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# ECO-FORMULATION OF FISH FEEDS:

A promising efficient solution to limit aquaculture impacts on the environment. Application to rainbow trout

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# ECO-FORMULATION OF FISH FEEDS: A promising solution or crazy idea of mathematicians ?

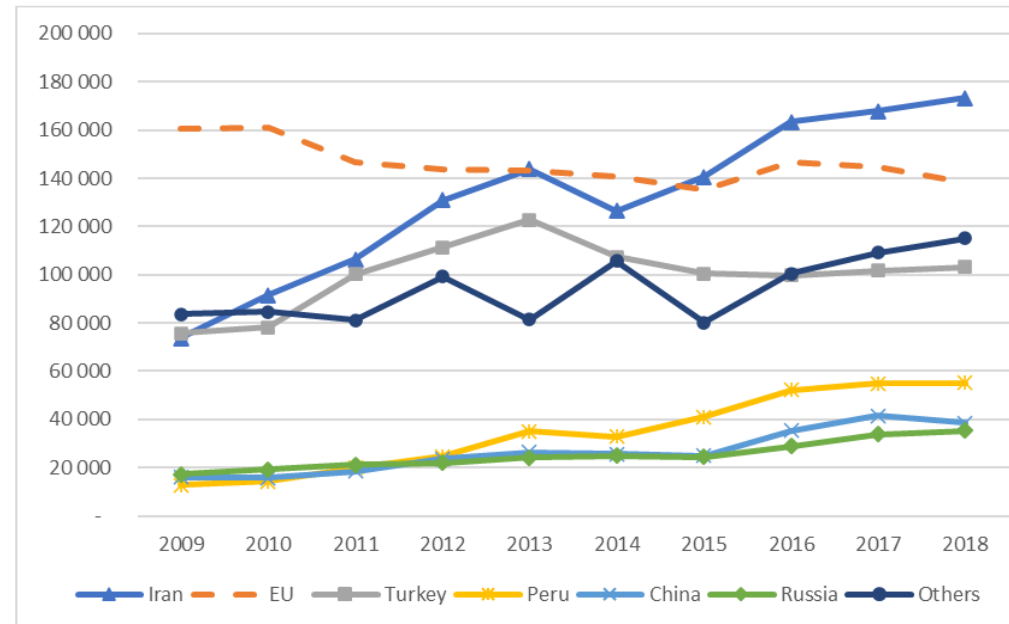
Aurélie Wilfart<sup>1</sup>, Florence Garcia-Launay<sup>2</sup>, Frederic Terrier<sup>3</sup>,  
Espoir Soudé<sup>3</sup>, Pierre Aguirre<sup>3</sup>, Sandrine Skiba-Cassy<sup>3</sup>

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## ➤ Rainbow trout production

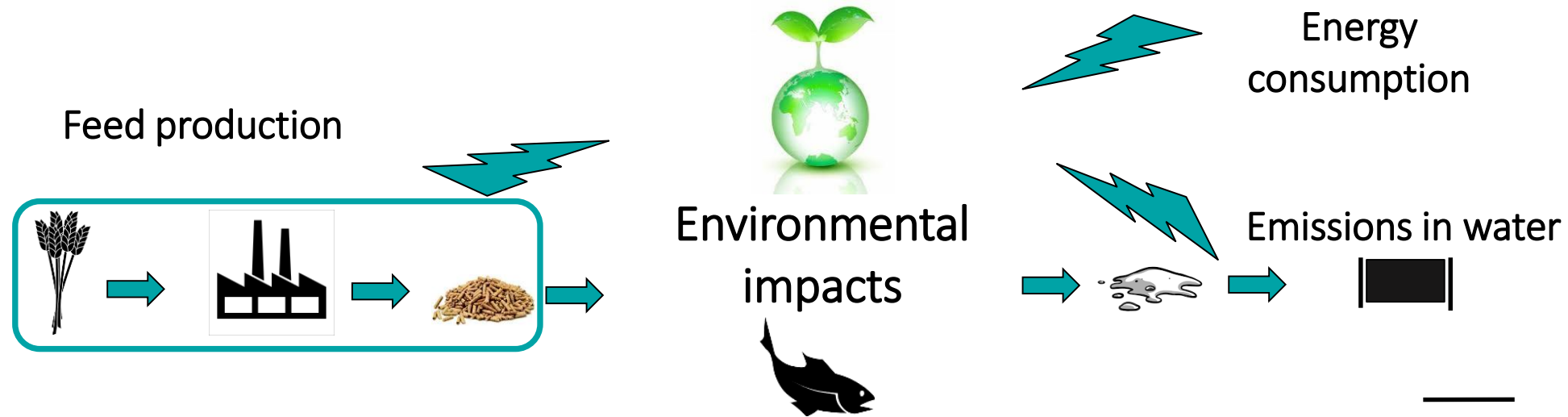


FAO, 2018

- ✓ Leading freshwater farmed species in Europe (156,000 t)
- ✓ Mainly for portion size-fish (200-300 gr)
- ✓ Almost all rainbow trout on the EU market comes from aquaculture

