

Curriculum Vitae

MIRIAM PILES ROVIRA

October, 2014

GENERAL

Personal data

María Mercedes Piles Rovira

DNI: 20.799.956-K

Place and date of birth: Benifaió (Valencia) Spain on June 12th, 1967.

Address: Plaça Josep Umbert Ventura, nº 1, 1, 08182 Sant Feliu de Codines (Barcelona) Spain.

Phone: +34 659 262 270

Current position

Scientist in the Institut de Recerca i Tecnologia Agroalimentàries (Institute for Food and Agriculture Research and Technology – IRTA)

Subprogram Director: Cunicultura

Center: Torre Marimon

Address: Torre Marimon s/n, 08140 Caldes de Montbui (Barcelona) Spain

Department: Unitat de Cunicultura

Professional category: Scientist C (from A to F)

From: 21/9/2000

Administrative situation: Fixed contract

Dedication: Complete

Education

- **PhD in Quantitative Genetics and Animal Breeding**, Department of Animal Science, Technical University of Valencia (Valencia, Spain). May 2000. Thesis: Bayesian analysis of the effect of selection for growth rate on growth curves and meat and carcass quality in rabbit (Prof. A. Blasco and M. Pla). The result of the evaluation was “Summa cum laude”.
- **Agriculture Engineer Graduate**, Technical University of Valencia (Valencia, Spain) June, 1993

Courses and seminars

- Analysis of Genetic Association Studies. Course Directors: Cathryn Lewis and Paul O'Reilly. King's College London. June 16th - 20th 2014. London, UK. 40 hrs.
- Principal Investigator Briefing: Best Practice for Researcher Career Development. 2013. 4hrs. Trainer: Dr Margaret Collins. Royal Veterinary College, University of London.
- An introductory overview of model comparison and related topics. 2006. 20 hrs. Dr. D. Sorensen (Danish Institute of Agricultural sciences, Department of Animal Breeding and Genetics, Tjele-Dinamarca). Department of Animal Science, Technical University of Valencia (Valencia, Spain)
- Molecular techniques in animal breeding. 2001. 70 hrs. Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza (CIHEAM-IAMZ) and Faculty of veterinary, University of Leon.

- Statistical genetic analysis of complex traits using molecular markers and microarrays. 2006. 33 hrs. Dr. Miguel Pérez Enciso, Department of Animal Science and Food, Faculty of Veterinary, Autonomous University of Barcelona
- A quantitative overview to gene expression profiling in genetics. 2006. 35 hrs. Dr. Toni Reverter (Principal Research Scientist, Bioinformatics Group, CSIRO Livestock Industries, Brisbane, Australia. Faculty of Veterinary, Autonomous University of Barcelona.
- Advanced methods in survival analysis: methods for interval censored data. 2001. 30 hrs. Department of Statistics and Operations Research. Technical University of Catalonia (Barcelona, Spain)
- Logistic Regression. 1998. 20 hrs. Dr. G. Piaggio (World Health Organization, Ginebra, Suiza). Spanish Society of Biometrics (Valencia, Spain)
- Mixed Model Analysis. 1998. 35 hrs. Dr. J. Pinheiro (Bell Laboratories, Lucent Technologies). Department of Animal Science, Technical University of Valencia (Valencia, Spain).
- Seminars in animal breeding and genetics. 1997. 20 hrs. Department of animal science. University of Madison, WI, EEUU.
- Algebraic language programming in c++. 1997. 60 hrs. Dr. D. Eggleston. Computer Sciences and Statistics. University of Madison, WI, EEUU.
- Statistics. 1997. 60 hrs. Dr. R. Johnson. Computer Sciences and Statistics. University of Madison, WI, EEUU.
- Computer sciences (Introduction to numerical methods). 1997. 60 hrs. Dr. S. Robinson. Computer Sciences and Statistics. University of Madison, WI, EEUU.
- Statistical computing. 1997. 60 hrs. Dr. M. Newton. Computer Sciences and Statistics. University of Madison, WI, EEUU.
- Theory and application of variance components estimation in animal breeding. 1997. 40 hrs. Dr. C. van Tassel. Christian-Albrechts-Universität Zu Kiel, Institut für Tierzucht und Tierhaltung und Gesellschaft für Tierzuchtwissenschaft.
- Gibbs sampling in quantitative genetics. 1998. 12 hrs. Dr. D. Sorensen (Danish Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Tjele, Denmark). Department of Animal Science, Technical University of Valencia (Valencia, Spain)
- Bayesian inference in quantitative genetics. 1997. 50 hrs. Prof. D. Gianola (University of Wisconsin). Department of Animal Science, Technical University of Valencia (Valencia, Spain)
- Advanced course on production systems of rabbit meat. 1997. 60 hrs. Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza. Spain
- VI International Course on Animal Breeding. 1996. 150 horas. Animal Breeding and Genetics Department - INIA.
- Agriculture and environment. 1994. 250 hrs. ETSIA, . European Social Fund.
- Operator and administrator of UNIX systems. 1994. 180 hrs. Department of Systems Engineering, Computer and Control (DISC), Technical University of Valencia (Valencia, Spain)

