

Prof. Dr.

# Céline Delbès

INRA, France.

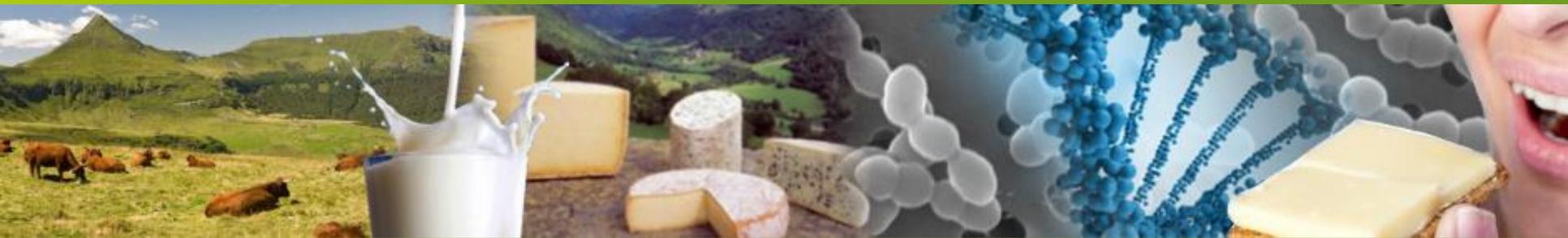
Investigadora en la “Unidad Mixta de Investigación – Queso” (UMR 545), Universidad de Clermont-Auvergne, Instituto Nacional de la Investigación Agraria de Francia (INRA), VetAgro-Sup, Aurillac, Francia.

The microbial ecology of raw milk cheeses: an update of knowledge about the range of potential benefits.

La ecología microbiana de los quesos de leche cruda: qué sabemos hasta hoy sobre sus potenciales beneficios.



# The microbial ecology of raw milk cheese : drivers, risks and potential benefits



Céline Delbès

UMR 545 Fromage, UCA, INRA, VetAgroSup, F-15000 Aurillac, France

[celine.delbes@inra.fr](mailto:celine.delbes@inra.fr)



# Cheese microbiota :

## an evolving assembly of « house » and inoculated microbes



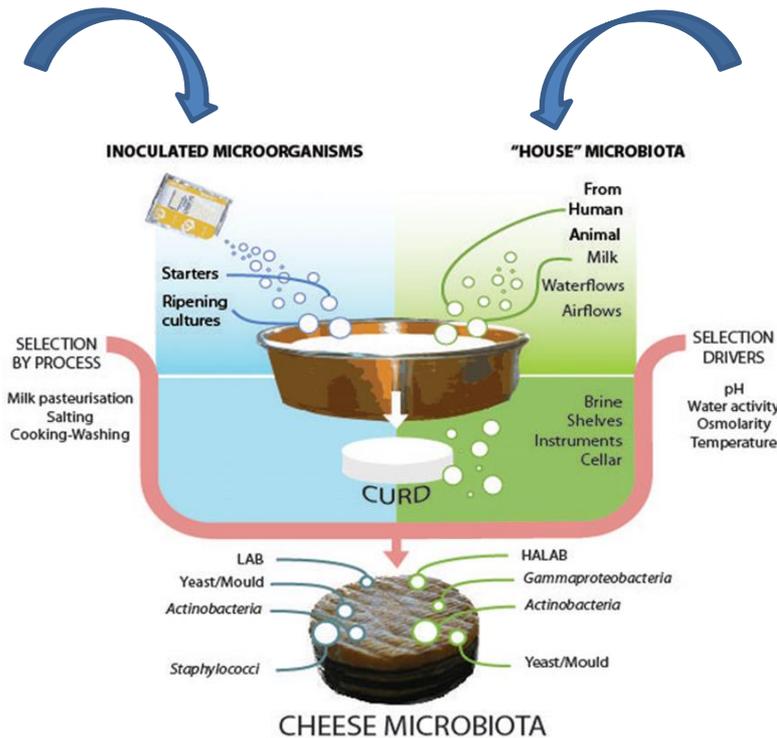
Change in microbial balance during ripening

### Inoculated microorganisms

- Commercial starters
- Autochthonous *consortia*
- Traditional replication (back-slopping...)

### « House » microbiota

- Raw milk microbiota under the influence of farming practices (dairy species, breed, milking practices...),
- Cheese-making environment microbiota (wood surfaces, brine, airflows...)



Irlinger et al. 2015

Essential for product typicity

Traditional cheeses = complex and specific microbiota

Deserves better understanding of diversity and ecological drivers

# 1/ Ecology of dairy products in the “meta-omics” era

- “metabarcoding” approaches : rely on high-throughput sequencing (HTS) of target DNA (taxonomic marker)

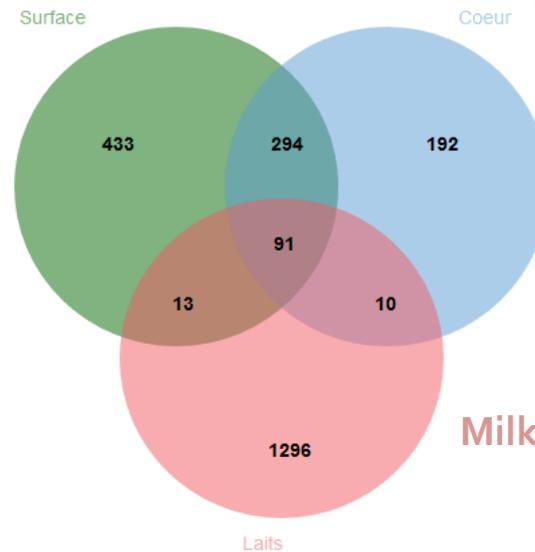


## New insights on milk and cheese microbial diversity using HTS metabarcoding



- 2400 cheese core and surface samples
- 400 milks
- 44 French PDO cheeses
- 7 cheese technological families
- 51 % farm-house productions
- 86 % raw milk