EUMOFA, 2021

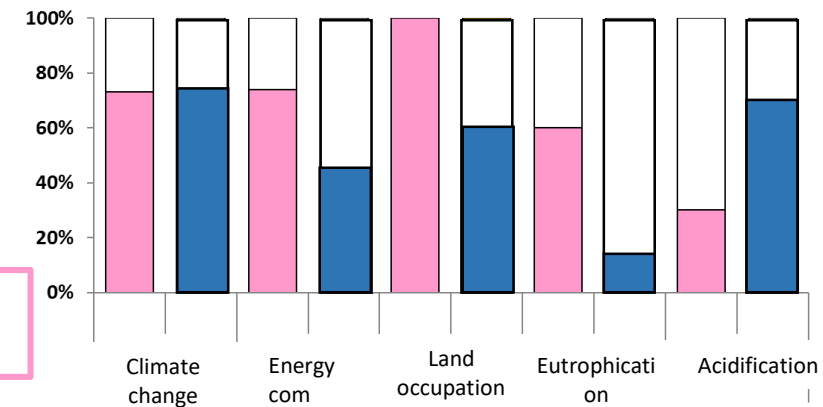
## ➤ Environmental impacts of aquaculture



- ✓ 65-95% of the environmental impacts (Wilfart et al, 2018)
- ✓ 60-75 % of production cost (Hoffman et al, 1997)



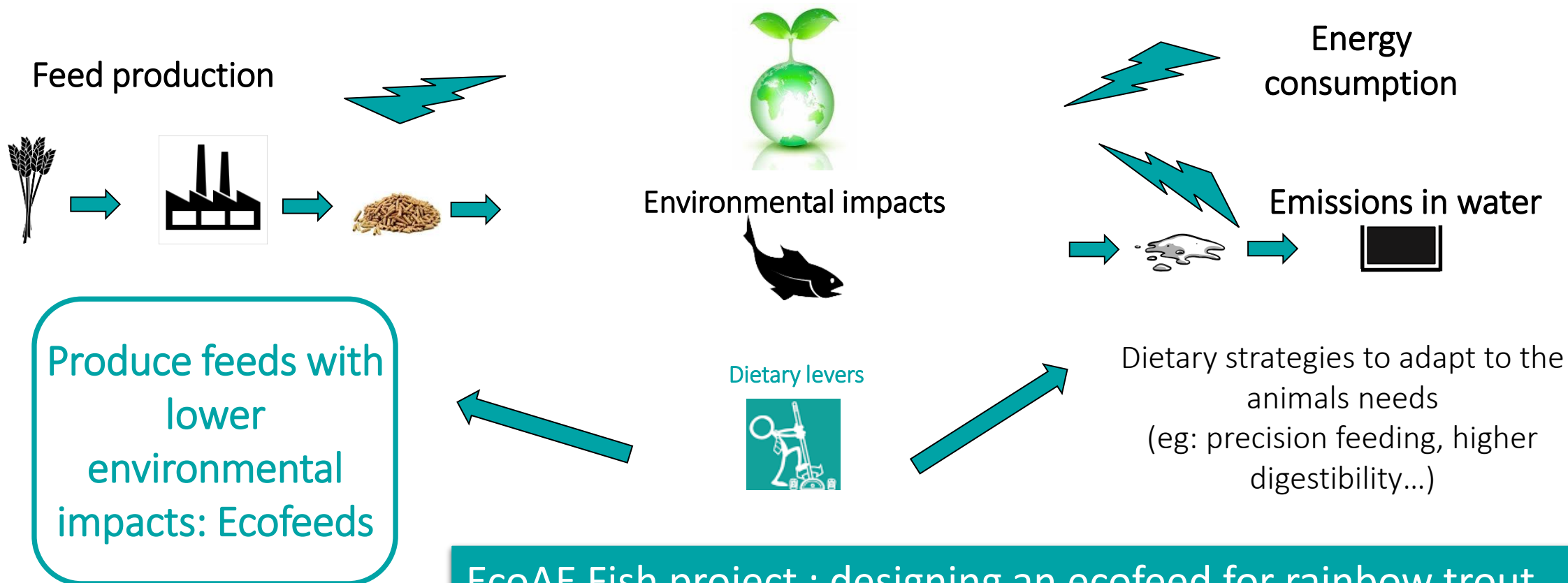
Basset-Mens &  
van der Werf, 2005  
Dourmad et al. 2014



Aubin et al., 2009  
Boissy et al., 2011  
Wilfart et al, 2013,

Feed contribution to LCA impacts for 1 kg of life weight at farm gate

## ➤ Environmental impacts of aquaculture



**EcoAE Fish project : designing an ecofeed for rainbow trout and test its digestibility, the consequences on animal growth performances and its environmental impacts**

## ➤ EcoFeed: multi-objective formulation concept

- ✓ Formulate : combine feed ingredients into feed by using linear programming to meet user-defined animal requirements with an objective to optimize

