

Using NIR spectroscopy on milk for the traceability of cows' feeding



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NIRS on milk for cows' feeding traceability

Context

Growing consumer's demand of information about production conditions of animal products

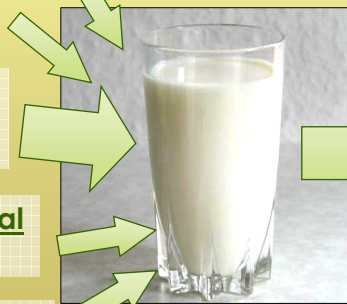
Geographical origin of food and feeds

Animal welfare

Animal feeding

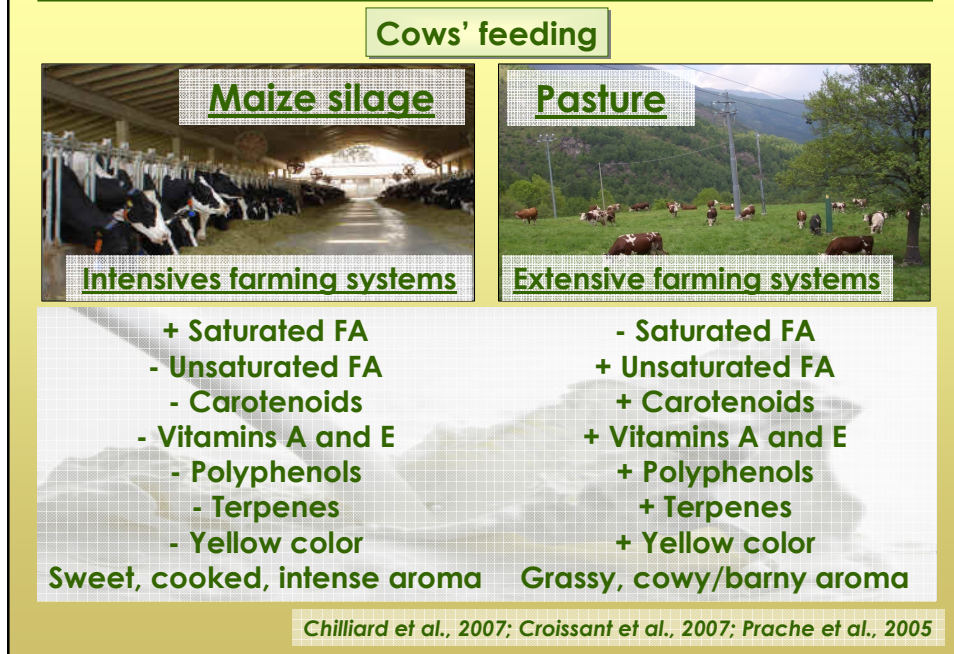
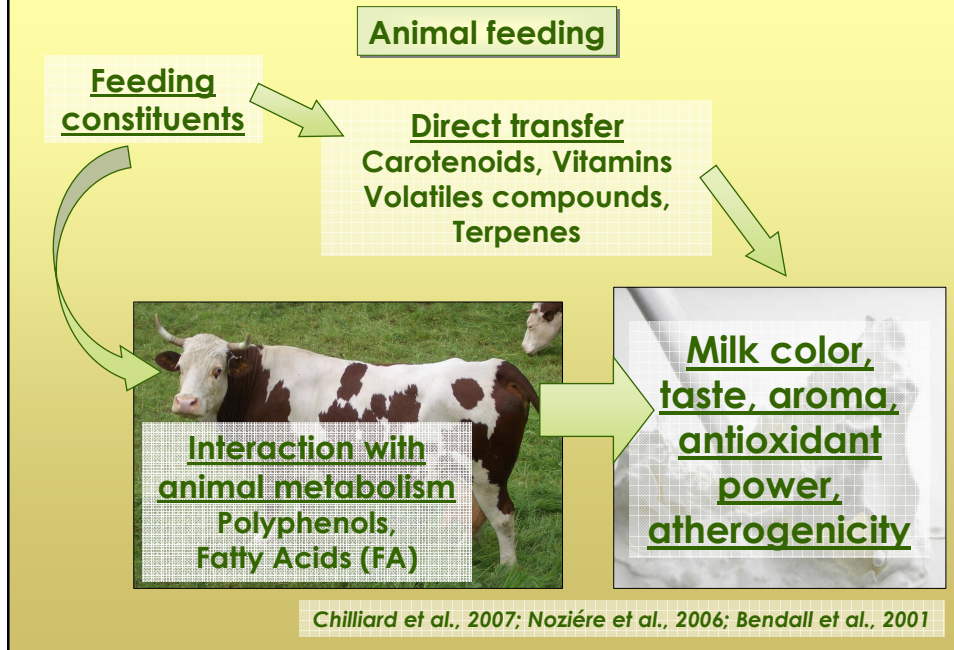
Environmental impact

