILIZERS...

... increases organic matter in the soil, improves its structure and allows savings on mineral fertilizers.

MANAGING ANIMAL LOADING ON GRASSLANDS...

... helps maintain the positive effects of organic fertilization.

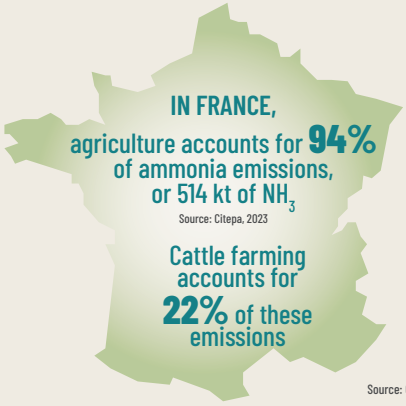
ESTABLISHING LEGUME-RICH GRASSLANDS...

... saves 100 kg of mineral nitrogen per hectare and thus reduces the carbon footprint of milk by 15 to 20%.

Source: Cap'2ER® - analysis by Institut de l'Élevage

More information on the CNE fact sheet

AIR QUALITY: RUMINANT FARMING SECTORS GET ORGANIZED TO PRESERVE IT



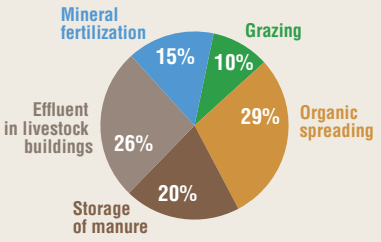
AT THE CENTER OF ALL ATTENTION, **AMMONIA HAS SEEN A DECLINE IN EMISSIONS.**

Air quality is a public health issue. Ammonia (NH_3), a nitrogen derivative, is an atmospheric pollutant that comes mainly from agriculture and livestock farming. Measures have been implemented over the past 30 years to reduce these emissions in livestock farming. They focus on the storage and on the effluent management.

Effluent management (in buildings and at storage) is the leading source of ammonia emissions in cattle farming.

Source: Citepa, average of inventories for 2018-2022 Processing Institut de l'Élevage

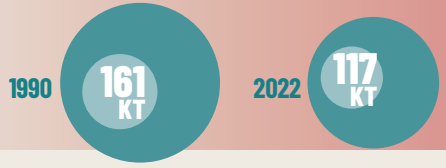
MAIN SOURCES OF AMMONIA EMISSIONS IN CATTLE FARMING IN FRANCE



Between 1990 and 2022,

CATTLE FARMING REDUCED ITS NH_3 EMISSIONS by 27%

NH_3 EMISSIONS FROM FRENCH CATTLE FARMING, IN 1990 AND 2022 Source: Citepa, 2024



TO GO FURTHER

NITROGEN CYCLE IN RUMINANT FARMING SYSTEMS AND SOURCES OF AMMONIA EMISSIONS

Legumes have the ability to fix nitrogen from the air and thus reduce ammonia emissions. They are primarily used in ruminant farming:

80% in permanent grassland and **10%** in alfalfa crops

Source: Cellier *et al.*, 2012

Grazing results in lower emissions than housing.
Grasslands use directly nitrogen from manure, the storage phase is avoided.

+4% grazing in beef cattle = **-5%** ammonia emissions

SOME BEST PRACTICES FOR LIMITING AMMONIA EMISSIONS

OPTIMIZING NITROGEN FERTILIZATION AND USING LEGUMES

The latter can be introduced in combination with another crop or in a meadow.

120 to 300 kg of atmospheric nitrogen per hectare per year fixed by legumes-rich grasslands.

ADJUSTING THE NITROGEN CONCENTRATION OF ANIMAL RATIONS

This reduces the nitrogen content in manure.

For cows producing **8,000 kg** milk/year, **4%** of NH_3 emissions avoided when the nitrogen concentration of the ration is reduced by 10%.

IN BUILDINGS, REGULARLY REMOVING MANURE

Up to **20%** of ammonia emissions avoided with scraping every 3 hours.

REDUCING VOLATILIZATION DURING STORAGE

-60% volatilization by covering the manure pit with a special tarpaulin
or
-50% with controlled vegetative crusting.

PRIORITIZING EQUIPMENT THAT ALLOWS DIRECT AND RAPID BURIAL OF EFFLUENTS

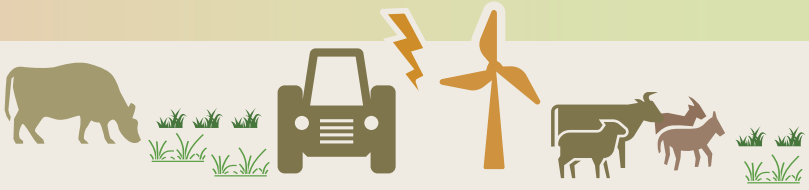
-40% emissions with spreading using dribble bars.

Source: Manneville *et al.*, 2023

More information on the CNE fact sheet

ENERGY: RUMINANT FARMING, A KEY PLAYER IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION

RUMINANT FARMING: A MODEST CONSUMER OF ENERGY...



IN 2022, IN FRANCE, RUMINANT LIVESTOCK FARMS HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR:

1.5% of direct energy consumption
(fuel, electricity, gas)
far behind
transport (31%), residential (31%), industry (19%)
and the service sector (16%)

Source: SDES, final energy consumption by sector, 2023

... WHO COMMITS TO SAVINGS

IN FRANCE, BETWEEN 1990 AND 2010,
energy consumption in the cattle sector has fallen by 22%
mainly due to indirect energy savings (purchases of feed and fertilizer).

Source: Idele, 2018

AND FOR TOMORROW...
precision control of equipment, biomethane or electric tractors, robots, etc. are opening up new avenues for progress

RUMINANT FARMING PRODUCES RENEWABLE ENERGY

IN FRANCE,

1,624 Ktoe*

of renewable energy are produced by cattle farms

(*Ktoe = 1,000 tons of oil equivalent)

Source: Institut de l'Élevage, 2020

or 5.9%

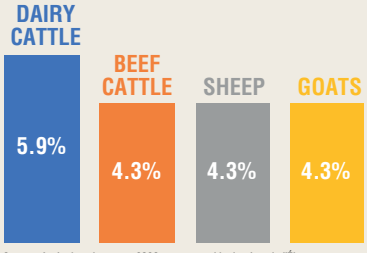
of national renewable energy production

Source: Agricultural Census, 2020 – Processed by Institut de l'Élevage

6,900

FRENCH LIVESTOCK FARMS PRODUCE RENEWABLE ENERGY IN 2020

SHARE OF FARMS PRODUCING ENERGY ACCORDING TO LIVESTOCK PRODUCTIONS



Source: Agricultural census, 2020 - processed by Institut de l'Élevage

SOME BEST PRACTICES FOR REDUCING ENERGY CONSUMPTION

FUEL SAVINGS

Economical driving, adapting equipment to tractors, consolidation of plots, less plowing, and the use of robots in buildings help reduce fuel consumption.

ELECTRICITY SAVINGS

- Opting for LEDs or energy-efficient air circulators.
- For calves farms, consider installing a heat pump to heat water or optimize hot water efficiency.
- For dairy farms, consider tank pre-coolers, heat recovery units, variable speed vacuum pumps or an energy-saving tank.