### ➤ EcoFeed: multi-objective formulation concept

Eco-formulation

Multi-objective formulation



Environmental impacts of raw materials

Eco-feed

Least-cost formulation

Cost of raw materials and nutritional requirements



Traditional feed



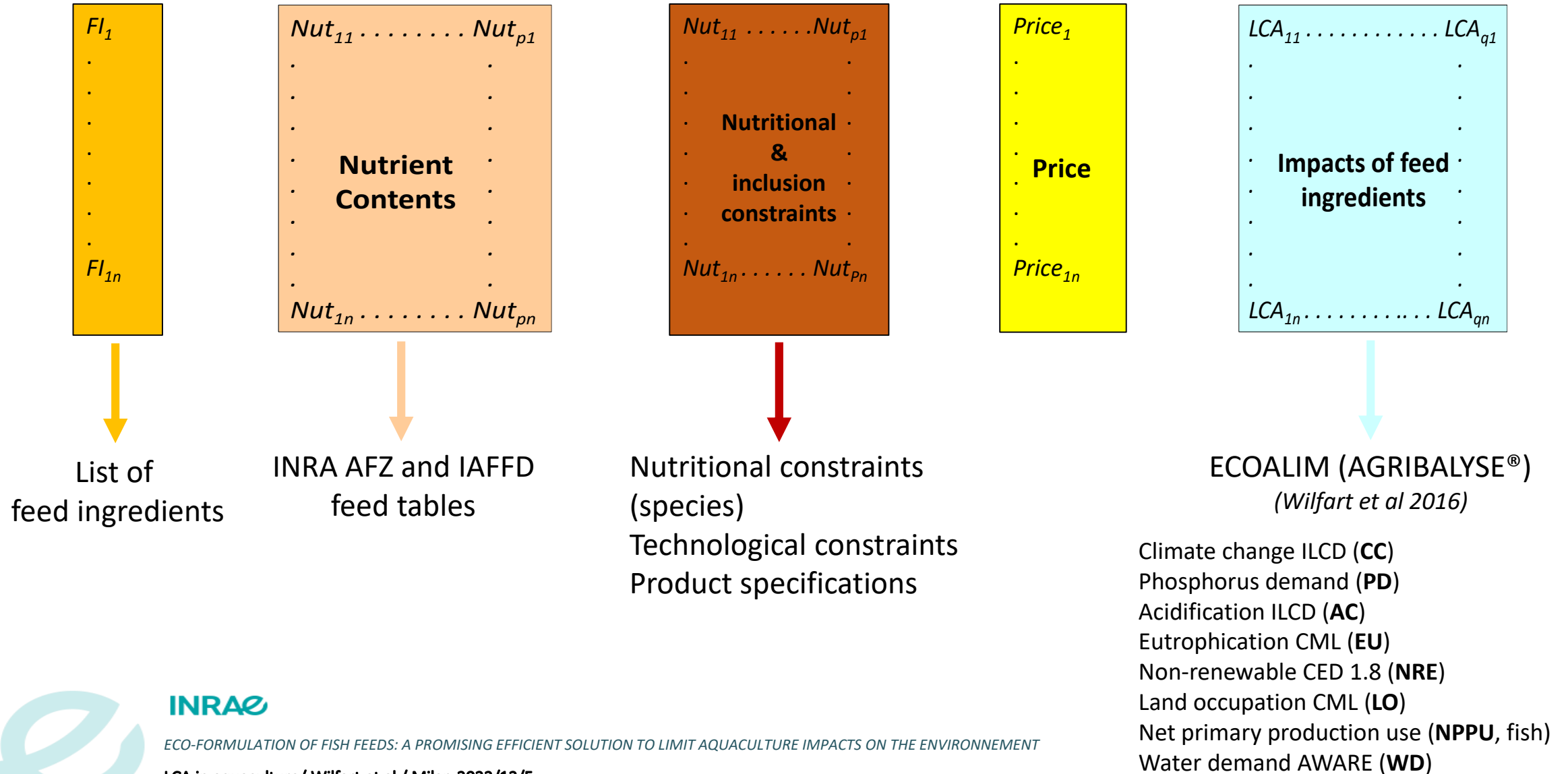
➔ Feed with less environmental impact and controlled cost

➔ Lower cost feed





## ➤ Feed Formulation matrix



## ➤ Multi-objective formulation algorithm

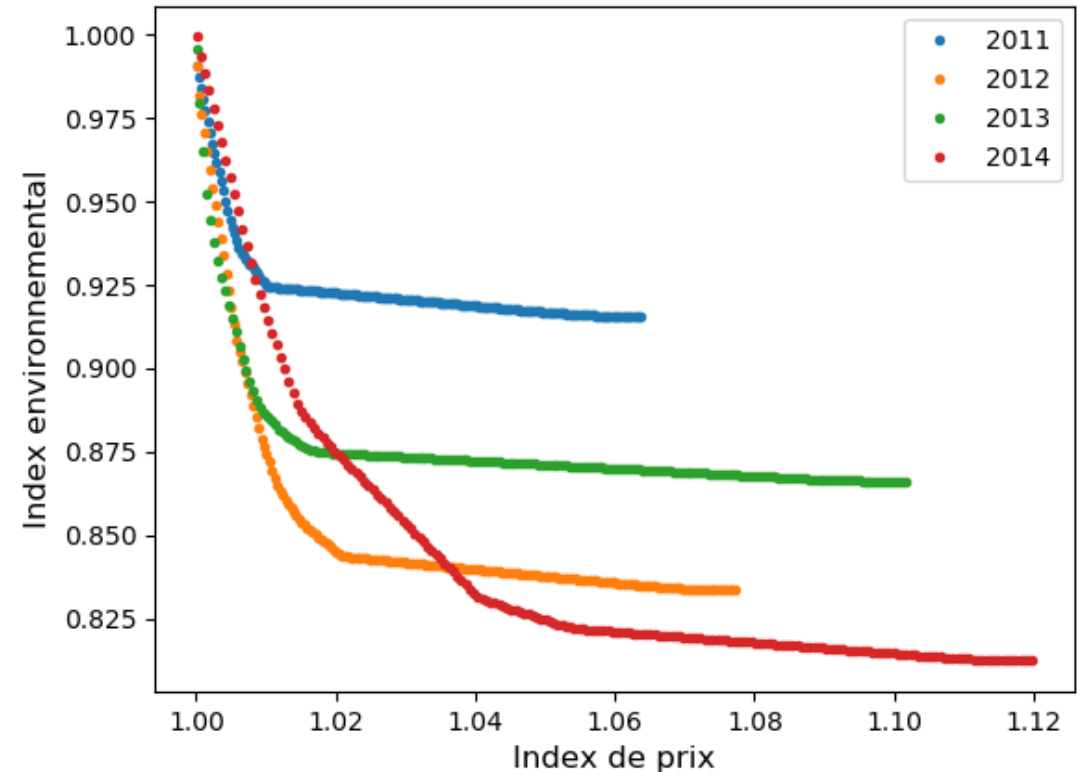
$$f(x) = \sum_{i \in I} \text{coef}_i \frac{\text{Impact}_i^t x - \text{Min}_i}{\text{Ref}_{\text{impact}_i} - \text{Min}_i}$$

