



Differences in growth between Corriedale sheep divergent lines for resistance to nematodes

Ferreira, G.F.; De Barbieri, I.; Castells, D.; Navajas, E.A; Giorello, D.; Costa, J.T.C;
Banchero, G.**Gabriel Ciappesoni*



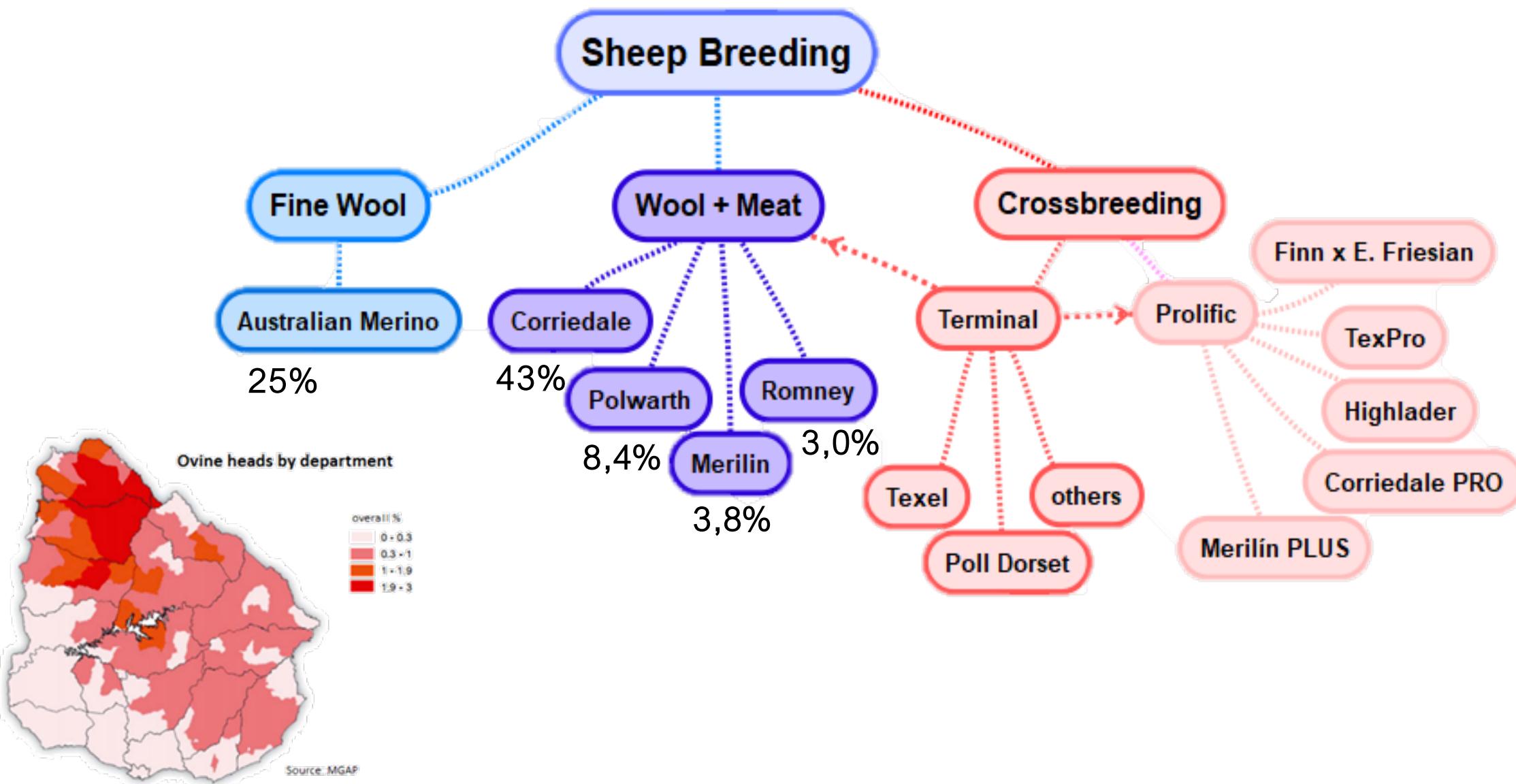
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