Positive effects of animal production in France: a preliminary study based on interviews of stakeholders in two contrasted territories

C. Disenhaus, Y. Le Cozler, M. Bonneau

+ 28 master students « Animal science »





Supported by GIS "Elevages demain"

























Context



Socio-economic context

Increasing gap between producers and citizens Different (opposite) approaches of use / interest of landscape Competition within a same territory for the use of land

- Why keeping livestock?
 Plenty of studies on negative aspects of animal production, with many indicators (direct or not) known by many people
- Scientifies exploser positive aspects are increasing (still few indicators), from scientists and environmental activists. What about other people / users?

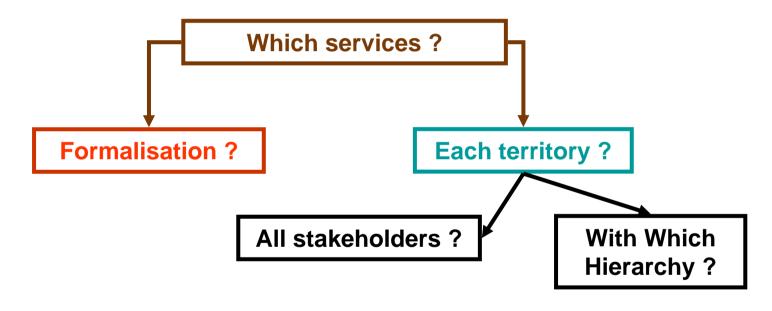




Objective and hypothesis



• First approach of stakeholder's perception of services provided by livestock productions : a qualitative approach





• Hypothesis : Same services whatever the territory,
Different hierarchy according to territory



Materials and methods: territories (1)







Chartreuse





Materials and methods: territories (2)



Chartreuse

Natural park, 22000 ha Montain area (300m to 2082m)

- ~ 38000 people,
- ~ 400 livestock holdings, ~ Different productions (3700 Dairy cows, 3000 Beef cows, some others)

Materials and methods: territories (3)

Brittany

Plain area

(0m to 384m), 27 208 km2

Oceanic climate

- > 3M inhabitants,
- ~ 116/km2

First French livestock area:

58% pork meat (30670 direct jobs)
21% bovine milk
(43360 direct jobs)
43% and 33% turkey
and chicken meats
(18510 direct jobs)



Materials and methods : semidirective survey



1- Identification of stakeholder categories:

Scientists and others researchers, local councillors, farmers, extension workers, ecologists and ecological association, food chain and tourism professionals

2- Identification of services:

Rural life, employment, landscape services, natural services (biodiversity, soil...), energy services, heritage, tourism services.

(From litterature, press, natural park charter)

3- Interview guides:

For each category of stakeholders

4- Interviews:

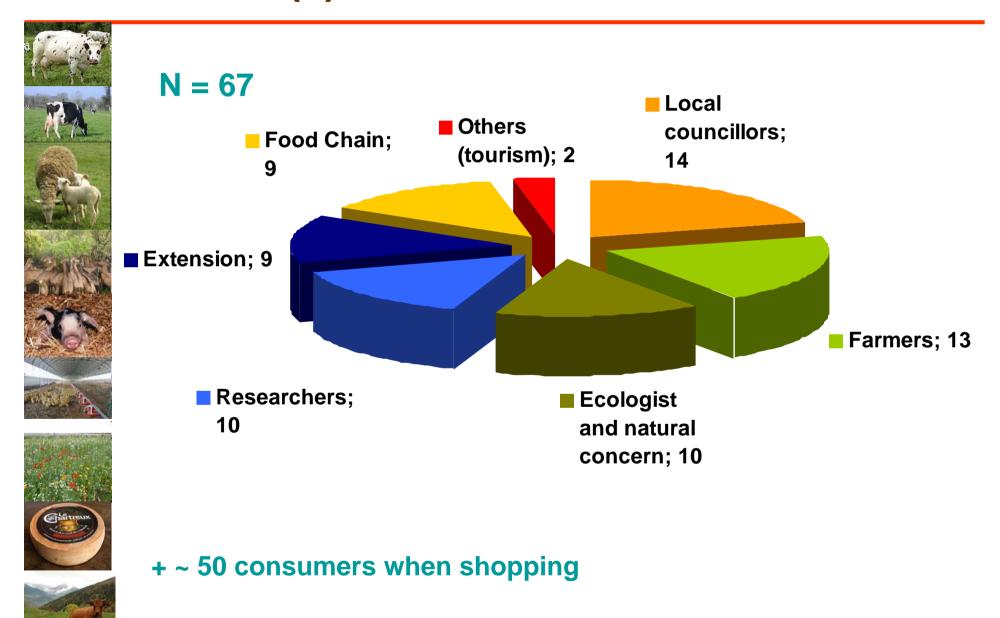


First step: spontaneous expression; second step: proposition of items. Conducted by 28 students and 3 professors.

5- Qualitative analysis of interviews



Results (1): Distribution of interviews



Results (2): spontaneous and shared items



Production function:

Unanimously recognized by all, in each territory.

As consumers said: "Livestock production serve to produce food".

Social and territorial dynamism: "Livestock has a major role in rural life preservation":

Whatever the livestock production is,

In term of Employment, direct or undirect, (for all interviews),

But also in terms of services, animation, social cohesion, links to animal.

Agro-ecological services: "Livestock helps maintaining environment and environmental quality"

Lanscape maintenance, prevention of natural risks (fire, flood...), Soil fertilization, biodiversity.



Culture and heritage: "Livestock represents a part of our heritage".



Results (3): differences between territory and/or stakeholders



Production function:

Unanimously recognized by all, in each territory.

For consumers: "Livestock production serve to produce food".

For some farmers and some chain stakeholders, production function is the only one. For consumers also.

Product "quality" seems more important in Chartreuse, with a clear association between quality and extensive production.

Social and territorial dynamism: "Livestock has a major role in rural life preservation":

Whatever the livestock production is, In term of Employment (for each interview), direct or undirect, But also in terms of services, animation, social cohesion, links to animal,

And to allow others economic activities (tourism: skiing, hiking...)

Mainly recognized by researcher and councilors.





Results (4): territory and/or stakeholders differences



Agro-ecological services: "Livestock helps maintaining environment and environmental quality"

Lanscape maintenance, prevention of the natural risks (fire, flood...), Soil fertilization, biodiversity

For researchers, extension workers and some ecologists.

With a great difference between productions for councilors and consumers: herbivores +++ (and associated pastures). > in Brittany.

Critical for landscape preservation

Potential energy services were identified only by researchers.



Culture and heritage: "Livestock represents a part of our heritage".

Mainly natural



Mainly cultural and architectural.

Conclusion and perspectives



Similar services were identified in both territories but not with the same hierarchy of importance. Need to be confirmed in "intermediate" territories.

Livestock production services seem to be well recognized by stakeholders, even though not by the general public.



Toward a real recognition and remuneration of services (2nd pillar, CAP), services has to be quantified. Necessity to identify, and use, reliable indicators.





