Cheeses Surface



Cheese core

Milk

Laits



# 2/ Microbes in cheese and human health

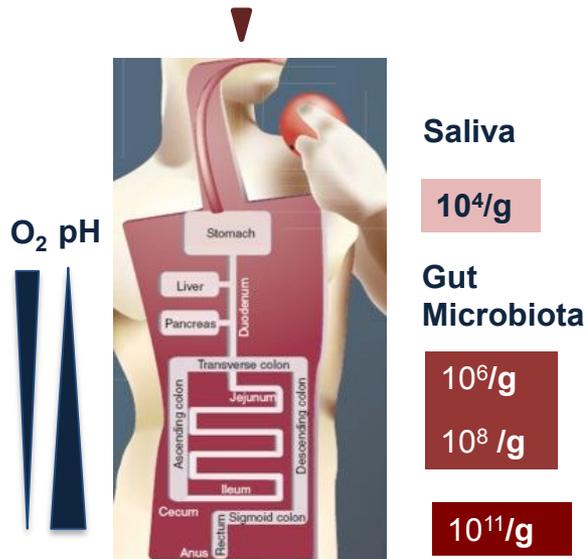
## Ingestion through the diet:

$10^9$ -  $10^{11}$  microorganisms per day

Solid matrix

**Biodiversity**

Potential presence of **food-borne pathogens**



## Potential impact of cheese microbes on health:

- ✓ Produce beneficial **metabolites** : organic acids, vitamins K, B, C... essential amino-acids, conjugated linoleic acid...
  - ✓ Living microbes can act as **probiotics**
  - ✓ Modify cheese matrix via **microbial enzymes**
    - Bioactive peptides
    - **Digestibility**
    - **Bioavailability of minerals**
    - **Reduce metabolites with adverse effects** (lactose, mycotoxines, ...),
    - **Reduce allergenicity ....**
- ☛ Cause **toxi-infections**

## QUESTIONS

Interactions with the immune system ?

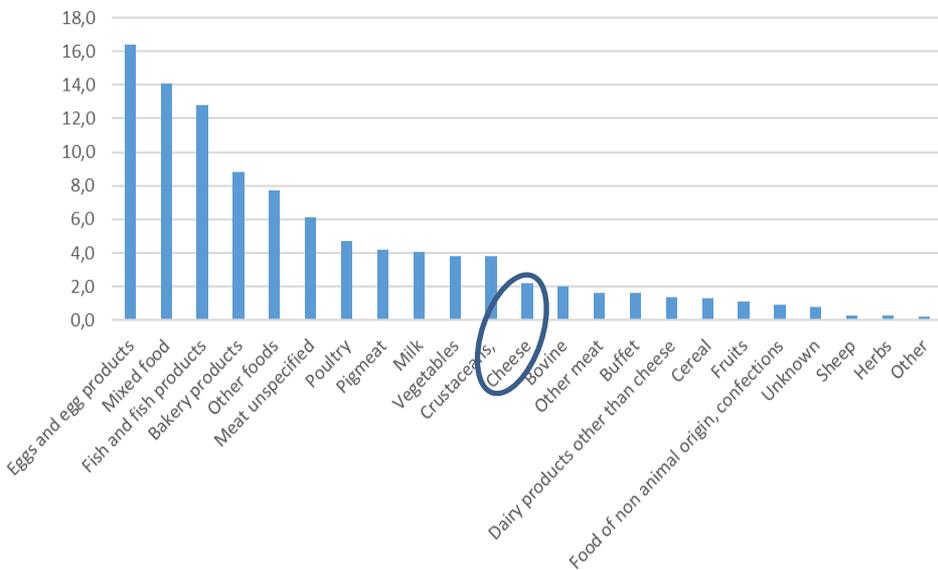
Interactions with the gut microbiota ?

Co-evolution over the millenary history of cheese production and consumption ?

The European Union summary report on trends and sources of zoonoses, zoonotic agents and food-borne outbreaks in 2017

European Food Safety Authority and European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (EFSA and ECDC)

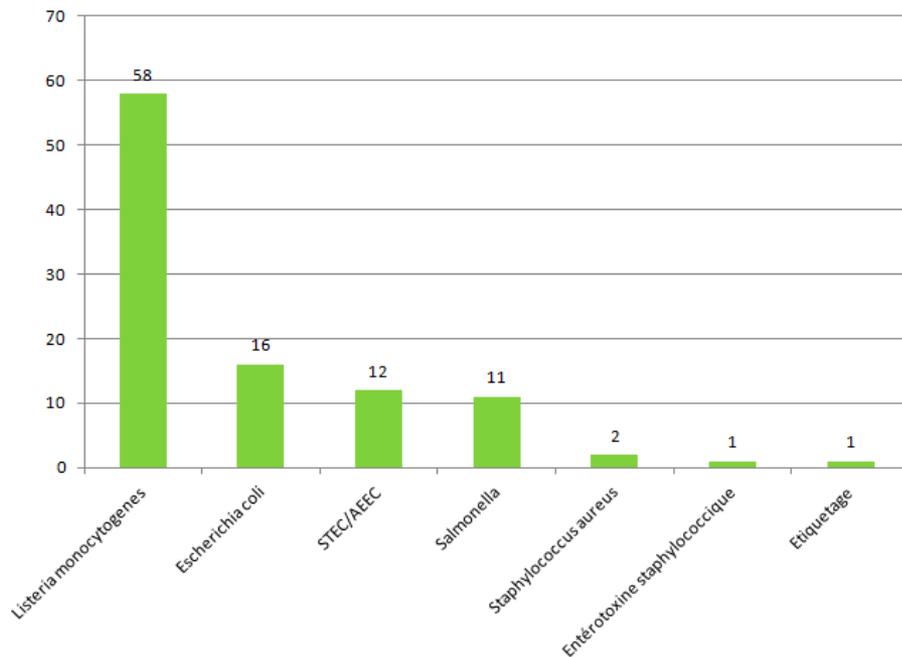
Reported food-borne outbreaks in EU in 2017 per food type