More information on the CNE fact sheet

WATER RESOURCES: RUMINANT FARMING, A KEY PLAYER

210 billion m^3 of freshwater received each year in France in the form of effective rainfall

WATER, A PRECIOUS RESOURCE, **ESSENTIAL FOR AGRICULTURE, USED IN SMALL QUANTITIES BY RUMINANT FARMING**

16.4 billion m^3 of fresh water withdrawn in France (excluding "energy" use),

of which **22%** by agriculture

Sources: National Bank of Quantitative Water Withdrawals, based on 2022 data - Idele, 2023 Water Study on Livestock

Livestock, all sectors combined, withdraw **324 million m^3 of water** for watering animals and washing milking facilities

THE WATER CONSUMED BY RUMINANTS ENDS UP PARTLY IN **MILK** AND **MEAT**

IN FRANCE,
AVERAGE WATER CONSUMPTION IN CATTLE FARMING

to produce one liter of milk:	to produce one kilo of meat:
6 to 10 liters	32 to 102 liters

DEPENDING ON THE LOCAL CLIMATE AND ANIMAL FEED

Source: AgriBalyse 3.1 - processed by Institut de l'Élevage, 2024

IN LIVESTOCK FARMING AREAS, **WATER QUALITY IS IMPROVING.**

For more than 20 years, improvements in the agricultural use of livestock manure have optimized the nitrogen cycle and limited nitrate leaching into water.

Source: Foray and Manneville, 2019

-12% TOTAL NITROGEN spread per hectare of UAA on average between 2010 and 2020

Source: Agricultural Census, 2010 and 2020 - Processing by Institut de l'Élevage

-25% MINERAL NITROGEN CONSUMED between 2000 and 2023

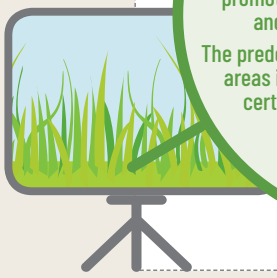
Source: UNIFA, processed by Institut de l'Élevage

-50% MINERAL NITROGEN IN DAIRY CATTLE FARMS IN WESTERN FRANCE

Source: Idele, 2019 - Technical Livestock Files No. 2

Only 1% OF FORAGE AREAS ARE IRRIGATED AND **6%** OF SILAGE CORN

Source: Agribalyse 3.1 processing by Institut de l'Élevage 2024, and Idele 2022



FLOOD CONTROL, PRESERVING ITS QUALITY: GRASSLANDS ARE A VALUABLE ALLY FOR WATER RESOURCES

Maintaining grass in forage systems promotes soil stability, nitrogen fixation, and its gradual release to plants.

The predominance of grasslands and wooded areas in livestock farming areas retains certain pollutants, preventing them from reaching waterways.

WET MEADOWS
ARE BUFFER ZONES
THAT PREVENT FLOODING.

THEY COVER APPROXIMATELY
1 MILLION HECTARES,
OR TWO-THIRDS
OF MAJOR WETLANDS

Source: zones-humides.org

IN NON-VULNERABLE AREAS,
WATER QUALITY IS VERY GOOD.
PERMANENT GRASSLANDS
ACCOUNT FOR
MORE THAN 50%
OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

Source: Idele, 2019 – Technical Files on Livestock Farming No. 2

SOME BEST PRACTICES FOR PROTECTING WATER RESOURCES

SAVING WATER

- Monitor and repair leaks.
- Use economical cleaning practices.
- Recycle white water.
- Use rainwater for washing or watering animals.

OPTIMIZING ONES CROPS

- Prioritize grass and pasture.
- Choose species and varieties suited to the climate.
- Choose crops that require little or no irrigation.

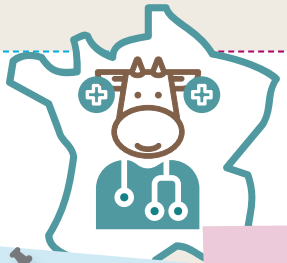
OPTIMIZING ONES PRACTICES

- Fertilize primarily with farm fertilizers.
- Cover the ground.
- Maintain hedges and wetlands.

More information on the CNE fact sheet

HERD HEALTH: PROTECTING ANIMALS WHILE PROMOTING PUBLIC HEALTH

RUMINANT FARMING SECTORS ARE **COMMITTED TO COMBATING ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE,** WHICH AFFECTS HUMAN HEALTH, **ANIMAL HEALTH** AND **ECOSYSTEMS.**



TO **PREVENT THE OCCURRENCE OF DISEASES,** PARTICULARLY EPIZOOTIC DISEASES, LIVESTOCK FARMS BENEFIT FROM **STRICT VETERINARY MONITORING.**

BETWEEN 2011 AND 2022

-52% exposure of animals to antibiotics in France thanks to the national EcoAntibio 1 and 2 plans

-23% reduction of antibiotics in cattle farming

BETWEEN 2011 AND 2022

The number of intramammary treatments per dairy cow decreased by **34%**

BETWEEN 2013 AND 2020

-45.3% of antibiotics in veal calf farming

SYSTEMATIC **SCREENING** OF **INFECTIOUS DISEASES** (BRUCELLOSIS, TUBERCULOSIS, ETC.):

4 times/year in dairy farms (milk analysis)

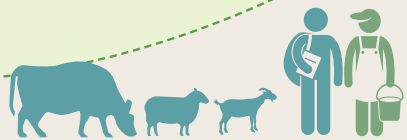
Once a year on suckler farms (blood analysis)

Once a year, the attending veterinarian conducts a health assessment with a summary of diseases that have occurred in the herd and implements an appropriate treatment protocol if necessary.

SINCE 2005, **FRANCE** HAS **BEEN OFFICIALLY DECLARED FREE OF BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS.** IT SHOULD SOON BE THE SAME FOR OVINE AND CAPRINE BRUCELLOSIS.

Sources: Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty, 2023 - ANSES, 2023 - Chanteperdrix *et al.*, 2023

Health also depends above all on good farming practices.



THEY IMPLEMENT SPECIFIC PRACTICES TO PREVENT DISEASE AND REDUCE THE USE OF VETERINARY PRODUCTS

More than 70% of dairy and **beef** cattle farmers
and **more than 60%** of dairy and **sheep** farmers

THEY TRIM THEIR ANIMALS' HOOVES

75% of dairy cattle farmers
40% do so preventively
and **35%** curatively

93% of **goat** farmers

THEY IMPLEMENT VACCINATION

Approximately **60%** of dairy and **beef** cattle farmers
(particularly against respiratory diseases and diarrhea)
and **50%** of **sheep** farmers

Source: Idele, 2021

THE MAIN BIOSECURITY MEASURES IMPLEMENTED BY FARMERS TO LIMIT THE INTRODUCTION OF PATHOGENS INTO THEIR HERD

KEEPING THE ANIMALS' LIVING ENVIRONMENT HEALTHY

- By treating or disinfecting buildings every year.
- By taking precautions when visitors come in (footbath, overshoes).

ISOLATING SICK ANIMALS FROM THE REST OF THE HERD

QUARANTING ANIMALS FROM OTHER FARMS

by reserving a dedicated space to isolate the animals.

MONITING ANIMALS VERY REGULARLY TO QUICKLY IDENTIFY ABNORMAL BEHAVIOR

In general, farmers monitor their animals several times a day.

Source: Idele, 2021

More information on the CNE fact sheet

ANIMAL WELFARE: A NATURAL PRIORITY FOR RUMINANT FARMERS

Sources: Cniel, 2022 - Anicap, 2025 - CNE, 2025

ETHICAL REASONS, BETTER ZOOTECHNICAL PERFORMANCE, GOOD WORKING CONDITIONS: 3 GOOD REASONS TO ENSURE ANIMAL WELFARE

97% of dairy farmers adhere to the charter of good farming practices.

