



Integrating innovative TECHnologies along the value Chain
to improve small ruminant welfARE management



Spanish stakeholders' views on small ruminant welfare priorities and PLF tools

For a constant feedback and knowledge exchange in the Spanish TechCare project, a multi-actor approach was followed. In this regard, 2 National Workshops (NW) were done online to transfer and validate the project outcomes. The NW1 (June 2021) aimed the prioritization of a list of sheep and goat welfare issues, previously elaborated by the TechCare consortium, by the stakeholders. A total of 47 stakeholders participated in the NW1. The prioritized welfare issues depended on species and systems, and were: meat



sheep (1, nutrition; 2, housing and ambient conditions; 3, stocking density), and dairy sheep and goats (1, mastitis and milking; 2, nutrition; 3, housing and ambient conditions). Similarly, in the NW2 (July 2021), after the selection of a list of precision livestock farming (PLF) tools and sensors made by the consortium, the stakeholders prioritized those potentially able to detect the previously identified welfare issues. A total of 46 stakeholders attended NW2. The prioritized PLF tools and sensors for small

ruminants in Spain, according to species and production systems, were: meat sheep (1, weather stations for outdoor-indoor; 2, automatic scale and LF transponder's reader; 3, UHF transponder tags and readers) and dairy sheep and goats (1, weather stations for outdoor-indoor; 2, electronic milk meters and LF transponder's reader; 3, automatic scale and LF transponder's reader). Stakeholders expressed their concerns about the costs (acquisition, running and maintenance), technology requirements (electric power, internet or satellite services), easiness of use and lifespan.



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