



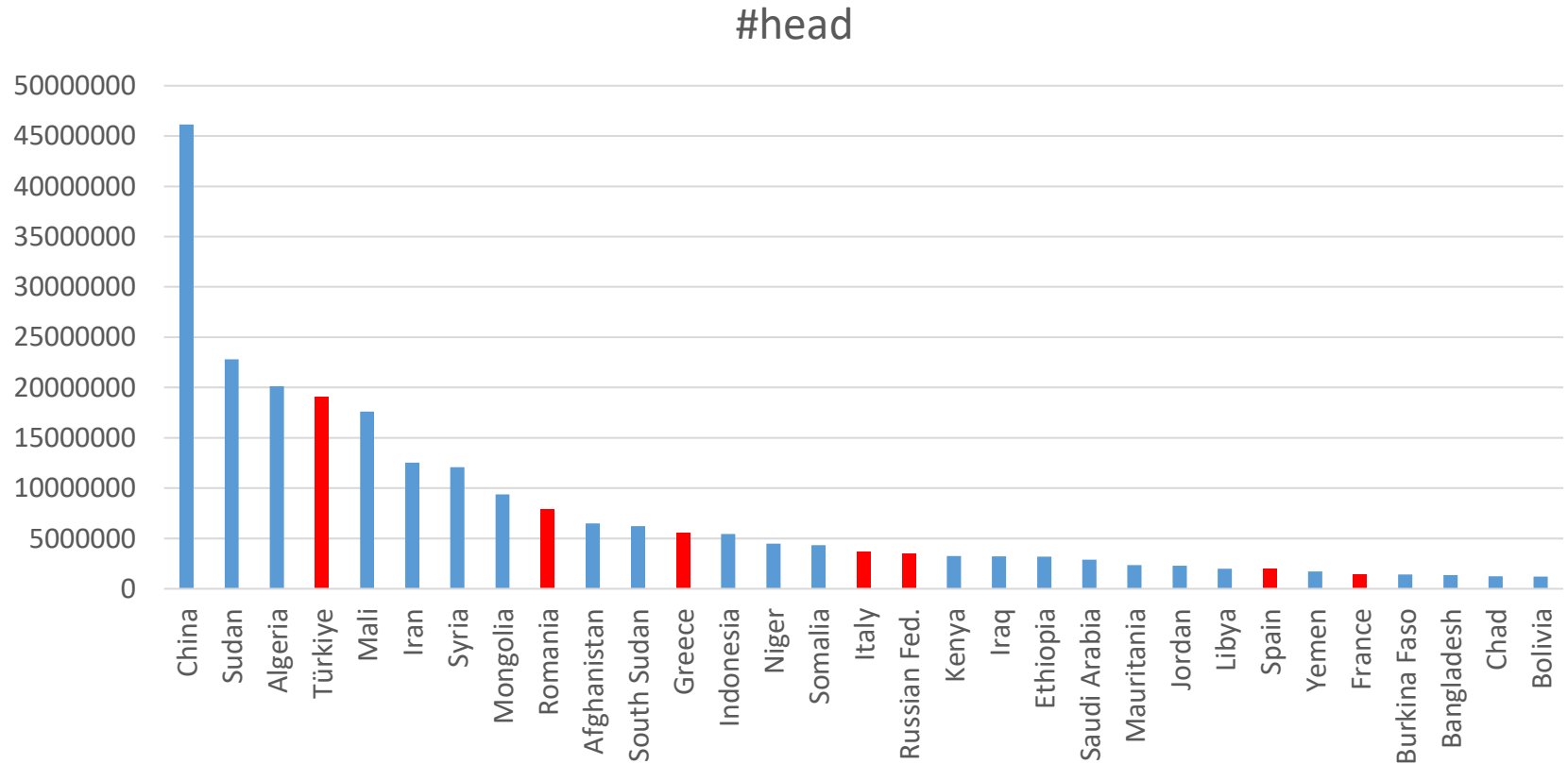
THE GLOBAL STANDARD
FOR LIVESTOCK DATA

Dairy sheep and dairy goat survey

Set of slides synthesising the on-line yearly survey

Dairy sheep populations

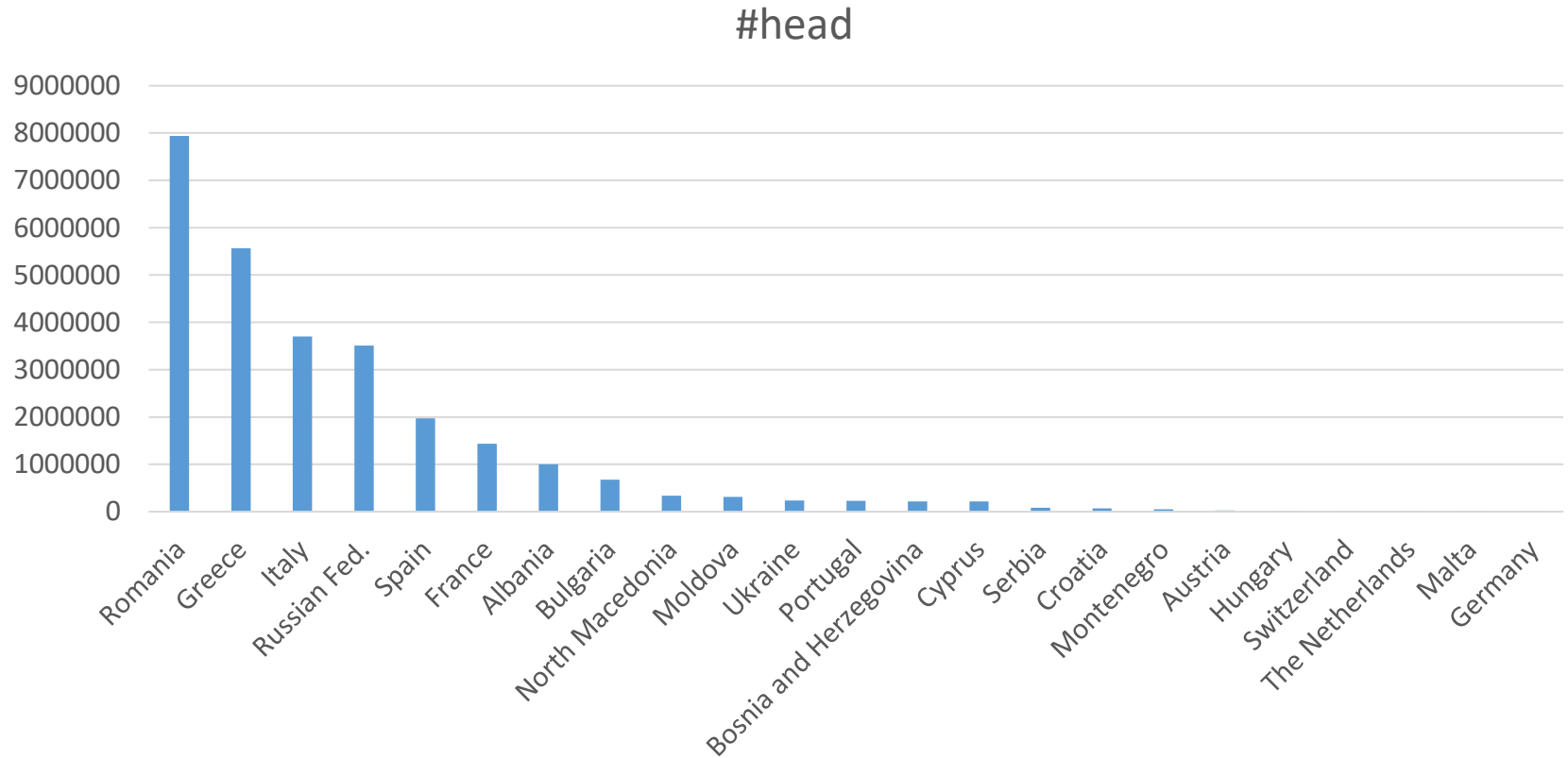
¹ figures 2024 from FAOSTAT - <http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/QCL>



Red: European countries (inc. Turkey)

Dairy sheep populations

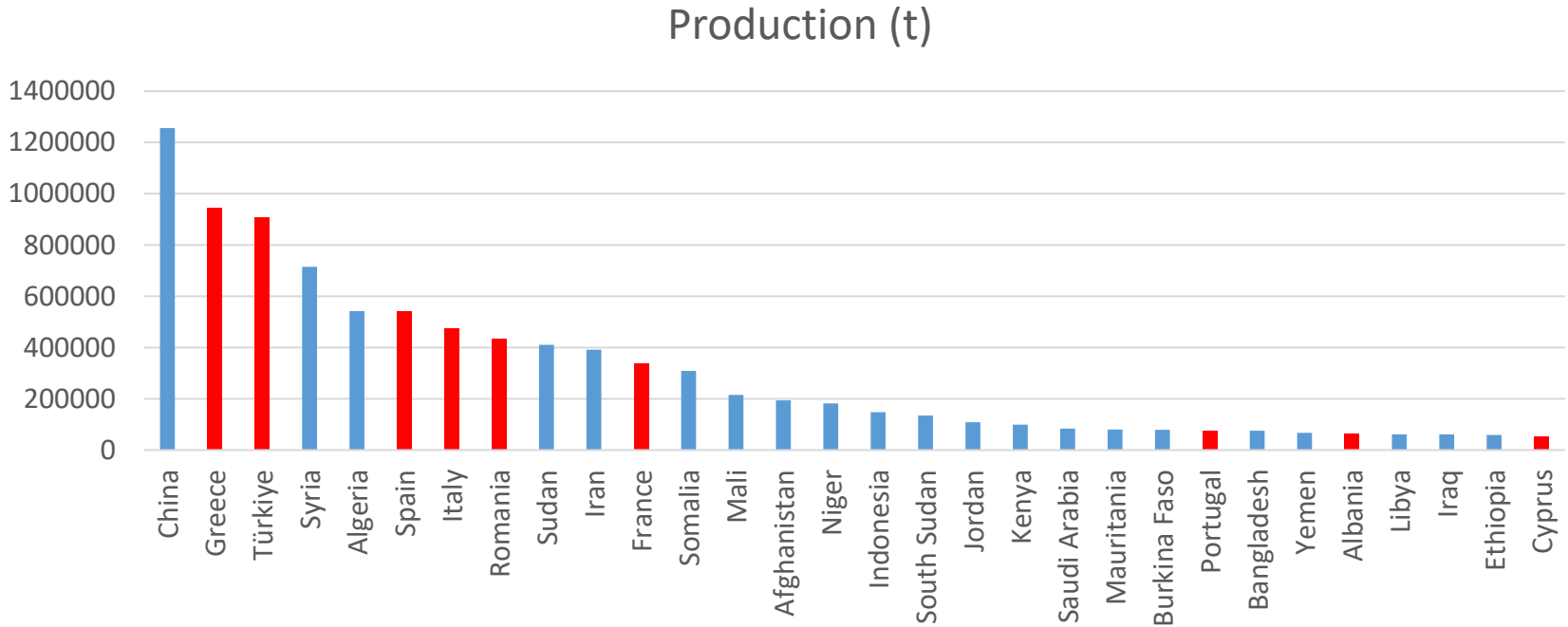
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European countries (without Turkey)

