

# THE INTERNATIONAL PLATFORM OF INSECTS FOR FOOD AND FEED

**Il lavoro europeo dell'IPIFF: Novel Food e proteine di insetti per mangimi**

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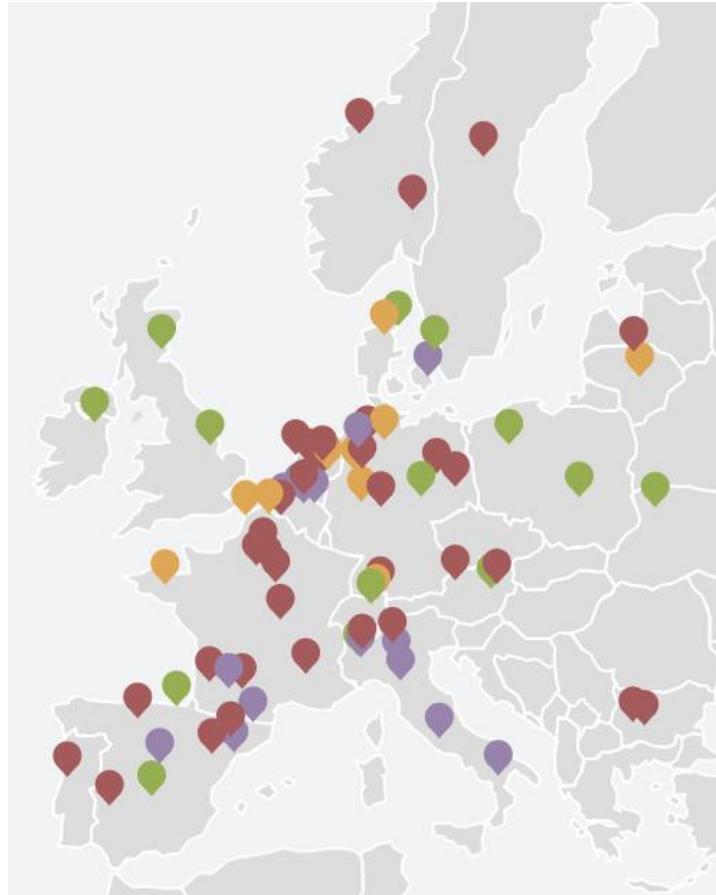


