



ParaFishControl

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Advanced Tools and Research Strategies for Parasite Control in European Farmed Fish



CHALLENGE

Aquaculture is the fastest growing food producing sector worldwide, currently providing half of all aquatic animals for human consumption. If responsibly developed and practised, aquaculture can generate lasting benefits for global food security and economic growth.

Parasites and related infections can cause significant damage to farmed fish resulting in poor growth performance, impaired welfare and high mortality rates, which can significantly hamper aquaculture production and economic performance. **Disease prevention and management** are essential for the sustainability of the aquaculture industry.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

ParaFishControl aims to improve our understanding of fish-parasite interactions and will develop innovative solutions and tools to **diagnose, prevent, control and mitigate** the most harmful parasites which affect the main fish species farmed in Europe including Atlantic salmon, rainbow trout, common carp, turbot, European sea bass, and gilthead sea bream.

AT A GLANCE

PROGRAMME:

Horizon 2020
(H2020-SFS-10a-2014)

INSTRUMENT:

Research and Innovation
Action

DURATION:

April 2015 - March 2020
(60 months)

CONSORTIUM:

29 partners from 13 countries

COORDINATOR:

Agencia Estatal Consejo
Superior de Investigaciones
Científicas (CSIC), Spain



Myxozoan fish parasites



Adult female sea louse with salmon blood in gut

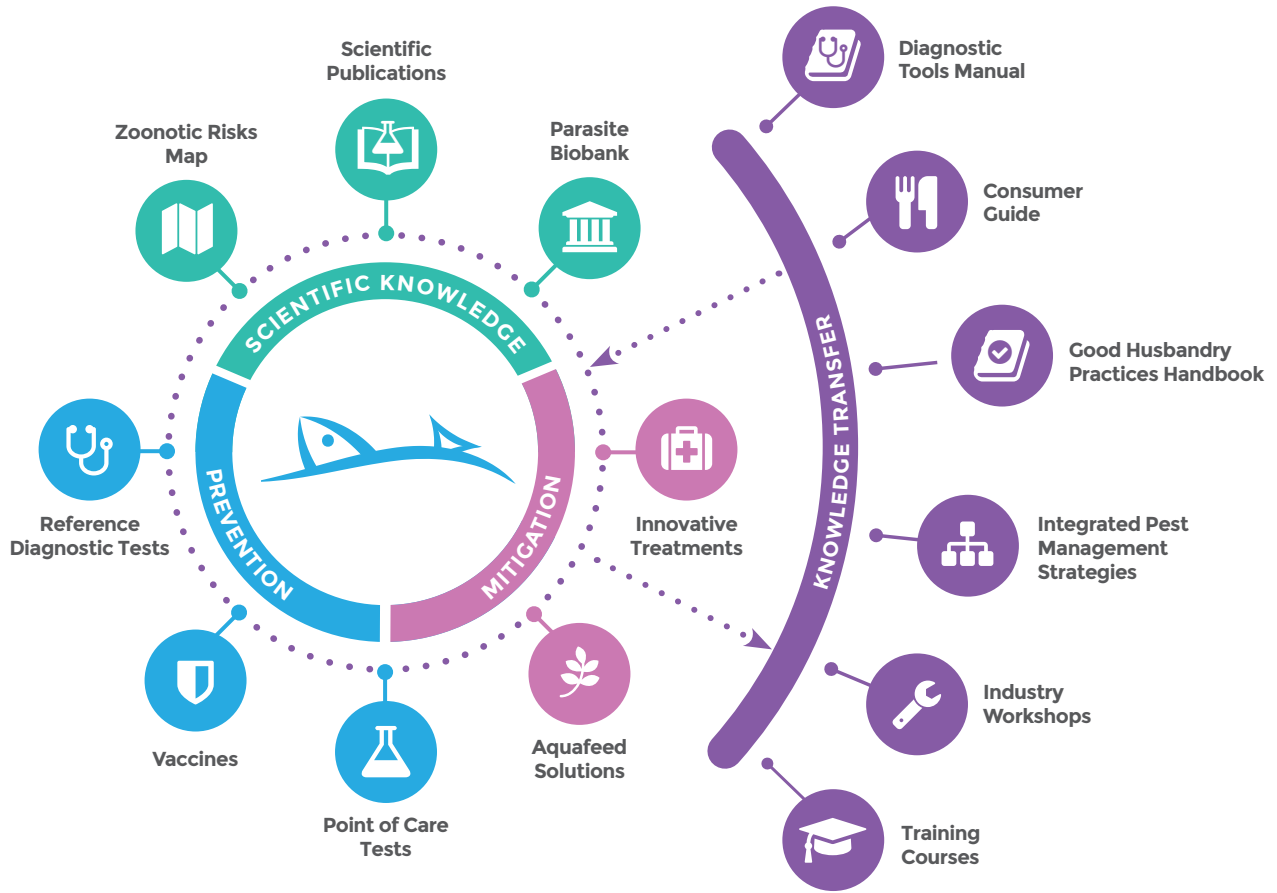
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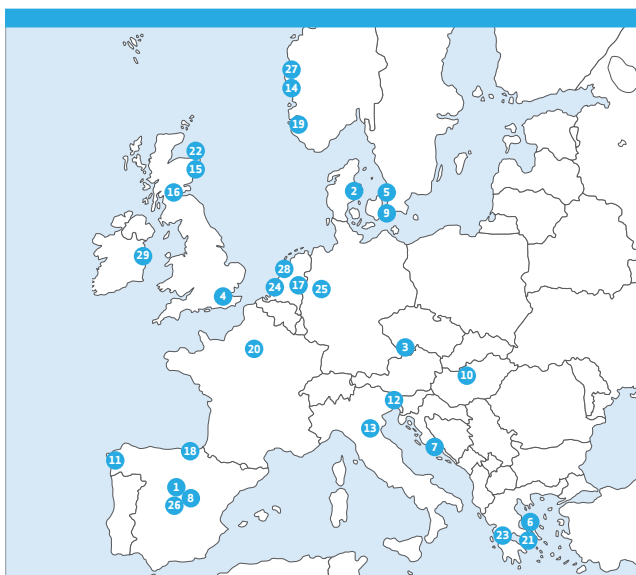
EXPECTED RESULTS