Cheese represents **2.2 %** of total food-borne outbreaks reported in EU for 2017

## 2.1. Risk associated with pathogens

Pathogens responsible for outbreaks associated with raw milk cheeses in France in 2017 (N=101) (DGAL/MUS/2019-86, 01/02/2019)



The most frequent pathogens in outbreaks associated with raw milk cheeses are *L. monocytogenes*, shigatoxin-producing *E. coli* and *Salmonella*

## 2. 2. Cheese and modulation of the human gut microbiota

**Camembert** : increase in *Enterococcus* populations, colonization by *Geotrichum candidum* in human fecal samples



Fate and effects of Camembert cheese micro-organisms in the human colonic microbiota of healthy volunteers after regular Camembert consumption

Olivier Firmesse<sup>a</sup>, Elise Alvaro<sup>a</sup>, Agnès Mogenet<sup>b</sup>, Jean-Louis Bresson<sup>b</sup>, Riwanon Lemée<sup>c</sup>, Pascale Le Ruyet<sup>c</sup>, Cécile Bonhomme<sup>c</sup>, Denis Lambert<sup>c</sup>, Claude Andrieux<sup>a</sup>, Joël Doré<sup>a</sup>, Gérard Corthier<sup>a</sup>, Jean-Pierre Furet<sup>a,b\*</sup>, Lionel Rigottier-Gois<sup>a</sup>

### Consumption of Camembert cheese stimulates commensal enterococci in healthy human intestinal microbiota

Olivier Firmesse, Sylvie Rabet, Luis G. Bermúdez-Humarán, Gérard Corthier & Jean-Pierre Furet

Unité d'Ecologie et Physiologie du Système Digestif, INRA, Jouy-en-Josas, France

- Only a few studies yet
- Show the **survival** of technological flora to the digestion process (protection by the cheese matrix) **without colonisation**
- **Modulation of the gut microbiota** after cheese consumption
- **Different responses depending on the cheese type**

➤ **Microbial drivers associated with these responses ?**

**LAB, other bacteria ? Yeasts ? Microbial associations ?**

**Cooked pressed cheese** : reduction of the level of amoxicilline-resistant *Enterococcus* after antibiotic treatment (amoxicilline + clavulanic acid)

Journal of Applied Microbiology ISSN 1364-5072

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Effect of cheese consumption on emergence of antimicrobial resistance in the intestinal microflora induced by a short course of amoxicillin-clavulanic acid



X. Bertrand<sup>1</sup>, V. Dufour<sup>2</sup>, L. Millon<sup>2</sup>, E. Beuvier<sup>3</sup>, H. Gbaguidi-Haore<sup>1</sup>, R. Piarroux<sup>2</sup>, D.A. Vuitton<sup>2</sup> and D. Talon<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Service d'Hygiène Hospitalière, Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Besançon, Besançon, France

<sup>2</sup> Unité Santé et Environnement Rural, Université de Franche-Comté, Besançon, France

<sup>3</sup> Unité de Recherches en Technologie et Analyses Laitières, Institut National de Recherche Agronomique, Poligny, France

## 2. 3. Raw milk, cheeses and immunomodulation: epidemiological studies

### The protective effect of farm milk consumption on childhood asthma and atopy: The GABRIELA study

Georg Loss, MSc,<sup>a,b</sup> Silvia Apprich, PhD,<sup>c</sup> Marco Waser, PhD,<sup>a,b</sup> Wolfgang Kneifel, PhD,<sup>e</sup> Jon Genuneit, MD,<sup>d</sup> Gisela Büchele, PhD,<sup>d</sup> Juliane Weber, MD,<sup>a</sup> Barbara Sozanska, MD,<sup>f</sup> Hanna Danielewicz, MD,<sup>f</sup> Elisabeth Horak, MD,<sup>g</sup> R. J. Joost van Neerven, PhD,<sup>h</sup> Dick Heederik, PhD,<sup>i</sup> Peter C. Lorenzen, PhD,<sup>j</sup> Erika von Mutius, MD,<sup>a</sup> Charlotte Braun-Fahrländer, MD,<sup>a,b</sup> and the GABRIELA study group\* *Basel, Switzerland, Vienna and Innsbruck, Austria, Ulm, Munich, and Kiel, Germany, Wrocław, Poland, and Deventer and Utrecht, The Netherlands*

### Consumption of unprocessed cow's milk protects infants from common respiratory infections

Georg Loss, PhD,<sup>a,b,c</sup> Martin Depner, PhD,<sup>a</sup> Laurien H. Ulfman, PhD,<sup>d</sup> R. J. Joost van Neerven, PhD,<sup>d,e</sup> Alexander J. Hose, MPH,<sup>a</sup> Jon Genuneit, MD,<sup>f</sup> Anne M. Karvonen, PhD,<sup>g</sup> Anne Hyvärinen, PhD,<sup>g</sup> Vincent Kaulek, PhD,<sup>h</sup>