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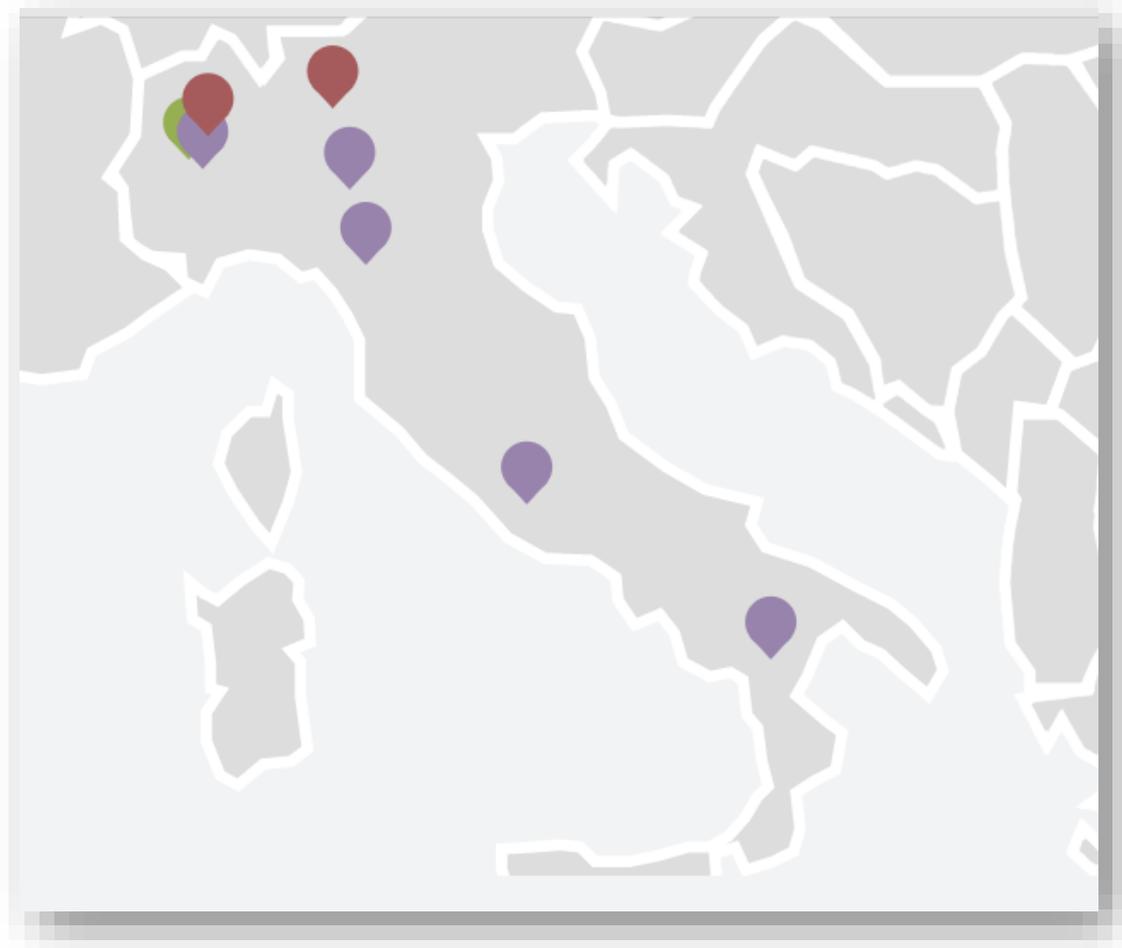
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1. Introduzione: IPIFF e il settore europeo degli insetti
2. Allevamenti di insetti and gli obiettivi politici di IPIFF
3. Documenti utili

# I. Introduzione: IPIFF e il settore europeo degli insetti



# I. IPIFF in Italia



# IPIFF Milestones

## 2012 - 2015

Gruppo di esperti della FAO ha stabilito il potenziale degli insetti come mangime e cibo per umani

**13 Aprile 2015**  
Creazione formale di IPIFF come organizzazione a cascata

**Parere dell'EFSA sugli insetti come alimenti e mangimi e adozione della nuova legislazione Novel Food dell'UE**

## 2016 - 2019

**13 Dicembre 2016**  
Gli Stati membri dell'UE approvano la proposta della Commissione Europea di autorizzare le proteine di insetti nell'acquacoltura (effettivo dal 1 luglio 2017)

**Gennaio 2018**  
La 1st richiesta novel food per insetti commestibili è stata inviata alla Commissione Europea

**22 Febbraio 2019**  
Presentazione alla CE della Guida sulle buone pratiche di IPIFF per produttori di insetti nell'Unione Europea.

## 2020 - 2021

**20 maggio 2020**  
Pubblicazione della **'EU Farm to Fork strategy'**

**Obiettivi raggiunti**  
- 1<sup>st</sup> EU **'Novel food' authorisations;**

- Autorizzazione delle insect PAPs in **mangimi di polli e suini;**

Armonizzare gli standard europei per la produzione e commercializzazione degli escrementi di insetti come fertilizzante.

## 2022

**Oggi**

**86 Membri**

Da 24 paesi del mondo e 14 Stati Membri europei

**Obiettivi futuri:**

- Supportare l'autorizzazione di nuovi substrati per insetti;
- Sviluppo di standard europei nella produzione biologica di prodotti a basi di insetti;
- Monitorare attività incentrate sulla **'Farm to Fork strategy'**

# Oggi gli allevamenti di insetti sono una realtà imprenditoriale



# Il settore europeo degli allevamenti di insetti oggi

- Principalmente composto da **piccole e medie imprese** che producono sia per il mercato dei mangimi sia per quello alimentare (start-ups e grandi imprese, prima attive in altri campi come il biocontrol e il pet food);
- La produzione europea attualmente rappresenta qualche **migliaio di tonnellate**, invece gli investimenti vanno dal **1.5 miliardi** di euro ai **3 miliardi nel 2025** (*fonte: ultime ricerche condotte da IPIFF*);
- **Più di mille posti di lavoro creati ad oggi**– che aumenteranno a 30mila nel 2030 (*fonte: ultime ricerche condotte da IPIFF*).