$$c^t x \leq \epsilon \quad \epsilon = \{\text{Ref}_{\text{prix}}, \dots, \text{Max}_{\text{prix}}\}$$

$$\text{Impact}_i^t x \leq 1.05 \times \text{Ref}_{\text{impact}_i}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} q_{\min} \\ n_{\min} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \leq \begin{pmatrix} Q \\ N \\ 1^t \end{pmatrix} x \leq \begin{pmatrix} q_{\max} \\ n_{\max} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$i = [\text{CC}, \text{AC}, \text{EU}, \text{NRE}, \text{LO}, \text{PD}, \text{NPPU}, \text{WD}]$



## Trade-off economy/environment

## ➤ Feed formulas : ingredients

### 2 different formulations approaches

- ✓ **Commercial formulation** in accordance with practices in commercial farms (**C-diet**)
- ✓ **Ecodiet** with MO-formulation considering feed cost and environmental impacts (**ECO-diet**)

Major ingredients (%)	C-diet	ECO-diet	
Wheat	2.00	17.31	
Fababean	17.01	-	
Fish meal	16.01	7.24	-45 %
Fish oil	6.53	3.61	
Gluten meal	8.50	-	
Oilseed meal	16 raw materials	23 raw materials	
Poultry meal (blood, feather)		15.58	
Oilseed oil	1276.9 €/t	1171.5 €/t	-8 %
Guar meal/Soy lecithin	-	2.97/5.76	
Pea protein concentrate	25.01	20.00	
Premix and additives	4.35	4.4	

## ➤ Feed formulas: chemical composition and environmental impacts

Chemical composition	C-diet	ECO-diet	
Dry matter (g/kg)	966.4	973.4	
Crude protein (g/kg)	473.7	476.7	
Crude lipid (g/kg)	237.0	237.9	
Starch (g/kg)	91.5	<b>111.1</b>	
GE (kJ/g DM)	25.7	24.6	
Environmental impacts /kg of feed)			
Climate change (kg CO <sub>2</sub> -eq)	<b>1.387</b>	<b>0.751</b>	- 46 %
Non renewable energy (MJ)	<b>14.851</b>	<b>8.547</b>	- 57 %
Acidification (molc H <sup>+</sup> -eq)	0.017	0.012	
Eutrophication (kg PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup> -eq)	0.007	0.00458	
NPPU (kg C)	<b>21.593</b>	<b>12.150</b>	- 44 %
Land occupation (m <sup>2</sup> year)	1.625	1.240	
Water demand (m <sup>3</sup> )	<b>10.321</b>	<b>5.759</b>	- 44 %
Phosphorus demand (kg P)	0.007	0.00556	

## ➤ Consequences on the formula: take home message

- Reduction >50% of fishmeal and fish oil
- Elimination of soybean meal and soybean protein concentrate
- Introduction of new yeast ingredients such as yeast
- Reduction of feed cost (8%)

### **But :**

- Increase in the number of ingredients (16 → 23)
- Significant use of animal by-products : hydrolysed feather protein, poultry blood meal, poultry oil
- Introduction of raw materials in very small quantities: 0.02% linseed oil, 0.01% potato protein concentrate



## ➤ Digestibility and growth trials

- ✓ Triplicate groups of 27 fish (initial BW 60 g) per diet
- ✓ 84 d of experiment (Growth) – 21 d (digestibility)
- ✓ C-diet or Ecodiet
- ✓ Feeding ad libitum twice a day
- ✓ Biomass weighing every 21 days
- ✓ Total quantity of feed distributed
- ✓ Control of physico-chemical parameters ( $O_2$ , N- $NH_4$ ,  $^{\circ}C$ )
- ✓ Calculation of growth performance parameters