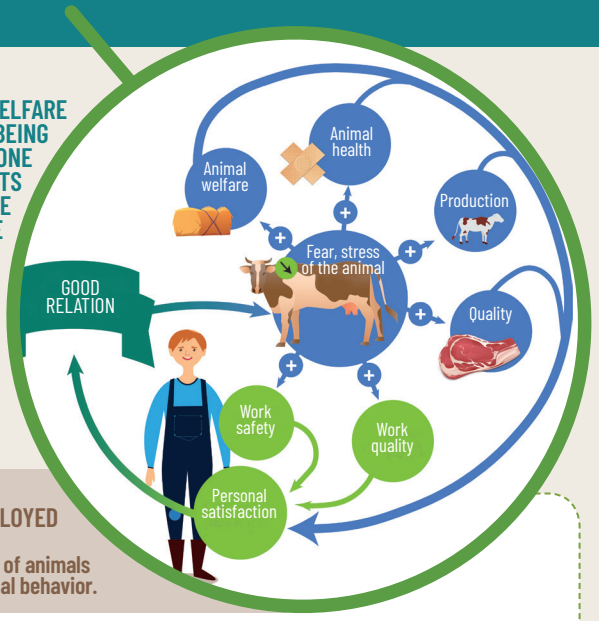
70% of goat dairy farmers are involved in the mutual code of good practice in goat farming.

Each ruminant sector —beef, sheep, and goats— have a tool for assessing animal welfare.

In 2023 and 2024, **31,000** cattle farmers carried out a Boviwell diagnostic.

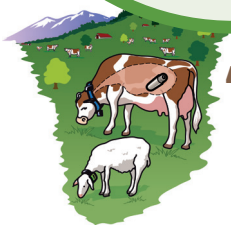
ANIMAL WELFARE AND FARMER WELL-BEING ARE CLOSELY LINKED. ONE NECESSARILY IMPACTS THE OTHER. THIS IS THE CONCEPT OF ONE WELFARE

This is largely based on a good relationship between the farmer and his animals.



DIGITAL TOOLS ARE BEING DEPLOYED IN LIVESTOCK FARMING.

They facilitate continuous monitoring of animals and prevent risks by detecting abnormal behavior.



Source: Sm@rt Elevage survey, 2023

Heat detectors
49% of dairy cattle farmers equipped

Calving detectors
19% of beef cattle farmers equipped

Camera
40% of cattle farmers equipped

Electronic scales
29% of sheep meat farmers equipped

Building environment sensors
25% of dairy sheep farmers equipped

Automatic ventilation
36% of dairy sheep farmers equipped

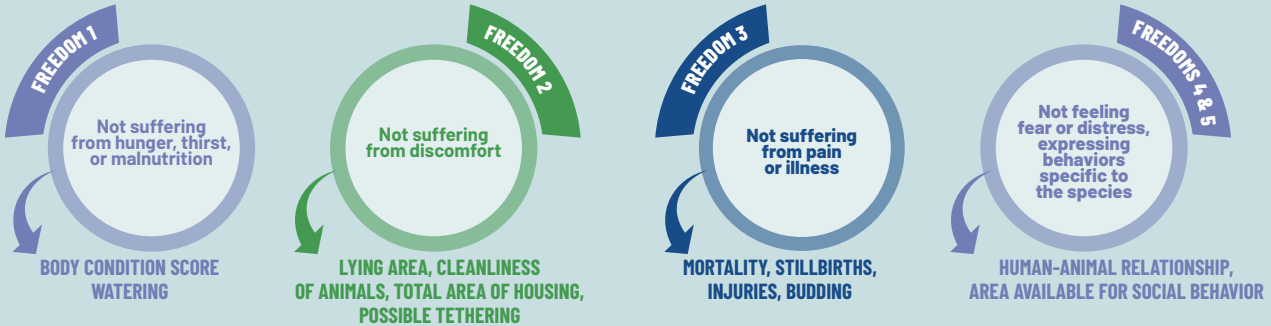
Feed distribution robots
17% of goat farmers equipped

Milk analyzer
26% of dairy cattle farmers equipped

TO GO FURTHER

ANIMAL WELFARE IS BASED ON 5 KEY DIMENSIONS, KNOWN AS "5 FREEDOMS."

In herds, compliance with each of these dimensions can be verified using a few simple farming indicators. Below is an example of the assessment grid used to evaluate animal welfare in cattle farms, "BoviWell."



TAKING ANIMAL WELFARE INTO ACCOUNT WHEN DESIGNING AND FITTING OUT LIVESTOCK BUILDINGS: A FEW EXAMPLES

MINIMUM SLEEPING AREA FOR SLEEPING AND MOVEMENT TO BE RESPECTED

NUMBER OF PLACES AT THE TROUGH AND MINIMUM NUMBER OF DRINKING TROUGHS TO BE PROVIDED

TEMPERATURE CONTROL AND AIR SPEED INSIDE THE BUILDING

- Design of a building with effective mechanical ventilation or addition of ventilation.
- Installation of warning sensors (temperature, etc.).

ENRICHMENT OF THE LIVING AREA

- Installation of brushes in cattle and goat farms.
- Installation of raised platforms and addition of manipulable devices (balls) to stimulate play behavior in goat farms.

INSTALLATION OF AN OUTDOOR COURTYARD CLOSE TO BUILDING, FOR GOAT FARMING

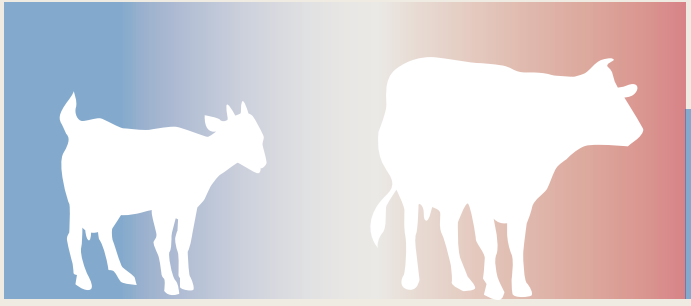
More information on the CNE fact sheet

FOOD PRODUCTION FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION:
FRENCH RUMINANT FARMING, A MAJOR PLAYER IN GLOBAL TRADE, IN TERMS OF BOTH QUANTITY AND QUALITY

FRENCH MILK AND MEAT PRODUCTION
AT THE TOP OF THE EUROPEAN PODIUM

IN 2024, FRANCE IS:

- the **1st** **european producer of goat's milk** (just ahead of Spain), with 690 million liters, of which 72% is collected
- the **1st** **producer in Europe of beef** with 1.15 million tce* or 20% of the beef in the EU
- the **2nd** **largest producer in Europe of cow's milk** (behind Germany) with 23.7 million tons
- the **2nd** **producer of sheep meat** (behind Spain) with 70,000 tce*
- the **2nd** **largest producer of veal in Europe** (behind the Netherlands) with 144,000 tce*



*tce: ton carcass equivalent

Source: FranceAgriMer, 2025

DAIRY AND MEAT PRODUCTS: AT THE HEART OF THE FRENCH DIET

Individual consumption of beef (including veal) reaches **22 kg** carcass equivalent/year (2nd in Europe, behind Ireland)

Source: FranceAgriMer, 2025

France is the second largest consumer of lamb meat in Europe (behind the United Kingdom) with **2,2 kg/capita/year**

Source: 2021 data - Franceagrimer, 2025

In 2023, **28,000 tons** of sheep cheese were purchased by French households.

84% of French households have purchased goat cheese.

The average per buyer is 2.5 kg/year.

Source: Franceagrimer, 2025

French people **are the leading european consumers of butter (8.2 kg/capita/year) and cheese (27.4 kg/capita/year),** but they consume only 41.8 kg of liquid milk (less than the European average of 49.7 kg) and 25 kg of yogurt and milk-based desserts.

Source: 2021 data - Franceagrimer, 2025

DAIRY AND MEAT PRODUCTS: RECOMMENDED INTAKE* AND NUTRITIONAL BENEFITS

RED MEAT

RECOMMENDED INTAKE: <500 G OF COOKED MEAT/ WEEK

82% of french adults follow this recommendation.