Caro  
Juh  
Char  
Muni  
Kuop

**Allergy** EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF ALLERGY AND CLINICAL IMMUNOLOGY

Nicklaus S, Divaret-Chauveau A, Chardon M-L, et al. ; Pasture Study Group. The protective effect of cheese consumption at 18 months on allergic diseases in the first 6 years. *Allergy*. 2018;00:1–11. <https://doi.org/10.1111/all.13650>

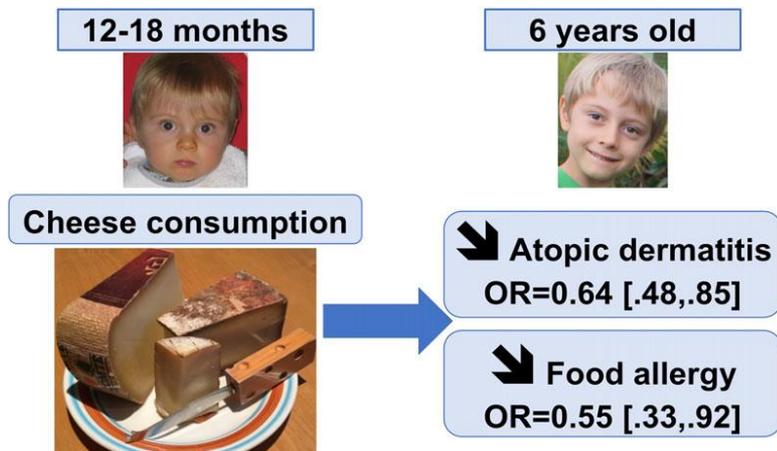
◆ **Raw milk consumption** would contribute to the child protection against :

Asthma  
Allergies  
Respiratory infections

◆ **Cheese consumption** would contribute to the child protection against :

Atopic dermatitis  
Food allergies

**Relations with whey proteins ?  
Microbiota ?**



# 2. 4. Overview of potential risk and benefits for health

## Cheese matrix :

+:

proteins (caseins), lipids (PUFA),  
minerals (Ca, P), vitamins

-:

lipids (SFA), salt

*Am J Clin Nutr* 2018;108:1-8. Printed in USA. © 2018 American Society for Nutrition.

Dairy matrix effects: response to consumption of dairy fat differs when eaten within the cheese matrix—a randomized controlled trial

*Emma L. Feeney,<sup>1,2</sup> Rebecca Barron,<sup>1,2</sup> Victoria Dible,<sup>1,2</sup> Zita Hamilton,<sup>1,2</sup> Yvonne Power,<sup>2</sup> Linda Tanner,<sup>2</sup> Cal Flynn,<sup>2</sup> Paul Bouchier,<sup>2</sup> Tom Beresford,<sup>2,3</sup> Nessa Noronha,<sup>1,2</sup> and Eileen R. Gibney.<sup>1,2</sup>*

+:

Unprocessed raw material

→ preservation of proteins, lipids, vitamins

*Protection against  
cardiovascular affections ?*

*Reducing blood pressure ?*

## Fermentation :

+:

bioactive peptides,  
vitamines



## Raw milk cheeses :

+:

Unprocessed raw material

→ preservation of proteins, lipids, vitamins

*Protection against  
cardiovascular affections ?*

*Reducing blood pressure ?*

*Anti-microbial/anti-inflammatory  
properties ?*

*Anti oxydative activities ?*

## Microbiota :

+:

Living microorganisms, potential  
interactions with the immune and  
digestive systems

-:

pathogens

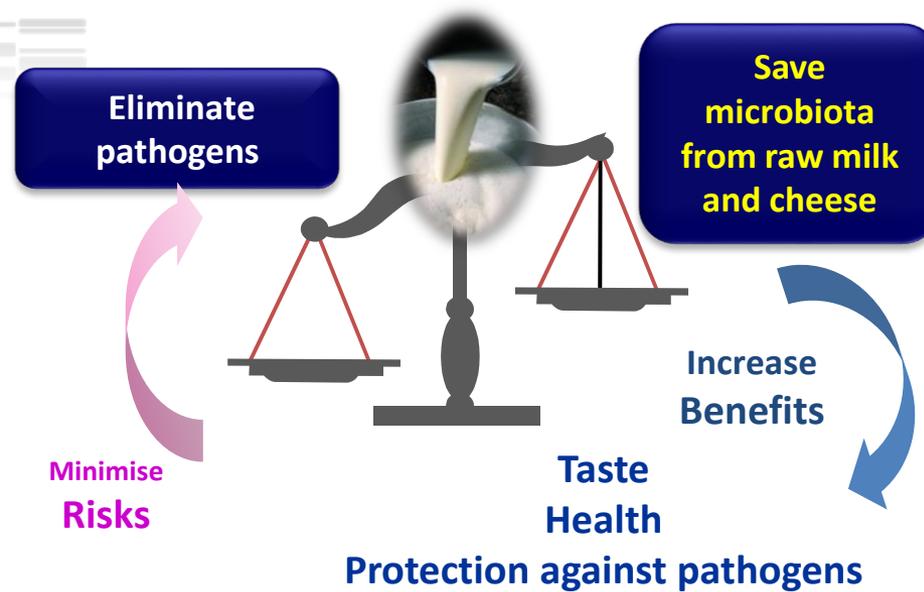
+:

Microbial diversity

Sensory richness of the product

Increased potential of interactions with  
immune and digestive systems

# 3/ Risks and benefits management : a daily challenge for raw milk cheese productions



□ Find a trade-off between safety, microbial diversity and sensory richness



International Journal of Food Microbiology



Traditional cheeses: Rich and diverse microbiota with associated benefits



Marie-Christine Montel <sup>a,\*</sup>, Solange Buchin <sup>b</sup>, Adrien Mallet <sup>c,d</sup>, Céline Delbes-Paus <sup>a</sup>, Dominique A. Vuitton <sup>d,e</sup>,  
Nathalie Desmasures <sup>c,d</sup>, Françoise Berthier <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INRA, Unité Recherches Fromagères, 20 Côte de Reyne, F-15000 Aurillac, France

<sup>b</sup> INRA, UR342 Technologie et Analyses Laitières, F-39801 Poligny, France

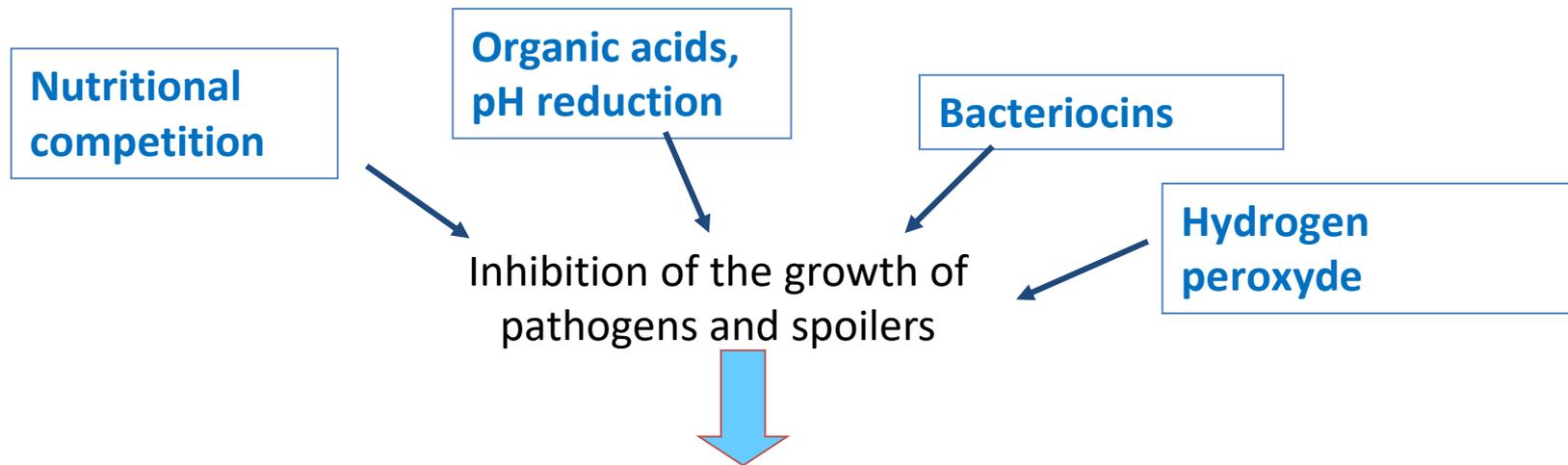
<sup>c</sup> Normandie Univ, France

<sup>d</sup> UNICAEN, ABTE, F-14032 Caen, France

<sup>e</sup> EA3181/Université de Franche-Comté, 25030, Besançon, France

### 3. 1. Targeted approaches : Biopreservation = Relying on microbial diversity in milk and cheese as a barrier against pathogens

#### Antagonistic properties of microbes:

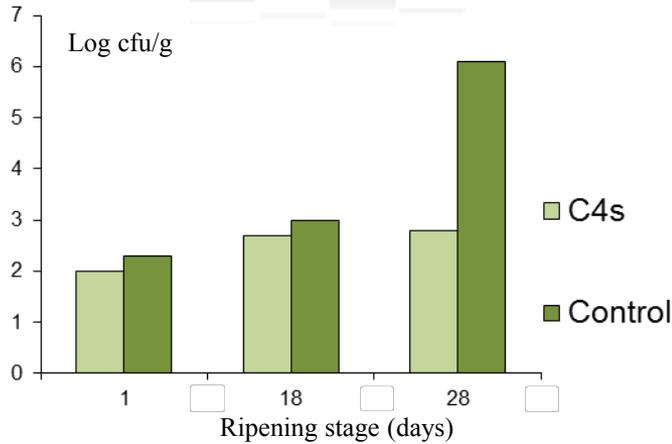


Improve microbial quality and safety of fermented and non-fermented foods

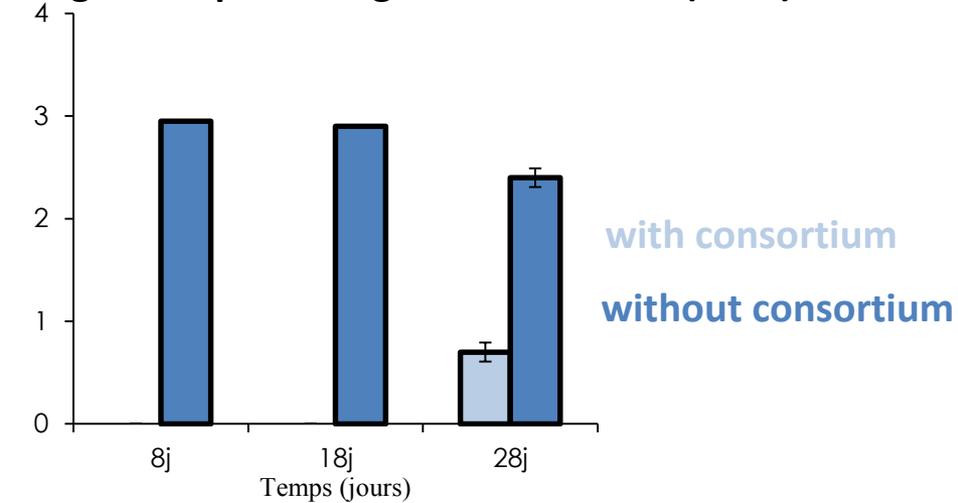
Preserve sensory and nutritional properties