Sheep milk production

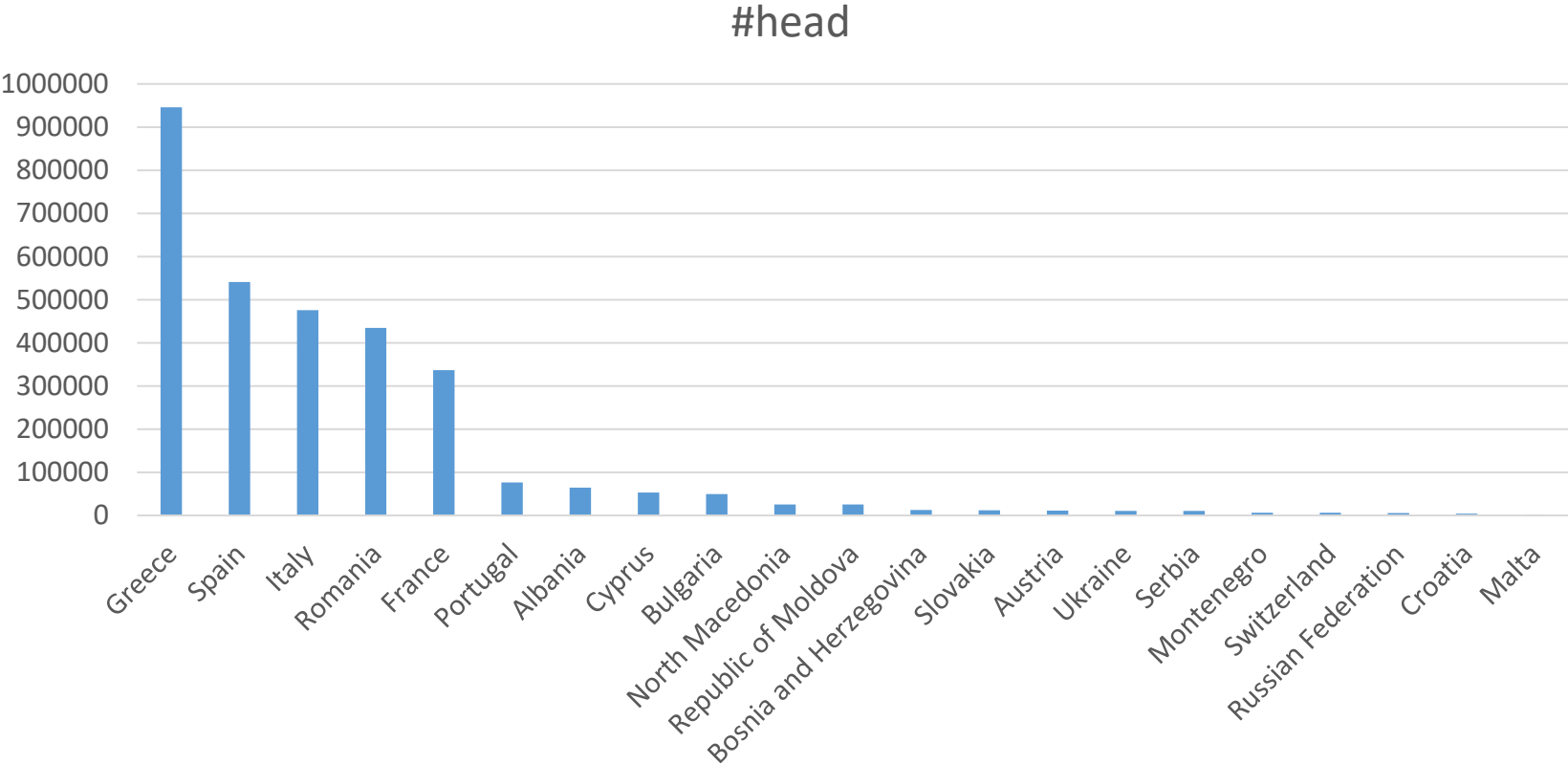
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Red: European countries (inc. Turkey)

Sheep milk production

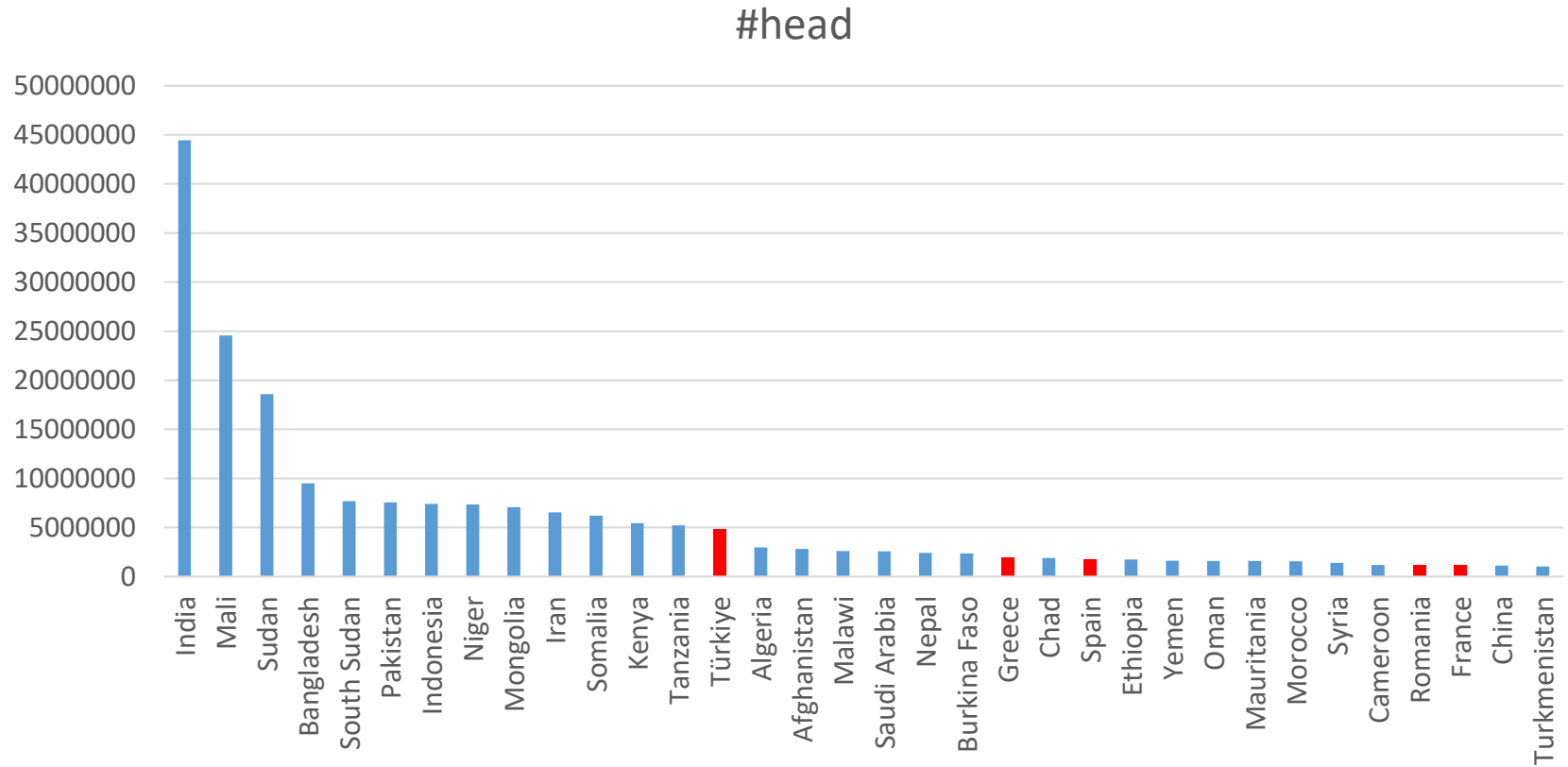
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European countries (without Turkey)

Dairy goat populations

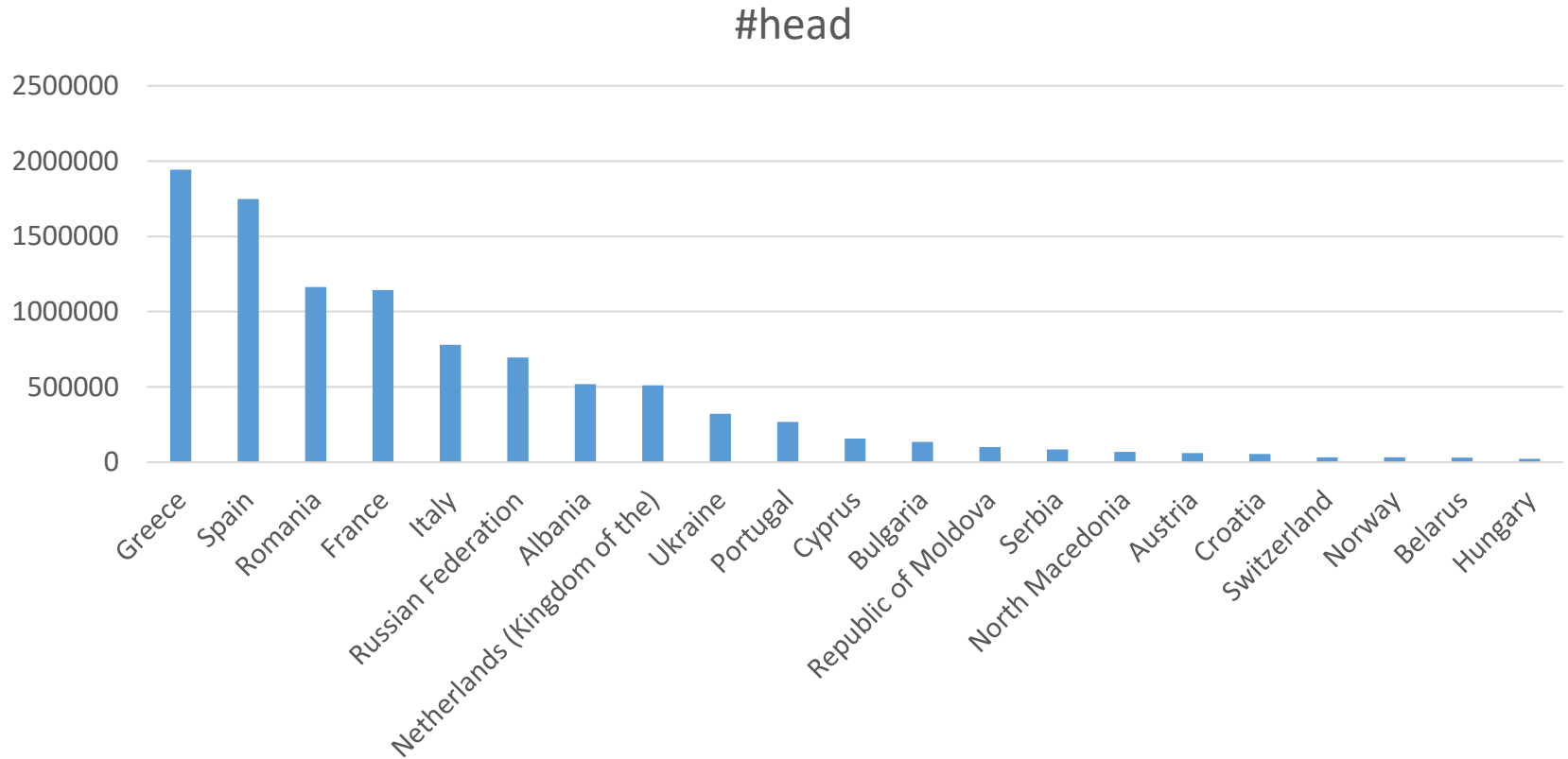
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Red: European countries (inc. Turkey)