*NuMÉA, Donzacq experimental facilities*

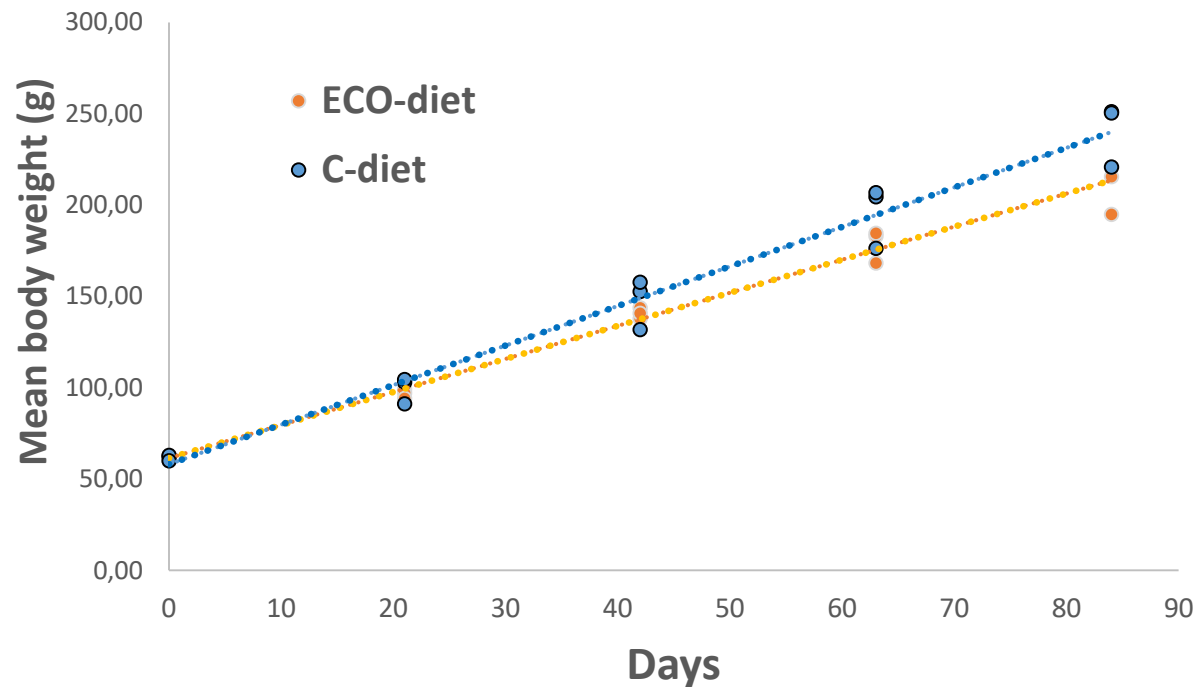
## ➤ In vivo performance of the Eco-diet

	C-diet		ECO-diet		P-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Initial BW, g	61.73	1.54	61.23	1.54	0.71
Final BW, g	240.74	17.32	210.37	13.72	0.08
SGR, %	1.62	0.06	1.47	0.08	0.07
DFI, g kg <sup>-1</sup> day <sup>-1</sup>	16.17	0.03	15.03	0.02	0.009
FCR	1.15	0.02	1.15	0.05	0.93

	C-diet		ECO-diet		P-value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
ADC (%)					
Protein	91.69	0.23	91.01	0.17	0.08
Lipid	95.56	0.27	93.99	0.08	0.0003
Starch	92.51	0.48	97.66	0.32	0.0003
Energy	89.07	0.34	87.27	0.29	0.02
Ash	44.93	1.36	38.81	0.3	0.04

- No effect on body composition, final BW, nutrient retention and nutrient gain except for protein
- Energy and lipid gain are lower with ECO diet
- ECO-Diet significantly affected daily feed intake

## ➤ In vivo performance of the Eco-diet



**IMPORTANT**

**Eco-feed consumption does not affect animal performance**

- Good growth performance
- No significant difference after 84 days ( $p=0.07$ ) but to be confirmed over a longer rearing period
- No difference in body composition

