

ATF@BE

THE Belgian ATF-Consortium member of Animal Task Force

ATF@BE

Who we are :

- A consortium of Flemish and Walloon Universities, regional and governmental research institutes and experimental centers with complementary research activities in livestock production, including animal nutrition, animal health, genetics, animal feed production.
 - Ghent University
 - KULeuven
 - Université de Liège
 - Université libre de Bruxelles
 - Experimental Centres of Province of Antwerp
 - Inagro
 - Research institute for agriculture, fisheries and food (ILVO)
 - Walloon Breeding Association
 - Walloon Agricultural Research Centre (CRA-W)

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What we offer:

- facilities for research on crop and livestock production, pasture management
- pilot lab facilities for animal feed development and quality control
- (GLP compliant) laboratory facilities for chemical, microbial, molecular and physical analysis
- facilities for feed evaluation, animal metabolism, digestion, health and animal performance including BSL2/3 animal facilities)

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Our aims:

- to represent the Belgian knowledge institutes as well as the Belgian stakeholders i.e. farmers, feed and feed additive producers, slaughterhouses, animal food producers and retail in the Animak Task Force
- to offer added value to the livestock production industry through complementary expertise and to enhance the dissemination of project results and other scientific information to the different stakeholders

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Flemish membership

GHENT UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF BIOSCIENCE ENGINEERING

- Research unit “cereal technology - animal feed production technology”

- Process technology and product quality
- Heat sensitivity testing of nutrients
- Valorisation of byproducts of the bio-industry
- Production of feed for small scale animal feeding trials
- Proximate analyses

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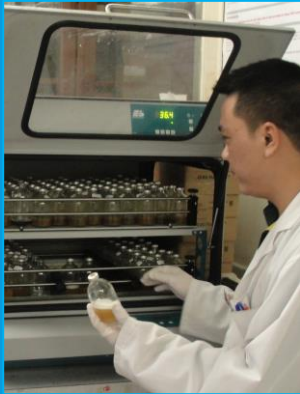
Campus Schoonmeersen

Valentin Vaerwyckweg 1, 9000 Gent, Belgium

- [Website](#)



GHENT UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF BIOSCIENCE ENGINEERING



- **Research Unit: Laboratory for Animal Nutrition and Animal Product Quality**
 - Ruminant nutrition and Microbial metabolism (Veerle Fievez)
 - Monogastric nutrition (Joris Michiels)
 - Carcass and meat quality (Stefaan De Smet)

- **Contact:** veerle.fievez@ugent.be
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Campus Coupure, block F
Coupure Links 653, 9000 Gent, Belgium

- [Website](#)



GHENT UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

▪ Research unit 'Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology'

- Efficacy and safety testing of feed additives (e.g. mycotoxin detoxifiers)
- Impact of mycotoxins on animal health in several species and interaction with infectious diseases
- Absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion studies of mycotoxins, veterinary drugs and coccidiostats
- Responsible use of antimicrobial drugs using rational dosing approaches
- GLP compliant analysis of veterinary drugs, coccidiostats and contaminants in feed and biological samples

▪ Contact: siska.croubels@ugent.be

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Faculty of Veterinary Medicine

Salisburylaan 133, 9820 Merelbeke, Belgium

▪ [Website](#)

partner in [MYTOX](#) , [MYTOX SOUTH](#) and [SAFEPEDRUG](#)



GHENT UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE - PROVAXS

- **Research capacity, infrastructure and expertise on**
 - Vaccine development, infectious diseases and immunity in animal health
 - Optimization of gut health
 - Managing the microbiome and developing alternatives for antibiotics
 - Diagnostics for animal health
 - In vitro and in vivo models for the development and validation of innovative therapeutics and vaccines
 - Rearing and production systems that meet the physiological needs of farm animals
- **Contact:** sven.arnouts@ugent.be
 - Tel +32 264 73 33
 - Department of Virology, Parasitology and Immunology
 - Salisburylaan 133, 9820 Merelbeke, Belgium
- [Website](#)