# Inhibition of pathogens in raw milk cheeses by microbial consortia

## *Listeria monocytogenes*



## Shigatoxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC)



**Inhibition is determined by specific species**

32 strains = 14 strains = 4 strains

**Cooperation between species is required :**

individual strains are not antagonistic as themselves

Several **individual** strains can inhibit STEC

**Synergistic effects of strains associations**

Inhibition depends on cheese technology

International Journal of Food Microbiology 174 (2014) 98–109

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International Journal of Food Microbiology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ijfoodmicro](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ijfoodmicro)

Food Control 96 (2019) 499–507

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Food Microbiology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/fm](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/fm)

Control of Shigatoxin-producing *Escherichia coli* in cheese by dairy bacterial strains

Cécile Callon\*, Céline Arliguie, Marie-Christine Montel

INRA, UR545 Fromagères, 20 Côte de Reync, 15000 Aurillac, France

Microbial biodiversity in cheese consortia and comparative *Listeria monocytogenes* growth on surfaces of uncooked pressed cheeses

Cécile Callon\*, Emilie Retureau, Robert Didiene, Marie-Christine Montel

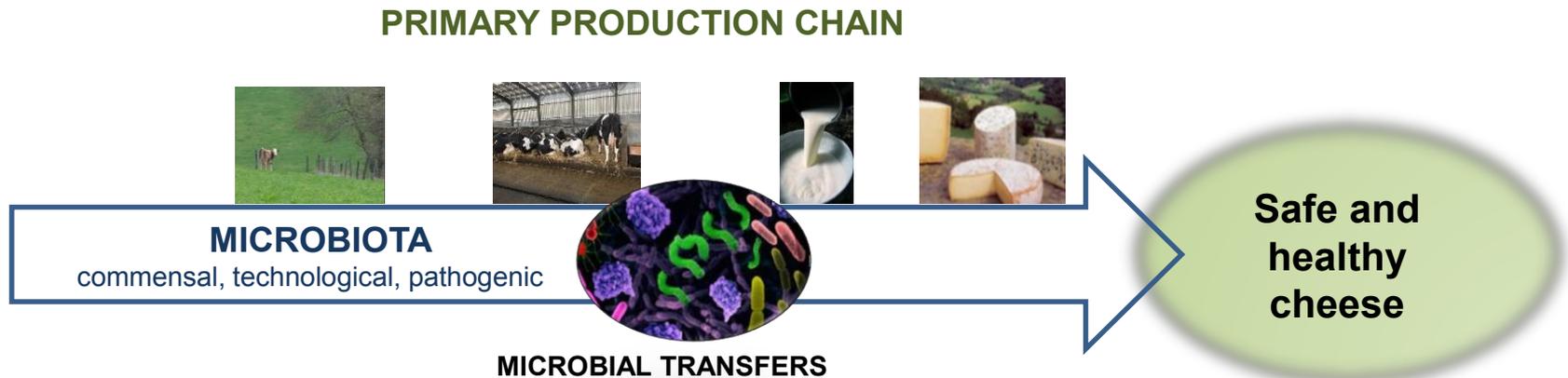
INRA, UR545 Fromagères, 20 Côte de Reync, 15000 Aurillac, France

Can lactic acid bacteria be an efficient tool for controlling *Listeria monocytogenes* contamination on cheese surface? The case of Gorgonzola cheese

Stefano Morandi, Tiziana Silveti\*, Giovanna Battelli, Milena Brasca

Institute of Sciences of Food Production (ISPA), National Research Council (CNR), Via Galvani 2, 30133, Milan, Italy

## 3. 2. An alternative: management of microbial resources from the primary production environment across the cheese process chain



### Objectives:

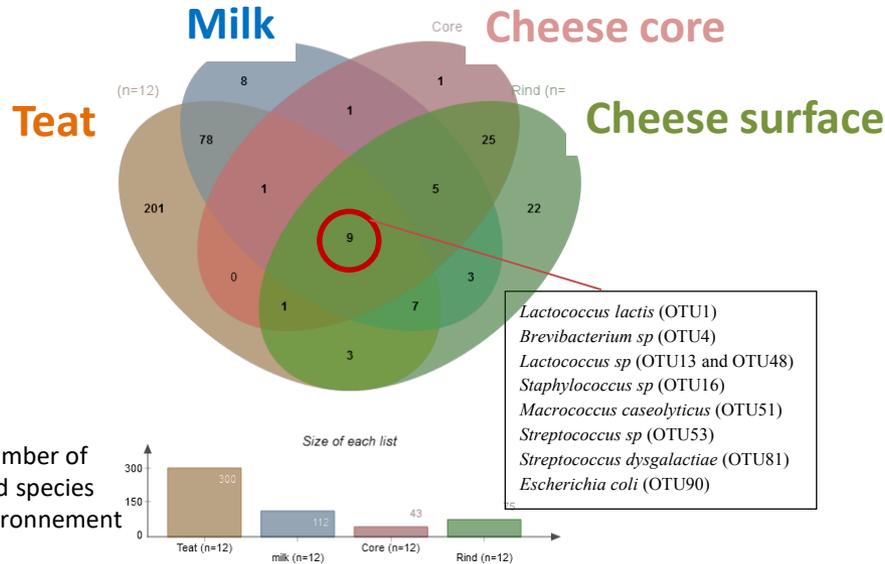
Understanding the drivers of microbiota for safe and healthy raw milk cheese

- Influence of the overall farm management system ?
- Several running projects under the network "RMT Terroir"  
(Amont Saint-Nectaire, IFEP, Phyllos...)