Animal health

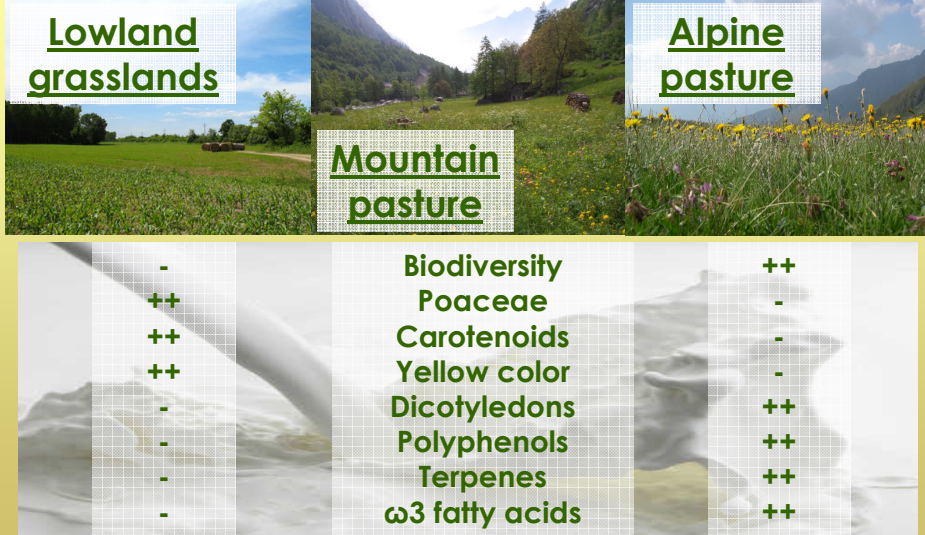


Nutritional quality

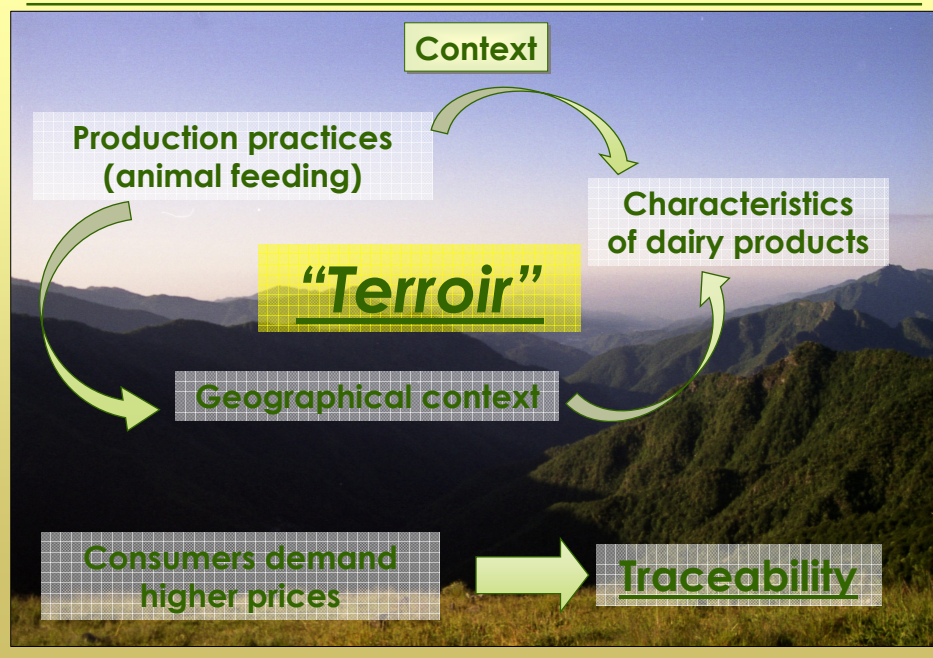
Taste



Pasture



Chilliard et al., 2007; Farruggia et al., 2006; Nozière et al., 2006



Objective

Test on milk the NIRs ability in tracing animal feedings:



Mountain

Alpine



Materials and methods

445 milk samples
172 farms
2007 and 2008
France and NW Italy

Wide variety of production conditions:

- geographical origin
- altitude
- breeds
- feeding systems

Recorded data about:

- cows' feeding
- forage % in the diet
- forage preservation techniques


Maize silage vs. Pasture

	Maize silage	Pasture
n of samples	37	124
Altitude (m a.s.l.)	253 (0 - 850)	1439 (0 - 2500)
Animal feeding		
Preserved forages (%)*	18 (0 - 34)	0
Maize silage (%)*	82 (70 - 100)	0
Grass (%)*	0	100
* % of forages total dry matter		


Lowland vs. Mountain vs. Alpine Pasture

	Lowland grassland	Mountain pasture	Alpine pasture
n of samples	69	82	78
Altitude (m a.s.l.)	112 (0-400)	859 (420-1100)	1986 (1200-2500)
Animal feeding			
Preserved forages (%)*	7 (0-30)	9 (0-31)	1 (0-19)
Maize silage (%)*	2 (0-26)	1 (0-20)	0
Grass (%)*	90 (70-100)	90 (70-100)	99 (81-100)
* % of forages total dry matter			