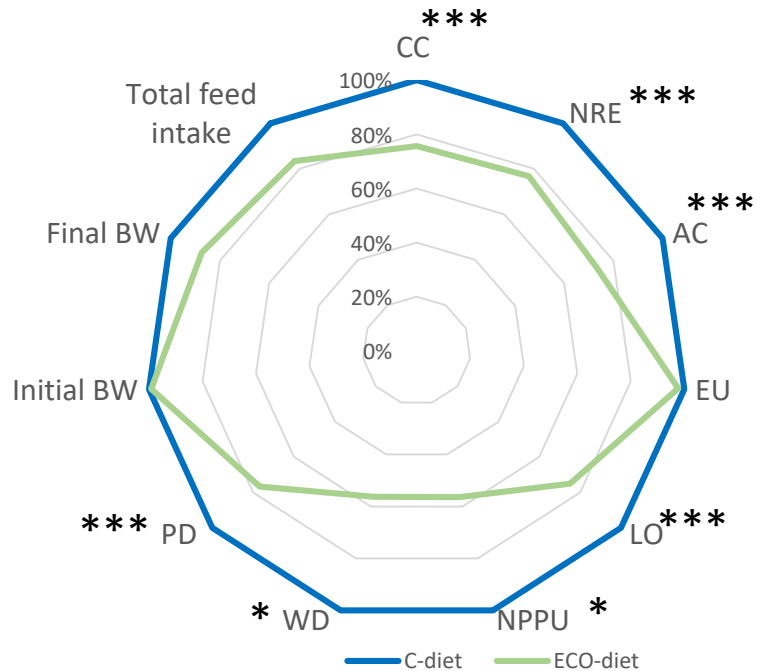


## ➤ LCA methodology

- ✓ LCA was conducted for each tank according to tank performance and feed consumption. Electricity and water consumption for feed production were measured directly on the experimental feed facility
- ✓ The functional units and the main components considered in LCA model were:
  - ✓ One kg of feed at factory gate, including resources and emissions to the production of feed and transportation to plant (ECOALIM dataset, Wilfart et al 2016)
  - ✓ One kg of live body weight gain at the end of experiment which included the uses of resources (oxygen, energy, water) and emissions during the experiment.
- ✓ The impacts considered were climate change (CC), acidification (AC) obtained by ILCD method, eutrophication (EU by CML IA) and non renewable energy demand (NRE by CED v1.08), water demand (WD by AWARE) as implemented in Simapro® v8.3.0.0 and net primary production use (NPPU, Papytryphon et al 2004) and phosphorus demand (Wilfart et al 2016)
- ✓ Background data base : Agribalyse 3.0 including ECOALIM dataset (Wilfart et al, 2016) for agricultural machineries, Ecoinvent v3.8



## ➤ LCA results at the end of the experiment



\*  $P < 0.05$ , \*\*  $P < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $P < 0.001$ .

CC = climate change (kg CO<sub>2</sub>eq); NRE = non-renewable and fossil energy demand (MJ); AC = acidification (molH<sup>+</sup>eq); EU = eutrophication (kg PO<sub>4</sub>-eq); LO = land occupation (m<sup>2</sup>.y); NPPU = net primary production use (kg C); WD = water demande (m<sup>3</sup>); PD = phosphorus demand (g P)

Per kg of BW gain, Eco diet reduced all the impact except for EU.

Major reduction for NPPU and WD (44 %)  
Others impacts are reduced by about 25 %

The reduction at « farm » level is smaller than that observed at the feed level

**IMPORTANT**

**Ecodiet: It works !**

- ✓ By formulating with environmental impacts, it is possible to reduce the environmental impacts of trout feed
- ✓ ECO diet use more raw materials than a commercial diet
- ✓ To compensate the substitution of fishmeal and fish oil, more animal co-products are needed in the ECO diet
- ✓ Despite a tendency to reduce growth, ECO diet reduce significantly environmental impacts per kg of BW gain
- ✓ The interest of the multi-objectives formulation has to be validated for longer rearing times and on other fish species

➤ Thank you for your attention !

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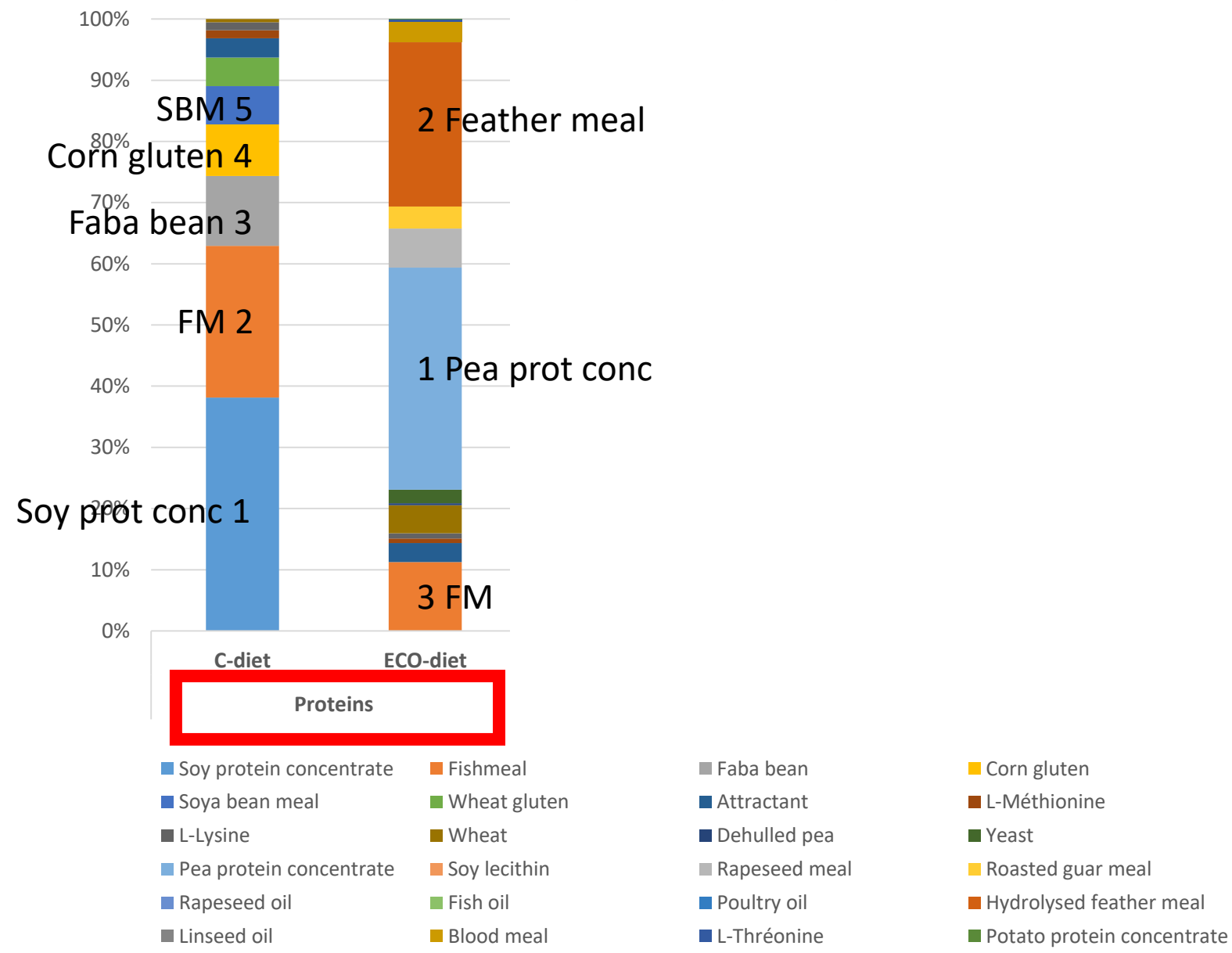
[https://www6.inrae.fr/ecoalim\\_eng/](https://www6.inrae.fr/ecoalim_eng/)