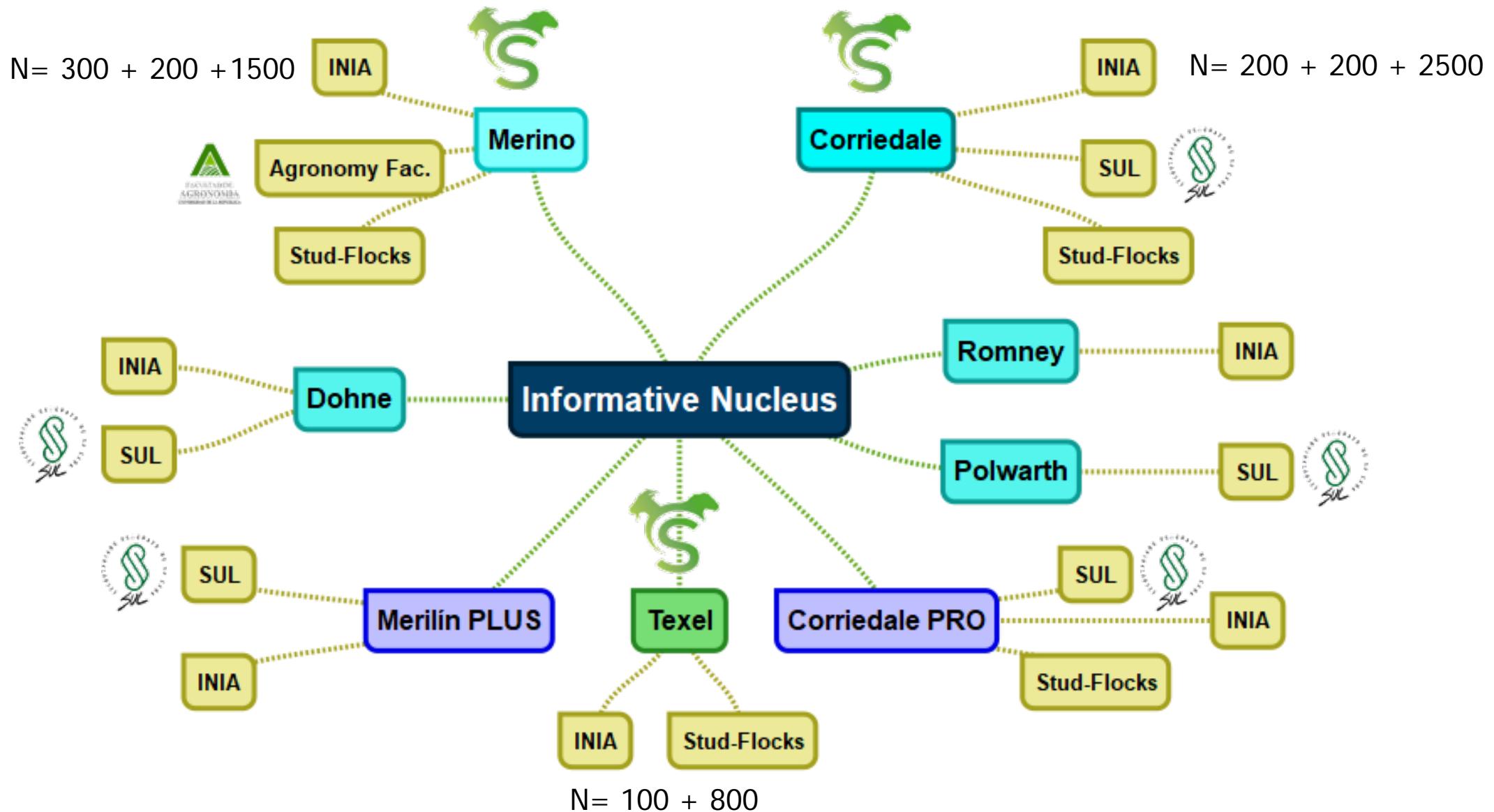
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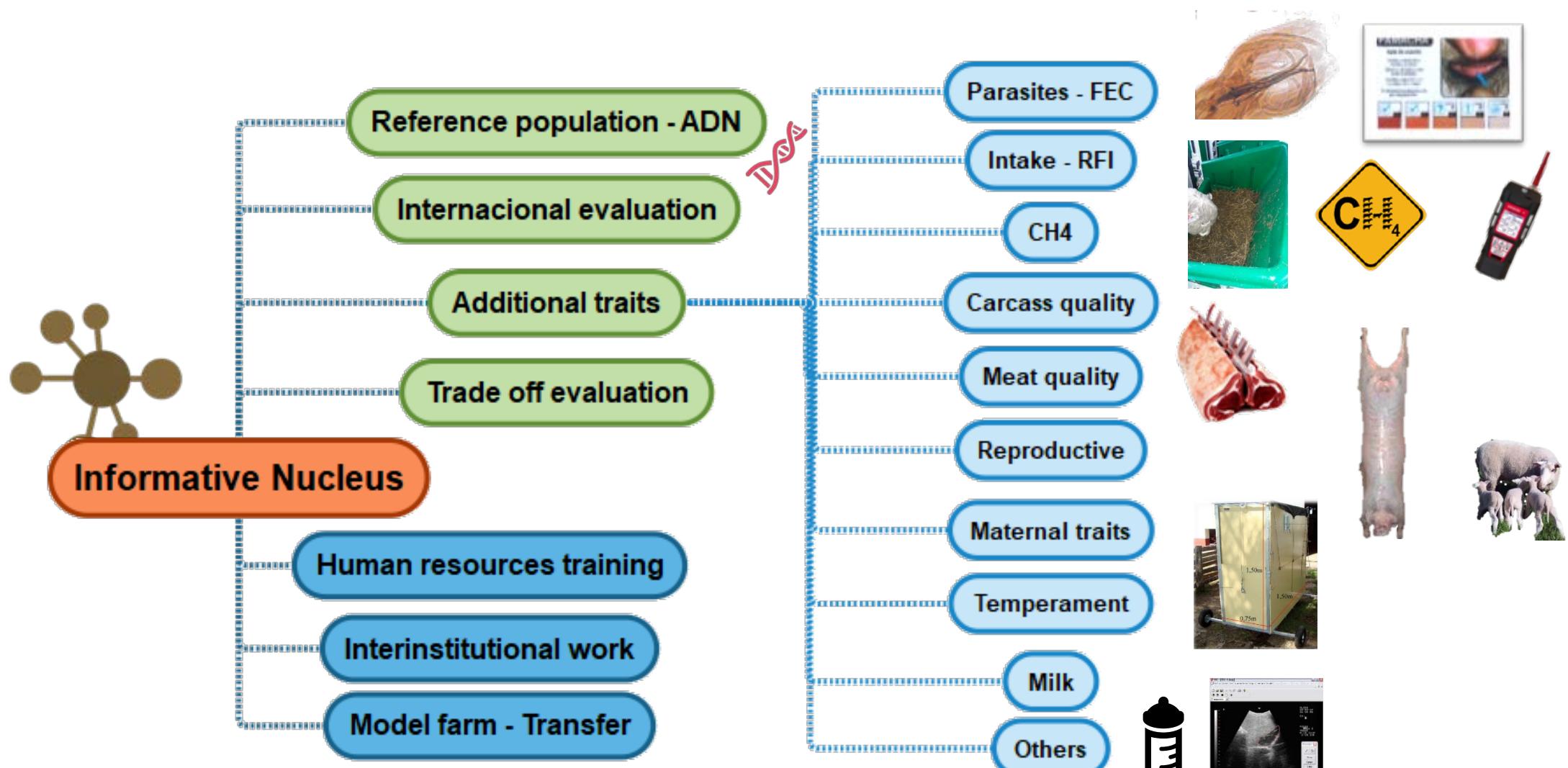
Introduction: Sheep breeding in Uruguay