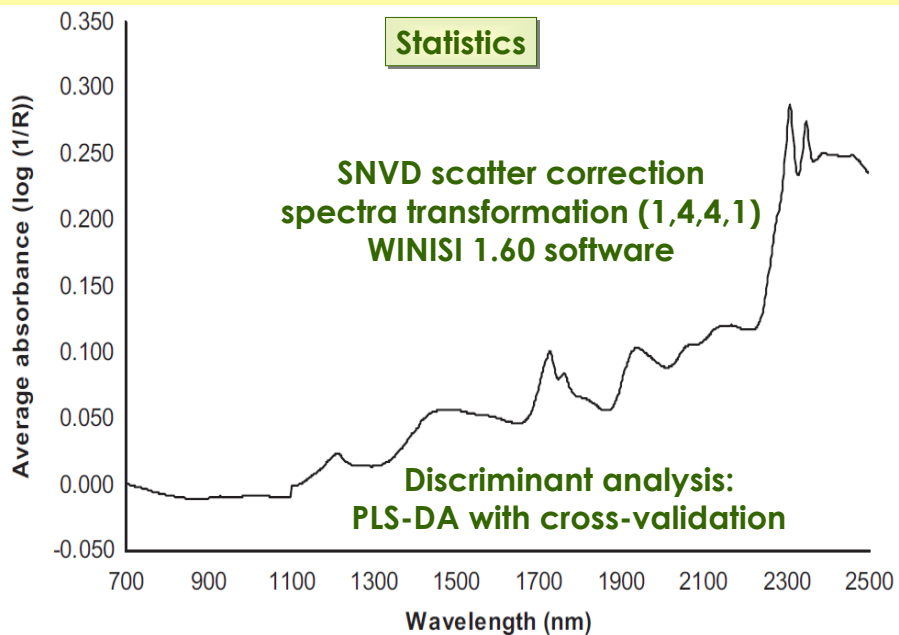
Milk sampling and analysis

Samples stored -18°C until analysis

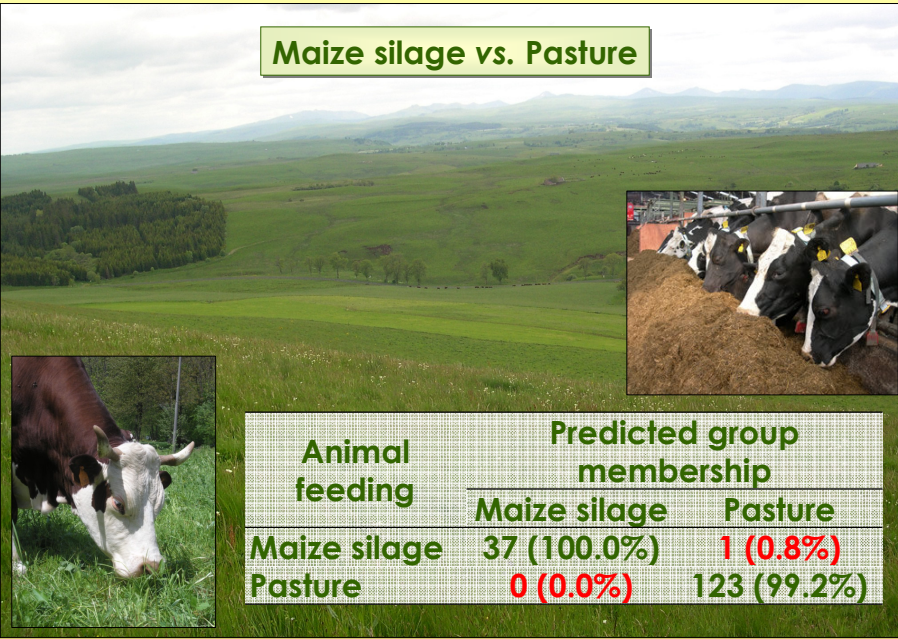
**Preparation: 2 h room temperature
0,5 ml on a glass microfiber filter (Wathman GF/A 55mm)
Oven-dried at 40°C for 24 h**

**Filter put in a 50mm Ø ring cup
Scan 2 nm intervals 400-2500 nm
(Foss NIRSystem model 6500)
Spectrum collected vi a ISIsScan 2.21**