NUTRITIONAL BENEFITS:

- Heme iron (very well absorbed by the body)
- Highly digestible proteins and rich in essential amino acids
- Zinc and selenium
- Vitamins B3, B6 and B12

DAIRY PRODUCTS

RECOMMENDED INTAKE: AT LEAST 3 DAIRY PRODUCTS PER DAY FOR CHILDREN (2 FOR ADULTS)

Only 1/3 of children and adolescents follow this recommendation.

NUTRITIONAL BENEFITS:

- Calcium, essential for bone and tooth formation
- Highly digestible proteins and rich in essential amino acids
- Fat-soluble vitamins A and D (in butter and cream)
- Live microorganisms (fermented products) beneficial to the gut microbiota

*by the National Nutrition and Health Program

More information on the CNE fact sheet

ANIMAL FEED: RUMINANTS CONVERT PRODUCTS THAT ARE NOT CONSUMABLE BY HUMANS INTO VALUABLE PRODUCTS

RUMINANTS MAINLY EAT GRASS, A RESOURCE THAT CANNOT BE USED BY HUMANS AND WHICH PROVIDES MULTIPLE ECOLOGICAL AND LANDSCAPE BENEFITS.

SHARE OF GRASS IN THE DIET OF RUMINANTS

Meat sheep **81%**

Beef cattle **78%**

Dairy sheep **74%**

Goats **60%**

Dairy cattle **49%**

Source: Cordier et al., 2020

GRASS AND MEADOWS ARE ASSETS IN REDUCING OUR DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED PLANT PROTEINS

France imports **3.5 million tons** of soybean meal

yet **1 hectare** of grassland produces as much protein as **1 hectare of soybeans**

IN ADDITION TO GRASS, RUMINANTS CONSUME:

- fodder such as corn silage
- energy- or protein-rich concentrates (cereals, oilseed meal, etc.)
- minerals and vitamins

Most of their feed is produced on the farm

Source: Cap Protéines

BETTER USE OF our 13 M hectares of protein-rich grasslands: AN ASSET FOR IMPROVING OUR SOVEREIGNTY

TO GO FURTHER

BY-PRODUCTS FROM THE FOOD INDUSTRY, UNSUITABLE FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION, ARE VALUABLE FOR ANIMALS

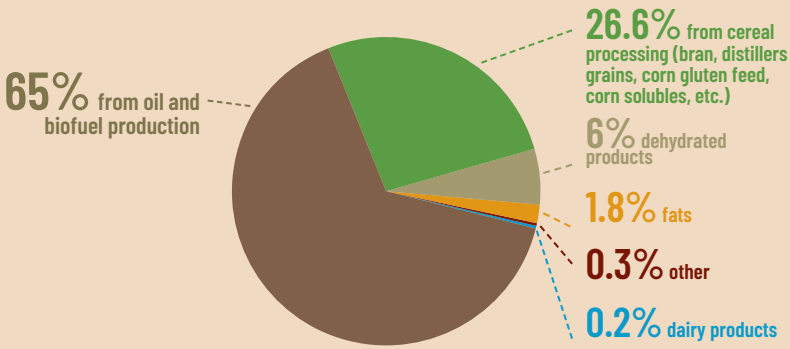
3/4 of by-products from the agri-food industry are used in animal feed.

Nearly **50%** of the raw materials used by manufacturers of feed for farm animals are by-products.

This represents approximately 500 kg S/LU ruminant, or 10% of the feed of ruminants.

Source: Chapoutot *et al.*, 2018

BY-PRODUCTS USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF FEED FOR FARM ANIMALS - INCLUDING IMPORTS



Source: Agreste, 2015

SOME BEST PRACTICES FOR FEEDING RUMINANTS IN THE SERVICE OF SOCIETY

Promote the use of locally produced oilseed meal and seeds in livestock farming.

increase the proportion of grass and pasture in rations.

Promote protein-rich fodder: legumes, protein crops, multi-species grasslands, etc.

Produce on farm concentrates: peas, lupins, field beans, mixed grains, cereals.

Promote by-products from the French agri-food industry: rapeseed meal, soybean meal, peanut meal, wheat distillers grains, beet pulp, etc.

More information on the CNE fact sheet

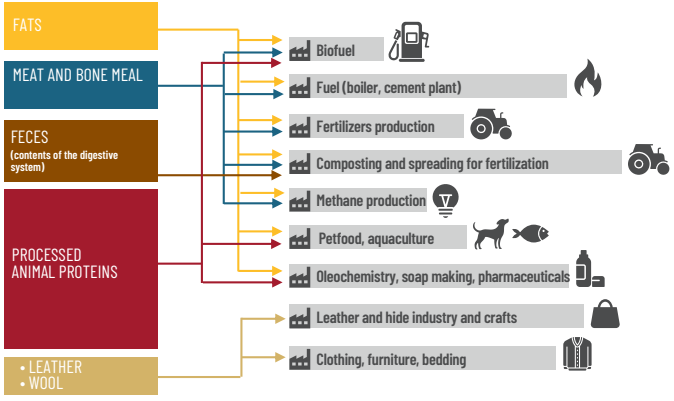
BY-PRODUCTS OF RUMINANT FARMING: AN UNEXPECTED WEALTH

IN ADDITION TO MILK AND MEAT,

RUMINANTS GENERATE VALUABLE NON-FOOD RESOURCES FOR MANY SECTORS OF ACTIVITY.

Their use reduces the use of other raw materials that are polluting and costly in terms of fossil fuels.

APPROXIMATELY **50%** OF THE WEIGHT OF RUMINANTS IS RECOVERED IN BY-PRODUCTS: THIS IS THE FIFTH QUARTER, WHICH IS INEDIBLE FOR HUMANS AND UTILIZED IN MANY WAYS



Source: based on the herbivore farming atlas, 2014

In France,

9 million SKINS FROM RUMINANTS ARE PRODUCED EACH YEAR, INCLUDING **3.5 million** COW HIDES

Sources: FAO statistics and National Leather Council, 2012

12,800 companies IN THE LEATHER INDUSTRY, GENERATING **over €25 billion** IN REVENUE AND EMPLOYING **133,000 people**

Source: National Leather Council, 2023

The **5.4 million** SHEEP SHEARED EACH YEAR PROVIDE **10,100 tons** OF FLEECE

Source: Collectif Tricolor, 2023 / Calculations by Races de France & FNO

A fleece WEIGHS AN AVERAGE OF **3 kg** AFTER CLEANING, YIELDING **1 kg of wool,** ENOUGH TO KNIT BETWEEN **1** AND **1.6 sweater**

TO GO FURTHER

LIVESTOCK MANURE, HIGH-QUALITY NATURAL FERTILIZERS, USED FOR OWN CONSUMPTION

THE STORED ANIMAL WASTE REPRESENTS

1.2 million tons of organic nitrogen, the recovery of which avoids the production of **320,000 tons** of mineral nitrogen

95% of organic nitrogen produced in France is generated by farms with ruminant livestock.

AVERAGE ORGANIC NITROGEN PRODUCTION BY RUMINANTS - VIA THEIR EFFLUENTS

Dairy cow
at 9,000 kg milk/year
101 kg N/year/animal

Suckling cow
67 kg N/year/animal

Suckling ewe
10 kg N/year/animal

Dairy goat
10 kg N/year/animal

92%
of ruminant farms
utilize all of their manure and slurry on their agricultural land

Source: Charter of Good Farming Practices, 2015

7.8 Mt of CO_2 eq.
avoided thanks to livestock manure spread on fields
compared to synthetic fertilizers

This represents the annual carbon footprint of more than
700,000 french citizens

Source: GIS Avenir Elevages, 2023

Sources: Foray and Manneville, 2019 - Corpen - Peyraud *et al.*, 1995

SOME BEST PRACTICES FOR MAKING GOOD USE OF LIVESTOCK EFFLUENTS

STORING THEM PROPERLY TO KEEP THEIR QUALITY WHILE WAITING TO SPREAD

To avoid dilution of the nutrients, it is recommended to opt for a covered manure pit.