Fellowships

- Sep. 1997 – Dec. 1997. **Predoctoral studies** at Department of Animal Science-University of Wisconsin. Funding agency: Bancaixa.
- Jan. 1996 – Dec. 1999. **Predoctoral fellowship** at Department of Animal Science, Technical University of Valencia (Valencia, Spain). Participation in the research project: AGF98-0382. “Genetics of the components of litter size and growth, carcass and meat quality traits of rabbit.” Funding agency: Regional Government of Valencia.
- Aug. 2013 – Aug. 2014. **Marie Curie Intra-European Fellowships for Career Development (IEF)**. Royal veterinary College.

Other awards

- **National Accreditation (ANECA) for access to the figures of permanent college (university) lecturer:** Contracted PhD, Assistant PhD Professor, Associate Professor, Professor of Private University. Date: 2009

Academic and professional positions held

- **March 2009-present:** Cuniculture Suprogram Director, Animal Breeding and Genetics Department, Institut de Recerca i Tecnologia Agroalimentàries (Institute for Food and Agriculture Research and Technology – IRTA), Spain
- **Sep 2000-present:** Research Fellow Cuniculture Unit (permanent position), Animal Breeding and Genetics Department, IRTA
- **Jan 1996 – Dec 2000:** Predoctoral fellowship from the Regional Government of Valencia, Technical University of Valencia (Valencia, Spain).
- **Sep 1999 – Nov 1999:** Associate Lecturer. University Miguel Hernández (Alicante, Spain)
- **May 1998:** Associate Lecturer. University CEU Cardenal Herrera. Faculty of Veterinary (Valencia, Spain).
- **Apr 1991 – Dec 1992:** Technician in PIG TRAINING, S.L.

Languages

- **English:** speaking, reading and writing correctly
- **Spanish:** speaking, reading and writing correctly
- **Catalan:** speaking, reading and writing correctly

Professional profile

- Quantitative genetics
- Agriculture, Dairy and Animal Science Area
- Specialization (UNESCO Code): 310412

SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY

Funding competitive research projects

- Title of the project: ECO-FCE. Un enfoque de total del sistema para optimizar la eficacia de los alimentos y la reducción de la huella ecológica de los monogástricos
Funding agency: Comisión Europea
Institutions: 17 entidades europeas
Project period, from 01/02/2013- 31/01/2017
Principal Investigator: Niamh O'Connell

- Title of the project: RTA2011-00064 Genetic improvement of feed efficiency in prolific species
Funding agency: INIA
Institutions: IRTA, University of Georgia, GENUS, PLC
Project period, from 01/01/2012 to 01/01/2015
Principal Investigator: [Miriam Piles Rovira](#)
Number of participants: 9
Budget (euro): 157,457

- Title of the project: RTA2008-00070-C02 Climate stress on reproduction and survival: estimation of environmental and genetic factors of variation for heat tolerance and study of its effects on gamete and embryo development
Number of subprojects: 2
Funding agency: INIA
Institutions: IRTA, UAB, Universidad de León, University of Georgia
Project period, from 12/08/2008 to 12/08/2011
Principal Investigator: [Miriam Piles Rovira](#)
Number of participants: 8
Budget (euro): 61,272

- Title of the project: RTA2005-00088-C02-01. Genetic study of male fertility and semen quality traits
Number of subprojects: 2
Funding agency: INIA
Institutions: IRTA; UAB
Project period, from 10/11/2005 to 10/11/2008
Principal Investigator: [Miriam Piles Rovira](#)
Number of participants: 6
Budget (euro): 34,305

