Innovation for pasture management
URUGUAY / ARGENTINA / COSTA RICA / UNITED STATES

The technological solution
Implement a resident service in the cloud, user friendly, and accessible via web with a browser or through an app for computers and smartphones, which with the use of drones and simulation models allow optimizing the management of paddocks and increasing forage production.

Description
Three countries form an innovation platform in LAC; together they will develop software to simplify and optimize the producer’s decision making in relation to the grazing platform. A device for remote measurement of available biomass (using drones) will be developed.

Results
The first result of this project, and the starting point to achieve the other objectives, is to generate a virtual innovation platform to link researchers, advisors and producers of the countries that are part of the project (Uruguay, Argentina and Costa Rica), to generate the exchange of methodologies and information between the referents of grazing management in each country. A web tool (AgTech solution) has been generated, a Decision Support System (DSS) for grazing and stocking, resident in the cloud, to enable decision-making in real time. The validation of the Agtech solution on family farms, after 12 months of using the tool, is expected to result in a 30% increase in pasture harvest to improve the self-sufficiency and sustainability of pastoral livestock and dairy production. A consensual protocol will be developed to quantify the available biomass on a weekly basis using drones.

+230
Agtech Agtech tool users

+14200
Hectares being monitored

+1200
Attendance at conferences

68
Researchers and technicians involved

55%
Female technicians

44
validation farms
ABOUT FONTAGRO

FONTAGRO is a unique cooperation mechanism for agricultural innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean (ALC) and Spain, that works through regional platforms. It is composed of 15 countries that have contributed capital exceeding 100 million dollars and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), which is its legal representative.

ORIGIN OF RESOURCES

- Counterpart contribution: 90,549,266
- FONTAGRO: 27,869,468
- IDB: 9,922,700
- Other agencies: 9,479,078

PARTICIPATION AND ROLE IN CONSORTIUMS SINCE 1998

- Number of projects approved: 193
- Approved total amount US$: 137.8 MILLONES
- Contribution from other agencies: 9.5 MILLONES
- Benefited countries: 32
- Generated technologies: 63
- New technologies for ALC: 15
- Technology of global relevance: 8

MEMBER COUNTRIES

- Argentina
- Bolivia
- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Honduras
- Nicaragua
- Panama
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Spain
- Uruguay
- Venezuela