Statistics

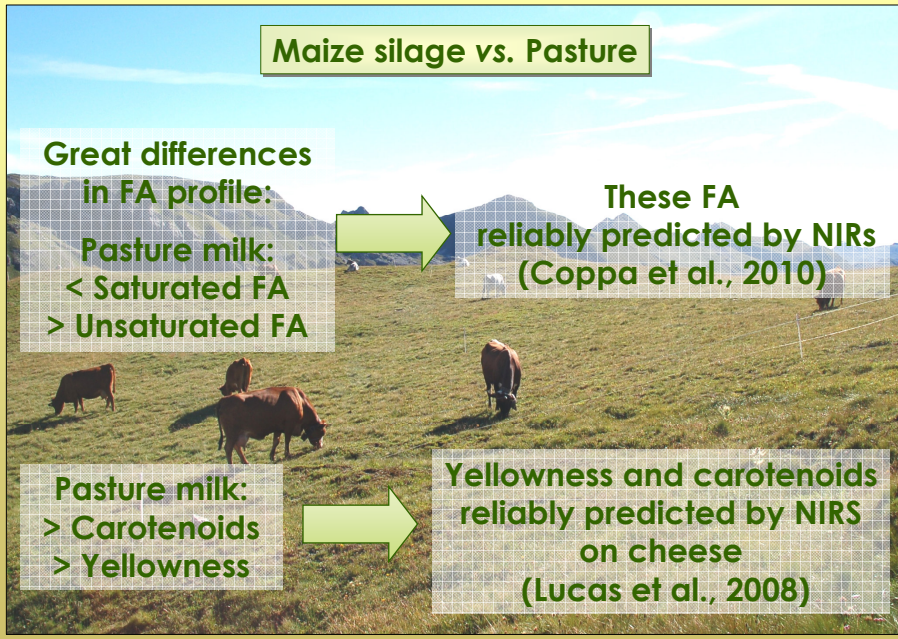


Maize silage vs. Pasture



Animal feeding	Predicted group membership	
	Maize silage	Pasture
Maize silage	37 (100.0%)	1 (0.8%)
Pasture	0 (0.0%)	123 (99.2%)

Maize silage vs. Pasture



Great differences in FA profile:

- Pasture milk:
 - < Saturated FA