- Title of the project: RZ2004-00015-C02-00. Establishment of a free of infectious agents bank of rabbit cryopreserved embryos
Number of subprojects: 2
Funding agency: INIA
Institutions: IRTA; UAB
Project period, from 20/09/2005 to 20/09/2008
Principal Investigator (subproject): [Miriam Piles Rovira](#)
Number of participants: 7
Budget (euro): 40,307

- Title of the project: AGL2001-3068-C03-01. Genetic study and selection of litter size components.
 Funding agency: MCYT
 Institutions: Universidad Politécnica de Valencia, Universidad Cerdenal Herrera, Institut de Recerca i Tecnologia Agroalimentàries, L'Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Roslin Institute, Universidad Miguel Hernández.
 Project period, from 28/12/2001 to 27/12/2004
 Principal Investigator: Agustín Blasco Mateu
 Number of participants: 11
- Title of the project: SC00-011. Estimation of genetic parameters of index of conversion in two specialized lines for growth. Study of the kinetics of semen production and the possible interest of a diallel cross.
 Funding agency: Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Agrarias
 Institutions: IRTA
 Project period, from 01/01/2000 to 31/12/2003
 Principal Investigator: **Miriam Piles Rovira**
 Number of participants: 3
- Title of the project: ACI-2001-3. Genetic analysis of longevity in maternal rabbit lines.
 Funding agency: Departament d'Universitats, Recerca i Societat de la informació de la Generalitat de Catalunya
 Institutions: IRTA, INRA (Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique)
 Project period, from 03/01/2002 to 03/01/2003
 Principal Investigator: **Miriam Piles Rovira**
 Number of participants: 6
- Title of the project: ACI-2001-3. Utilización de líneas de conejos para carne seleccionadas en España: Optimización del cruzamiento a tres vías.
 Funding agency: Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Agrarias
 Institutions: IRTA, Universidad Politécnica de Valencia
 Project period, from 21/09/2000 to 01/10/2002
 Principal Investigator: Ernesto A. Gómez
 Number of participants: 4
- Title of the project: AGF98-0382. Genetics of the components of litter size and growth, carcass and meat quality traits of rabbit.
 Funding agency: C.I.C.Y.T
 Institutions: Universidad Politécnica de Valencia
 Project period, from 01/01/1996 to 31/12/2000
 Principal Investigator: Agustín Blasco Mateu
 Number of participants: 6

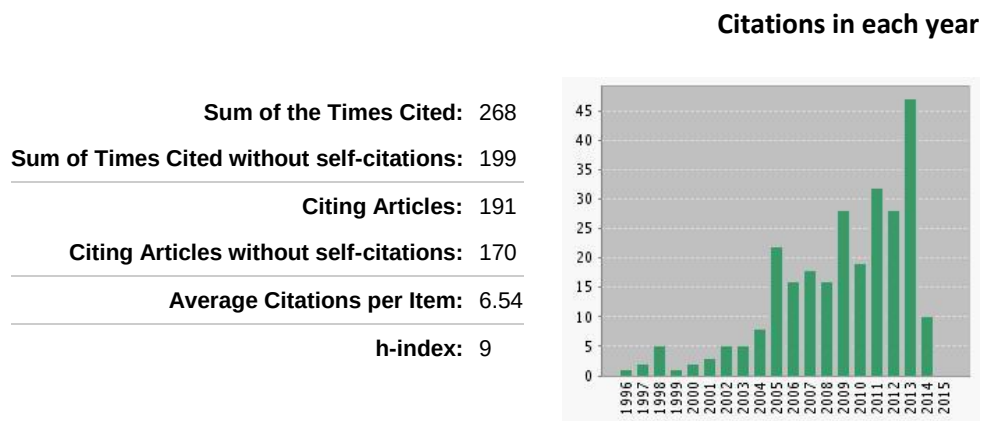
Non competitive research projects

- Title of the project: Genetic improvement of meat rabbit. Breeding of a maternal line.
 Funding agency: IRTA
 Institutions: IRTA

Project period, from 21/09/2000 to 31/12/2010
Principal Investigator: **Miriam Piles Rovira**
Number of participants: 3

- Title of the project: Genetic improvement of meat rabbit. Breeding of a paternal line
Funding agency: IRTA
Institutions: IRTA
Project period, from 21/09/2000 to 31/12/2010
Principal Investigator: **Miriam Piles Rovira**
Number of participants: 3

Publications



Articles published in SCI journals

Reference (Impact index, journal position in the area: "Agriculture, Dairy and Animal Sciences")

