

Brief CV

Laura Gasco – Associate Professor – Department of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences (DISAFA) – Turin University

After her graduation in 1992 as an agricultural engineer at UCL in Belgium, Laura moved to Ireland to obtain a Diploma in Business Administration (University of Limerick) and then to Italy where she became PhD in Animal Sciences. In 1999, she became a researcher at the University of Turin, and in 2015 she became Associate Professor.

Prof. Gasco has 25 years of experience in Animal Sciences and her main topic of research is on fish, rabbits and poultry nutrition. She is lecturer at the Department of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences (DISAFA).

Since 2012, she is involved in trials on insects as potential raw material in fish and poultry nutrition in collaboration with Italians and foreign research groups.

She coordinates the University of Torino 's research group on Insects as Feed. She has coordinated or participated to the the following Italian research programmes:

- PSR PIAS (Proteine da Insetto in Avicoltura Sostenibile) focused on the use of insects as feed for poultry (Coordinator);
- feasibility study BOMB-HI (POR-FERS 07/13) (granted by Polo Innovazione ENERMHY (Feasibility study on the rearing of *Hermetia illucens* and *Bombyx mori* as feed in Italy) (Coordinator);
- Project: the use of insects as protein source in sustainable feeds (2014 - Veterinary Medical Research Institute for Piemonte, Liguria and the Valle D'Aosta (IZS) grants) (Unit coordinator);
- Project: "Preliminary evaluation of the nutritive value of insect meal for European Sea Bass" (Aquaexcel Programme - PROINSECTLIFE - 0013_03_05_15b_TNA - 2013) (Coordinator);
- Project : "Evaluation of apparent digestibility coefficients of insect meal based diets in European sea bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*)" (Aquaexcel programme - INDIFISH- 0125_08_05_15_TNA- 2014) (Participating);
- Microvita2050 project (selected on the accelerator programme of the USA pavilion in EXPO 2015) focused on the scientific and economic aspects of the rearing of *Musca domestica* as feed (Scientific coordinator).

She coordinated the Round Table: Qualità e sicurezza dei mangimi a base di insetti (Quality and safety of feeds based on insect) (Società Umanitaria) with a final White Paper on Edible Insects. The project also produced a video available on <http://www.edibleinsects.it/un-progetto-per-il-futuro-edibleinsects/>) that was presented during EXPO 2015.

She coordinate the ASPA (Animal Science and Production Association) Commission "the use of innovative protein sources in animal feeds".