Informative Nucleus





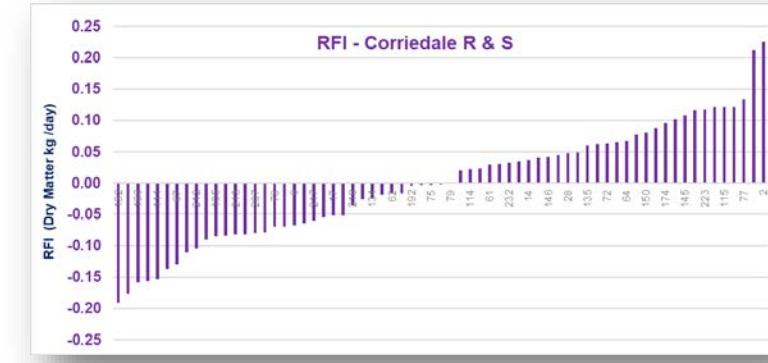
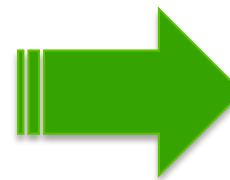
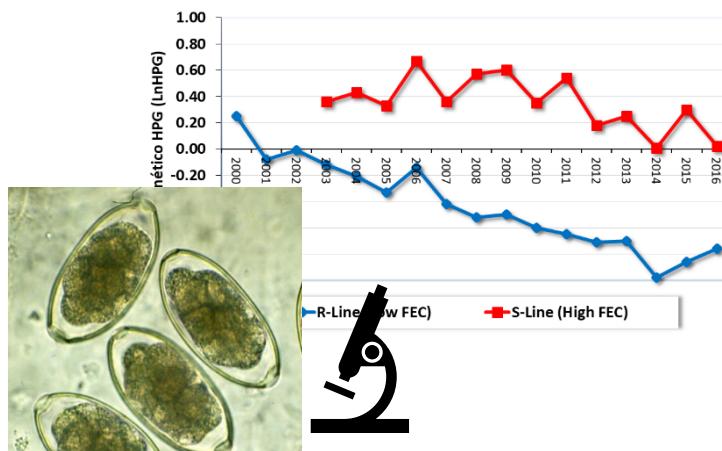
- ✓ Wool production & quality
- ✓ Growth: birth, weaning, post-w, shearing
- ✓ Reproduction: Twinning rate

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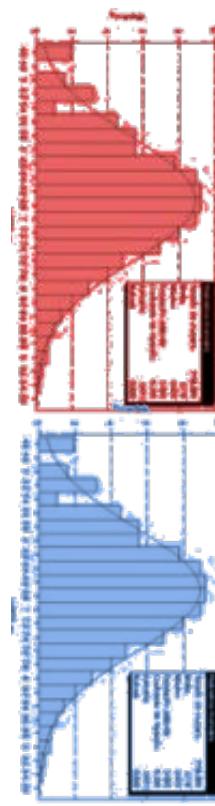
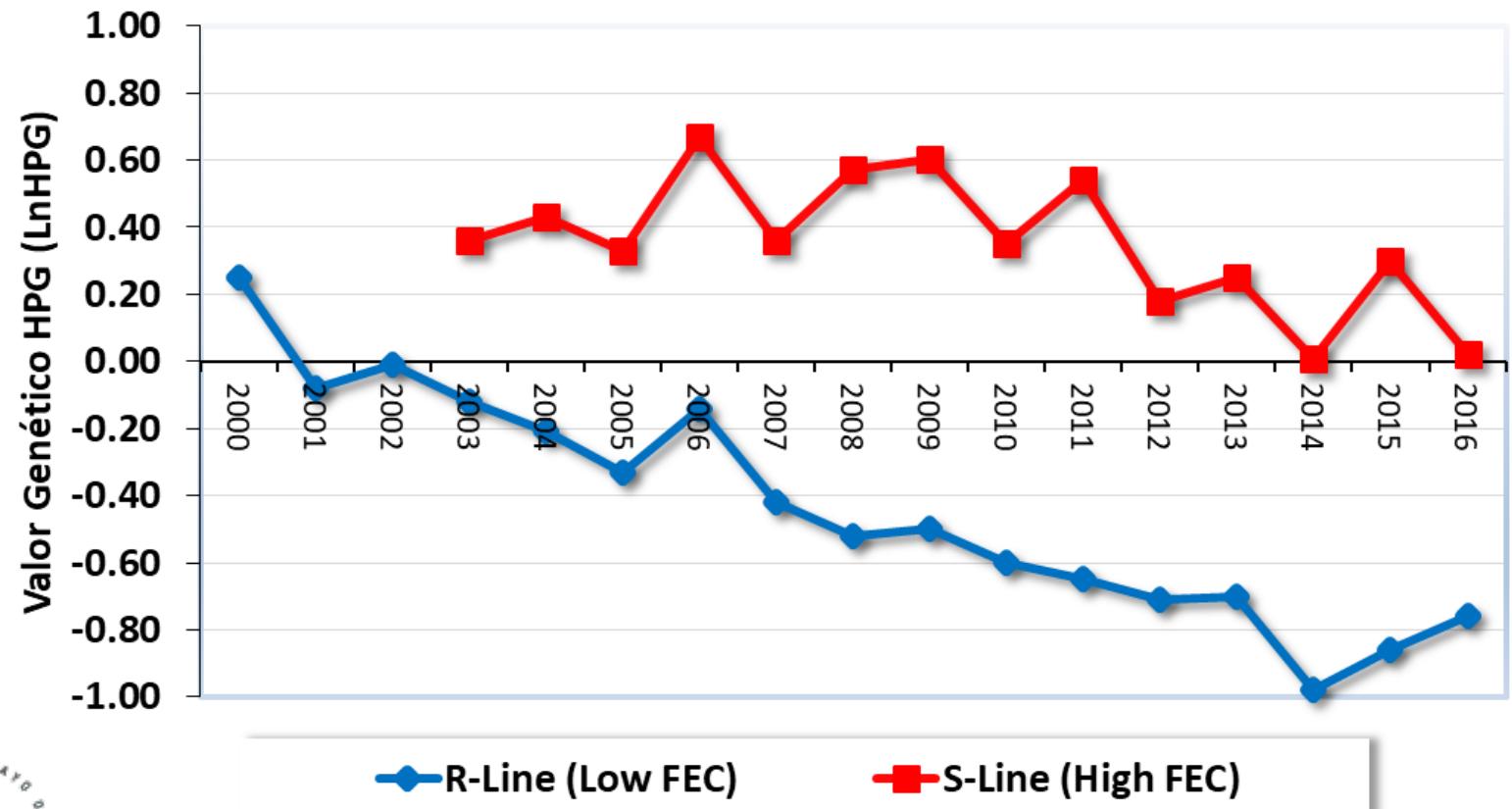
The question to answer