Sabes-Alsina M, Planell N, Torres-Mejia E, Taberner E, Maya-Soriano MJ, Tusell L, Ramon J, Dalmau A, **Piles M**, Lopez-Bejar M. 2014. Daily exposure to summer circadian cycles affects spermatogenesis, but not fertility in an in vivo rabbit model. *Theriogenology* (in press)

Piles M, Baselga M, Sanchez JP. 2014. Expected responses to different strategies of selection to increase heat tolerance assessed by changes in litter size in rabbit. **Journal of Animal Science**, October 2014 92:4306-4312; published ahead of print August 22, 2014, doi:10.2527/jas.2014-7616

Dalmau A, Catanese B, Rafel O, Rodriguez P, Fuentes C, Llonch P, Mainau E, Velarde A, Ramon J, Taberner E, López-Béjar M, **Piles M**. 2014. Effect of high temperatures on breeding rabbit behaviour. **Animal Production Science** (in press)

Maya-Soriano MJ, Taberner E, Sabés-Alsina M, **Piles M**, Lopez-Bejar M. 2013. Absence of beneficial effects on rabbit sperm cell cryopreservation by several antioxidant agents. **Zygote** 2013:1-10.

***Piles M.**, Mocé M.L., Laborda P., Santacreu M.A. 2013. Feasibility of selection for male contribution to embryo survival as a way of improving male reproductive performance and

- semen quality in rabbits. **Journal of Animal Science** 91: 4654-4658. Doi 10.2527/jas.2013-6446
- de Lima, V., **Piles, M.**, Rafel, O., López-Béjar, M., Ramon, J., Velarde, A., Dalmau, A. 2013. Use of infrared thermography to assess the influence of high environmental temperature on rabbits. **Research in Veterinary Science** 95: 802–810.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rvsc.2013.04.012>.
- ***Piles, M.**, Díez, J.; del Coz, J.J.; Montañés, E.; Quevedo, J. R.; Ramon, J.; Rafel, O.; López-Béjar, M.; Tusell, L. 2013. Predicting fertility from seminal traits: performance of several parametric and non-parametric procedures. **Livestock Sciences** 155: 137–147
- Piles, M.**; Tusell, L.; Lavara, R.; Baselga, M. 2013. Breeding programs for improving male reproductive performance and efficiency of insemination doses production in paternal lines: feasibility and limitations. **World Rabbit Science** 21:61-75.
- *Sánchez, J.P.; **Piles, M.** 2013. Sources of individual variation to heat tolerance in a rabbit line. **Journal of Animal Science** 91:1059-1066. doi: 10.2527/jas.2012-5457 originally published online January 7, 2013
- Piles, M.**; Tusell, L., Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; Sánchez, J.P. 2013. Effect of heat intensity and persistency on prolificacy and pre-weaning kit growth at different stages of the rabbit production cycle. **Journal of Animal Science**, 91:633-643 doi: 10.2527/jas.2012-5455 originally published online October 24, 2012
- Tusell, L.; Legarra, A.; García-Tomás, M.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M.** 2012. Genetic basis of semen traits and their relationship with growth rate in rabbits. **Journal of Animal Science** 90:1385-1397; published ahead of print November 18, 2011, doi:10.2527/jas.2011-4165. doi:10.2527/jas.2011-4165,
- ***Piles, M.**; Tusell, L. 2012. Genetic correlation between growth and female and male contributions to fertility in rabbit. **Journal of Animal Breeding and Genetics**, 129:298–305 doi:10.1111/j.1439-0388.2011.00975.x
- Tusell, L.; David, I.; Bodin, L.; Legarra, A.; Rafel, O.; López-Béjar, M.; **Piles, M.** 2011. Using the product threshold model for estimating the effect of temperature on male and female fertilities separately. **Journal of Animal Science**. 89: 3983-3995. doi:10.2527/jas.2011-3924.
- Tusell, L.; Legarra, A.; García-Tomás, M.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M.** 2011. Different ways to model biological relationships between fertility and the pH of the semen in rabbits. **Journal of Animal Science**, 89:1294-1303.
- David, I; Carabaño, M.J.; Tusell, L.; Diaz, C.; Gonzalez-Recio, O.; López de Maturana, E.; **Piles, M.**; Ugarte, E.; Bodin, L. 2011. Product versus additive model for studying AI results in several livestock populations. **Journal of Animal Science**, 89:321-328.
- Tusell, L.; García-Tomás, M.; Baselga, M.; Rekaya, R.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; López-Béjar, M.; **Piles, M.** 2010. Interaction of genotype x artificial insemination conditions for male effect on fertility and prolificacy. **Journal of Animal Science**, 88:3475-3485.
- García-Tomás, M.; Sánchez, J.; **Piles, M.**; Mitjavila, M.T. 2010. Line and birth season effects on plasma testosterone and oxidative stress parameters in testis of maturing rabbits. **Animal Reproduction Science** 117:314-321.
- Orengo, J.; **Piles, M.**; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; Gómez, E.A. 2009. Crossbreeding parameters for growth and feed consumption traits from a five diallel mating scheme in rabbits. **Journal of Animal Science** 87: 1896-1905. (2.102, 4/47)