KNOWING THEIR FERTILIZING VALUE

The composition of effluents varies greatly depending on the farming system.
Laboratory analysis is the most accurate method for properly characterizing it.

SPREADING THE RIGHT AMOUNT TO MEET THE NEEDS OF PLANTS WHILE RESPECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

The average density of manure can vary by a factor of two!
To avoid overdosing when spreading, it is advisable to carry out a few weighings of full spreaders to be able to extrapolate the quantity applied per hectare, and to use the reference values to determine the dose to be applied.

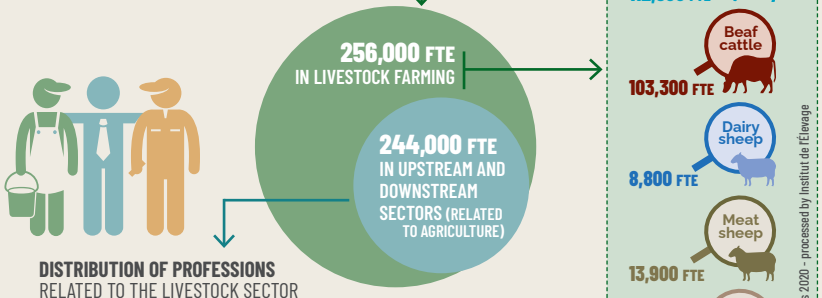
More information on the CNE fact sheet

EMPLOYMENT: THE LIVESTOCK SECTOR GENERATES JOBS AND SEEKS LABOR

RUMINANT FARMING, A SECTOR THAT GENERATES ALMOST AS MANY DIRECT JOBS AS INDIRECT ONES!

144,000 ruminant **livestock farms**

generate **500,000** FTE*

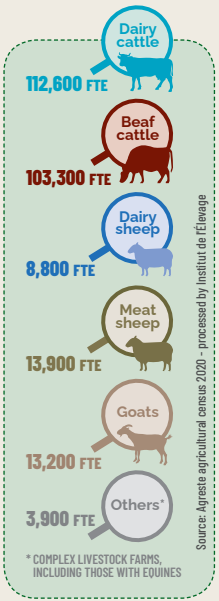


DISTRIBUTION OF PROFESSIONS
RELATED TO THE LIVESTOCK SECTOR

- Animal health
- Genetics and performance
- Equipment, buildings, and various services
- Collection, processing, and trade
- Distribution
- Research, advisory services and education
- Animal feed
- Logistics
- Industry suppliers
- By-products management
- Administration, political representation

Source: Lang *et al.*, 2015 and currently being updated

*FTE: Full Time Equivalent



Source: Agreste agricultural census 2020 - processed by Institut de l'Elevage

THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY IS RECRUITING...

50% of ruminant farmers active in 2018 **will have left the profession by 2027.**
This means that **many positions of responsibility will need to be filled**

(Source: Idele, 2023)

...AND EMPLOYEES ARE ACTIVELY SOUGHT AFTER.

The proportion of **salaried workers has increased:**

from 11.2% in 2010
to 13.8% in 2020
(compared to 47% in crop production)

Employees are particularly young:

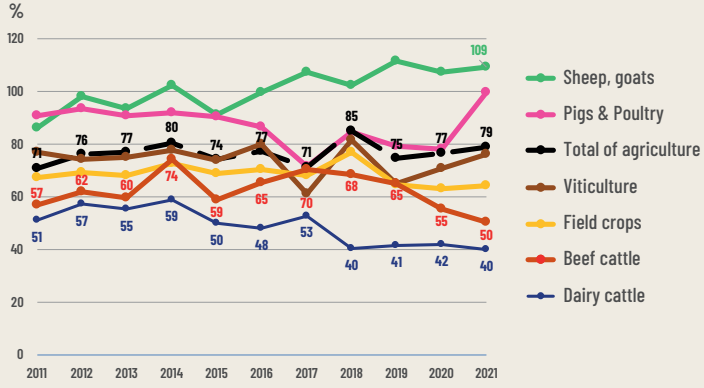
50% of salaried workers are aged **30 or under**

Source: Depeyrot *et al.*, 2023

DESPITE **NUMEROUS ADVANTAGES,** CAREERS IN RUMINANT FARMING SUFFER FROM **A LACK OF ATTRACTIVENESS** THAT URGENTLY NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED IN ORDER **TO LIMIT THE IMPACT ON PRODUCTION VOLUMES.**

REPLACEMENT RATE OF DEPARTURES BY AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Source: Idele, 2023, based on MSA data



IN 2021

Replacement rate for farmers in livestock sectors:

40% for dairy cattle

50% for beef cattle

109% for sheep and goats

Source: Idele, 2023, based on MSA

LEVERS FOR IMPROVING WORKERS RENEWAL IN RUMINANT FARMING

IMPROVING THE INCOME OF LIVESTOCK FARMERS AND THE COMPETITIVENESS OF SECTORS

A decent income, the creation and fair sharing of added value are necessary for the future of livestock farming.

PROMOTING AND STIMULATING THE PROFESSION, AS IT CAN BE A SPRINGBOARD TO SETTING UP

7% of employees and 15% of apprentices in ruminant livestock farming set up their own farms.

Source: Depeyrot *et al.*, 2023

ATTRACTING PEOPLE OUTSIDE THE FAMILY CIRCLE SEEKING TO RETURN TO THE LAND

Since 2010, 28% of new livestock farmers come from outside the family framework (more than 50% in goat farming systems).

Source: Depeyrot *et al.*, 2023

ENCOURAGING YOUNG PEOPLE AND WOMEN TO PURSUE A CAREER IN LIVESTOCK FARMING

Barely 6% of farmers' daughters become farmers (compared to 24% of sons). Sectors that are successfully replacing those leaving are those that attract young women: sheep and goat farming.

Source: Idele, 2023

More information on the CNE fact sheet

RURAL AREAS: RUMINANT FARMING CONTRIBUTES SIGNIFICANTLY TO THEIR ATTRACTIVENESS

Farmers, **key players** in the local economy, especially in sparsely populated areas

11,000 cattle farms practice agri-tourism

Source: CNE, 2021

6% of dairy cattle farms
25% of dairy sheep farms
51% of goat farms
17% of beef cattle farms
29% of meat sheep farms

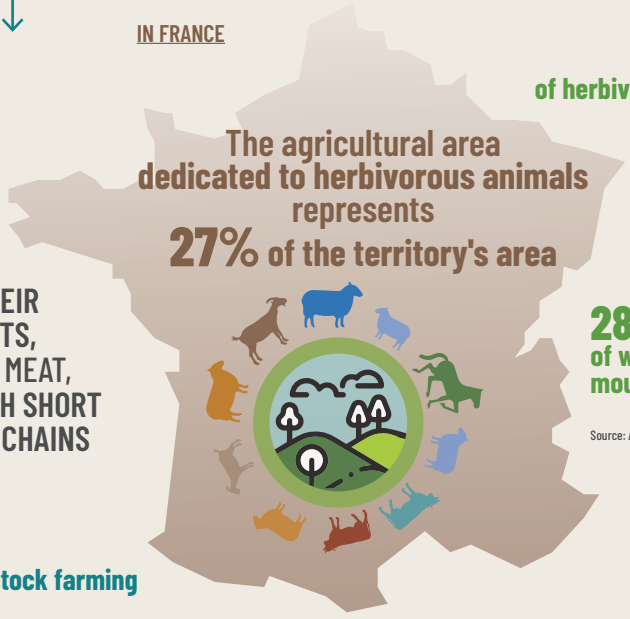
SELL THEIR PRODUCTS, MILK OR MEAT, THROUGH SHORT SUPPLY CHAINS

Source: Agreste, 2020 agricultural census - processed by Institut de l'Élevage

AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL,
3.2% of employment is dependent on livestock farming