Dairy goat populations

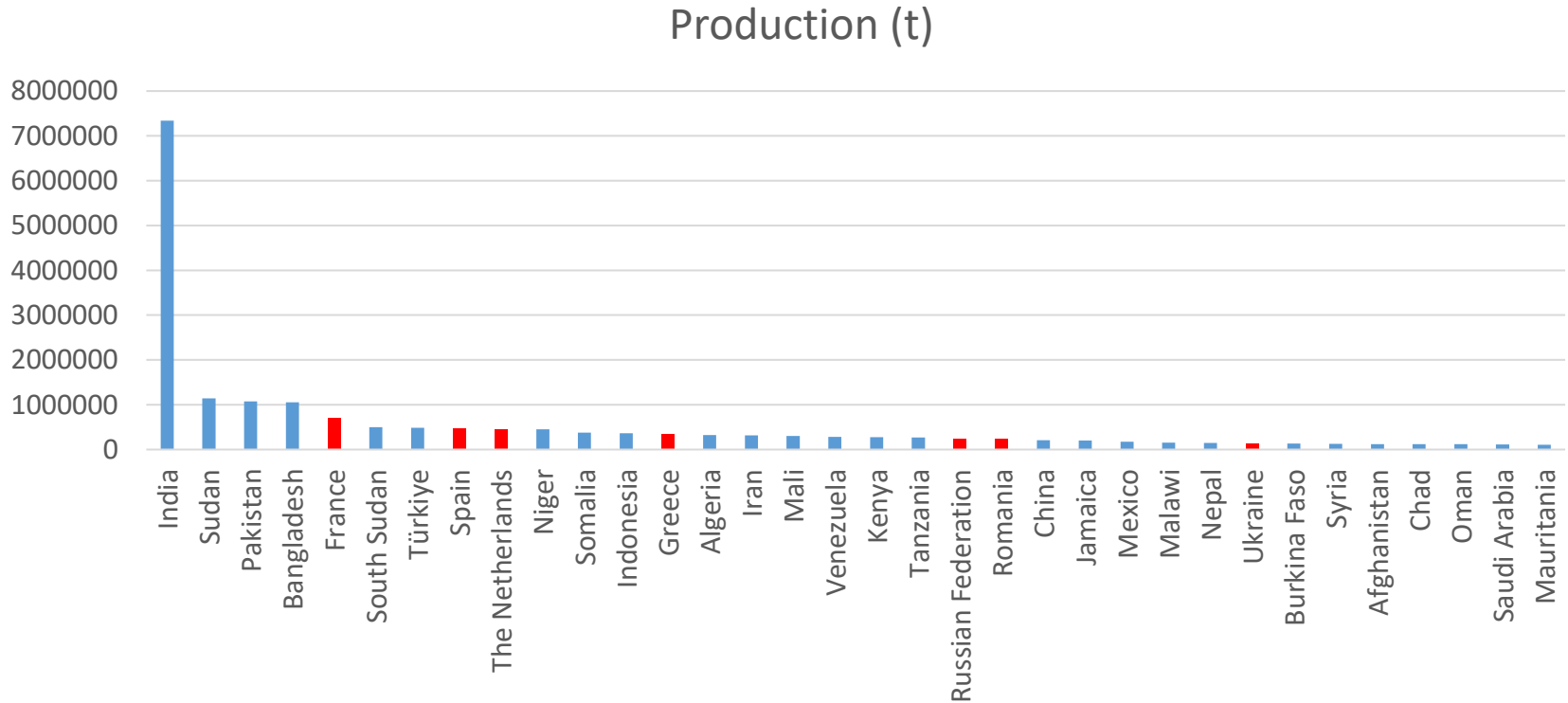
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European countries (without Turkey)

Goat milk production

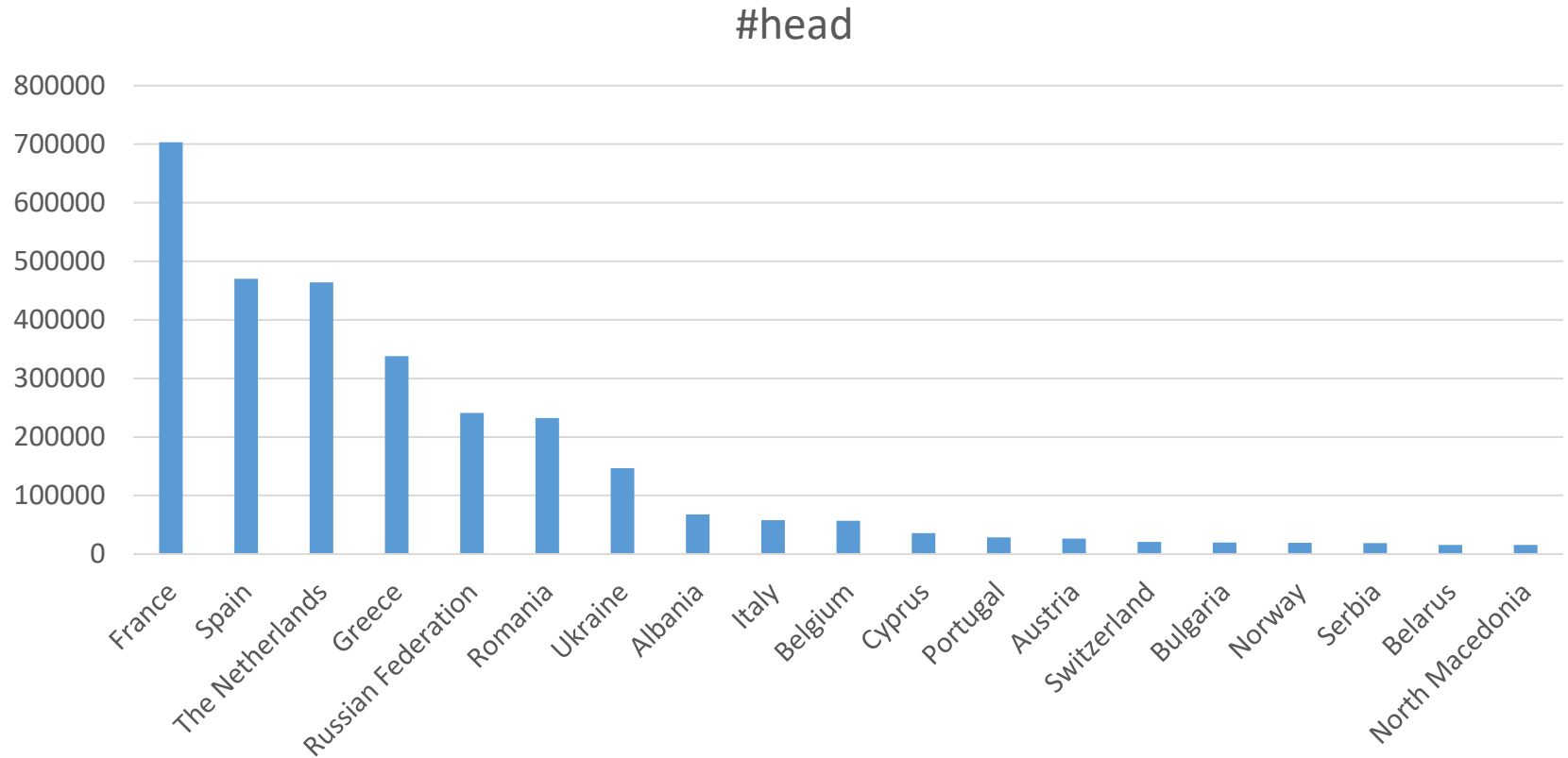
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Red: European countries (inc. Turkey)

Goat milk production

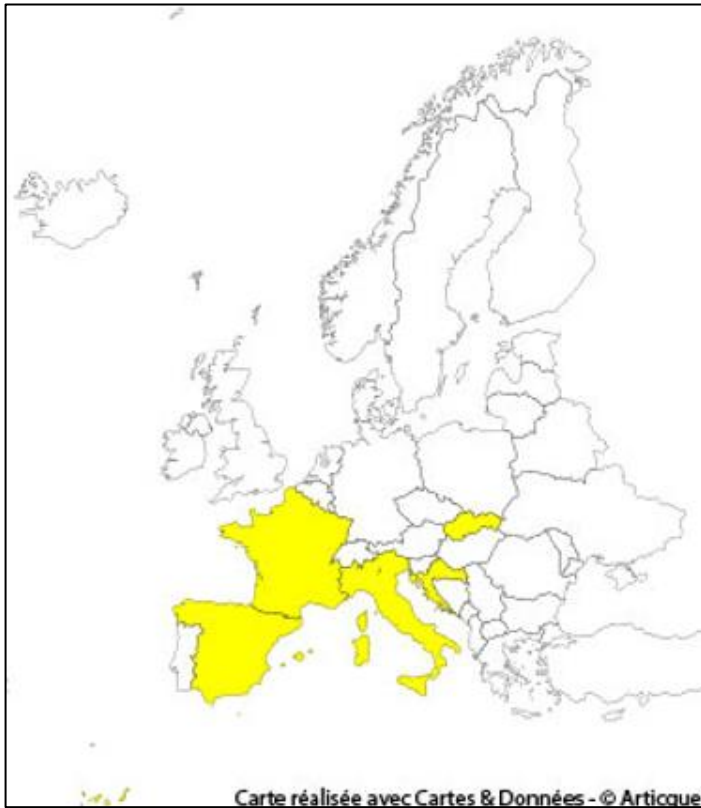
¹ figures 2024 from FAOSTAT - <http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/QCL>



European countries (without Turkey)

Yearly enquiry on-line

DAIRY SHEEP
Years 2024-25
Verona, Italy, 2026



YELLOW: ICAR countries
having submitted data to the
database in 2024 and/or 2025

5 new submissions 2024-2025

- Biennial synthetic report done by WG (tables and figures) for the years 2024-2025 available on the web

- Official ICAR publication with raw data

<https://www.icar.org/publications/milk-yearly-surveys/>

Biennial statistics of cow milk, sheep milk and beef recording

ICAR collects and publishes, on a biennial basis, the national data provided by its member organisations for the Cow, Sheep and Goat Milk Recording.

[Read more](#)

**Yearly survey on the situation of
MILK RECORDING SYSTEMS (Years 2022 and 2023)
in ICAR member countries for cow, sheep and goats**

Recorded population - countries (ICAR Verona 2026)