# Modello di diversificazione delle attività agricole

- Gli allevamenti di insetti contribuiscono a **diversificare le attività agricole** in modo sostenibile e a livello locale;
- Molti allevatori e produttori di insetti, danno la possibilità ad altri allevatori (es. già operativi nel settore avicolo o suino) di prendersi cura delle larve di insetti, crescerle e nutrirle fino allo stadio necessario/‘maturazione’. Successivamente, essi restituiscono gli insetti al produttore iniziale che provvederà a trasformarli in mangime;
- In questo modo, non solo si contribuisce alla **diversificazione agricola** ma si **riduce lo spazio** necessario in termini di strutture e terreni utilizzati per la produzione.



## II. Gli obiettivi politici e normativi di IPIFF



# Lo status degli allevamenti di insetti a livello europeo

- Gli insetti da allevamento sono considerati come **'animali da allevamento'**:  
...gli insetti da allevamento nell'UE, sia per la produzione di alimenti, mangimi e altri scopi, sono considerati animali da allevamento secondo il Regolamento (CE) No 1069/2009 sui sottoprodotti di origine animale;
- L'allevamento di insetti è quindi una attività agricola, dato che gli insetti sono inclusi nell' Annex I of the TFEU;
- Le attività relazionate all'allevamento di insetti **rientrano** nell'ambito di applicazione delle 'EU Agricultural rules' (e.s. Legislazione Europea sul biologico, Programmi di sviluppo rurale come la PAC).