 - > Unsaturated FA

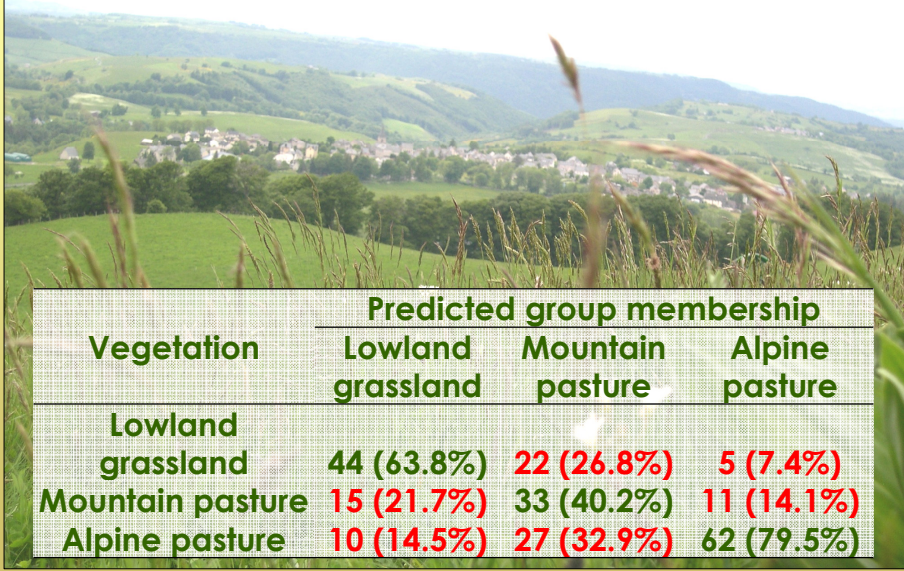
These FA reliably predicted by NIRs (Coppa et al., 2010)

Pasture milk:

- > Carotenoids
- > Yellowness

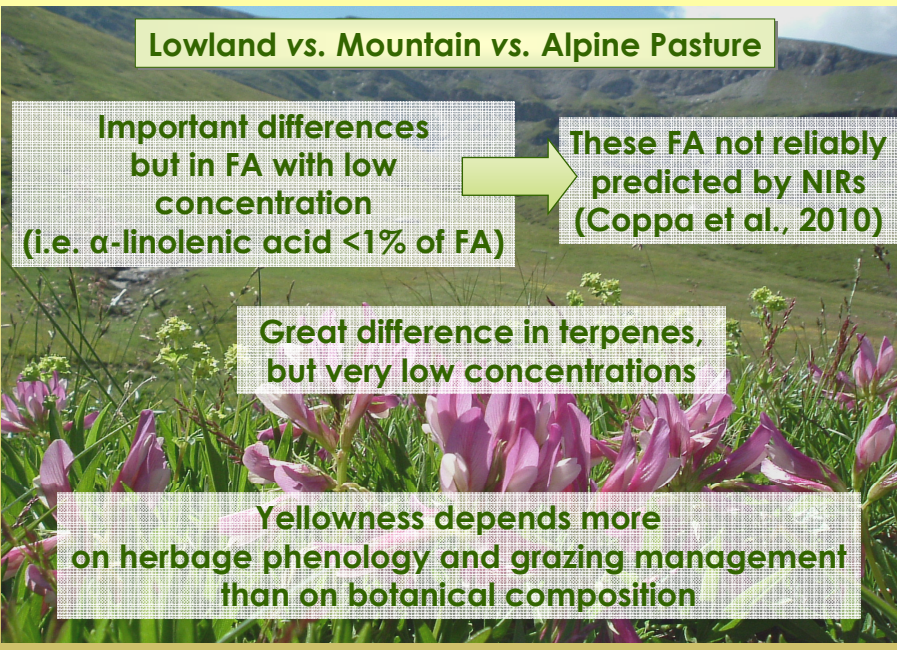
Yellowness and carotenoids reliably predicted by NIRs on cheese (Lucas et al., 2008)