Source: Lang *et al.*, 2015

IN FRANCE



Nearly **2/3** of herbivore farms are located in "disadvantaged" areas

28% of which are in mountainous regions

Source: Agreste, 2020 Agricultural Census

FARMERS ARE COMMITTED **TO SERVING THEIR COMMUNITIES**

11.6%
of **french mayors** are **farmers** in **2020**

Source: Foucault, 2023

42%
of **farmers** are **members of an association**

Source: Rieutort *et al.*, 2014

460,000 hectares of pastoral land are present in the 8 french metropolitan national parks. Livestock farming preserves their **landscapes** and contributes to the **fight against fires** and **avalanches.**

Source: Idele, 2022

SOME LEVERS TO HELP FARMERS AT THE HEART OF THE REGIONS*

SUPPORTING THE 21% OF FARMERS AND SHEPHERDS WHO MAKE USE OF GRAZING LAND AND SUMMER PASTURES

- Development of huts
- Securing access to land via pastoral groups

Source: Agreste, Agricultural census 2020 - Processing by Institut de l'Élevage

PROMOTING, DEVELOPING, AND SUPPORTING...

- Agritourism
- Farm stay

... offered today by 11,000 farmers

SUPPORTING FARMERS TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THEIR PRODUCTS

12 to 29% of farmers practice direct marketing, depending on the sector.

HELPING LIVESTOCK FARMERS WHO WISH TO DIVERSIFY THEIR ACTIVITIES...

...construction companies, services to other citizens,while preserving agriculture as their main activity.

*Aid is available in regions, nature parks, and at the European level to support farmers who commit to sustainable practices

More information on the CNE fact sheet

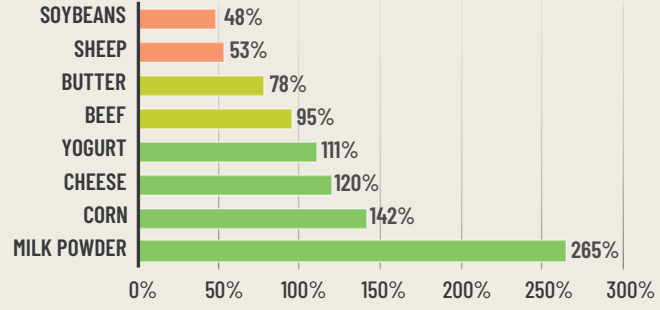
FRENCH FOOD SOVEREIGNTY: AN ACTIVE BUT FRAGILE CONTRIBUTION FROM RUMINANT FARMING

FranceAgriMer defines food sovereignty as a state's capacity for self-determination over the food systems operating within its territory.

THIS IS NOT SELF-SUFFICIENCY, BUT CONTROL OVER FLOWS.

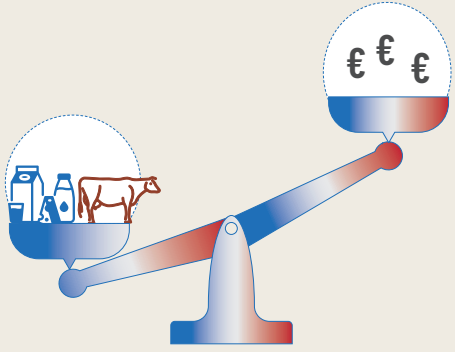
Source: FranceAgrimer, 2023

SELF-SUFFICIENCY RATE: PRODUCTION/CONSUMPTION RATIO



Source: FAM 2023

A POSITIVE FRENCH TRADE BALANCE, THANKS IN PARTICULAR TO DAIRY PRODUCTS AND LIVE CATTLE



A TRADE SURPLUS OF:

€3 billion for dairy products

€1.5 billion for live cattle

In 2022, **46%** **of the sheep meat consumed in France is produced in France.**

Source: Idele, 2023, based on SSP and French Customs data

In 2023, **France** is the **world's leading producer of goat cheese, with**

120,000 tons. Source: Key figures from the GEB – Caprins, 2021

STRENGTHENING SOVEREIGNTY
BY PRESERVING LIVESTOCK FARMING AND IMPROVING ITS AUTONOMY

Better protection of livestock farming is necessary to ensure our food sovereignty

French ruminant farming has lost:

BETWEEN 2010 AND 2020,

20% of its workforce

and **24%** of its farms

BETWEEN 2016 AND 2023,

1 million cows

Source: Idele, 2023

IN FRANCE, MINERAL FERTILIZERS IMPORTS REPRESENT

€3.8 billion

Farm fertilizers reduce the cost of importing mineral fertilizers

FARM FERTILIZERS LIMIT THIS COST:

40% of the nitrogen supplied to crops comes from livestock farming

Source: Rieutort et al., 2014

SOME LEVERS TO HELP FARMERS IMPROVING FRANCE'S FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

IMPROVING LIVESTOCK FARMERS' INCOME AND THE COMPETITIVENESS OF THE SECTORS

A decent income, the creation and the fair distribution of added value are necessary for the future of livestock farming.

MAINTAINING THE PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING INDUSTRY

in the heart of the regions and encouraging consumers to buy French and sustainable products.

PROMOTING THE PROFESSION OF LIVESTOCK FARMER AND EMPLOYEE IN LIVESTOCK FARMING

Showcasing its strengths and facilitating access to the profession in order to inspire vocations.

SUPPORTING THE STRENGTHENING OF OUR AUTONOMY IN PROTEIN AND FERTILIZERS

by optimizing the use of grasslands and protein-rich materials.

More information on the CNE fact sheet

GASTRONOMIC AND CULTURAL HERITAGE:
RUMINANT FARMING, A PILLAR OF OUR HERITAGE

THE HIGH QUALITY OF FRENCH DAIRY AND MEAT PRODUCTS IS RECOGNIZED

51 PDO AND 12 PGI dairy products

- **33** cattle
- **15** goats
- **3** sheep

This represents

- **57** cheeses
- **3** butters
- **3** fresh creams

35 Red Labels, including:

- **17** large cattle
- **7** calves
- **11** lamb

19% of lambs and **18%** of suckler cow herds carry official quality and origin labels

11% of cow's milk, **11%** of goat's milk, and **33%** of sheep's milk collected are used in PDO products

Sources : CNAOL, INAO, 2023 - INAO, 2022 - CNE, 2021

APPROXIMATELY **7%** OF RUMINANTS ARE RAISED ORGANICALLY

AB AGRICULTURE BIOLOGIQUE

INDICATION GÉOGRAPHIQUE PROTÉGÉE

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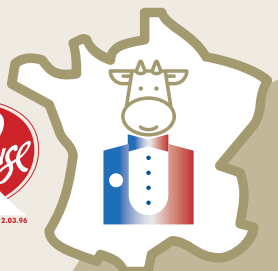


Sources: Agence Bio, 2022 - Organic Meat Observatory, 2021 - Interbev, 2022

IN 2010, THE FRENCH GOURMET MEAL WAS RECOGNIZED AS PART OF UNESCO'S INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE.

Boeuf Bourguignon, blanquette de veau, Camembert de Normandie, Roquefort, crème brûlée... These recipes, true ambassadors of French cuisine, testify to the expertise of the country's farmers and artisans.

TO GO FURTHER

The production, processing, and marketing professions RELY ON TRADITIONAL KNOW-HOW that MAINTAINS THE QUALITY and AUTHENTICITY OF PRODUCTS, which are essential to FRENCH GASTRONOMIC IDENTITY

The meat industry employs a large number of people:

5,400 in livestock trading,
2,900 in producer organizations,
28,710 in slaughtering, cutting, and processing,
3,350 in meat wholesale,
85,100 in distribution.