# Di cosa si nutrono gli insetti?

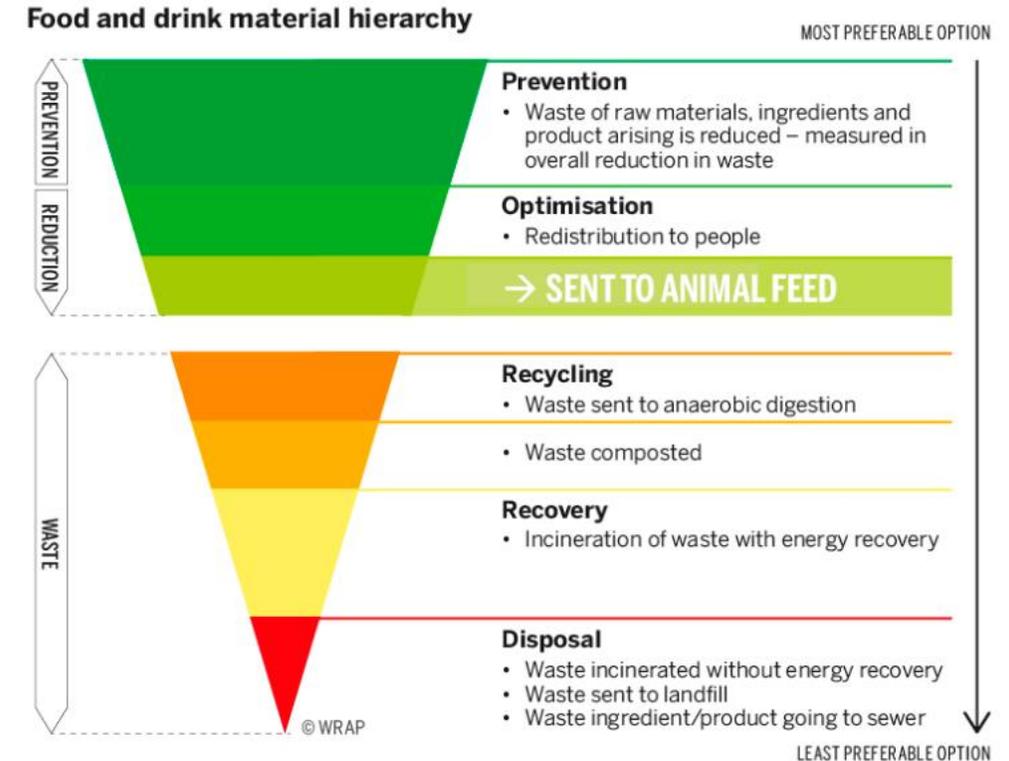


• Source: IPIFF internal questionnaire – September 2019

# Gli insetti possono contribuire a ridurre lo spreco alimentare

## Gli insetti possono reintrodurre alimenti validi nella catena alimentare animale

Es. Circa 30 milioni di tonnellate di alimenti non più destinati al consumo umano contengono carne o pesce e altri co-prodotti agricoli che possono essere riciclati e convertiti attraverso gli insetti - contribuendo a ridurre di un terzo lo spreco a livello europeo .



Pyramid source: European Former Foodstuffs Processors Association (EFFPA)

# Regolamenti europei oggi: mangimi per insetti e il loro uso in mangimi per animali da fattoria

**Feed stocks**

- ✓ Vegetal substrates
- ✓ Former foodstuff: vegetal, dairy and eggs

							
Insects as feed - Regulation (EU) No 68/2013 on the Catalogue of feed materials	Ruminant animals 	Aquaculture 	Poultry 	Pigs 	Pets 	Fur and other animals (e.g. zoo) 	Technical uses (e.g. cosmetic industry, bio-based fuels, production of other bio-based materials such as bioplastics) 
<b>Insect proteins</b> (under entry 9.4.1. 'Processed animal protein')	✗	✓ **	✓ **	✓ **	✓	✓	✓
<b>Insect fats</b> (under entry 9.2.1 'animal fat')	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Whole insects (untreated)</b> (under entry 9.16.2. 'terrestrial invertebrates, dead')	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓ *	✓
<b>Whole insects (treated- e.g. Freeze drying)</b> (under entry 9.16.2. 'terrestrial invertebrates, dead')	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓ *	✓ *	✓
<b>Live insects</b> (under entry 9.16.1 'terrestrial invertebrates, live')	✗	✓ *	✓ *	✓ *	✓ *	✓ *	✓
<b>Hydrolysed insect proteins</b> (under entry 9.6.1. 'Hydrolysed animal proteins')	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

\*If authorised by the national competent authority of the country where the product is being commercialised.  
 \*\* Limited to Black Soldier Fly (Hermetia illucens), Common Housefly (Musca domestica), Yellow Mealworm (Tenebrio molitor), Lesser Mealworm (Alphitobius diaperinus), House cricket (Acheta domestica), Banded cricket (Gryllodes sigillatus), Field Cricket (Gryllus assimilis) and Silkworm (Bombyx mori).

Restriction to insect species (insect PAPs for aqua feed) - Regulation (EU) No 142/2011, Annex X Chapter 2 Section 1, A.(2).  
 - Insect PAPs must be produced in **processing plants approved** in accordance with Article 24(1)(a) of Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 and **dedicated exclusively** to the production of products derived from farmed insects' Regulation (EC) No 999/2001, annex IV, Chapter III, Section F, 1 (a).  
 - Insect PAPs must be produced according to **processing methods 1 to 5** or **processing method 7** (Regulation (EU) No 142/2011, Annex X, Chapter II, Section 1, B (2)).

No restriction as to the insect species (provided that these are not pathogenic to humans and animals)

*Legend: Overview of EU regulatory possibilities for feeding whole insect larvae to farmed and non-farmed animals.*  
[\*IPIFF Guide on Good Hygiene Practices\*](#)  
 (updated version September 2022)  
 (p 25)



# Autorizzazione di mangimi a base di insetti per polli e suini

- L'autorizzazione del 2017 sulle proteine animali processate derivate da insetti (**insect PAs**) per l'uso in acquicoltura ha aperto la strada a nuovi mercati mangimistici per gli allevatori di insetti. (prima di ciò, gli unici mercati autorizzati erano gli animali domestici, da pelliccia e mercati di nicchia);
- Il **Regolamento della Commissione (EU) 2021/1372** autorizza l'uso di insect PAs nei mangimi di polli e suini. Quest'autorizzazione è entrata in vigore il 7 settembre 2021.