- García-Tomás, Sánchez, J.; **Piles, M.** 2009. Post-natal sexual development of testis and epididymis in the rabbit: Variability and relationships among macroscopic and microscopic markers. **Animal Reproduction Science** 110: 347-355. (2.186, 3/44)
- García-Tomás, M.; Sánchez, J.; **Piles, M.** 2009. Postnatal sexual development of testis and epididymis in the rabbit: Growth and maturity patterns of macroscopic and microscopic. **Theriogenology** 71: 292-301. (1.911, 9/133)
- Forni, S.; **Piles, M.**; Blasco, A.; Varona, L.; Oliveira, N.H.; Lôbo, R.B.; Albuquerque, L.G. 2008. Comparison of different nonlinear functions to describe Nelore cattle growth. **Journal of Animal Science** 87:496-506. (2.102, 4/47)
- Forni, S.; **Piles, M.**; Blasco, A.; Varona, L.; Oliveira, N.H.; Lôbo, R.B.; Albuquerque, L.G. 2007. Analysis of beef cattle longitudinal data applying a nonlinear model. **Journal of Animal Science** 85: 3189-3197. (2.102, 4/47)
- Piles, M.**, García-Tomás, M.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; Ibáñez-Escriche, N.; Varona, L. 2007. Individual efficiency for the use of feed resources in rabbit. **Journal of Animal Science** 85:2846-2853. (2.102, 4/47)
- ***Piles, M.**; García, M.L.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; Baselga, M. 2006. Genetics of litter size in three maternal lines of rabbits. Repeatability versus multitrait models. **Journal of Animal Science** 84: 2309-2315. (1.983, 5/44)
- Piles, M.**; Garreau, H.; Rafel, O.; Larzul, C.; Ramon, J.; Ducrocq, V. 2006. Survival analysis in two lines of rabbits selected for reproductive traits. **Journal of Animal Science** 84 :1658-1665. (1.983, 5/44)
- Piles, M.**; Sánchez, J.P.; Orengo, J.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; Baselga, M. 2006. Crossbreeding parameter estimation for functional longevity in rabbits using survival analysis methodology. **Journal of Animal Sciences** 84: 58-62. (1.983, 5/44)
- García-Tomás, M.; Sánchez, J.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M.** 2006. Variability, repeatability and phenotypic relationships of several characteristics of production and semen quality in rabbits. : **Animal Reproduction Science** 93: 88-100. (2.186, 3/44)
- García-Tomás, M.; Sánchez, J.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M.** 2006. Reproductive performance of crossbred and purebred male rabbit. **Livestock Production Science** 104: 233-243. (1.131, 16/44)
- García-Tomás, M.; Sánchez, J.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M.** 2006. Heterosis, direct and maternal genetic effects on semen quality traits of rabbits. **Livestock Production Science** 100: 111-120. (1.131, 16/44)
- ***Piles, M.**, Rafel, O., Ramon, J., Varona, L. 2005. Genetic Parameters of fertility in two lines of rabbits with different reproductive potential. **Journal of Animal Science**, 83:340-343. (1.360, 10/43)
- Piles, M.**, Rafel, O., Ramon, J., Gomez, E. 2004. Crossbreeding parameters of some productive traits in meat rabbit. **World Rabbit Science**, 12:139-148. (0.574, 31/47)
- ***Piles, M.**, Gomez, E., Rafel, O., Ramon, J. And Blasco, A. 2004. Elliptical selection experiment for the estimation of genetic parameters of the growth rate and feed conversion ratio in rabbits. **Journal of Animal Science**, 82:654-660. (1.734, 4/41)
- Piles, M.**; Blasco, A. 2003. Response to selection for growth rate in rabbits. **World Rabbit Science**. 11(2): 53-62. (0.574, 31/47)

