



How sustainable food systems can contribute to achieving food security and nutrition in line with SDG 2 on Zero Hunger.

How aquaculture helps the development of rural areas.

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE (29-feb-2024)

Rural areas in Spain

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RURAL POPULATION

- In Spain, most of the population is concentrated in medium and large cities.
- There are 8,131 municipalities. 90% have less than 10,000 inhabitants.
- Low population density.
- Imbalance in the age and gender structure: - Loss of young people and core ages. - Strong aging.
- Affectation of the economic fabric.
- Insufficient infrastructure and social provisions.





Rural areas in Spain

CHARACTERISTICS OF RURAL AQUACULTURE IN SPAIN

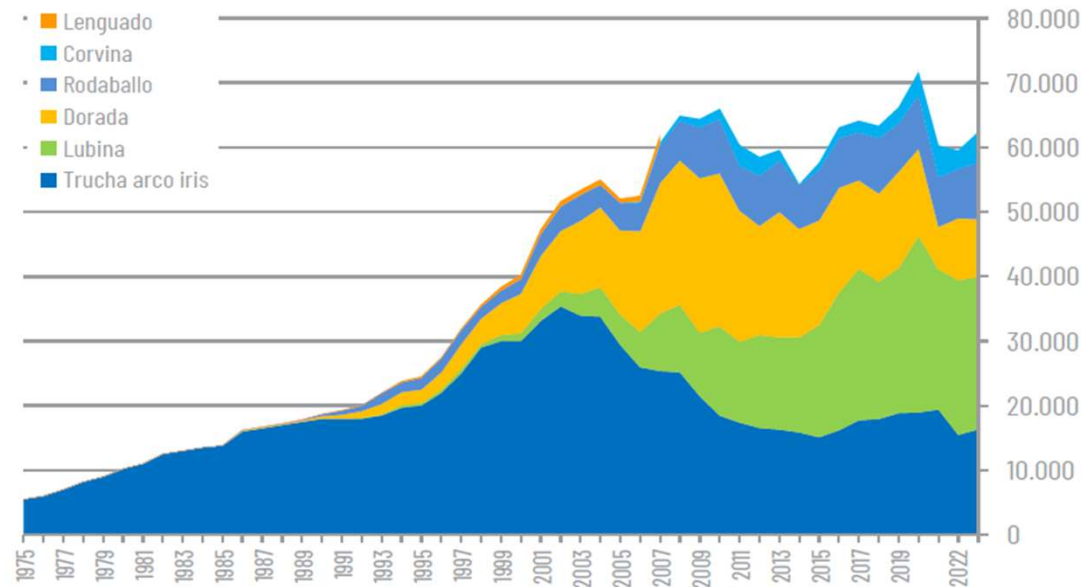
- Micro and small businesses.
- Distribution throughout the Spanish territory.
- Number of companies: 174
- Total direct employment: 186 people.
- Total production: 16,470 t.
- Species: rainbow trout, sturgeon (caviar), tench.





Aquaculture in Spain

Evolución de la cosecha de peces de acuicultura en España, en toneladas y para las principales especies, en el periodo 1975-2022 (MAPAMA y APROMAR).





Aquaculture in rural areas in Spain

WHAT DOES AQUACULTURE OFFER?

Company: **Piscifactoría Rio Mundo S.L.U**
In Riópar (Albacete). 1.357 Inhabitants
In the Sierra del Segura, one of the areas
with the most population loss.



- Started in 1974.
- Reactivated in 2018, after two years of disuse.
- Rainbow trout production.
- 3 people work.
- It is difficult to evaluate the economic impact, but in recent years many improvement works have been carried out, with town companies being hired.
- It is relevant that in this period the company has contributed 3 new children to the city council register. Thus contributing to the revitalization of the mountain range.



Aquaculture in rural areas in Spain

WHAT DOES AQUACULTURE OFFER?

Empresa: **Caviar Pirinea Yesa**
En Yesa (Navarra). 297 habitantes
En la cuenca pre-pirenaica de Sangüesa, a
47,8 km de la capital, Pamplona.



- 25 people work.
- Rainbow trout production and processing.
- In the municipality of Yesa there are only a dozen companies registered and all of them (except Caviar Pirinea) belong to the services, hospitality, livestock and agriculture sectors.
- The company invoices about €12M.
- Quantifying the indirect economic effect on the environment is complicated but the economic effect on the environment is notable and is around €2-3 M.



Aquaculture in rural areas in Spain

WHAT DOES AQUACULTURE OFFER?

Company: **Piscifactoría Genazar y El Frontil**
In Loja (Granada). 20.371 inhabitants



- 47 people work.
- Rainbow trout production and processing.
- Loja is known for the town of water and trout.
- The vast majority of restaurants offer trout to the delight of tourists.
- Trout is an added value that the people of Loja appreciate and recognize.
- Sponsors the women's soccer team and other social collaborations with the city council.
- The town boasts of its trout.



Aquaculture in rural areas in Spain

WHAT DOES AQUACULTURE OFFER?

Company: **Piscifactoría Santa Ana**
In Alfarràs (Lleida). 2.822 inhabitants



- 12 people work in it.
- Rainbow trout production.
- In Alfarràs trout has always been known since its river is one of the most famous for fishing.
- Every two years the town council celebrates the “Trout Fair” which is a value of the town. - The company gives away the trout and the housewives of the town make different types of dishes and this fair is held over a weekend. - Tourists and people from surrounding towns come.



Aquaculture in rural areas in Spain

WHAT DOES AQUACULTURE OFFER?

Empresa: **Caviar Riofrío**
En Riofrío (Granada). 250 habitantes.



- 19 people work in it.
- Production of trout, sturgeon and caviar.
- They have been in the town since 1963, therefore, many people from the town have worked in the company
- There are 11 restaurants in Riofrío that receive many customers who come to eat specifically trout, sturgeon and caviar.
- A tourist economy has been created with the attractive confluence of nature, restaurants and aquaculture.



Aquaculture in rural areas in Spain

CONTRIBUTIONS OF AQUACULTURE IN VILLAGES

- Dynamization of the local economy (direct and indirect).
- Generation of local jobs (with a high proportion of young people and women).
- Consolidation of traditional production models and creation of new food products
- Generation of knowledge and modernization for the area (energy efficiency, digitalization, etc.) through new people and adaptation of management, production and marketing processes.
- Creation of new options for companies through their modernization, orientation and interactions through the aquaculture company's own relationships (national and international).
- Generation of social image of the town and the environment.
- Approach to the field of the EU strategies of the Green Deal: Farm to Fork, etc.



Aquaculture in rural areas in Spain

CHALLENGES FOR AQUACULTURE IN VILLAGES

- An environmental administrative framework (EU/Spain/CCAA) that unnecessarily crushes business initiative and creates heavy, superfluous administrative burdens.
- Insufficient communication infrastructures (physical and digital).
- Lack of generational change.
- Low educational level that requires training at the company level.





Aquaculture in rural areas in Spain

I hope you found this presentation interesting.

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