# Insetti come alimento: I recenti sviluppi regolamentari

- 20+ 'novel food' (NF) applications sono state trasmesse alla European Food Safety Agency (EFSA);
- CJEU ruling del 1° ottobre 2020 – gli 'insetti commestibili interi' non sono da considerare nuovi alimenti sotto il Reg. 258/97;

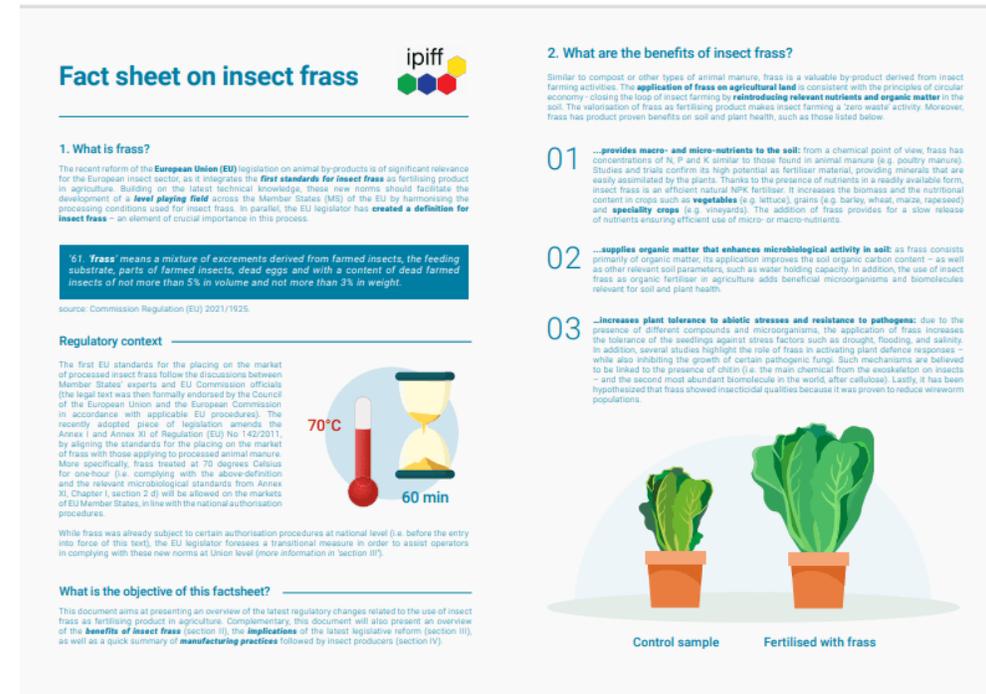
Sei opinioni positive di EFSA su *Tenebrio molitor* (13 gennaio 2021), *Locusta migratoria* (2 luglio 2021), *Acheta domesticus* (17 agosto 2021), the second on *Tenebrio molitor* (25 agosto 2021), *Acheta domesticus* parzialmente sgrassati (13 maggio 2022) and *Alphitobius diaperinus* larva (4 luglio 2022).

- I prodotti derivati da queste opinioni sono stati autorizzati per la commercializzazione sul mercato europeo (*Acheta domesticus* parzialmente sgrassati and *Alphitobius diaperinus* larva devono ancora essere ufficialmente autorizzati dalla CE).



