

PRACTICE ABSTRACT

## SHARING EXPERIENCES FROM: PORTUGAL

### Advantages of joint management on mixed farms – Montado system Part II

**AUTHORS:**

Claudia Cordovil

[cms@isa.ulisboa.pt](mailto:cms@isa.ulisboa.pt)



In our study, we emphasized the collaborative management of two Montado farms and a third farm engaged in forage and traditional olive orchard production. One of the Montado farms specializes in sheep production alongside cork harvesting, while the other focuses on cattle production, cork harvesting, and pig fattening. To enhance sustainability and economic performance, the cattle farm transitioned away from nitrogen fertilizers, opting instead for legume pastures complemented by phosphate fertilizers and dolomite limestone application. Additionally, resource-sharing initiatives among the farms, facilitated by their joint management, contributed to improved economic and environmental outcomes through:

- **Market Diversification:** Explore diversified marketing strategies, including local markets, direct sales, or niche markets for sustainably produced livestock products.
- **Climate Resilience:** Given the challenges posed by climate change, invest in water management and tree regeneration efforts to ensure the long-term sustainability of Montado.
- **Community Engagement:** Engage with local communities and organizations to collaborate on initiatives that enhance the resilience and sustainability of Montado farms. This can include knowledge and resources-sharing and joint conservation efforts.

By implementing these recommendations and building on the existing resource-sharing initiatives, Montado farms can work towards increased sustainability, profitability, and resilience in the face of evolving environmental and economic challenges.





## ABOUT MIXED IN PORTUGAL

In Portugal the project is implemented by ISA-UL, CONSULAI and a network of farmers practicing Mixed Farming and Agroforestry Systems, in particular Montado, a UNESCO protected Mediterranean mixed system, comprising agroforestry activities and extensive livestock production.

### ABOUT THE PROJECT

**MIXED** (Multi-actor and transdisciplinary development of efficient and resilient MIXED farming and agroforestry systems), an EU-project, is supporting the development of European Mixed Farming and Agroforestry Systems (MiFAS) that are more efficient and resilient to climate changes.

<b>7M€</b> BUDGET	<b>19</b> PARTNERS	<b>10</b> COUNTRIES
----------------------	-----------------------	------------------------

The Portuguese network aims at restoring and modernising the Montado ecosystem, by working in collaboration with farmers, researchers, policy makers and other stakeholders. The main objective is to find solutions for the future and more sustainable management practices, accommodating the interests of stakeholders at all levels of the value chain. The Portuguese network integrates 15 farms, with over 20.000 hectares of farmland in the Alentejo region in the south of Portugal. CONSULAI and ISA-UL are the project managing partners in Portugal.



### MIXED partners from Portugal:

