

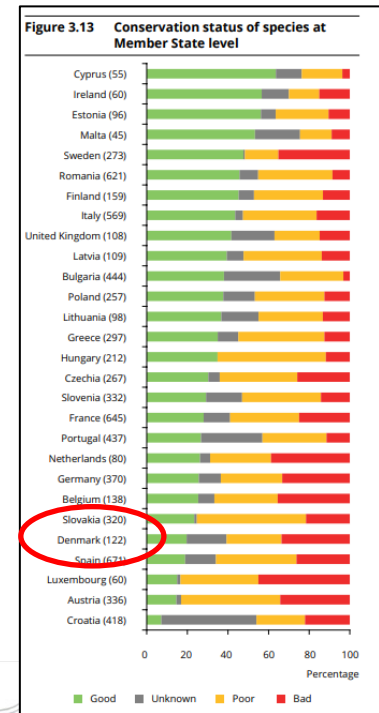
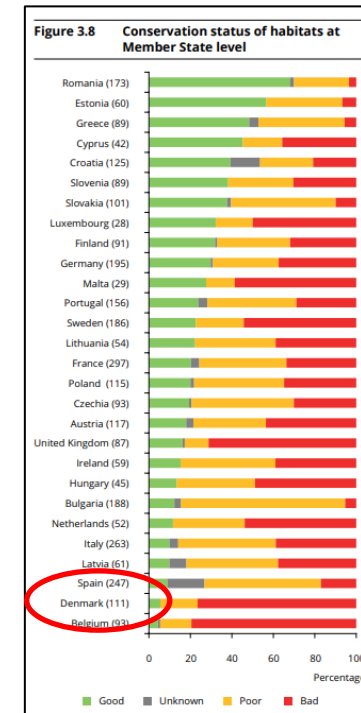
Nature&Beef

Cattle as future stewards of nature

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24th of september 2025

Biodiversity in Denmark

- 95% of natural habitats and 57% of species are assessed as having an unfavorable conservation status
- EU's biodiversity strategy: 30% protected nature
- Need for better management of protected nature – more and better grazing
- Cattle and farmers are central in protection of biodiversity resource



Nature&Beef project unites key stakeholders within the cattle sector to enhance biodiversity efforts



Project's period: 2025-2028
Total budget: 19,1 mio.



Nature&Beef combines production and biodiversity

From science to practice – assessing biodiversity

- Economic and ecological consequences of different management practices
 - Animal type, grazing period and nature type
- New methods of measuring biodiversity
- New breeding traits

SEGES
INNOVATION

 **eurofins**

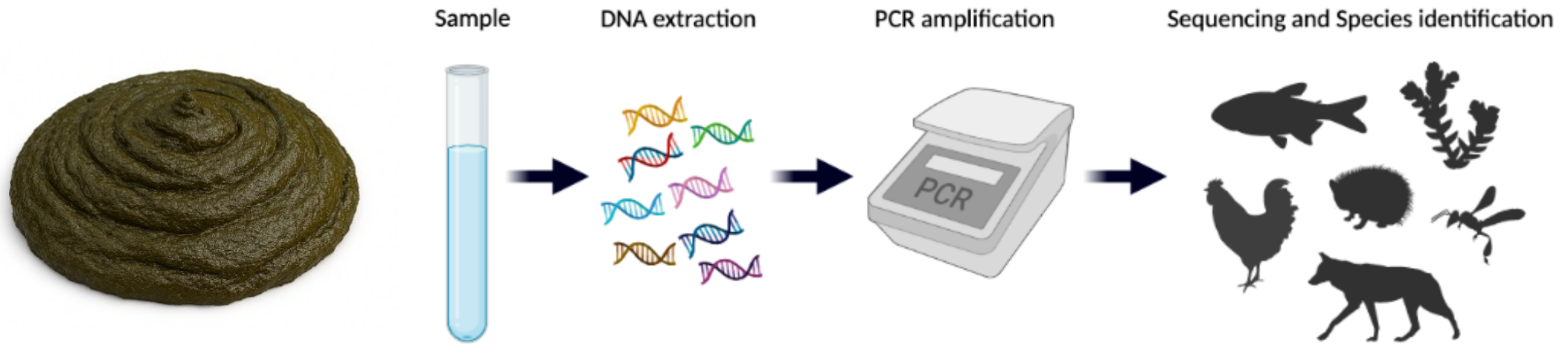


SEGES
INNOVATION

Different steps to develop beef cattle lines targeting nature management

- **Trait Identification:** Define traits in cattle that contribute positively to biodiversity in extensive grazing systems.
- **Data Collection:** Gather records from ~ 4,000 animals
- **eDNA-Based Trait Monitoring:** Develop eDNA methods to monitor key biodiversity-related traits in cattle (e.g. eating behaviour)
- **Selection Index Development:** Construct a selection index to optimize the cattle's potential to act as effective stewards of natural ecosystems.

What is e-DNA?



NATURE

BEEF

Eating behaviour



Weight & weight gain

Tolerance for parasites

Longevity

Calving

Fertility

Eating behaviour

Biodiversity benefits from varied grazing

- Results from eDNA analyses provide insights into the diversity of the cows' diet
- Combined with data about the grazing fields, this allows us to identify cows being more effective stewards of nature: Those that consume a more diverse range of plants



Questions?