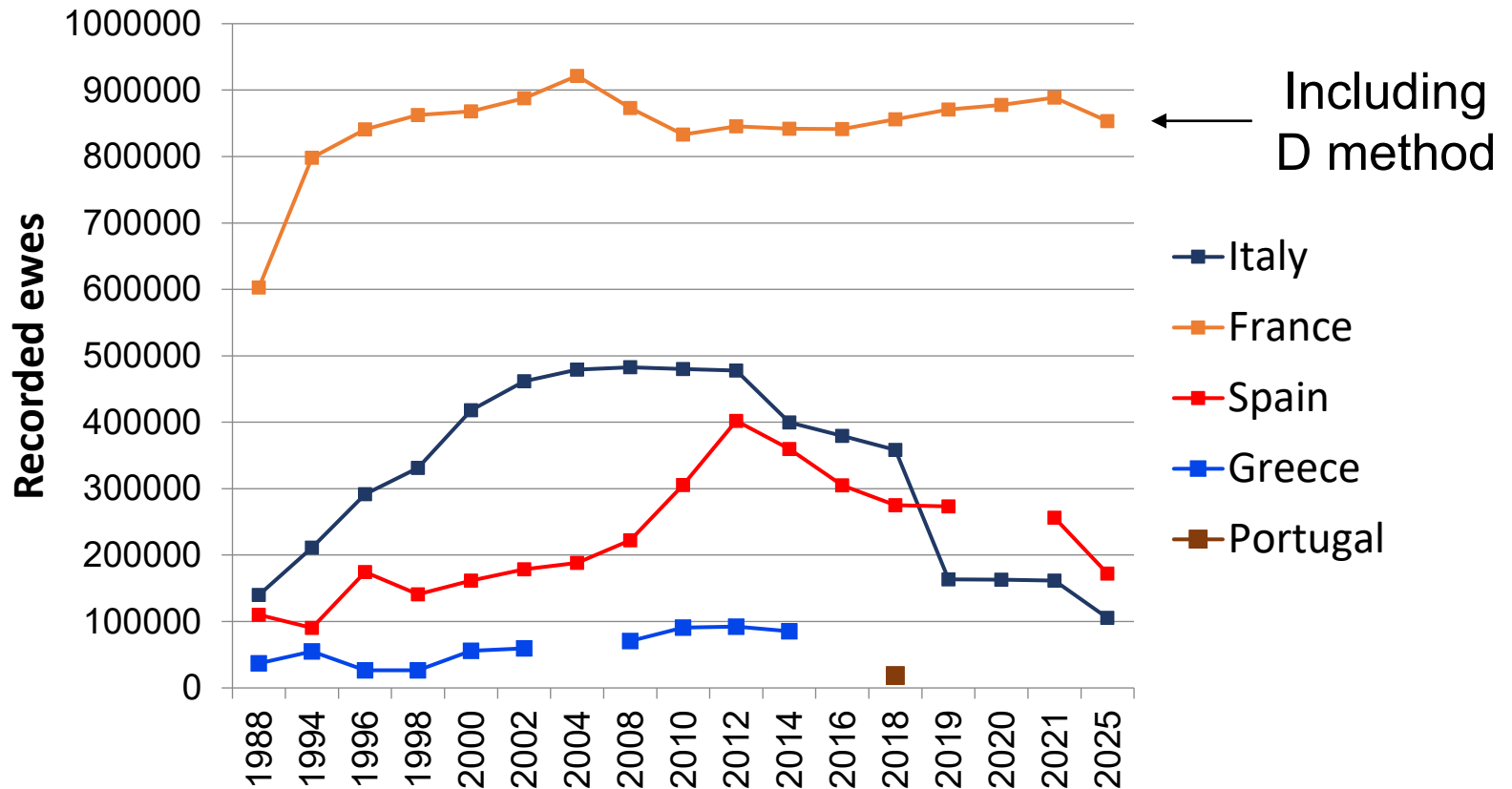
Countries	Size of population	Recorded population (official milk recording)		% recorded population
	# ewes ¹	#flocks	# ewes	
Italy (2025)	3,698,000	699	105,332	2.8%
France (2025) ²	1,433,000	741	345,655	24.1%
Spain (2025) ³	1,974,000	309	172,078	8.7%
Greece (2013)	5,566,000	459	85,345	1.5%
Portugal (2018)	217,000	283	18,052	8.3%
Slovak Rep (2025)		70	7,547	?
Croatia (2025)	95,000	58	6,889	7.3%
Slovenia (2021)	3,655	41	4,624	100%
TOTAL		2,660	745,522	

¹ figures 2024 from FAOSTAT - <http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/QCL>

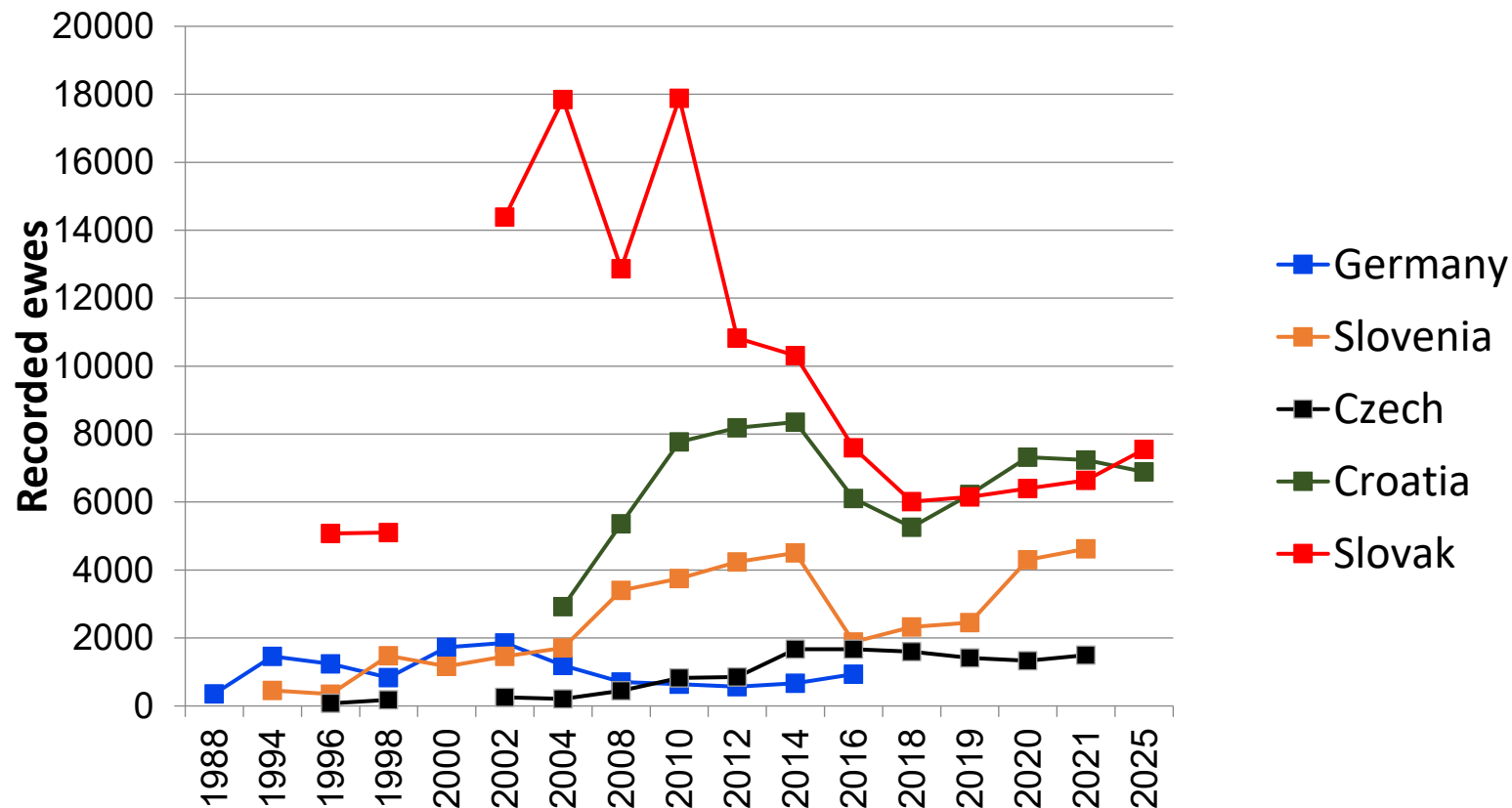
² 507,676 in D recording

³ Churra & Assaf are missing

Evolution of number of recorded ewes in some ICAR countries (ICAR Verona 2026)



Evolution of number of recorded ewes in some ICAR countries (ICAR Verona 2026)



Recorded population by breeds

Recorded population - breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Breeds	Size of population	Recorded population		% recorded population
		# ewes	#flocks	# ewes	
Slovakia (2025)	Improved Valachian		14	2,206	
	Valachian		2	67	
	Tsigai		22	2,599	
	Slovak dairy sheep (hybrids ?)		12	1,179	
	Lacaune		17	1,243	
	Assaf		1	227	
	East Friesian		2	26	

Recorded population - breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Breeds	Size of population		Recorded population		% recorded population
		#flocks	# ewes	#flocks	# ewes	
Croatia (2025)	Paska	467	34,416	27	3,512	10.2 %
	Istrian	190	3,147	11	692	22.0 %
	Lacaune	20	3,000	17	2,652	88.4%
	East Friesian	20	300	3	33	11.0 %
Slovenia (2021)	Bovec	24	2,950	24	2,900	98.3 %
	Istrian Pramenka	4	800	4	797	99.6 %
	Improved Bovec	13	950	13	927	97.6 %

Recorded population - breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Breeds	Size of population	Recorded population (official milk recording)		% recorded population	Ewes in D method
		# ewes	#flocks	# ewes		
France (2025)	Lacaune	910,000	380	209,691	74.3 %	466,234
	Manech Tête Rousse	290,000	192	80,957	34.6 %	19,375
	Corse	75,000	53	15,160	35.3 %	11,286
	Basco-Béarnaise	82,000	88	30,679	47.7 %	8,457
	Manech Tête Noire	76,000	28	9,168	15.1 %	2,324

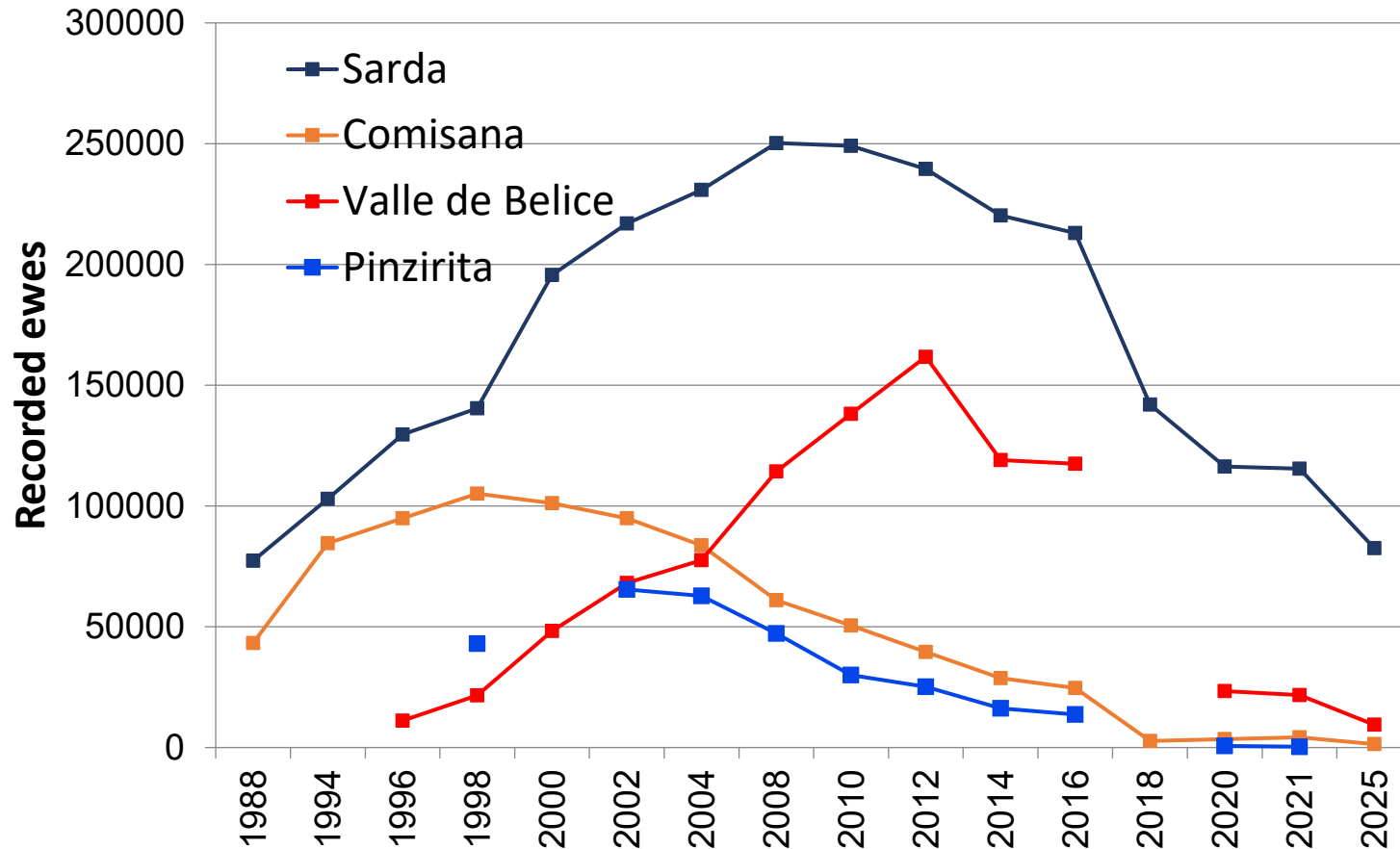
Recorded population - breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Breeds (> 1,000 recorded ewes)	Size of population	Recorded population		% recorded population
		# ewes	#flocks	# ewes	
Italy (2025)	Sarda		406	82,570	
	Valle del Belice		143	9,422	
	Massese		52	3,822	
	Lacaune		40	5,921	
	Comisana		18	1,414	
	Delle Langhe		17	1,213	
	Nera di Arbus		16	343	
	Pinzirita				
	Carsolina				
	Barbaresca				
	Moscia Leccese				
	Assaf			7	627