How **divergent selection lines** for resistance to PGI would respond
(growth/intake/RFI) in contrasting environments?

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- 64 Corriedale lambs from **divergent lines for resistance to GIP** were used
 - 27 resistant (**R**) & 37 susceptible (**S**) lambs (M-F, 340 days-old)



Lower faecal egg count

✓ Trade-off: Feed intake - RFI vs parasite resistance

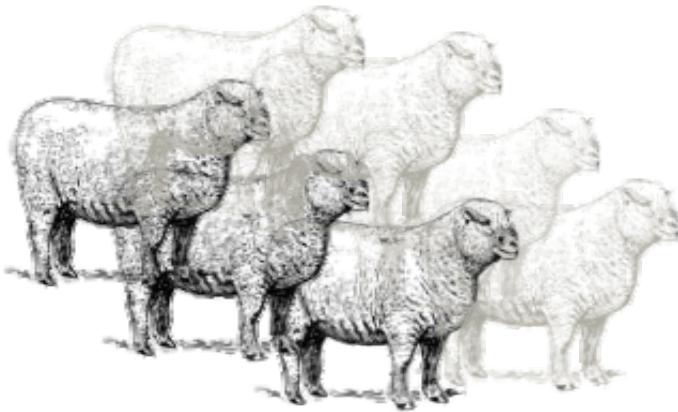


Project: RUMIAR +
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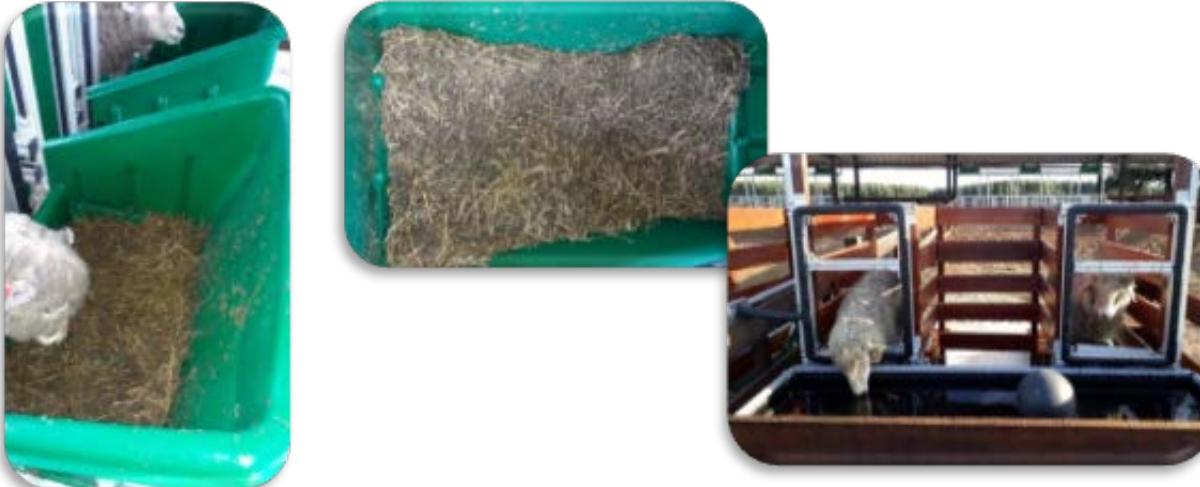




