

### Exchanging easy-to-understand nutrient management knowledge with farmers

NUTRI-KNOW aims to improve nutrient management practices in agriculture by establishing an ongoing cycle of knowledge exchange for the benefit of both farmers and the environment.



# Biorefinery Glas Small-Scale Farmer-led Green Biorefineries



Biorefinery Glas focuses on the demonstration of a small-scale grass biorefinery with farmers in South West Ireland to diversify farmer produce while resolving significant challenges in traditional agriculture.

#### **Biorefinery Process**

Fresh grass is loaded into the biorefinery, crushed and pressed to separate up to 50% of the protein into a liquid juice fraction. The remaining 50% is pressed into a high solid fibre press cake that can be fed directly to cows.

#### **Pig Trial**

Protein-rich liquid juice was dried and mixed into the pig's typical diet. Twomonth-old wiener pigs were weighed weekly over 30 days and their feed intake was measured. The control group were fed on their typical diet, including soya protein.

#### **Results**

- The trial pig group were slow to adapt to the new feed at first but adjusted within a week.
- They had a higher-than-average daily intake and higher than average daily gain compared to the control group after 30 days.
- Including dry protein concentrate in the pig's diet replaced up to 50% of the usual soya levels from the diet.
- Soya feed is typically imported from South America - Using this type of locally produced pig feed reduces transport distances and cost.





Dry protein concentrate fed to wiener pigs

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