Recorded population - breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)

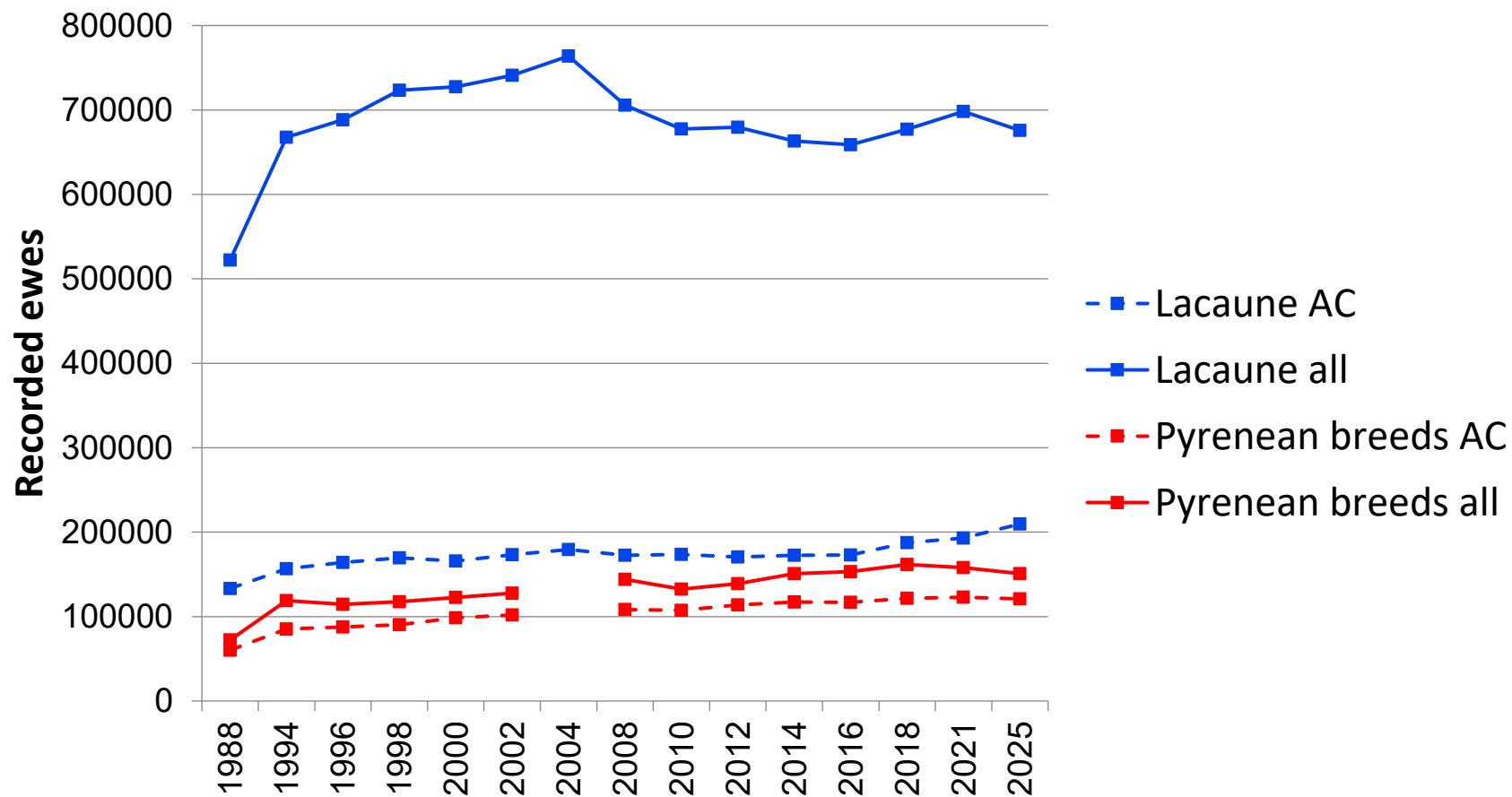
Countries	Breeds	Size of population	Recorded population		% recorded population
		#flocks	#flocks	# ewes	
Spain (2025) Assaf, Churra: figures from CoQ Spain, 2021	Manchega	497,000	122	147,740	29.7%
	Assaf	1,000,000	128	141,000	14.1%
	Latxa	274,000	156	61,368	22.4%
	Churra	300,000	45	26,000	8.9%
	Lacaune	95,000	22	22,569	23.8%
	Merino de Grazalema	4,244	9	1,709	40.3%

Evolution of number of recorded ewes in some major Italian breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)

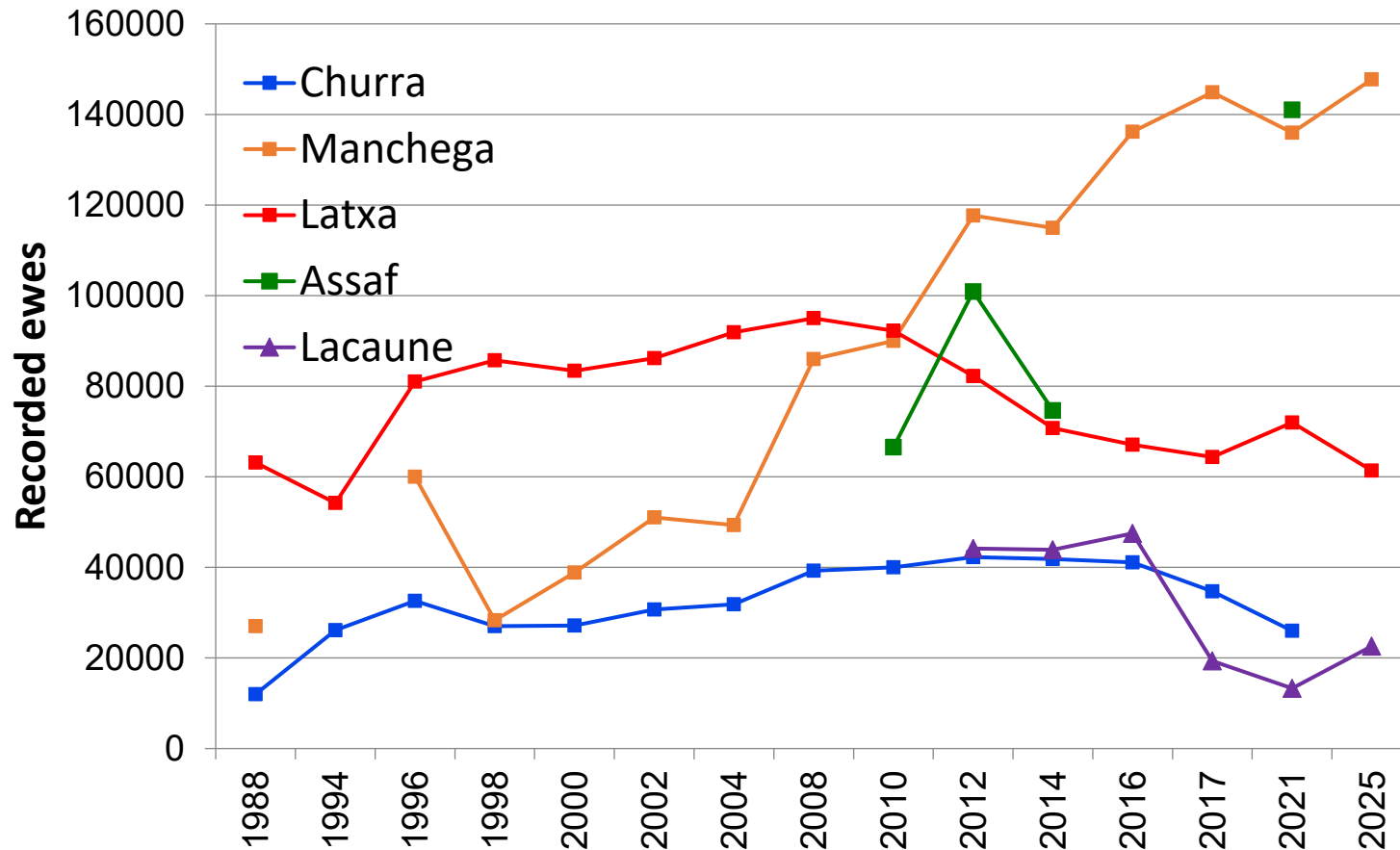


Decrease in all breeds

Evolution of number of recorded ewes in some major French breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)



Evolution of number of recorded ewes in some major Spanish breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)



**Methods, recording
intervals, sampling**

Methods and recording intervals (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	A4	E	AT	AC
Croatia	Almost 100% in foreign breeds : B4		Almost 100% in local breeds	
Slovenia			100%	
Italy			3%	97% (Sarda breed)
Spain Churra/Manchega/Assaf Lacaune Latxa			100% 95% Part (39%)	Part (5%) Part (61%)
France				100%
Slovak Rep.				100%

Milk yield : simplified (AT or AC) methods mainly used

Type of analysis done by countries (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	F%	P%	Casein	Lactose	SCC	Urea	Dry matter	MIR spectra
Slovakia	X	X		X				
France	X	X			X			X
Croatia	X	X		X	X	x		
Spain								
Latxa	X	X		X	X		X	
Manchega	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Lacaune	X	X			X	X	X	
Merino de Grazalema	X	X		X	X			

Method used and number of ewes sampled

(ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Categories of ewes	Number of ewes	Method
Croatia	All ewes	6,889	AT (+B4)
Spain (Latxa) (Other)			AC - Part-lactation sampling AT + A4
Slovak	Parity 1 to 3	7,547	AC -Part-lactation sampling
France Corse breed Pyrenean breeds Lacaune breed	Parity 1 Parity 1 Parity 1 & 2	2,413 21,384 83,760	AC Part-lactation sampling

**Milk yield,
AI & breeding programs**

Milk yield : type of lactation calculation

(ICAR Verona 2026)

- If milking since lambing

Lambing

Drying off

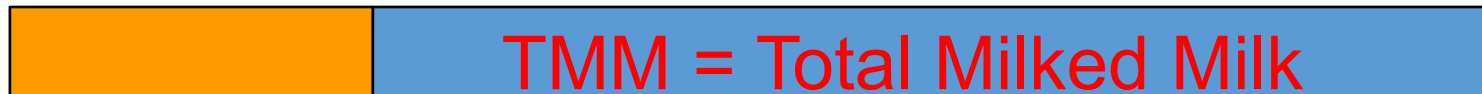


- If suckling period

Lambing

Weaning

Drying off



TSMM = Total Suckled + Milked Milk
(not recommended)