The screenshot shows the website interface for the ECOALIM data base, including logos for ARVALIS, ifip, INRA, ARVALIS Institut de végétal, Terres Inovia, ITAVI, FEEDSIN AVENIR, and INRAE. Below the website is a detailed table of LCA impacts per feedstuff.

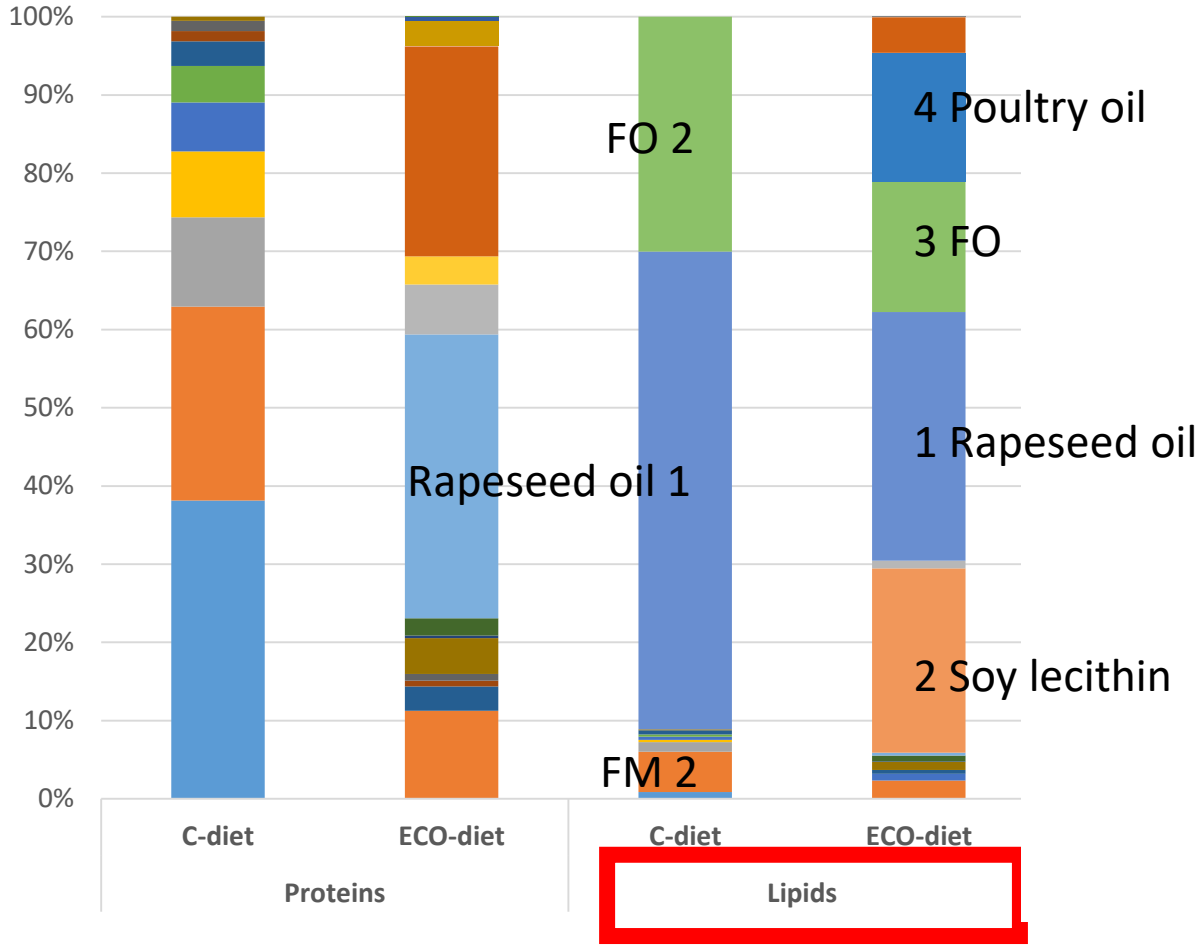
Feedstuffs	Perforator	Average date / subcategory	Country of production for the raw feedstuff	Country of transformation for the raw feedstuff	LCA impacts / kg feedstuff					
					Biogenic emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)	GHG emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)	Climate change (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)	Acidification (kg SO <sub>2</sub> e)	Eutrophication (kg N e)	Land occupation (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e)
Maize (dry)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Wheat (dry)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Barley (dry)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Oats (dry)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Rye (dry)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Triticale (dry)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Maize (wet)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Wheat (wet)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Barley (wet)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Oats (wet)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Rye (wet)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Triticale (wet)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Maize (silage)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Wheat (silage)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Barley (silage)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Oats (silage)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Rye (silage)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Triticale (silage)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Maize (whole crop)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Wheat (whole crop)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Barley (whole crop)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Oats (whole crop)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Rye (whole crop)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
Triticale (whole crop)	France	2018	France	France	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000