# Microbial transfers and interactions from dairy farm environment to the human gut

## Shared bacterial species between cow teat, milk and cheese



85% of the species in milk are also present on teat

27% of species in cheese (core and surface) are also present on teat, especially species potentially involved in ripening (*B. linens*, *Staph. equorum*)

## SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

**OPEN** Bacterial community assembly from cow teat skin to ripened cheeses is influenced by grazing systems

Received: 15 September 2017  
Accepted: 11 December 2017  
Published online: 09 January 2018

Maria Frétilin<sup>1,2</sup>, Bruno Martin<sup>2</sup>, Etienne Riffa<sup>2</sup>, Verdier-Metz Isabelle<sup>3</sup>, Dominique Pomiès<sup>2</sup>, Anne Ferlay<sup>2</sup>, Marie-Christine Monteil<sup>1</sup> & Céline Delbès<sup>1</sup>



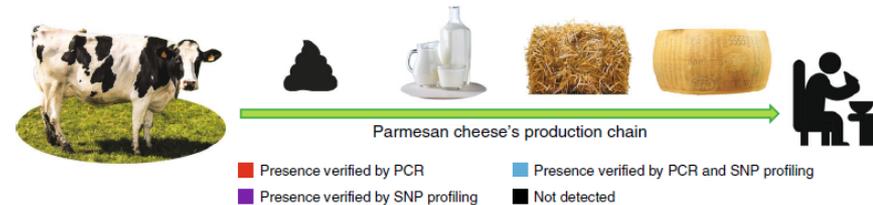
ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-09303-w> OPEN

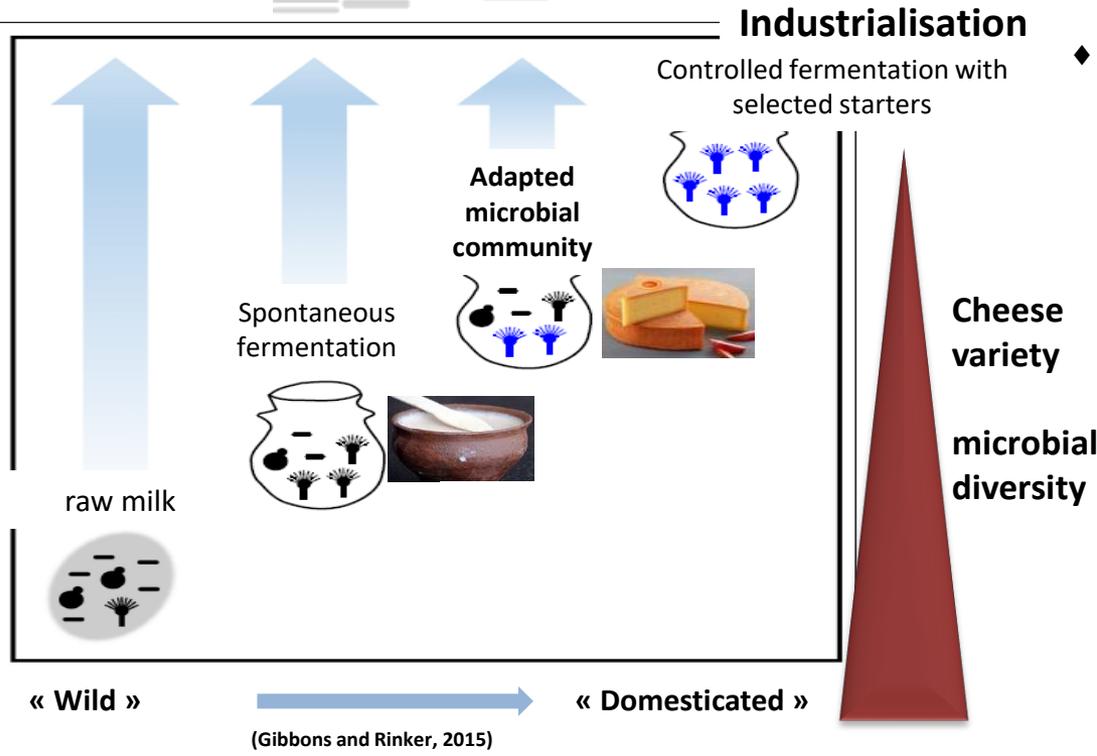
## Colonization of the human gut by bovine bacteria present in Parmesan cheese

Christian Milani<sup>1</sup>, Sabrina Duranti<sup>1</sup>, Stefania Napoli<sup>2</sup>, Giulia Alessandri<sup>3</sup>, Leonardo Mancabelli<sup>2</sup>, Rosaria Anzalone<sup>2</sup>, Giulia Longhi<sup>2</sup>, Alice Viappiani<sup>2</sup>, Marta Mangifesta<sup>1,2</sup>, Gabriele Andrea Lugli<sup>1</sup>, Sergio Bernasconi<sup>4</sup>, Maria Cristina Ossiprandi<sup>3</sup>, Douwe van Sinderen<sup>3,5,6</sup>, Marco Ventura<sup>1,4</sup> & Francesca Turrone<sup>1,4</sup>