- Stratified by sex, body weight, and sire
- Total period divided into 2 parts:

Part 1. Worm-free animals

44 days



- Diet and water *ad libitum*
- Lucerne silage

DM	CP	ME
36.5%	21.7%	2.51%

Part 2. Artificial infestation of *Haemonchus contortus*

42 days



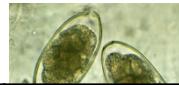
- Splitted into two subperiods from **0-23** and **24-42** days post infestation
 - **P2a** and **P2b**
- The infestation occurred in three consecutive days with 2,000 L3 larvae per day

- Records for **FEC** were taken in days **9, 23, 27, 30, 37 & 42** post infestation
- The **DMI** (kg/day) was computed as the average of the individual daily intake
- The average daily gain **ADG** (kg/day) was calculated by regression using all weights for each period
- **RFI** is the residuals resulting from the model,



$$\text{DMI} = \text{ADG} + \text{metabolic weight} + \text{AOD} + \text{pen(sex)} + e$$

Results



24 - 42 days post infestation



Traits	Part 1	Part 2	2.1	2.2
Feed Intake	R=S	R=S	R=S	R=S
RFI	R=S	R=S	R=S	R=S
Growth (ADG)	R<S	R>S	R>S	R>>S
Feed Conversion Ratio (FI/ADG)	R=S	R<S	R=S	R<S
REA	R>S	R=S		
Fat depth	R=S	R=S		

Line	FEC 23 d	FCR
Resistant	1049	7.99±0.63
Susceptible	2479	10.56±0.72

Line	ADG1 (kg/day)	ADG2 (kg/day)	ADG2.1 (kg/day)	ADG2.2 (kg/day)
Resistant	0.123±0.009	0.143±0.008	0.142±0.008	0.162±0.011
Susceptible	0.131±0.011	0.117±0.009	0.129±0.009	0.122±0.012

p<0.05

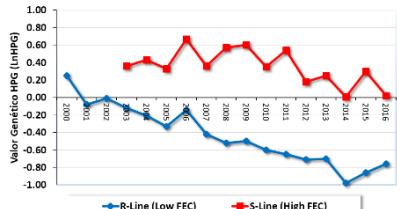
Table 1

A possible ordering of the priorities (1 highest to 4 lowest) given by a growing or a reproducing animal to its various body functions when partitioning a scarce food resource^a

Growing animal	Reproducing animal
Acquisition phase	Expression phase
1. Maintenance of body protein ^b	1. Maintenance of body protein ^b
2. <i>Acquisition of immunity</i>	2. Protein gain
3. Protein gain	3. <i>Expression of immunity</i>
4. Maintenance and gain of body lipid	4. Maintenance and gain of body lipid

^a For a naive, growing animal without any prior experience to a challenge the phase of acquisition of immunity is considered separately from that of expression of immunity.

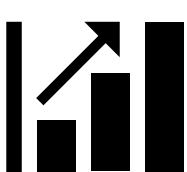
^b This includes repair, replacement and reaction to damaged or lost tissue.



- The Resistant line showed higher **ADG** than S line and lower parasite infestation and better Feed Conversion Ratio



- Probably, the high **CP** diet content and the age of the animals contribute to decreasing the differences in **FEC** between lines (it was higher in previous records)



- These preliminary results suggest a difference in growth pattern between R&S lines during the infestation period without effects on **DMI**.

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Thank you for your attention

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