# Standard europei per gli escrementi di insetti usati come fertilizzante

- Il regolamento 2021/1925 che detta gli standard europeo per gli escrementi di insetti usati come fertilizzante (i.e. trattamento termico a 70 °C per almeno 60 minuti) è entrato in vigore il 28 novembre 2021.
- Il legislatore europeo ha anche introdotto una definizione di 'frass' (escrementi di insetto): *'mix di escrementi derivati da insetti allevati, i loro mangimi, parti dell'insetto stesso, uova morte e un contenuto di insetti morti di non più del 5% in volume e non più del 3% in peso'*.
- Gli escrementi di insetti presentano diversi benefici come microrganismi che agiscono nella crescita delle piante, migliorando così la loro salute e facilitando il loro assorbimento dei nutrienti.



**Fact sheet on insect frass** 

**1. What is frass?**

The recent reform of the **European Union (EU)** legislation on animal by-products is of significant relevance for the European insect sector, as it integrates the **first standards for insect frass** as fertilising product in agriculture. Building on the latest technical knowledge, these new norms should facilitate the development of a **level playing field** across the Member States (MS) of the EU by harmonising the processing conditions used for insect frass. In parallel, the EU legislator has **created a definition for insect frass** – an element of crucial importance in this process.

**61. Frass** means a mixture of excrements derived from farmed insects, the feeding substrate, parts of farmed insects, dead eggs and with a content of dead farmed insects of not more than 5% in volume and not more than 3% in weight.

source: Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/1925.

**Regulatory context**

The first EU standards for the placing on the market of processed insect frass follow the discussions between Member States' experts and EU Commission officials (the legal text was then formally endorsed by the Council of the European Union and the European Commission in accordance with applicable EU procedures). The recently adopted piece of legislation amends the Annex I and Annex XI of Regulation (EU) No 142/2011, by aligning the standards for the placing on the market of frass with those applying to processed animal manure. More specifically, frass treated at 70 degrees Celsius for one hour (i.e. complying with the above-definition and the relevant microbiological standards from Annex XI, Chapter I, section 2 d) will be allowed on the markets of EU Member States, in line with the national authorisation procedures.

While frass was already subject to certain authorisation procedures at national level (i.e. before the entry into force of this text), the EU legislator foresees a transitional measure in order to assist operators in complying with these new norms at Union level (more information in section III).

**What is the objective of this factsheet?**

This document aims at presenting an overview of the latest regulatory changes related to the use of insect frass as fertilising product in agriculture. Complementary, this document will also present an overview of the **benefits of insect frass** (section II), the **implications** of the latest legislative reform (section III), as well as a quick summary of **manufacturing practices** followed by insect producers (section IV).

**2. What are the benefits of insect frass?**

Similar to compost or other types of animal manure, frass is a valuable by-product derived from insect farming activities. The **application of frass on agricultural land** is consistent with the principles of circular economy – closing the loop of insect farming by **reintroducing relevant nutrients and organic matter** in the soil. The valorisation of frass as fertilising product makes insect farming a zero-waste activity. Moreover, frass has produced proven benefits on soil and plant health, such as those listed below.

**01** ...provides macro- and micro-nutrients to the soil: from a chemical point of view, frass has concentrations of N, P and K similar to those found in animal manure (e.g. poultry manure). Studies and trials confirm its high potential as fertiliser material, providing elements that are easily assimilated by the plants. Thanks to the presence of nutrients in a readily available form, insect frass is an efficient natural soil fertiliser. It increases the biomass and the nutritional content in crops such as **vegetables** (e.g. lettuce), **grains** (e.g. barley, wheat, maize, rapeseed) and **specialty crops** (e.g. vineyards). The addition of frass provides for a slow release of nutrients ensuring efficient use of macro- or micro-nutrients.

**02** ...supplies organic matter that enhances microbiological activity in soil: as frass consists primarily of organic matter, its application improves the soil organic carbon content – as well as other relevant soil parameters, such as water holding capacity. In addition, the use of insect frass as organic fertiliser in agriculture adds beneficial microorganisms and biomolecules relevant for soil and plant health.