Source: Interbev, 2023

They are involved in the PDO and PGI dairy sectors:

15,369 milk producers,
1,210 farmers,
484 processing workshops,
327 maturing workshops

Source: INAO, CNAOL, 2023

7,200 ruminant farms have an on-farm processing facility

Source: Agreste agricultural census 2020, processed by Institut de l'Élevage

LANDSCAPES AND LIVESTOCK FARMING PRACTICES HAVE A HIGH HERITAGE VALUE

The Grands Causses and Cévennes, designated in 2011 by UNESCO for their Mediterranean agropastoral cultural landscapes.

France has 59 regional nature parks and 11 national parks. With more than 60% of their surface area covered by permanent grassland, their maintenance depends on livestock farming.

Source: Cne, Idele, 2021

In our urbanized society, cultural landscapes are a key element of a region's appeal, both for residents and tourists.

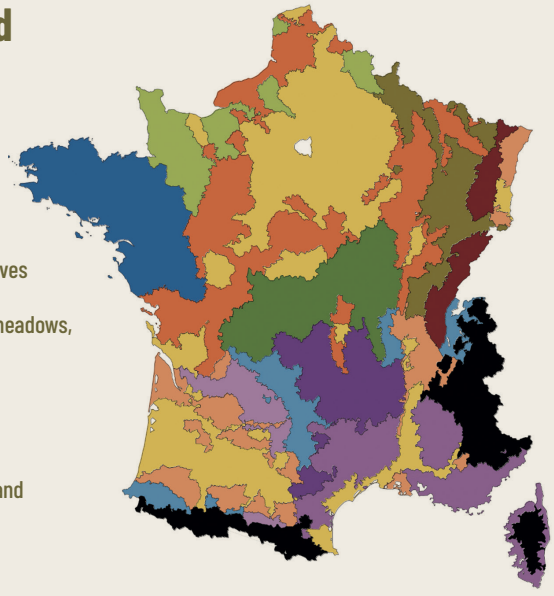
Source: Dumont *et al.*, 2016

More information on the CNE fact sheet

LANDSCAPES: RUMINANT FARMING SHAPES THE LANDSCAPES OF OUR COUNTRYSIDE

in France: a mosaic of landscapes shaped by ruminant farming

- Areas with crops and livestock: open landscapes, a wide variety of crops where livestock farming brings diversity
- Areas of forage crops where livestock farming has shaped bocage or semi-bocage landscapes, with alternating grasses and forage crops
- Intensive foothills: areas dominated by livestock farming with few alternatives
- Grassland areas in the northwest with dense hedgerows and a network of meadows, hedges, slopes, and crops
- Grassland areas in the center and east, with very open plots in the northeast and large-scale bocage landscapes to the north and west of the Massif central
- Mediterranean pastoral areas and limestone plateaus and hillsides lie on a mosaic of vast grazing lands, combined with limited areas of plowed land
- Wet mountains where grassland farming and forestry are highly developed with open summer pastures at high altitudes
- High mountains, areas of high-altitude pasture where pastoralism plays a major role in preserving heritage

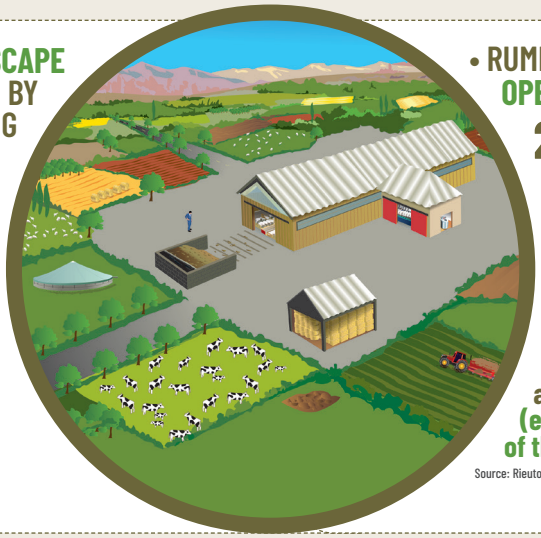


Sources: Idele, 2013 - Rieutort *et al.*, 2014

DIVERSITY OF LANDSCAPE ELEMENTS PROVIDED BY RUMINANT GRAZING

A livestock farming landscape has many facets:

- An alternation of pastures and crops of various species.
- Agroecological elements that divide up the space: hedges, trees, copses, ponds, slopes, etc.
- Structures, buildings, huts, fences, low walls, etc.
- The ruminant herds themselves, with a variety of species and breeds.



- RUMINANT FARMING **HELPS MAINTAIN OPEN ENVIRONMENTS:**

21% of French herbivore farms **enhance and maintain pastures and summer grazing lands, areas that cannot be mechanized**

Source: 2019 graphic parcel register

- LIVESTOCK FARMING **MAINTAINS HEDGEROW LANDSCAPES**

and their **700,000** km of hedges **(equivalent to 17 times the circumference of the Earth)**

Source: Rieutort *et al.*, 2014

LEVERS FOR PROTECTING FRENCH LANDSCAPES*

- PRESERVING OR REPLANTING HEDGES OR ISOLATED TREES AND MAINTAINING AGROECOLOGICAL ELEMENTS
- MAINTAINING SMALL BUILT HERITAGE, LOW WALLS OR TERRACES
- INTEGRATING NEW BUILDINGS INTO THE LANDSCAPE
- PROMOTING DIVERSITY OF CROPS AND PLOTS
- PRESERVING THE BREEDING OF RUMINANTS

*Aid is available in regions, nature parks, and at the European level to support farmers who commit to sustainable practices.

More information on the CNE fact sheet

CIRCULAR ECONOMY: RUMINANT FARMING AT THE HEART OF VIRTUOUS CYCLES

The European Commission says,
THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY IS ALL ABOUT
2 GOALS:

Keeping materials and resources **in the economy for as long as possible**

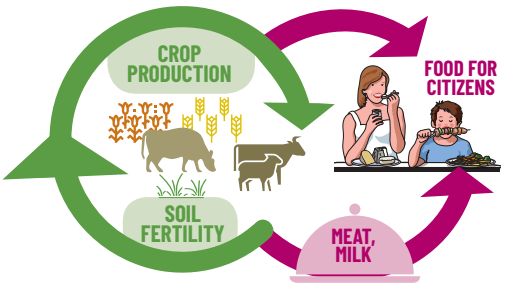
Minimizing waste production

RUMINANT FARMING MEETS TO THIS EXPECTATION AND IS STRUCTURED AROUND A VIRTUOUS CYCLE...

Livestock animals maintain soil fertility with their manure, which allows crops to be grown for human and animal consumption.

...SOIL, GRASS, AND CROPS

FOOD FOR HUMANS AND ANIMALS



Fed by plant resources and by-products from human food, they provide meat and milk for human consumption.

RUMINANT FARMING VALORIZES IN ANIMAL FEED CROP BY-PRODUCTS INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION **THUS PREVENTING THEM FROM BECOMING WASTE**

In 10 years,
+43% increase in value

Sources: Chapoutot *et al.*, 2018 - Reseda, 2017

Source: GIS Avenirs Elevage, 2022

TO GO FURTHER

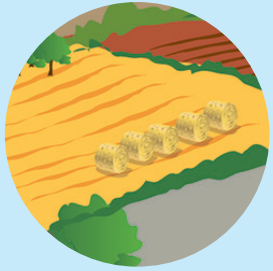
Farmers committed to recycling...

...non-organic waste

300,000 farmer-recyclers:

41% of the twine and nets used in round bales for ruminant farming are collected and recycled.

Source : Adivalor



... livestock effluent through methanization

to produce energy and provide digestate to fertilize soil:

6,900 French livestock farms produce renewable energy.

