



# POULTRYNSECT

**THE USE OF LIVE INSECT LARVAE TO  
IMPROVE SUSTAINABILITY AND ANIMAL  
WELFARE OF ORGANIC CHICKENS  
PRODUCTION  
(2021-2023)**

**Newsletter #1  
June 2021**



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## Poultrynsect project

The research project POULTRYNSECT is developed by a consortium of scientists expertise in agronomy, poultry nutrition, entomology, food, and veterinary sciences, belonging to Research and Academic Institutions of four European countries: Belgium, Germany, Italy, and Norway.

The duration of the project will be 36 months with a total budget of around 700 thousands euro.

The aim of the project is to evaluate the effects of live insect larvae on slow-growing organic chickens.

The objective is to obtain sustainable meat products, improving animal welfare and potentially meeting the consumers demand for healthier, more natural and tastier meat products.

One of the main aspects will be the valorisation of secondary raw materials, rearing the insect larvae on organic food side streams exceeded from the food industries.

The obtained live insect larvae will be then used as feed ingredient and environmental

enrichment in chickens. Thus, allowing them the possibility to perform their natural behaviours, an improvement of bird's welfare could be obtained, with considerably improved quality of animal-derived food products.

The derived meat sensory assessment will be carried out with sensory panel experts, together with consumers' expectations and preferences.

Finally, in order to determine the economic impact of this environmental enrichments, LCA (Life Cycle Assessment) and Cost-Benefit analysis will be carried out.

Being a multidisciplinary project, POULTRYNSECT will contribute to the development of cost-effective and environmental-friendly diets for poultry, improving organic meat chicken production sustainability.

# Let's start!

## POULTRYNSECT project started on January 2021

The POULTRYNSECT Kick-off meeting took place on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

The kick-off agenda started with an introduction to the POULTRYNSECT project, followed by the description of the five Work Packages (WPs).

- WP1: related to *Hermetia illucens* rearing and production optimization.
- WP2: focused on chickens feeding trials planned for the first and second year of the project.
- WP3: related on laboratory and sensorial analyses, in order to assess the impact of the different feeding regimes on chicken health and meat quality.

- WP4: linked to the sustainability assessments, relied on the life cycle assessment (LCA) of the whole project.

- WP5: about communication and dissemination.

The discussion between the partners was very fruitful and possible solutions about potential critical issues has been proposed.

A future meeting, discussing the advancement of the project, has been planned for the month of June 2021.



# Communication and dissemination

## POULTRYNSECT meet the poultry industry stakeholders

A webinar was held on 12th of April 2021, with the aim of making the POULTRYNSECT project known to the Italian public.

The web meeting ("POULTRYNSECT *incontra gli stakeholders della Filiera Avicola*") was very successful, bringing the public and the Italian researchers closer to the topics of the POULTRYNSECT project.

The presentation of the poultry breeds useful to biological production and their welfare, the role of the sensorial analyses in the valorization of the biological poultry meat, together with the sustainability of these productions were the main themes of the web meeting.

The public was really interested in these issues, since there is in general and increasing attention by the consumers to animal welfare, biological productions and climate changes. Indeed, from a short questionnaire proposed to the audience, a great interest emerged on animal welfare, insects rearing, and environmental sustainability.

Thanks to the excellent response from public and researchers, we are planning to organize other similar events in the future, so... stay tuned!



Black Soldier Fly larvae -Credit David Deruytter -INAGRO VZW

## Meet our team



### **Dusan Ristic**

(Research Associate, DIL Deutsches Institut für Lebensmitteltechnik e.V., Germany)

Dusan works from 2020 on life cycle assessment within the DIL Food Data research unit. From 2019-2020 he worked in Döhler group as Customer Service Employee. From 2016-2019 he worked in Selerant as Food Regulatory Specialist, and from 2017 also as Project Manager. Within POULTRYNSECT, he is working on environmental, economic and social impacts through life cycle assessment.



### **Valentina Bongiorno**

(PhD student, Department of Veterinary Sciences, University of Turin, Italy)

Valentina comes from the University of Milan, where she got a bachelor's degree in Animal Breeding and Welfare and a master's degree in Science and Technologies of Animal Production. Currently she is a PhD student at the University of Turin under the supervision of Prof. Achille Schiavone. She will work on the Work Package 2 and 3, regarding in vivo poultry trials and laboratory analyses.

# Partners

Discover teams involved in the project



POULTRYNSECT



Consiglio Nazionale  
delle Ricerche



# Stakeholders



*Controllo e Certificazione*

# Contacts

For more information about Poultrynsect project follow us on:

<https://poultrynsect.eu/>



<https://susfood-db-era.net/main/Poultrynsect>



## Social Networks



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Twitter:

**@poultrynsect**

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