**03** ...increases plant tolerance to abiotic stresses and resistance to pathogens: due to the presence of different compounds and microorganisms, the application of frass increases the tolerance of the seedlings against stress factors such as drought, flooding, and salinity. In addition, several studies highlight the role of frass in activating plant defence responses – while also inhibiting the growth of certain pathogenic fungi. Such mechanisms are believed to be linked to the presence of chitin (i.e. the main chemical from the exoskeleton on insects – and the second most abundant biomolecule in the world, after cellulose). Lastly, it has been hypothesised that frass showed insecticidal qualities because it was proven to reduce wireworm populations.



# Gli insetti e il biologico

- I produttori di insetti implementano **pratiche sostenibili** sia in fase di allevamento che in fase di lavorazione;
- L'autorizzazione degli insetti nei mangimi certificati come biologici è direttamente influenzata dalla "legislazione orizzontale" europea (ad esempio autorizzazione delle PAPs per mangimi avicoli e suini);
- Tuttavia, come misura transitoria (ad esempio prima dell'istituzione di standard di certificazione biologica per l'allevamento di insetti), IPIFF sostiene l'inclusione graduale degli insetti nell'acquacoltura biologica, nel pollame o nei mangimi per suini.

# III. Documenti utili



# Publicazioni utili



**IPIFF**  
Guide on  
Good Hygiene  
Practices



for European Union (EU)  
producers of insects as food and feed

September 2022



### Edible insects on the European market



IFBOs production and forecasts



In 2015, the European IFBOs accounted for about 500 tonnes of insect-based products... by 2030, it is expected to reach 200,000 tonnes.

01 | Insect farming is a growing industry in Europe

### Fact sheet on insect frass



2. What are the benefits of insect frass?

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1. What is frass?

The recent reform of the... development of a new processing conditions for insect frass...

01 | Frass: insect substrate, parts, insects of not...

Regulatory context

The first EU standard for processed insect frass... the legal text was that of the European Union in accordance with... recently adopted... Annex I and Annex II by aligning the standards of frass with those of... More specifically, frass for one-hour (1-h) feed and the relevant micro-... Chapter 1, section 2 of EU Member States in procedures.

While frass was already in force of this text in complying with these

What is the objective

This document aims at frass as fertilising agent of the benefits of frass as well as a quick summary

### An overview of the European market of insects as feed



01 | Insect farming is a growing industry in Europe

The production of insects for animal feed<sup>1</sup> and pet food is growing rapidly across the world. In the European Union (EU), innovative businesses – newly established, or previously active in biotechnological activities or the production of feed for niche markets<sup>2</sup> – diversified their operations by targeting the pet food market. Gradually, following the EU authorisation of insect processed animal proteins (IPAPs) in aquaculture feed<sup>3</sup> (i.e. July 2017), the aquafeed market became the main animal feed market for the producers of insects as feed.

In light of the recent discussions on the authorisation of insect IPAPs for poultry and pig nutrition (April 2021), this factsheet presents an overview of the current status of the market for insects as feed and its forecasted growth by 2030. Consequently, this document includes a list of operators, which take into account recent projections published by reputable entities in the field of economic and modelling research<sup>4</sup> – as well as a recently conducted survey which reduced the majority of the insects as feed operators active in Europe<sup>5</sup>.

Facts & figures



IPIFF insect as feed operators presently employ about 1 000 FTEs and are active in more than 20 countries. The sector may generate 25 000 jobs by 2030



More than 1 billion euros have been invested in this sector since its establishment – this figure is expected to reach 3 billion euros until 2025.



The total turnover of insect feed operators is expected to exceed 2 billion euros per year by the end of the decade.

The regulatory framework will facilitate the development of the insects as feed sector

With several thousand tonnes of insect IPAPs produced in 2020, the production of insects for feed is expected to increase rapidly in the coming years. Based on the total investment raised by the mid-2020s, the sector may reach a total turnover of circa 2 billion euros/year by the end of the decade<sup>6</sup>. This growth will be enabled following the construction of new facilities (1 – logistical considerations). Subsequently, the production capacity of the sector may also be increased thanks to new legislative developments (2 – regulatory context), as well as consumer readiness (3 – awareness raising).