Milk yield : type of lactation calculation

(ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Lactation calculation	Production of reference
Italy	TSMM , TMM	TMM
Slovak Rep.	TMM	TMM (150)
France	TMM	
Croatia	TSMM , TMM	
<u>Spain</u>		
Churra	TSMM , TMM	TMM (120)
Manchega, Latxa	TSMM , TMM	TSMM (120), TMM (120)
Lacaune	TMY	TMY (160)
Merina de Grazalema	TSMM	TSMM (116)

Milk yield : results for some population

(ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Average MY per recorded ewe in liters (length in days) [a = TMY / b = TMM / c = TSMM / ref = reference length in days]		
	Yearlings	Adults	All ewes
CROATIA (2025)	[b]	[b]	[b]
East Friesian	273	359	286
Lacaune	336	376	365
Istrian Pramenka	117	128	121
Paška	126	141	137
FRANCE (2025)	[b]	[b]	[b]
Lacaune	317 (168)	385 (185)	367 (180)
Manech tête rousse	210 (156)	251 (165)	247 (165)
Basco-Béarnaise	157 (107)	230 (158)	218 (150)
Manech tête noire		183 (152)	179 (151)
Corse	103 (133)	165 (191)	154 (181)

Milk yield : results for some population

(ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries [2025]	Average MY per recorded ewe in liters (length in days) [a = TMY / b = TMM / c = TSMM / ref = reference length in days]		
	Yearlings	Adults	All ewes
ITALIA	[b]	[b]	[b]
Sarda	212	312	298 [ref]
Valle de Belice	179	277	266 [ref]
Comisana	125	218	201 [ref]
Langhe	101	173	163 [ref]
Massese	150	166	165 [ref]
Lacaune	326	439	414 [ref]
Assaf	279	387	383 [ref]
Nera di Arbus	91	200	183 [ref]
Moscia Leccese	132	122	129 [ref]
Noticiano	90	106	105 [ref]
Barbaresca	148	162	160 [ref]
Carsolina	99	135	134 [ref]

Since 2009 : TMM / ref

Milk yield : results for some population

(ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Average MY per recorded ewe in liters (length in days)		
	[a = TMY / b = TMM / c = TSMM / ref = reference length in days]		
	Yearlings	Adults	All ewes
SPAIN (2025)			
Churra			
Latxa	205 [c] (ref : 120)	268 [c] (ref : 120)	236 [c] (ref : 120)
Manchega	235 [c]	265 [c]	257 [c]
Lacaune	286 [a] (ref : 120)	345 [a] (ref : 120)	316 [a] (ref : 120)
Merina de Grazalema	76 [b] (ref : 168)	92 [b] (ref : 168)	91 [b] (ref : 168)

Breeding schemes and selection criteria

(ICAR Verona 2026)

FRANCE - 2025	Number of AI rams / year	AI Fresh	Year of starting	Selection criteria
Lacaune	329	439,960	1968	(FY+PY+F%+P%) + 0.5 SCC + 0.5 Udder
Manech tête rousse	156	49,326	1977	(FY+PY+F%+P%) + 0.4 SCC + 0.4 Udder
Manech tête noire	22	4,584	1977	(FY+PY+F%+P%) + 0.1 SCC
Basco- Béarnaise	70	17,699	1977	(FY+PY+F%+P%) + 0.35 SCC + 0.35 Udder
Corse	22	6,700	1992	(FY+PY+F%+P%) + 0.10 SCC + 0.10 Udder

+ PrP : selection on scrapie resistance

+ Resistance to parasites in Manech tête rousse & Basco-Béarnaise

+ Horns in Corse

Breeding schemes and selection criteria

(ICAR Verona 2026)

SPAIN - 2025	Number of AI progeny-tested rams	AI Fresh (frozen)	Selection criteria
Latxa	74	19,926	MY, F%, P%, udder
Merino de Grazalema	28	50	MY, udder, caseins
Manchega	631	28,853	MY (test-day), udder morphology
Churra			
Lacaune	25	3,985	Production + udder + SCC

+ PrP : selection on scrapie resistance

Other items

milk recording equipment

molecular information

recording of other traits

Milk recording equipment (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	JARS	MILK METERS
CROATIA (2025)	Cartel Germany (Vol, Sampler)	Waikato MK4 (Vol, Sampler)
FRANCE (2025)	SARL Gély (Vol, Sampler)	
SPAIN (2025)	Brand Berango, model Esneder (vol, sampler) Brand MIBO, model Lattometri, sold by Westfalia (vol, sampler) Brand Grupanor	DeLaval, Westfalia, True-test & Tustda, Delaval and GEA
ITALY (2025)	Mibo-Girotech (vol, sampler), Royal	Waikato SG, Afifree, DeLaval MM25SG
SLOVAK REP. (2025)	Fisher Slovakia (vol, no sampler) Berango / milkovis	

Churra & Assaf : Esneder from Berango / *Latxa* : Lattometri from MIBO / *Manchega* : Grupanor

Molecular information (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	FILIATION TEST	PRP GENOTYPING	OTHER
FRANCE (2025)	Rams genotyped in AgResearch 80K de facto on filiation tests	14,024 analysis (use in selection)	SNP genotyping (about 5,147 males and 5,701 females with AgResearch 80K chip) for genomic selection
ITALY (2025)	3,905 animals	yes	
SPAIN (2025)	53,467 animals (~20 markers)	21,622 (use in selection)	5,855 genotypes on chip for genomic selection
CROATIA (2025)	4,248 animals		
SLOVAK REP. (2025)		Yes	

Recording of other traits (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	TRAITS REPORTED TO BE AT LEAST ON-FARM RECORDED
CROATIA (2025)	Reproductive traits Birth weight
FRANCE (2025)	Reproductive traits, Udder score , Causes of culling
ITALY (2025)	Morphological evaluation, Udder score (Sarda)
SLOVAK REP. (2025)	Reproductive traits Weights
SPAIN (2025)	Udder score (most breeds) Reproductive traits Longevity (some breeds)

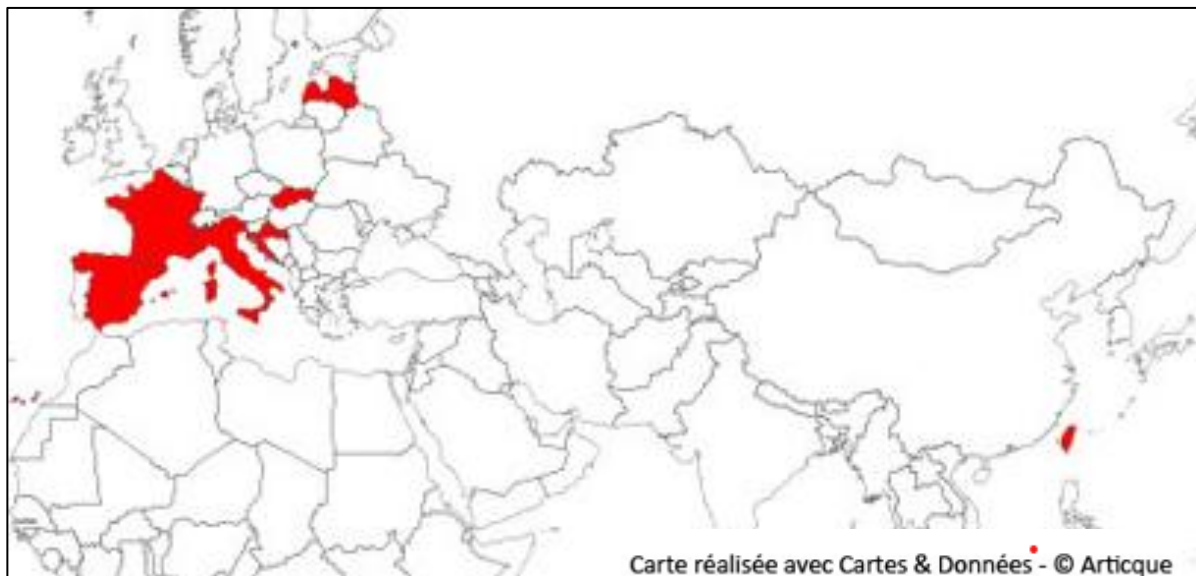
Yearly enquiry on-line

DAIRY GOATS

Years 2024-25

Verona, Italy, 2026

RED: ICAR countries having submitted data to the database since 2024



7 new submissions 2024-25

- Biennial synthetic report done by WG (tables and figures) for the years 2024-2025 available on the web

Biennial statistics of cow milk, sheep milk and beef recording

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- Official ICAR publication with raw data

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**Yearly survey on the situation of
MILK RECORDING SYSTEMS (Years 2022 and 2023)
in ICAR member countries for cow, sheep and goats**

Recorded population in dairy goat - countries

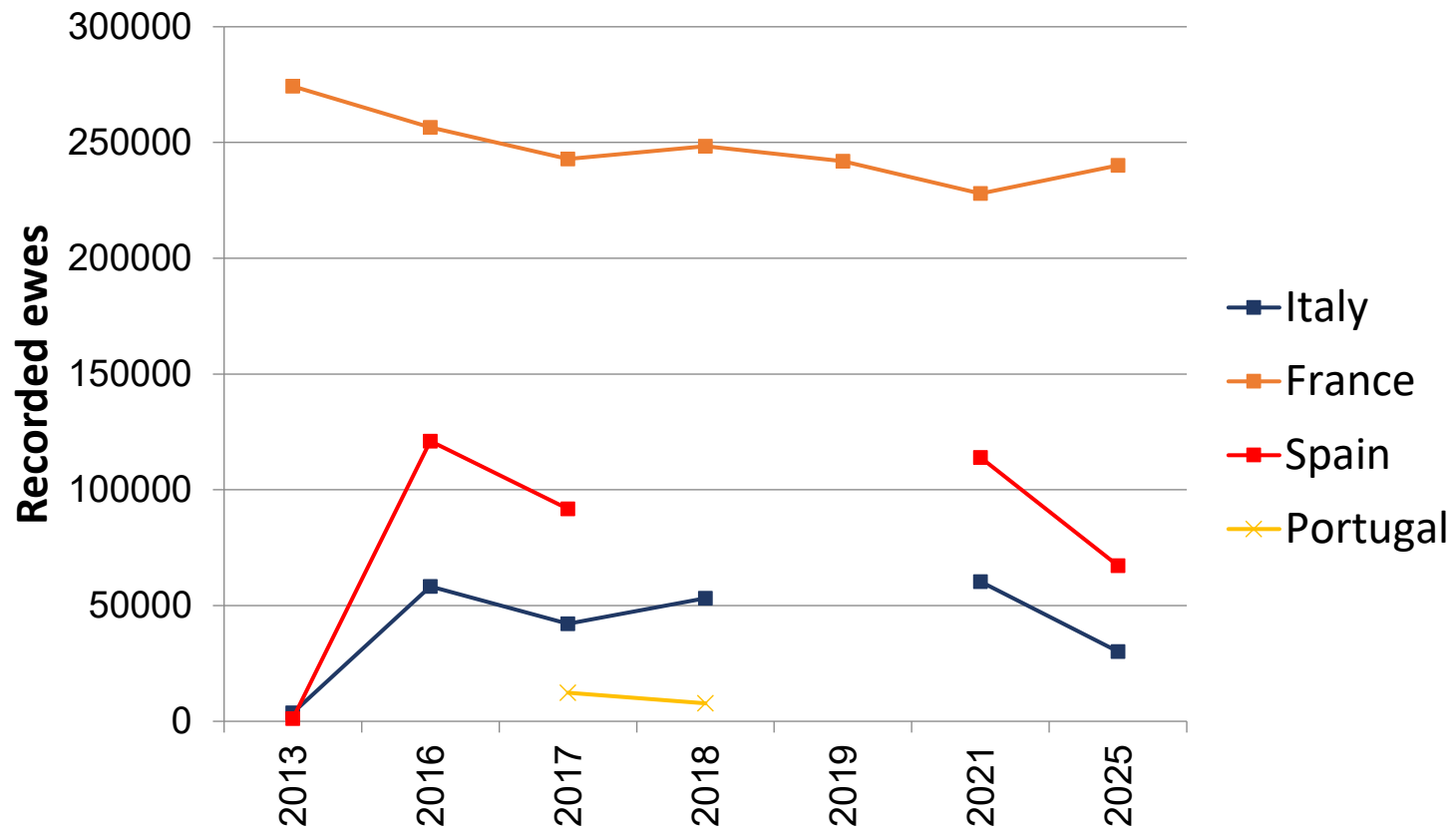
(ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Size of population	Recorded population (official milk recording)		% recorded population
	# does ¹	# herds	# does	
France (2025) ²	1,143,000	1,359	240,205	21.0%
Italy (2025)	781,000	455	30,154	3.9%
Spain (2025)	1,747,000	156	67,286	3.9%
Taiwan (2025)	35,000	7	1,207	3.4%
Croatia (2025)	54,000	41	3,276	6.1%
Latvia (2025)	6,000	16	868	14.5%
Slovakia (2025)	33,000	9	515	1.6%
TOTAL		2043	343,511	

