LIVESTOCK CULTURAL AND TERRITORIAL VITALITY SERVICES ARE KEY TO UNLOCK THE AGROECOLOGICAL TRANSITION

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Cultural and territorial vitality services are largely ignored for the transition of LFS toward agroecology...

Agroecology?

From the « Application of ecology in agriculture » (Gliessmann, 1998) to the « Ecology of food system » (Francis et al., 2003)

Services provided by LFS should be considered beyond agroecosystem level

Few relevant indicators to evaluate social dimensions
Ecosystem services provided by livestock agroecosystems

Services provided by livestock as:

- « All positive contributions provided by livestock to society » (Ryschawy et al., 2015)
- « from the farm up to the territorial level »
Objective of the study

Take into account cultural and territorial vitality services to favour the agroecological transition of livestock farming systems (LFS)

- Provisioning
- Cultural
- Territorial vitality

- Moral, esthetic, spiritual, identity and educative contributions of livestock in territories
- Economic and social contributions allowing to maintain a « rural life » through livestock in territories
Two contrasted French regions

**Pays de Rennes**
- Periurban area
- High diversity of LFS (dairy/beef/pig/poultry)
- High level of provisioning and vitality services

**Aubrac**
- Unfavoured area
- Oriented toward cattle production
- Environmental-friendly and quality-labeled products

(Ryschawy et al., 2015)
Considering a diversity of local actors

- Within livestock sector (livestockkeeper, supply chain representatives, …)
- Outside livestock sector (tourism, food artisans, policymakers, wildlife protectors, …)

An inductive content analysis

20 semi-structured interviews on each territory
Aubrac: A local synergy between cultural and vitality services

Agritourism

Traditional rustic breed

Patrimonial landscape

Traditional livestock products

« Landscape, products and breed are creating the territory »
(local NGO representant)

Vitality of tourism in Aubrac reinforcing the already existing livestock farming

→ Limiting modernisation? Feed autonomy vs positive image?
Pays de Rennes: A trade-off between territorial vitality and cultural services

- « A livestock farm is creating 5 jobs in the region » (Local agricultural advisor)
- « Agriculture is Brittany has developed toward production and industrialisation and lost part of its rich cultural diversity » (Livestock farmer)

Jobs linked to livestock farming in Pays de Rennes reinforcing the already existing livestock farming

Consumer demand favouring the agroecological transition of LFS

- Animal welfare, short supply chains, educative farms, strong local identity
Taking cultural and vitality services into account is necessary toward agroecology of LFS

1. To consider societal expectations concerning LFS (animal welfare, gastronomy, identity, …)

2. To understand potential lock-ins toward agroecological transition (modernisation in Aubrac?)

3. Because they could be a lever for the reconfiguration of LFS (more animal welfare and short chains in Brittany?)
Which methodological insights to better consider cultural and territorial vitality services?

- Go deeper into the specific analysis of cultural and vitality services
- Combine cultural and territorial vitality services with provisioning and environmental services
  - Weighting of different services
  - Analysing synergies and tradeoffs between services