Lowland vs. Mountain vs. Alpine Pasture



Vegetation	Predicted group membership		
	Lowland grassland	Mountain pasture	Alpine pasture
Lowland grassland	44 (63.8%)	22 (26.8%)	5 (7.4%)
Mountain pasture	15 (21.7%)	33 (40.2%)	11 (14.1%)
Alpine pasture	10 (14.5%)	27 (32.9%)	62 (79.5%)

Lowland vs. Mountain vs. Alpine Pasture



Important differences but in FA with low concentration (i.e. α -linolenic acid <1% of FA) → These FA not reliably predicted by NIRs (Coppa et al., 2010)

Great difference in terpenes, but very low concentrations

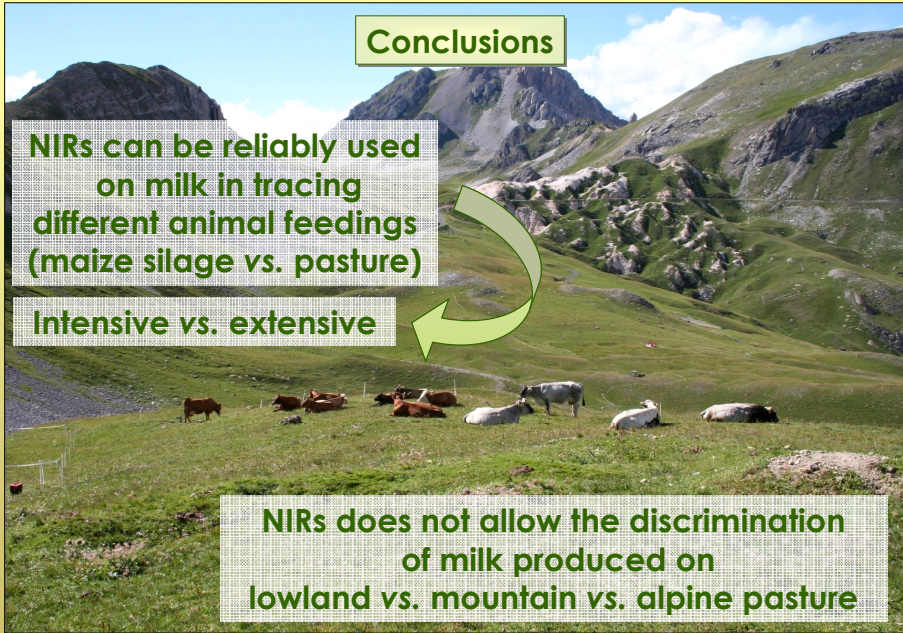
Yellowness depends more on herbage phenology and grazing management than on botanical composition

Conclusions

**NIRs can be reliably used
on milk in tracing
different animal feedings
(maize silage vs. pasture)**

Intensive vs. extensive

**NIRs does not allow the discrimination
of milk produced on
lowland vs. mountain vs. alpine pasture**



**...thank you
for the attention!**