Source: Idele, 2020

SOME BEST PRACTICES FOR BETTER "CLOSING THE LOOP"

MAXIMIZING THE USE OF ANIMAL EFFLUENT...

... as fertilizer or to produce energy.

JOINING ADIVALOR (THE FRENCH RECYCLING ASSOCIATION) AND FIND SOLUTIONS...

... to recycle tarpaulins, twine, and cans through organized channels.

USING FOOD PRODUCED ON THE FARM...

... or by-products from the food industry.

TAKING AN INTEREST IN THE VALORIZATION...

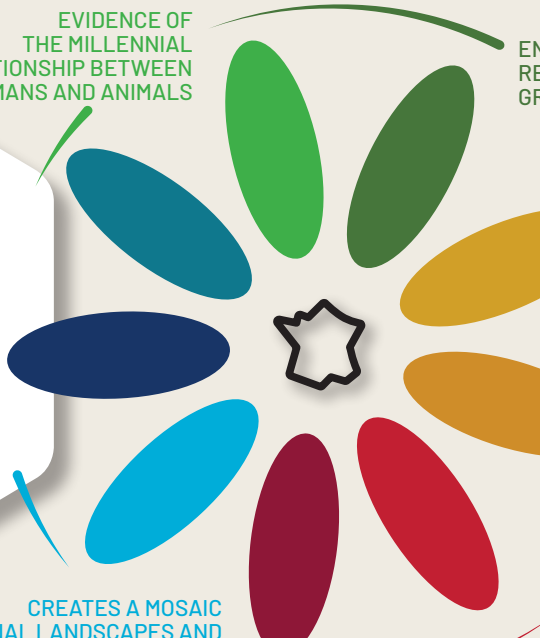
... of wool or leather from t he animals.

More information on the CNE fact sheet

THE FRENCH HERBIVORE FARMING MODEL: A KEY PLAYER IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In France, herbivore farming is rooted in the regions, productive, efficient, family-run and on a human scale...

IS MAKING CONTINUOUS PROGRESS, WITH ITS DYNAMIC NETWORK OF RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND ADVICE



EVIDENCE OF THE MILLENNIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HUMANS AND ANIMALS

ENHANCES SOIL AND LOCAL RESOURCES BY COMBINING GRASSLANDS AND CROPS

OFFERS DIVERSE RANGE OF HIGH-QUALITY ANIMAL PRODUCTS THAT ARE NUTRITIOUS AND HYGIENIC

GENERATES EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC VITALITY IN RURAL AREAS

CREATES A MOSAIC OF EXCEPTIONAL LANDSCAPES AND CONTRIBUTES TO A HIGH-QUALITY ENVIRONMENT

122 breeds of ruminants in France
2/3 of farmers are committed to good practices, including animal welfare (charters, Label Rouge, organic, BoviWell)

At least **85%** of the protein and energy in ruminant feed is not consumable by humans.

REFLECTS THE MILLENNIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HUMANS AND ANIMALS

14 million ruminants (adults) spread across **150,000** farms, most of which combine livestock farming with crop cultivation

1 hectare for **1** cow or for **6** sheep or goats

13 million hectares of grassland, representing **20%** of the territory
1,3 million hectares of feed corn
1,5 million hectares of cereals for own consumption

ENHANCES SOIL AND LOCAL RESOURCES BY COMBINING GRASSLAND AND CROPS

70% of professional livestock farmers receive technical advice

More than 10,000 advisors support livestock farmers in the field

12 NGOs involved in consultations with livestock farmers and industry stakeholders

IS CONSTANTLY PROGRESSING, WITH ITS DYNAMIC NETWORK NETWORK OF RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND CONSULTING

OFFERING A DIVERSE RANGE OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS WITH HIGH NUTRITIONAL AND SANITARY QUALITY ON THE MARKET

100% of animal products traced from farm to fork
51 PDO dairy products
35 Red Labels

Approximately **7%** of ruminants are raised organically

SHAPES A MOSAIC OF EXCEPTIONAL LANDSCAPES AND CONTRIBUTES TO A HIGH-QUALITY ENVIRONMENT

85 tons of carbon stored per year under 1 hectare of permanent grassland

8,000 French farms produce renewable energy (photovoltaic and methanization)

More than **48,000** CAP '2ER© environmental assessments carried out between 2015 and 2024

GENERATES EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC VITALITY IN RURAL AREAS

83% of the workforce is family-based
26% of farmers are women
256,000 direct jobs in livestock farming
244,000 indirect jobs

Per livestock farm, typically **2** workers for:
60 dairy cows or **100** suckler cows
or **500** ewes or **300** goats

Source: CNE, 2021

ACTIONS AND TOOLS IMPLEMENTED BY LIVESTOCK SECTORS TO OPTIMIZE SERVICES PROVIDED

ENVIRONMENT

CAP'2ER

Assess your farm's environmental performance, benchmark yourself against industry standards, and take action to improve.

Méthane 2030

Reduce methane emissions from cattle farming by 30% in 10 years.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

BoWell

Assessing animal welfare in dairy and beef cattle farms.

charte des bonnes pratiques d'élevage

Health, welfare, identification, nutrition, milk quality, safety, environment: "do it right and let people know."

FEED AND PRODUCTION

CAP PROTÉINES+ innovons pour notre souveraineté protéique

Developing protein self-sufficiency in ruminant farming.

Coprame

By-products to improve the multi-performance of dairy and beef cattle farms in the Grand Est region.

TERRITORIAL VITALITY

Support project initiators in becoming farmers.

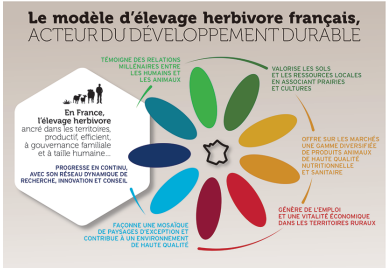
Focusing on the values of hospitality and friendliness, producers open their doors to the general public.

HERITAGE AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Support cheese producers who promote their local regions.

Quality and origin initiatives: protect and promote traditional food products.

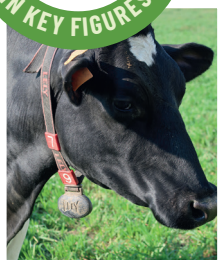
GENERAL VISION

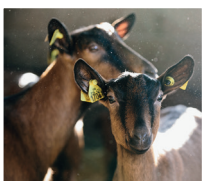


Study on the French herbivorous livestock model, a key player in sustainable development: expressing and sharing the specific characteristics of French herbivorous livestock farming and its contributions to sustainable development.

UNDERSTANDING & EXPLAINING IN KEY FIGURES

SERVICES PROVIDED BY RUMINANT LIVESTOCK FARMING





Confédération Nationale de l'Elevage
CNE

INSTITUT DE L'ELEVAGE idele

Beyond supplying high-quality food products, ruminant farmers provide society with numerous services that are sometimes overlooked and often underestimated. These services demonstrate the richness of their profession and the need to preserve their activity.

Without livestock farming, our summer pastures and hedgerow landscapes would not be maintained. The 13 million hectares of grassland and rangeland, which only ruminant farming can make use of, are valuable allies for our environment; these areas are excellent carbon sinks, filter water, and promote biodiversity. In rural areas, employment in livestock farming, related industries and services, as well as direct sales and farm visits, contribute to the vitality of the region. In this booklet, discover all the services provided by ruminant livestock farming, presented in the form of key figures, as well as the main actions taken by farmers and industries to make further progress.

Detailed information on each range of services and the sources of the data presented are available here:

Written by: Institut de l'Élevage – Produced by: Beta Pictoris – Photo credits: M. Blossier/IDELE – Boiron – A. L'Hote/IDELE – C. Maigret/IDELE – S. Schetelat/IDELE – C. Boyer/Flickr – ISBN: 978-2-7148-0194-4 – September 2025