Eureka TÜRKİYE CHAIRSHIP | 2023-2024

2024 - İstanbul Global Innovation Summit

FlatFIRST / E!4876

Early feeding of flatfish on microfeeds: improved performance, survival and quality of larvae and juveniles

Aim of the Project

To develop optimized microfeeds for early feeding of flatfish to improve performance, survival, and quality of larvae and juveniles.

Challenges

Flatfish aquaculture currently faces significant challenges, primarily due to high mortality rates and skeletal malformations in larvae caused by high dependency on live feeds. These issues increase production costs and also limit the quality and quantity of juveniles, impacting the overall sustainability and profitability of flatfish farming. FlatFIRST aims at overcoming such challenges by introducing specially formulated inert microfeeds that are designed to meet the unique nutritional needs of different flatfish species right from the earliest feeding stages.

Scientific Background

Traditional aquaculture feeds often fall short in meeting the specialized dietary requirements of flatfish larvae, leading to suboptimal growth and health issues. The scientific endeavour of FlatFIRST is grounded in the latest research on aquatic nutrition, which emphasizes the critical impact of tailored nutritional profiles and physical properties of feeds introduced during the larval phase.

Impact

The project is set to revolutionize flatfish aquaculture by significantly reducing reliance on live feeds, which are costly and environmentally demanding. By improving larval survival rates and growth performance through the use of species-specific microfeeds, FlatFIRST will enhance the economic efficiency and sustainability of flatfish production. Additionally, the initiative aims at improving the overall health and quality of flatfish, thereby increasing the profitability for aquaculture operations and contributing to a more stable supply of high-quality seafood.

Project Coordinator

João Henriques
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Project partners and Countries

- SPAROS (Portugal) - Leader
- FLATLANTIC (Portugal)
- Sterling White Halibut (Norway)
- CCMAR (Portugal)

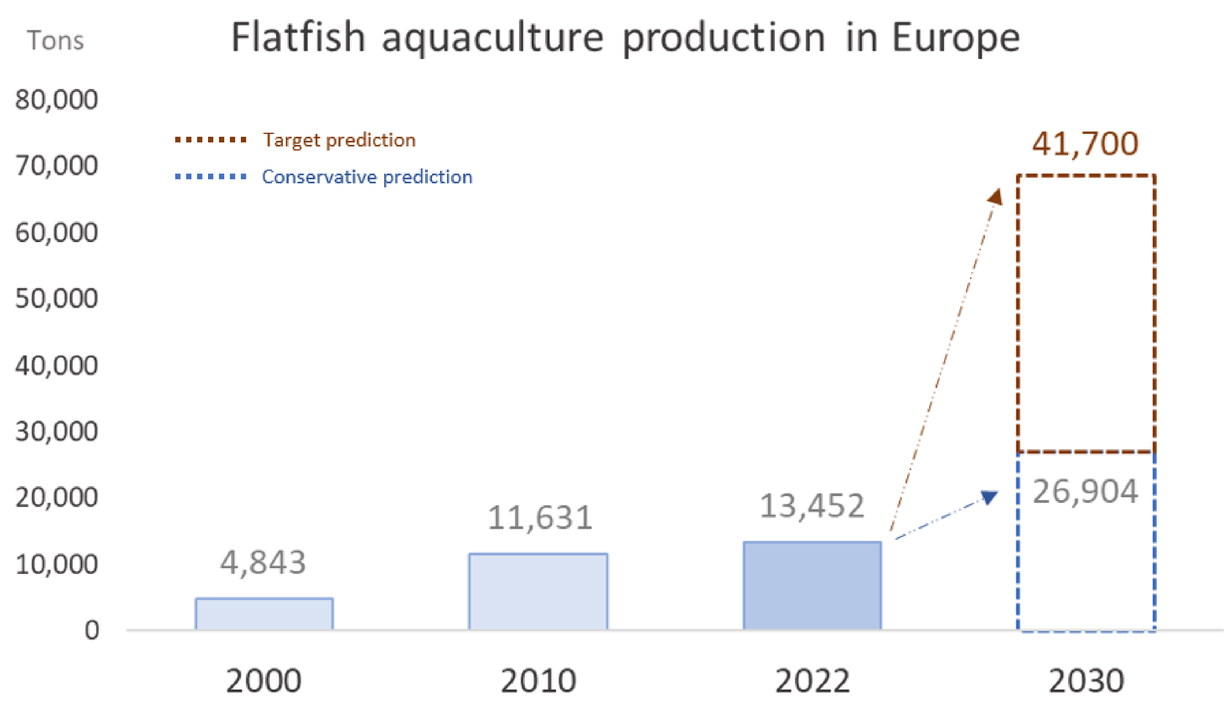
FLATFIRST

Project Budget

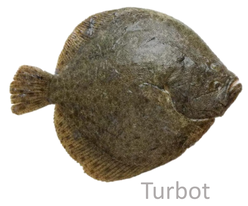
- €1,956,692

Project Timeline

- May 2024 - April 2027 (36 months)




Senegalese sole


Turbot


Atlantic halibut