ParaFishControl will increase our **knowledge** of parasite biology and interactions with fish hosts of commercial interest. The project will develop prophylactic measures, diagnostic tools and methods to detect parasites in fish and the environment. It will develop **new products and innovative strategies** for the control and management of parasitic diseases. An innovative **Food Safety Programme** will be established to guard against the possibility of fish parasites affecting the consumer and to strengthen the competitiveness and public image of European aquaculture.



CONSORTIUM

The consortium comprises 29 partners (20 academic and public organisations, 6 SMEs and 3 research and industrial enterprises) based in 13 European countries, who are considered leaders in their respective domains of expertise.



- 1 Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)
- 2 Aarhus Universitet (AU)
- 3 Biology Centre of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (BCAS)
- 4 Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas - The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs)
- 5 Danmarks Tekniske Universitet (DTU)
- 6 Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR)
- 7 Institut za oceanografiju i ribarstvo (IOR)
- 8 Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria (INIA)
- 9 Københavns Universitet (KU)
- 10 Magyar Tudományos Akadémia (MTA)
- 11 Universidade de Santiago de Compostela (USC)
- 12 Università degli Studi di Udine (UNIUD)
- 13 Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna (UNIBO)
- 14 Universitet i Bergen (UiB)
- 15 University Court of the University of Aberdeen (UNAB)
- 16 University of Stirling (UoS)
- 17 Wageningen University (WU)
- 18 AZTI-Tecnalia (AZTI)
- 19 Skretting Aquaculture Research Centre AS (SKRET)
- 20 INRA Transfert (IT)
- 21 Panos Christofilogiannis-Ioannatavla O.E (AQUARK)
- 22 Vertebrate Antibodies Limited (VAL)
- 23 Andromeda Group (ANDRO)
- 24 ZF-screens BV (ZF-S)
- 25 W42 GmbH Industrial Biotechnology (W42)
- 26 Inmunología y Genética Aplicada S.A. (INGENASA)
- 27 Stiftelsen Industrielaboratoriet (ILAB)
- 28 Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen (KNAW)
- 29 AquATT UETP Ltd (AquaTT)



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Parasite photos courtesy of Csaba Szekely and James Bron