KU LEUVEN

FACULTY OF BIOSCIENCE ENGINEERING

- **Research unit 'Animal and Human Health Engineering'**
 - Livestock genomics and (epi)genetics
 - Nutrition and Gut Health of livestock
 - Immunotechnology and Host pathogen interactions in livestock
 - Applied physiology of livestock
 - Bio-environment control
 - Precision Livestock Farming
- **Contact:** wouter.merckx@kuleuven.be
 - Tel +32 16 37 24 98
 - Zootechnical Center KU Leuven
 - Bijzondere weg 12, B3360 Lovenjoel, Belgium
- [Website](#)



ILVO ANIMAL SCIENCES UNIT



- **Research area 'Animal Husbandry'**

- Cost-effective animal husbandry systems
- Reduce environmental impact of animal husbandry
- Optimal valorisation of feedstuffs
- Feed evaluation and valorisation of byproducts for animal feeds
- Influence the production process to guarantee high quality products
- Measuring procedures and methods to score and control the welfare of production animals

- **Contact:** sam.decampeneere@ilvo.vlaanderen.be

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Scheldeweg 68, 9090 Melle, Belgium

- [Website](#)



ILVO

FOOD SAFETY, AUTHENTICITY AND QUALITY

■ Applied research to support policy-makers, agriculture and agrofood processing industry

➤ Microbiological food safety

- Cultivation-based and non-cultivation metagenomic based methods
- Zoonotic pathogens (bacteria, viruses, moulds), spoilage micro-organisms, beneficial microbiota, microbiomes
- Optimization of Cleaning and disinfection on farm and industry level
- Shelf life studies

➤ (Bio)chemical food safety

- Detection and transfer to food of veterinary drug residues, allergens and contaminants
- Transfer of antimicrobial resistance in the food production chain
- Screening and liquid chromatographic- mass spectrometric methods
- Validation of commercial screenings tests



ILVO

AGROLINK
FLANDERS

ILVO

FOOD SAFETY, AUTHENTICITY AND QUALITY

➤ Food authenticity of food and food technologies

- Fysico-chemical, chromatographic and molecular techniques
- Allergens and GMO detection

➤ Food quality

- Consumers appreciations by taste panels
- Characteristics and chemical compounds also with health promoting activities

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INAGRO



- **Research & extension unit Animal Production**
sustainability and innovation in dairy and pig farming
 - Practical research and on farm validation on feed, fodder crops, animal and farm management, livestock air emissions,...
 - Advice service dairy farming: individual coaching & advice on whole farm management and group coaching through discussion groups
 - Advice desk for questions & on farm problems concerning odour and emissions
 - VarkensAcademie extension platform, individual advice and group coaching through discussion groups for pig farmers
- **Contact:** isabelle.vuylsteke@inagro.be
Tel +32 51 27 32 21
Ieperseweg 87, 8800 Rumbeke, Belgium
- [Website](#)



PROVINCE OF ANTWERP: EXPERIMENTAL POULTRY CENTRE



- Research → Farm management with focus on:
 - food safety,
 - animal welfare,
 - environment
 - rentability

- Facilities:
 - Capacity = 31.000 layer hens – 44.000 broilers
 - Housing with different departments, fully automated

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- [Website](#)



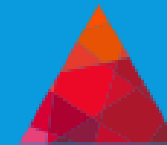
Provincie
Antwerpen



PROVINCE OF ANTWERP: HOOIBEKHOEVE



- Hooibeekhoeve is an independent practice oriented research and demonstration center on dairy cattle and fodder crops.
- Facilities:
 - a **demonstrative farm** specialised in practical research on multiple topics such as precision farming, animal welfare, feed, housing, fertility, reduction of emissions and antibiotics, animal health and young stock
 - **strong expertise in educational activities**: education and short training is targeted both to farmers and agricultural students as well as to the broad public.
 - Different demo activities on farm and field visits are organised each year.
- **Contact:** Ilse.VANDENBROECK@provincieantwerpen.be
- [Website](#)



Provincie
Antwerpen



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Walloon membership

WALLOON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTRE

- **Animal Nutrition and Sustainability Unit:** develops animal feeding strategies to meet the animal's nutritional and health needs while at the same time controlling their environmental impact and developing their contribution to the nutritional quality of food for human consumption
- **Animal breeding, quality production and welfare Unit:** develops rational, sustainable breeding methods and techniques that contribute to improving the competitiveness of livestock farms and sectors, controlling the quality of animal production processes and products and objectively assessing animal welfare
- **Farming Systems, Territory and Information Technologies Unit:** develops tools to meet society's new expectations and decision support systems to improve the technico-economic and environmental performance of farming systems
- **Contact:** Sylvain Hennart - s.hennart@cra.wallonie.be
Pierre Rondia - p.rondia@cra.wallonie.be
- [Website](#)

WALLOON BREEDING ASSOCIATION

- **AWE is involved in several services to breeders:**
 - cattle registration, testing and monitoring of cattle performances,
 - technical and economic support and advices on farm management.

 - **more than 140 pilot farms (dairy and beef farms) already involved in precise monitoring programmes**
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- **Contact:** Carlo Bertozzi - cbertozzi@awenet.be
 - [Website](#)

LIEGE UNIVERSITY GEMBOUX AGRO-BIO TECH

▪ IPAN (Engineering of Animal Production – Animal Science Unit)

➤ Current research programs

- Precision grazing management
- Numerical genetics, genomics, biodiversity and modelling
- Early-life programming of monogastrics
- Feeding strategies and feed efficiency
- Agroecological livestock systems

➤ 2 labs

- Precision livestock farming et nutrition (EPN)
- Numerical genetics, genomics and modelling (GGMN)

➤ 5 key persons

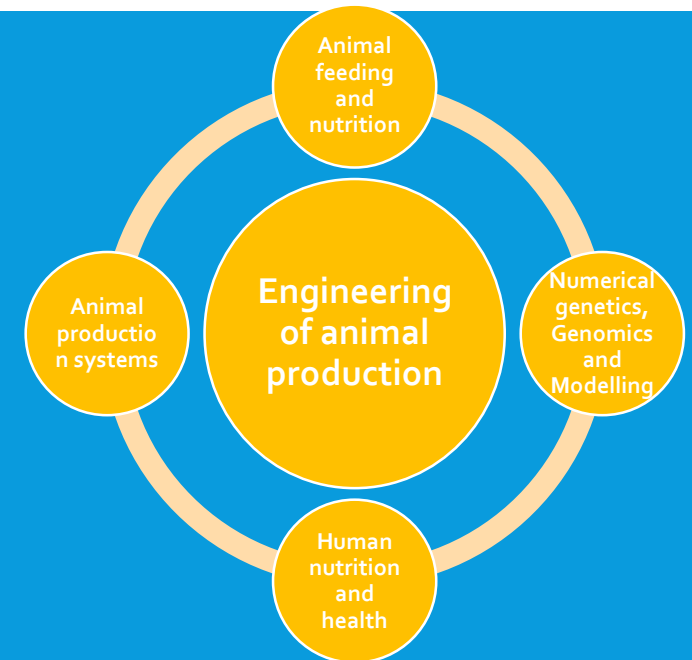
- Yves Beckers (EPN), Jérôme Bindelle (EPN), Nadia Everaert (EPN), Nicolas Gengler (GGMN) and Martine Schroyen (EPN + GGMN)

▪ Contact: jerome.bindelle@ulg.ac.be

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Passage des Déportés 2, 5030 Gembloux, Belgium



LIEGE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF VET. MEDICINE

- **FARAH (Interdisciplinary Center for *Fundamental and Applied Research on Animal and Health*)**
 - Thematic sector *Sustainable Animal Production*
 - Lab. Animal Health and Production Ecology (Prof. Jean-François Cabaraux) : Impacts of housing on animal health and production , environmental impacts of animal production
 - Lab. Food Technology (Prof. Antoine Clinquart) : Production factors determining meat quality, meat conservability
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4000 Liège (Belgium)
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UNIVERSITÉ LIBRE DE BRUXELLES (ULB)

- The Spatial epidemiology Lab (SpELL – ULB) is involved in several projects and networks related to:
 - the global mapping of livestock,
 - livestock production systems,
 - and livestock productionin close collaboration with FAO
- Contact: Marius Gilbert Gilbert@ulb.ac.be