



## The challenges of modelling mixed management grasslands in North Spain under climate change

Alfredo Rodríguez, Iñigo Gómara, Gianni Bellocchi, Raphaël Martin, Adela Martínez-Fernández, Alfonso Caballal, Jordi Doltra, Agustín del Prado, Margarita Ruiz-Ramos

### ► To cite this version:

Alfredo Rodríguez, Iñigo Gómara, Gianni Bellocchi, Raphaël Martin, Adela Martínez-Fernández, et al.. The challenges of modelling mixed management grasslands in North Spain under climate change. EGU General Assembly 2022, Apr 2022, Vienne, Austria. hal-03530298

**HAL Id: hal-03530298**

**<https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-03530298>**

Submitted on 17 Jan 2022

**HAL** is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

EGU22-12103

EGU General Assembly 2022

© Author(s) 2022. This work is distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License.



## The challenges of modelling mixed management grasslands in North Spain under climate change

**Alfredo Rodríguez**<sup>1</sup>, Iñigo Gómara<sup>2</sup>, Giani Bellocchi<sup>3</sup>, Raphael Martin<sup>3</sup>, Adela Martínez-Fernández<sup>4</sup>, Alfonso Caballal<sup>4</sup>, Jordi Doltra<sup>5</sup>, Agustín del Prado<sup>6</sup>, and Margarita Ruiz-Ramos<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, Department of Economic Analysis and Finances, Toledo, Spain  
(alfredo.rodriguez@uclm.es)

<sup>2</sup>Departamento de Física de la Tierra y Astrofísica, Universidad Complutense de Madrid

<sup>3</sup>Grassland Ecosystem Research, French National Institute for Agricultural Research, INRAE

<sup>4</sup>Servicio Regional de Investigación y Desarrollo Agroalimentario (SERIDA), Asturias

<sup>5</sup>Centro de Investigación y Formación Agrarias (CIFA), Santander, Spain

<sup>6</sup>Basque Centre for Climate Change

<sup>7</sup>CEIGRAM, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

Permanent grasslands are a very relevant cropping system in the North of Spain and support the main dairy farms in the country. Adaptation to climate change will be required given the projected changes of regional precipitation. To support such adaptation, modelling of these systems to generate high quality projections of the system performance is required. In the region to be simulated, grasslands are managed with a mixture of cuts and grazing. Several issues hinder the modelling of this type of systems: 1) the available data of grazing intensity presents large uncertainties; 2) there are few grassland models that allows flexibility to define a variable combination of cuts and grazing; 3) soil heterogeneity. This exercise has the goal of exploring the potential of PASIM to simulate mixed management grasslands. The model has been successfully applied in a permanent grassland in the French Massif Central, for a management that only contemplated cuts without grazing (Gómara et al., 2020).

The model was calibrated using data from Villaviciosa (Asturias, Spain, 5° 26' 27" W, 43° 28' 50" N, 10 m a.s.l.), located at northern Spain with a temperate climate. This calibration was used to simulate several grasslands locations distributed along the Cantabrian Sea. The soil information was obtained from Trueba et al. (2000). The model was configured for the optimum management for mowing and nitrogen fertilization. The 1976-2005 period and the 2030-2059 period were selected. For the future period two representative concentration pathways emission scenarios (RCP, van Vuuren et al., 2011) were selected (i.e. RCP4.5 and RCP8.5). An ensemble of climate models will be used from the Coordinated Regional Climate Downscaling Experiment (CORDEX, Giorgi and Gutowski, 2015) previously bias-adjusting them by using the European observational database EOBS (Haylock et al., 2008) with the empirical quantile mapping method included at the climate4R R package (Iturbide et al., 2019).

Modelling was challenging due to a combination of complexity (many processes involved) and uncertainty (observed data are difficult to generate). The results of the simulation exercise allow for assessing PASIM skill to reproduce the performance of these complex systems, as well as to

determine the main weakness of the model and the observational data and field experiments required to develop the corresponding model improvements.

## **References**

- Giorgi, F. and Gutowski, W.J., 2015. Annual Review of Environment and Resources, 40(1): 467-490.
- Gómara I, Bellocchi G, Martin R, Rodríguez-Fonseca B, Ruiz-Ramos M, 2020. Agricultural and Forest Meteorology, 280, 107768.
- Haylock, M.R., Hofstra, N., Klein Tank, A.M.G., Klok, E.J., Jones, P. and New, M., 2008. J. Geophys. Res., 113: D20119.
- Iturbide, M., Bedia, J., Herrera, S., Baño-Medina, J., Fernández, J., Frías, M.D., Manzanar, R., San-Martín, D., Gimadevilla, E., Cofiño, A.S. and Gutiérrez, J.M., 2019. Environ. Modell. Softw., 111: 42-54.
- Trueba, C., Millán, R., Schimd, T, Lago, (2000). CIEMAT. ISBN: 84-7834-370-9. Madrid.
- van Vuuren, D.P., Edmonds, J., Kainuma, M., Riahi, K., Thomson, A., Hibbard, K., Hurtt, G.C., Kram, T., Krey, V., Lamarque, J.-F., Masui, T., Meinshausen, M., Nakicenovic, N., Smith, S.J. and Rose, S.K., 2011. Clim. Change, 109: 5–31.