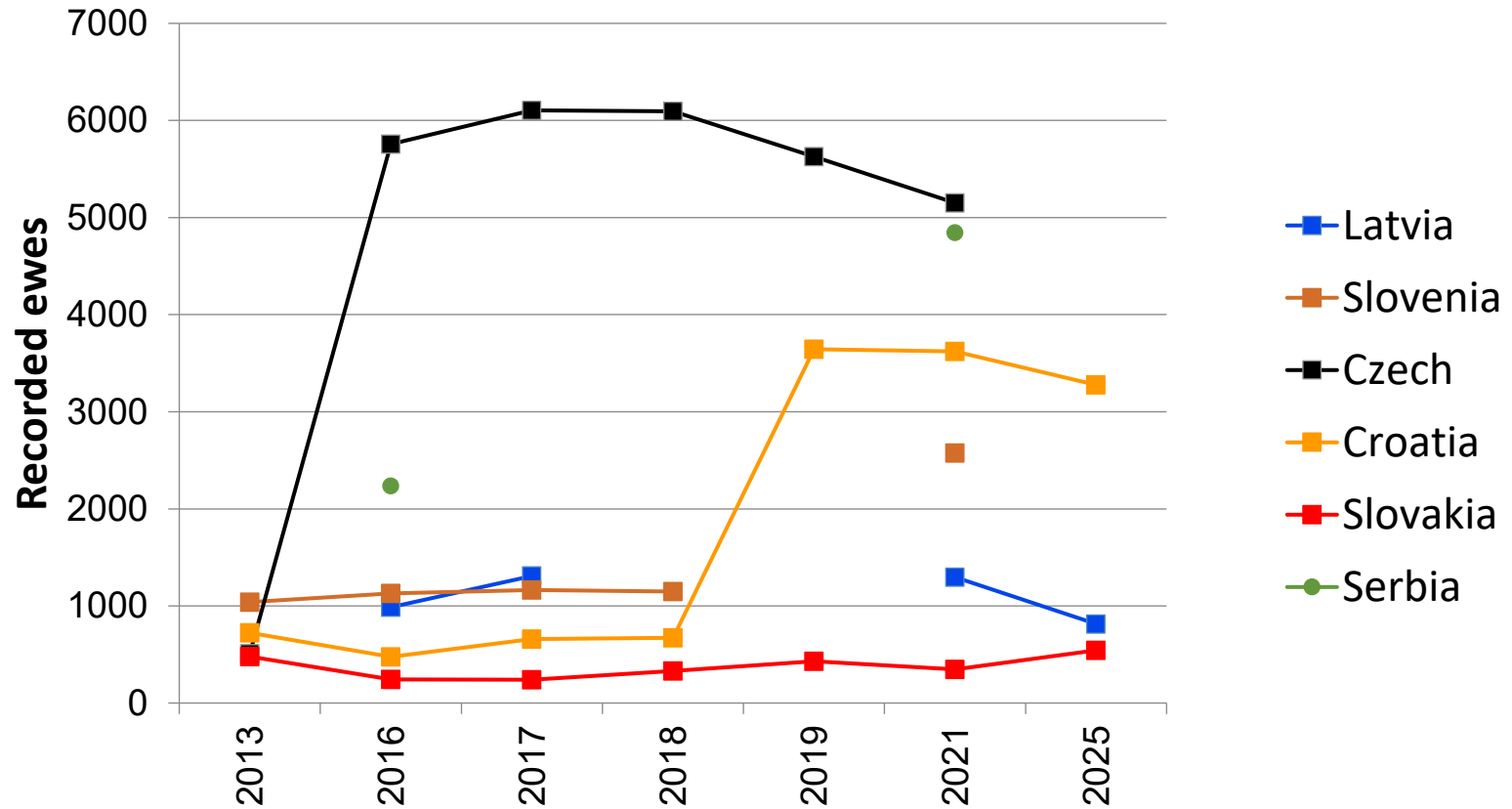
¹ figures 2024 from FAOSTAT

² in addition : 362 herds & 73,190 does in D recording

Evolution of number of recorded goats in some ICAR countries (ICAR Verona 2026)



Evolution of number of recorded goats in some ICAR countries (ICAR Verona 2026)



Recorded population by breeds

Recorded population - breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Breeds	Size of population	Recorded population		% recorded population
		# does	# herds	# does	
France (2025)	Alpine		1087	144,313	
	Saanen		569	67,286	
	Poitevine		20	308	
Slovakia (2025)	Anglo-Nubian		4	18	
	White shorthaired		3	470	
	Brown shorthaired		2	27	
Croatia (2025)	Alpine		20,300	33	
	Saanen		1,500	8	

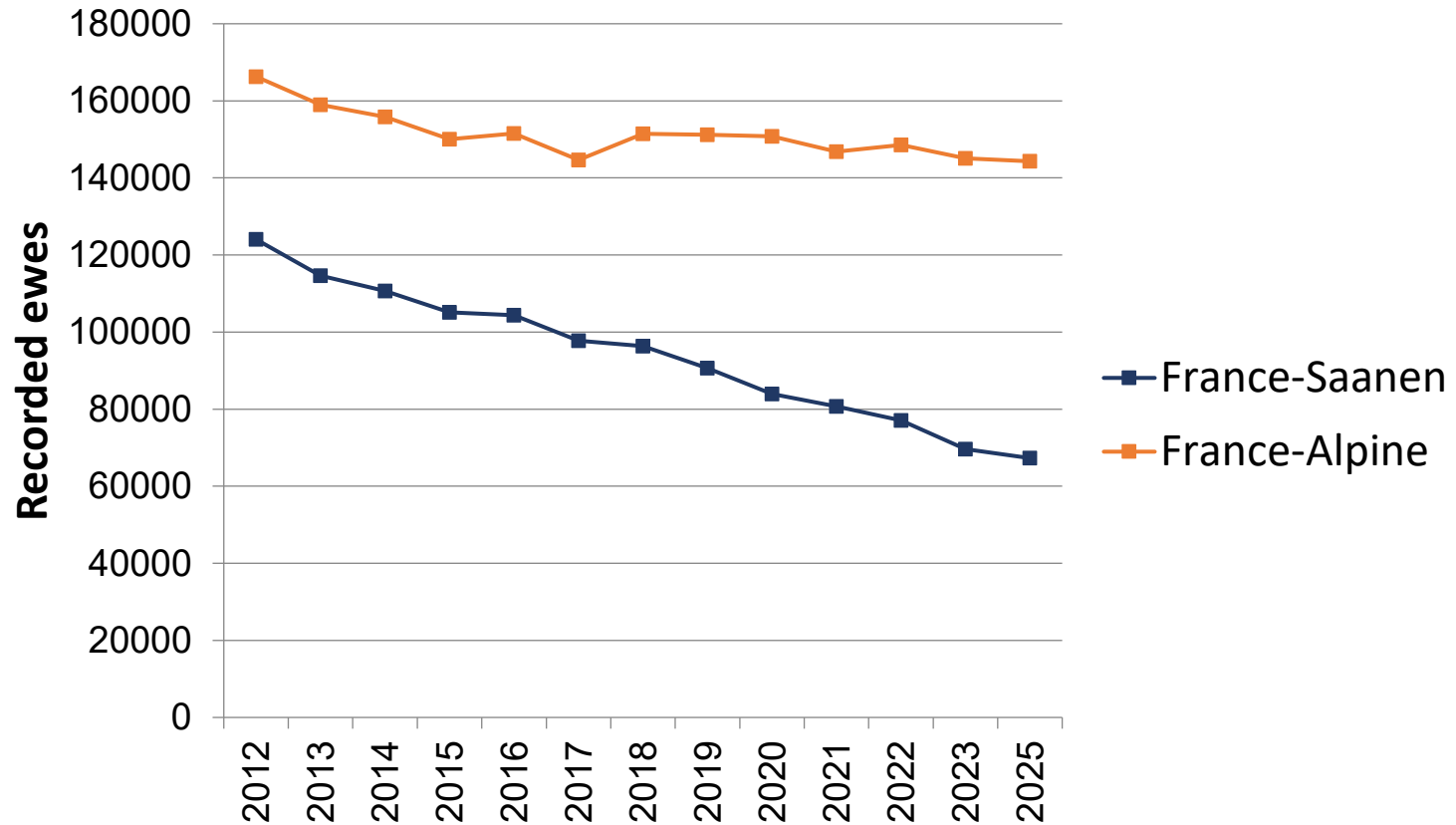
Recorded population - breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Breeds	Size of population	Recorded population		% recorded population
		# does	#herds	# does	
Italy (2025)	Camosciata Delle Alpi		198	10,776	
	Nicastrese		7	688	
	Murciano-Granadina		11	685	
	Sarda		102	20,326	
	Sarda Primitiva		13	383	
	Maltese		16	596	
	Saanen		108	6,700	