1. In this document, animal feed refers to feed for farmed animals (i.e. aquaculture, poultry and swine species).  
2. Such as beekeeping, animal nutrition, etc.  
3. No longer creating insect protein to come of age in the 2019 – February 2021. See Agricultural Outlook Report 2020-2029 – European Commission, 2020.  
4. In addition to the IPIFF fact sheet operator survey in Europe, Insect Business IPIFF members contributed to the questionnaire. While the survey targets a broader economic sector, the IPIFF members' data are specifically targeted to the insect-based market (i.e. non-EU/EEA countries).  
5. According to the report of Insect Business Research, the total number of insect feed operators in Europe is 100-150.  
6. Based on the report of Insect Business Research, the total number of insect feed operators in Europe is 100-150.



### The International Platform of Insects for Food and Feed

Building bridges between the insect production chain, research and policymakers





Guide on Good hygiene practices, Research Brochure, Factsheets- **DISPONIBILI SUL NOSTRO SITO [www.ipiff.org](http://www.ipiff.org)**

# CONTACT US

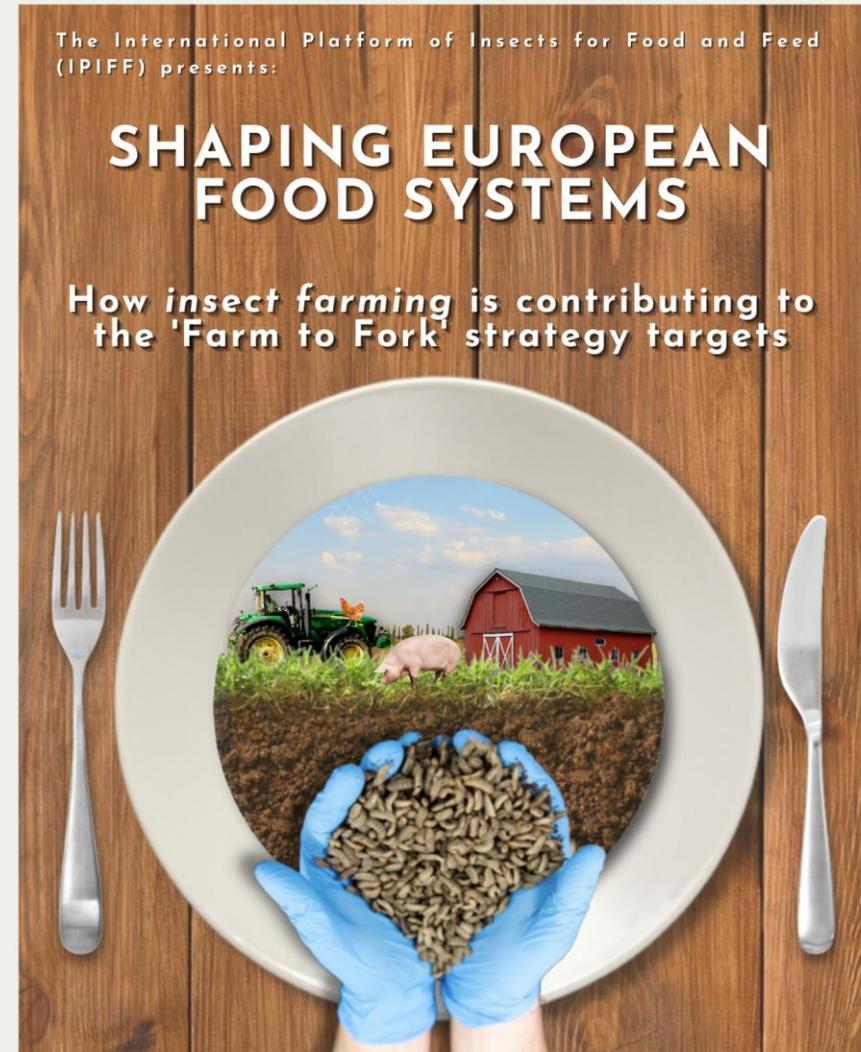
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IPIFF (International Platform  
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