Piles, M., Gianola, D., Varona, L., Blasco, A. 2003. Bayesian inference about parameters of a longitudinal trajectory when selection operates on a correlated trait. **Journal of Animal Science**. 81:2714-2724. (1.563, 3/41)

*Blasco ,A., **Piles, M.**, Varona, L. 2003. A Bayesian analysis of the effect of selection for growth rate on growth curves in rabbits. Genetic, Selection and Evolution. **Genetics, Selection, Evolution**, Vol. 35: 21-42. (1.308, 5/41)

*Mignon-Gasteau, S., **Piles, M.**, Varona, L., De Rochambeau, H., Poivey, J.P., Blasco,A., Beaumont, C. 1.999. Bayesian analysis of Gompertz curve of chickens selected on the shape of the growth curve. **Journal of Animal Science**, 2000. 78:2515-2524. (1.715, 2/44)

***Piles, M.**, Blasco,A., Pla, M. 1.999. The effect of selection for growth rate on carcass composition and meat characteristics of rabbits. **Meat Science**, 54(4):347-355. (1.278, 14/95)

Blasco,A., **Piles, M.**, 1.990. Muscular pH of the rabbit. **Ann. Zootech** 39, 133-136. (0.800, 23/44)

Significant publications

Tusell, Ll.; García-Tomás, M.; Baselga, M.; Rekaya, R.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; López-Béjar, M.; Piles, M. 2010. Interaction of genotype x artificial insemination conditions for male effect on fertility and prolificacy. **Journal of Animal Science**, 88:3475-3485.

I believe that this work is novel in its approach and results that suggest an alternative to optimize breeding programs to improve the fertility of male and possibly female.

Piles, M.; Garreau, H.; Rafel, O.; Larzul, C.; Ramon, J.; Ducrocq, V. 2006. Survival analysis in two lines of rabbits selected for reproductive traits. **Journal of Animal Science** 84 :1658-1665. (1.983, 5/44)

I consider it a work in which we analyze a very complex character, such as survival, in a comprehensive manner (for the two definitions of character) and rigorous. The results suggest the possibility of selection for longevity and define the model for this purpose. Currently, this selection procedure being applied by researchers from INRA, co-authors of this publication.

Piles, M., Gomez, E., Rafel. O., Ramon, J. And Blasco, A. 2004. Elliptical selection experiment for the estimation of genetic parameters of the growth rate and feed conversion ratio in rabbits. **Journal of Animal Science**, 82:654-660. (1.734, 4/41)

In my opinion this is a very interesting job which performs a non-common experimental design in order to increase accuracy in the estimation of genetic correlations between two characters, when one (or both) is expensive to measure, which makes the availability of data difficult.