Want to know more ? Read our article in *Aquaculture*  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aquaculture.2022.738826>

Contribution of feed ingredients to protein, lipid and starch content



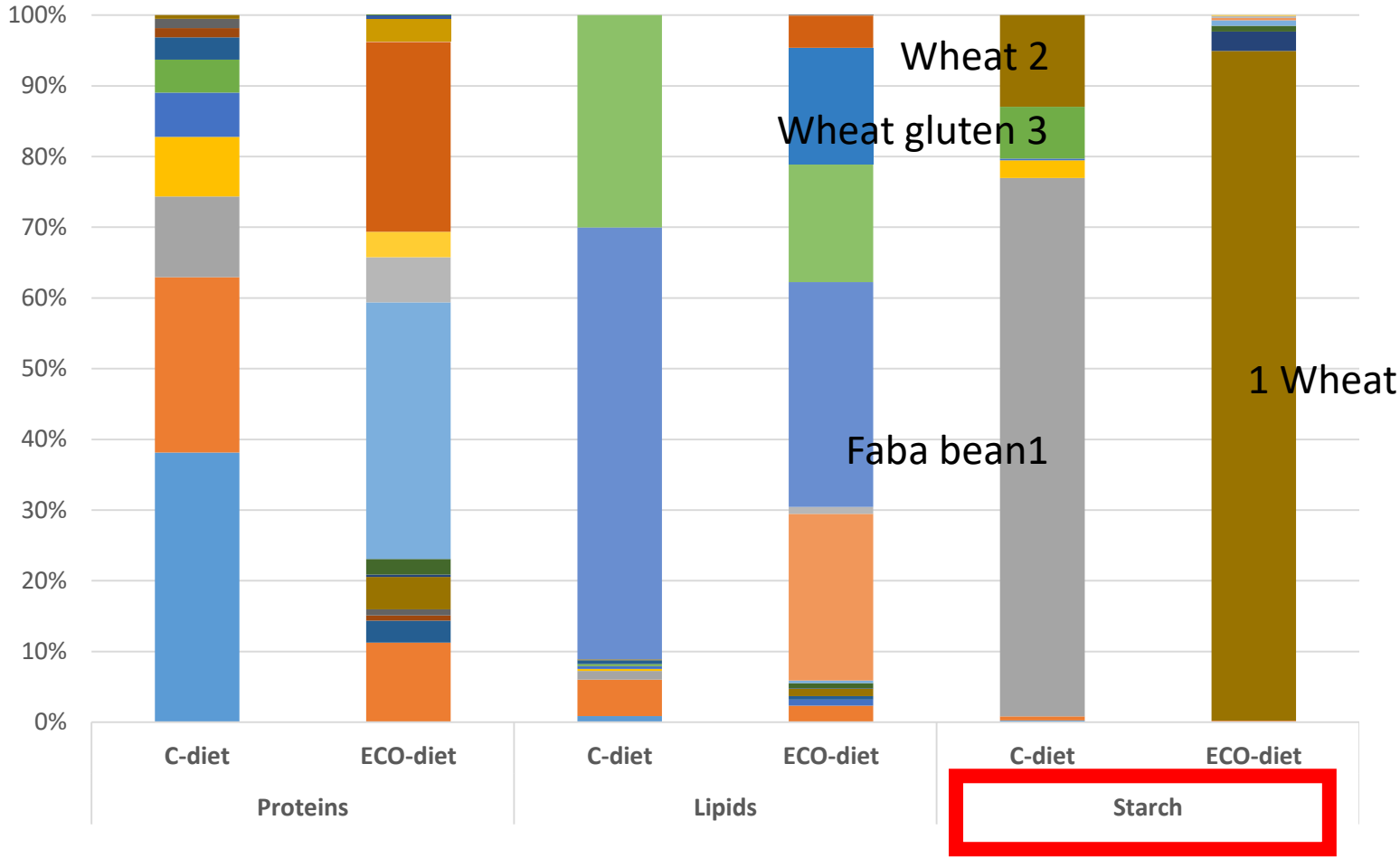
Contribution of feed ingredients to protein, lipid and starch content



- Soy protein concentrate
- Fishmeal
- Faba bean
- Corn gluten
- Soya bean meal
- Wheat gluten
- Attractant
- L-M thionine
- L-Lysine
- Wheat
- Dehulled pea
- Yeast
- Pea protein concentrate
- Soy lecithin
- Rapeseed meal
- Roasted guar meal
- Rapeseed oil
- Fish oil
- Poultry oil
- Hydrolysed feather meal
- Linseed oil
- Blood meal
- L-Thr onine
- Potato protein concentrate



Contribution of feed ingredients to protein, lipid and starch content



- Soy protein concentrate
- Fishmeal
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- Wheat gluten
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