	Stool	Milk	Litter	Cheese	
<i>Atopostipes suicloacalis</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P2
<i>Corynebacterium stationis</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P1
<i>Corynebacterium variable</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P1
<i>Jeotgallcoccus psychrophilus</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P2
<i>Kocuria kristinae</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P3
<i>Lactobacillus delbrueckii</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P2
<i>Lactobacillus helveticus</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P2
<i>Oligella ureolytica</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P2
<i>Paraprevotella clara</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	RE1
<i>Prevotella ruminicola</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	RE1
<i>Pseudoclavibacter soli</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P1
<i>Pseudoflavonifractor capillosus</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P3
<i>Streptococcus thermophilus</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P2
<i>Treponema porcinum</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P3
<i>Bifidobacterium mongoliense</i>	Red	Red	Black	Black	P1



# 3. 3. Hygienism vs hygiene : microbial diversity endangered ... and health too ?



- ◆ **hygiene** = « Principles and practices for health conservation »
- **Increased sanitary pressure** (risk for pathogens)
  - **drastic hygiene practices** along the production chain from farm to cheese
  - Low microbial levels in milk
- **Intensification of production practices :**
  - Changes in microbial balance in farm, milk and cheese
- **Urbanisation, highly transformed food**
  - Associated with an increase in **auto-immune affections**

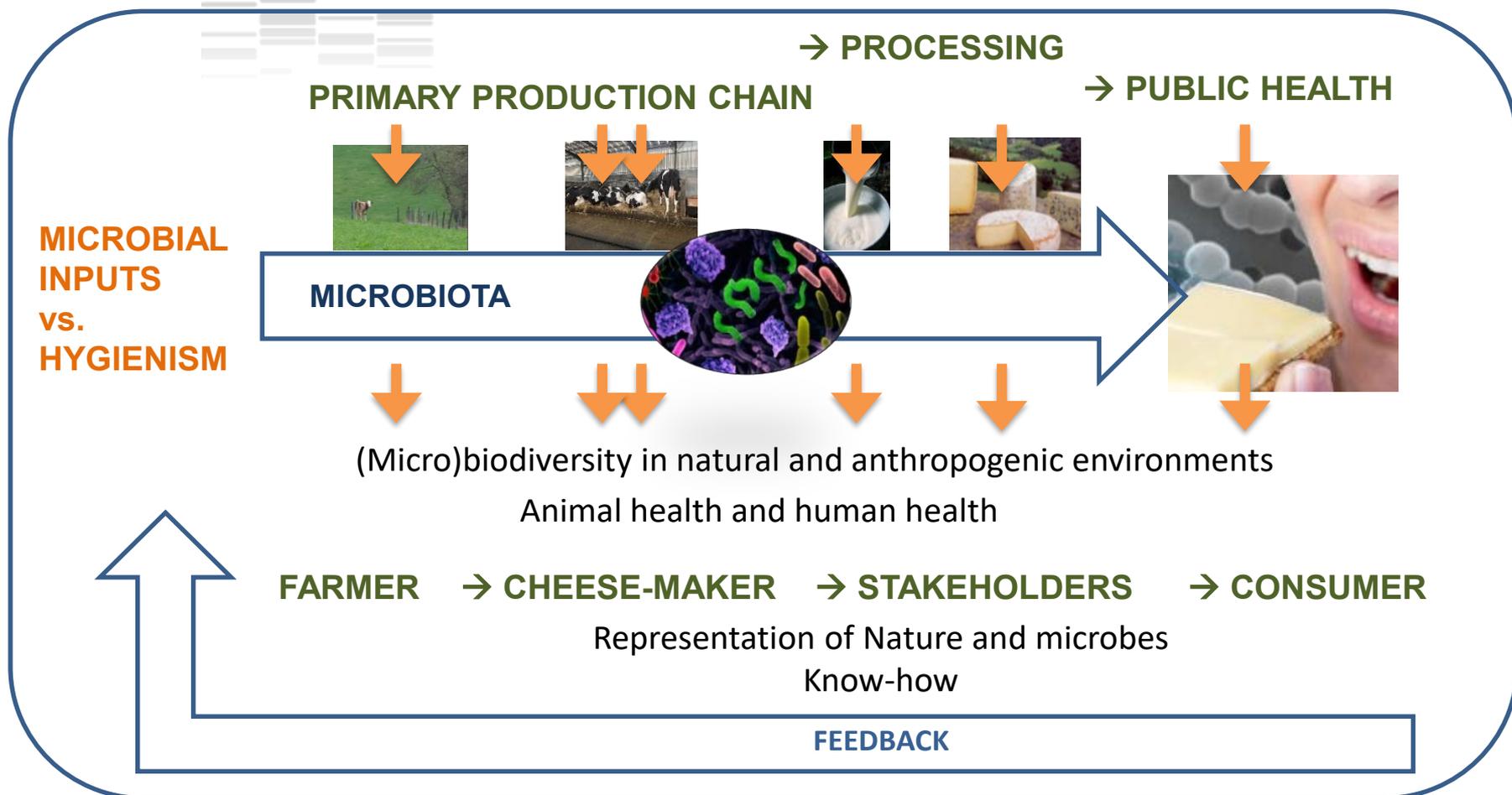
## Ecological and health issue :

- ✓ Loss of microbial diversity
- ✓ Lower exposition to food-borne and environmental microorganisms
- ↳ Relation with the gut microbiota and auto-immune affections ?

C. Villeneuve et al. / Microbes and Infection 20 (2018) <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.micinf.2017.11.001>  
 Evolution of the hygiene hypothesis into biota alteration theory: what are the paradigms and where are the clinical applications?

# Perspectives

Find solutions through systemic and trans-disciplinary approaches ?



Integrative, transdisciplinary approaches (agronomy, animal science, microbiology, immunology, sociology, anthropology...)

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Isabelle Verdier-Metz

Marie-Christine Montel

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RMT Fromages de Terroirs