Conferences and contributions to congresses and meetings

International congresses and meetings

- Sánchez JP, **Piles M**, Tulsà M, Reixach J, Quintanilla R. 2014. The Value of Group Records in Predicting Breeding Values for Individual Feed Intake in Pigs. 10th World Congress of Genetics Applied to Livestock Production. Vancouver, BC, Canada. August 17-22, 2014.
- Piles M**, Poulet B, de Souza R, Pitsillides A, Chang Y. 2014. Gait asymmetry and imbalance as potential markers of natural murine osteoarthritis. OARSI 2014. World Congress on osteoarthritis. Paris, France. April 24-27, 2014. The Center of Industries and Technologies (CNIT)
- Piles M.**, Ramon J., Rafel O., Sánchez J. P. 2013. Interaction entre le génotype et l'environnement pour le poids aprèssevrage des lapins nourris ad libitum ou restreints. 15èmes Journées de la Recherche Cunicole, Le Mans, France, November 19th -20th, 2013. Oral communication.
- Ramon, J.; Rafel O.; **Piles M**. 2013. Influence du rythme de reproduction et de l'âge au sevrage sur la productivité des lapines et des lapereaux. 15èmes Journées de la Recherche Cunicole, Le Mans, France, November 19th -20th, 2013. Oral communication.
- Sánchez, J.P.; **Piles M**. 2012. Do the genes involved in longevity interact with in farm temperature in rabbit females?. 63rd Annual Meeting 2012. Bratislava, Slovakia, August 27-31, 2012. Oral communication
- Piles, M.**; Bark, M.H.; Tusell, L.; Sánchez, J.P.; Blas, E.; Ramon, J.; Rafel, O. 2012. The effect of high environmental temperature on doe performance during lactation. **10th World Rabbit Congress**, Sharm El-Sheikh (Egypt), September 3-6th, 2012. Oral communication.
- Garreau, H.; Bosze, Z.; Curik, I.; **Piles, M.**; Rogel-Gaillard, C.; Thulin, C.G.; Fontanesi, L. and the RGB-Net consortium. 2012. A collaborative european network on rabbit genome biology: rgb-net. **10th World Rabbit Congress**, Sharm El-Sheikh (Egypt), September 3-6th, 2012. Oral communication.
- Piles, M.**; Mocé, ML.; Laborda P.; Santacreu MA. 2012. Male contribution to prolificacy at early stage of gestation. **10th World Rabbit Congress**, Sharm El-Sheikh (Egypt), September 3-6th, 2012. Oral communication.
- Piles, M.**; Lavara, R.; Tusell, LL.; Baselga, M. 2012. Breeding programs for improving male reproductive performance and efficiency of AI dose production in paternal lines: feasibility and limitations. **10th World Rabbit Congress**, Sharm El-Sheikh (Egypt), September 3-6th, 2012. Invited paper.
- Tusell, Ll.; Legarra, A., García-Tomás; M., Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M**. 2010. Different ways to model the biological relationship between fertility and the pH of semen in rabbits. Oral communication. **9th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production**. Leipzig, Germany, August 1-6th, 2010. IN: Book of abstracts of the 9th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production, pp: 68.
- Piles, M.**; Sánchez J.P.; García-Tomás, M.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; Tusell, Ll. 2010. Predicting male fertility from semen quality traits: performance of different statistical procedures for model selection. Poster. **9th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production**. Leipzig, Germany, August 1-6th, 2010. IN: Book of abstracts of the 9th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production, pp: 216.
- David, I.; Carabaño, M.J.; Tusell, Ll.; Diaz, C.; Gonzalez Recio, O.; López de Maturana, E.; **Piles, M.**; Ugarte, E.; Bodin, L. 2010. Artificial insemination results in several livestock populations studied with product and additive models. Oral communication. **9th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production**. Leipzig, Germany, August 1-6th, 2010. IN: Book of abstracts of the 9th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production, pp: 73.

- Sánchez, J.P.; **Piles, M.** 2010. Genetic control of prolificacy and weaning production traits in rabbits shows interaction with in farm temperature. Oral communication. **9th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production**. Leipzig, Germany, August 1-6th, 2010. IN: Book of abstracts of the 9th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production, pp: 163.
- Tusell, Ll.; Rekaya, R.; López-Béjar, M.; García-Tomás, M.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M.** 2009. A neural networks approach for prediction fertility using semen quality parameters. Poster. **Joint Annual Meeting 2009 ADSA-CSAS-ASAS**, Quebec (Canada), 2009. IN: J. Anim. Sci. Vol. 87, E-Suppl. 2 and J. Dairy Sci. Vol. 92, E-suppl. 1.
- Tusell, Ll.; Rekaya, R.; López-Béjar, M.; García-Tomás, M.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M.** 2009. Genetic association between male fertility and prolificacy after artificial insemination with semen subjected to limited screening. Poster. **Joint Annual Meeting 2009 ADSA-CSAS-ASAS**, Quebec (Canada), 2009. IN: J. Anim. Sci. Vol. 87, E-Suppl. 2 and J. Dairy Sci. Vol. 92, E-suppl. 1.
- Tusell, Ll.; Rekaya, R.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M.** 2009. Genetic analysis of fertility and average daily gain in rabbit. Oral communication. **60th Annual Meeting of the European Federation of Animal Science**, Barcelona (Spain), August 24-27, 2009. IN: Book of abstracts of the 60th annual meeting of the European Association for Animal Production, pp: 172.
- Piles, M.**; Tusell, L.; García-Tomás, M.; Baselga, M.; Garcia-Ispuerto, I; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; López-Bejar, M. 2008. Genotype x sperm dosage interaction on reproductive performance after artificial insemination. 1. Fertility. Oral communication. **9th World Rabbit Congress**, Verona Verona (Italy), June 10-13, 2008. IN: Proceedings of the 9th World Rabbit Congress, pp: 71.
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communication. **IX Journées de la Recherche Cunicole**, Paris, France, November 28-29, 2001. In: Proc of IX Journées de la Recherche Cunicole, 229-232.