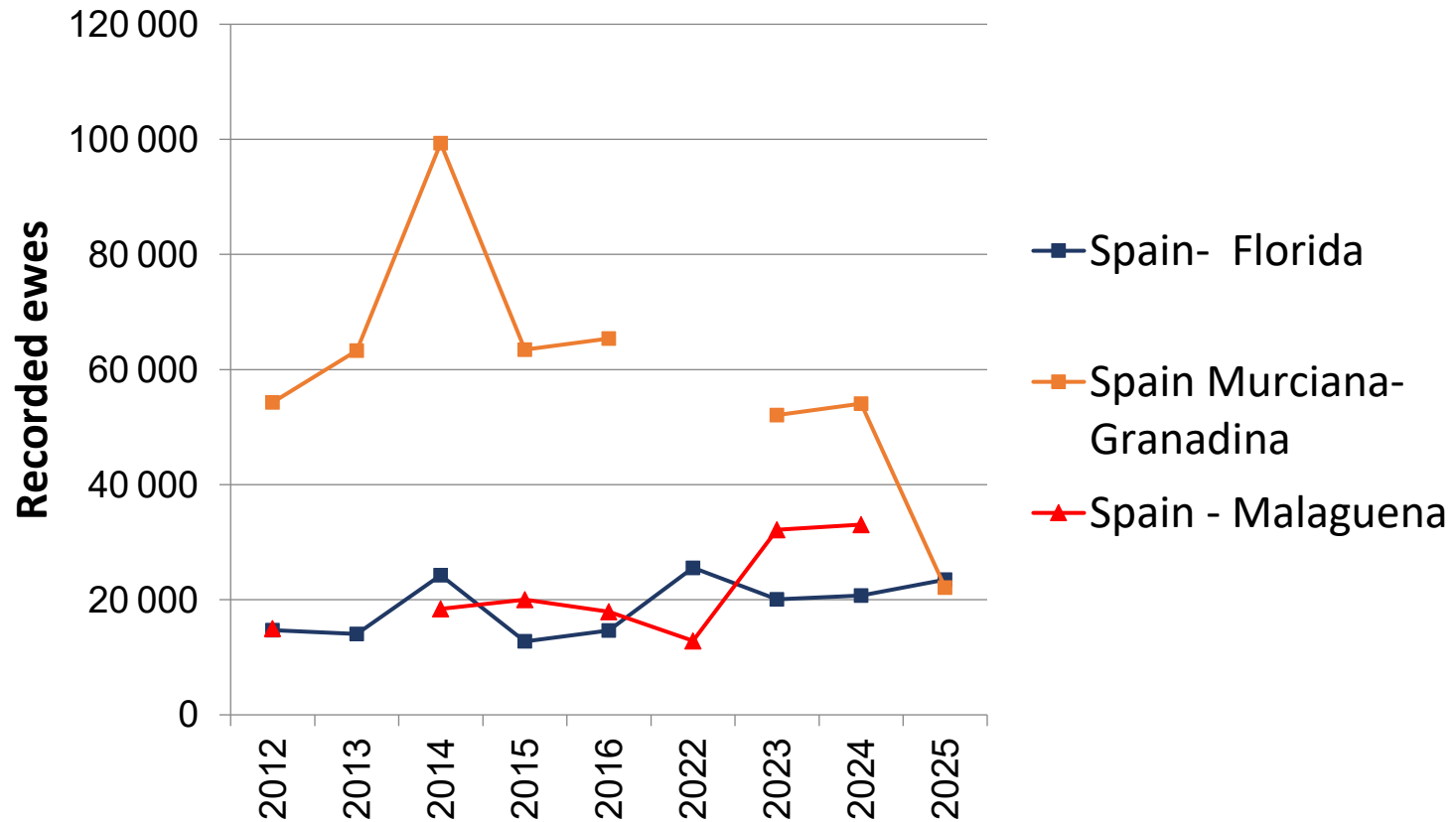
Recorded population - breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Breeds	Size of population	Recorded population		% recorded population
		#does	#herds	# does	
Spain (2025)	Murciano-Granadina		12	22,089	
	Guadarrama	4,100	9	2,278	
	Palmera	7,200	7	1,034	
	Payoya	6,100	17	5,100	
	Tinerfeña	7,700	12	2,221	
	Florida	46,000	63	23,496	

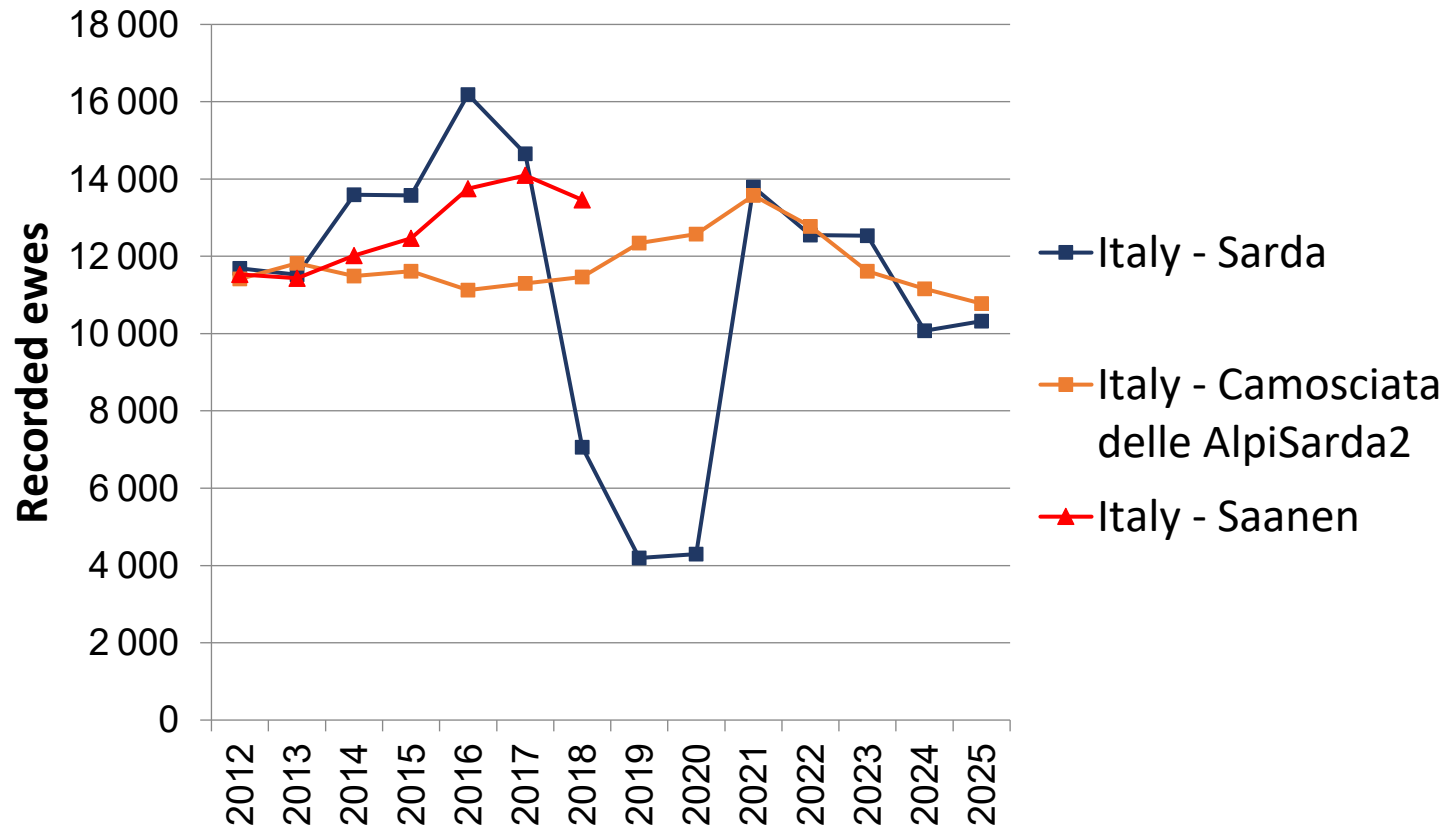
Evolution of number of recorded does in some major French breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)



Evolution of number of recorded does in some major Spanish breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)



Evolution of number of recorded does in some major Italian breeds (ICAR Verona 2026)



**Methods, recording
intervals, sampling**

Methods and recording intervals (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	A4	EC	AT	AC
Croatia	Minor part		Major part	
Italy			100%	
Spain	Main part (A4 & A6)		Part	Murciano-Gran., Payoya, Florida
France	50% (including A4, AY, AZ, CY, CZ)		17%	32%
Latvia	100%			
Slovakia				100%

Type of analysis done by countries

(ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	F	P	Lactose	SCC	Urea	Dry matter
Slovakia	X	X	X			
France	X	X		X		
Croatia	X	X	X	X		
Latvia	X	X				
Italy	X	X		X		
Spain	X	X	X	X		X

Method used and number of does sampled

(ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Categories of does	Number of does	Method
Croatia		3,276	AT, BT, B4
Spain			AC, A4, AT (4 or 6 weeks)
Latvia			A4
Slovak	Parity 1 to 3	515	AC
Italy	All does	20,725	AT
France	All does		AT

**Milk yield,
AI & breeding programs**

Milk yield : type of lactation calculation

(ICAR Verona 2026)

- If milking since kidding



- If suckling period



TSMM = Total Suckled + Milked Milk
(not recommended)

Milk yield : type of lactation calculation

(ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	Lactation calculation	Production of reference
Italy	TSMM , TMM	TSMM , TMM
Slovakia	TMM	TMM (240)
France	TMY	TMY (250)
Latvia		TMY (240)
Croatia	TSMM , TMM	
<u>Spain</u>		
Guadarrama	TMM , TMY	TMM , TMY (210)
Murciano-Granadina	TMY	TMY (210)
Palmera,	TMM	TMM (parity 1 150 ; parity 2+ 210)
Malagueña	TMM , TMY	TMM , TMY
Florida	TMY	TMY (280)

Milk yield : results for some populations

(ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries [2025]	Average MY per recorded doe in liters (length in days)		
	[a = TMY / b = TMM / c = TSMM / ref = reference length in days]		
	Yearlings	Adults	All does
CROATIA (2025) Alpine Saanen	[?]	[?]	[Y]
LATVIA (2025) All breeds			[a] 417
FRANCE (2025) Saanen Alpine Poitevine	[a] 1097 (364) 912 (337) 372 (285)	[a] 1065 (329) 1026 (323) 542 (282)	[a] 1077 (342) 986 (328) 508 (283)

Milk yield : results for some populations

(ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries [2025]	Average MY per recorded ewe in liters (length in days)		
	Yearlings	Adults	All does
ITALIA (2025)	[?]	[?]	[?]
Camosciata Delle Alpi	398	590	549
Nicastrese	198	258	255
Saanen	456	654	602
Maltese	244	369	363
Sarda	132	160	158
Sarda Primitiva	82	131	130
SPAIN (2025)			
Guadarrama	252	594	512
Malagueña	240	433	426
Murciano-Granadina	453	592	548
Palmera	307	480	342
Payoya	255	406	331
Florida	591	768	702

Breeding schemes and selection criteria

(ICAR Verona 2026)

	Number of AI progeny-tested rams	AI	Year of starting	Selection criteria
Croatia (2025)		Frozen		
Slovakia (2025)		No AI		
Spain (2025)	407	Fresh (2,647) + Frozen (123)		
France (2025)		Frozen (67,534)		

Other items

milk recording equipment

molecular information

recording of other traits

Milk recording equipment (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	JARS	MILK METERS
CROATIA (2025)	Waikato MK4 (Vol, Sampler), Waikato (Vol, Sampler)	
SLOVAK REP. (2025)	Fisher Slovakia (vol)	Tru-Test (Weight, no sampler)
ITALY (2025)	Waikato SG, DeLaval MM25 SG	Mibo, Royal,
SPAIN (2025)		Tru-Test (Weight, no sampler) DeLaval (weight, no sampler) Schneider (weight, no sampler)

Molecular information (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	FILIATION TEST	PRP GENOTYPING	OTHER
FRANCE (2025)			Genomic selection in routine
SPAIN (2025)	13,385 animals (19-38 MRK)		Casein (48 animals)

Recording of other traits (ICAR Verona 2026)

Countries	TRAITS REPORTED TO BE AT LEAST ON-FARM RECORDED
CROATIA (2025)	Reproductive traits Birth weight
FRANCE (2025)	Udder scoring Frame and legs
ITALY (2025)	Linear evaluation (Camosciata delle Alpi, Saanen)
LATVIA (2021)	Udder score
SLOVAK REP. (2025)	Reproductive traits Weights
SPAIN (2025)	Udder score Reproductive traits Weights & growths Height at the withers Longevity (traits according to the breed)