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PROCEEDINGS IX Simposio Internacional sobre el Cerdo Mediterráneo



9th International Symposium on the Mediterranean Pig

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WITH THE SUPPORT OF:

- ANCPA – Associação Nacional dos Criadores do Porco Alentejano.
- ACPA – Associação de Criadores do Porco Alentejano.
- ANCSUB – Associação Nacional de Criadores de Suínos da Raça Bísara.
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FOREWORD

Welcome to the 9th Mediterranean Pig International Symposium. It is our pleasure to welcome all colleagues and participants in Portalegre – Portugal. Twenty-seven years after the first symposium in Ajaccio-Corse we hope to have a fruitful and challenging Symposium where opening discussion and innovation approaches, concerning pig production in sylvo-pastoral/open systems, lead to improve and update our present understanding.

Mediterranean pig production has developed in dissimilar ways across countries influenced by Mediterranean weather. Thus, nowadays we can find different structures, different systems and different management programs to raise autochthonous pig breeds. A clear proof is the different development of pork processing and marketing approaches among regions.

We can characterize these open systems as based on local breeds that use, in a sustainable way, natural feedstuffs resources and produce raw material to process by using ancestral knowledge on particular meat products like hams and sausages. These agro-sylvo-pastoral/open systems and typical high grade products are in our time a good source of income to peripheral regions of Europe and add to fix populations, by means of direct sale and specific touristic routes.

Along almost thirty years related research has tried to incorporate into the row interdisciplinary approaches that helped to translate scientific knowledge and new adaptive technologies and management solutions, as well as new marketing strategies, facing innovation as a water-pipe from science to practice and vice versa.

This symposium enlarged the number of participating countries/teams. All of us hope it can become a milestone for new approaches to build progress and create advances in new knowledge products and increase income, mainly to marginal areas of Southern Europe.

José Luís Tirapicos Nunes
President of the Scientific Committee



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