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Piles, M., Blasco, A., Pla, M. 1999. The effect of selection for growth rate on carcass composition and meat characteristics of rabbits. Poster. **49th Annual Meeting of the European Association for Animal Production**. Zurich, Switzerland, August 22-26, 1999. In: Proc. of the 49th Annual Meeting of the European Association for Animal Production. Abstract

Blasco, A., **Piles, M.**, Pla, M. 1998. The effect of selection for growth rate on live weight and carcass traits in rabbits. Oral communication. **6th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production**, Armidale, NSW, Australia, January 13-18, 1998. In: Proc. of the 6th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production. Abstract

Blasco, A., **Piles, M.**, Pla, M. 1997. The effect of selection for growth rate on growth and carcass traits in rabbits. Oral communication. **48th Annual Meeting of the European Association for Animal Production**. Viena, Austria, August 25-28, 1997. In: Proc. of the 48th Annual Meeting of the European Association for Animal Production. Abstract

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National congresses and meetings

Piles M., Ramon J., Rafel O., Sánchez J. P. 2013. Interacción GxE para peso post-destete en conejo de carne entre regímenes de alimentación ad libitum y restringido. XV Jornadas sobre Producción Animal, Zaragoza, Spain, May 14-15, 2013. Oral communication

Rafel O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles M.** 2013. Estrategias productivas en el sector cunícola ante una situación de crisis. Capacidad de reacción frente a mercados inestables. XXXVIII Symposium de Cunicultura de ASESCU, Zamora, Spain, May 30-31, 2013. Oral communication

Rafel O.; Valls, R.; **Piles M.**; Ramon, J. 2012. La reforma de la PAC ¿Qué puede esperar la cunicultura de la UE?. XXXVII Symposium de Cunicultura de ASESCU, Barbastro, Spain, May 24-25, 2012. Oral communication.

FALTAN

Tusell, Ll.; García-Tomás, M.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M.** 2010. Genetics of semen production and its relationship with growth rate. Poster. **XV Reunión nacional de Mejora Genética Animal**, Vigo, June 6-8, 2010.

Tusell, Ll.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M.** 2009. Análisis genético de los caracteres de fertilidad y velocidad de **crecimiento en la hembra de conejo**. Oral communication. **XIII Jornadas sobre Producción Animal AIDA**. Zaragoza, 12/5/2009. In: XIII Jornadas sobre Producción Animal AIDA. M. Joy, J. H. Calvo, C. Calvete, M. A. Latorre, I. Casasús, A. Bernués, B. Panea, A. Sanz, J. Balcells (Eds.). AIDA, Zaragoza. pp. 99-101. ISBN-13-978-84-613-2311-1

Piles, M.; Tusell, Ll.; García-Tomás, M.; López-Bejar, M.; García-Ispuerto, I.; Ramon, J.; Rafel, O.; Baselga, M. 2008. Interacción genotipo x tipo de dosis de inseminación artificial para la fertilidad del macho de conejo. Oral communication. **XIV Reunión nacional de Mejora Genética Animal**. Sevilla, June 19-21, 2008. In: ITEA (2008), Vol. 104 (2), 160-168.

García-Tomás, M.; Sánchez, J.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J.; **Piles, M.** 2006. Relación entre parámetros de calidad seminal y fertilidad. Oral communication. **XXXI Symposium de Cunicultura**, Vila Real (Portugal), 2006.

Piles, M.; Rafel, O.; Ramon, J., Varona, L. 2004. Parámetros genéticos de la fertilidad en dos líneas de conejo de diferente aptitud. Oral communication. **XII Reunión nacional de Mejora Genética Animal**, Arucas (Las Palmas), Spain, July 7-9, 2004.

Piles, M., Gómez, E.A., Ramon, J., Rafel, O. 2003. Parámetros de cruzamiento de caracteres productivos en el conejo de carne. Oral communication. **X Jornadas de Producción Animal**. Zaragoza, Spain, May 14-16, 2003. In: ITEA, Volumen extra, Nº 24 - tomo II, pp:513-515.

Gómez E.A., Orengo J., **Piles M.**, Baselga, M. 2003. Dime que cruces y te diré cuanto produces. Oral communication. **XXVIII Symposium de Cunicultura**, Alcañiz (Teruel), Spain, April 2-4, 2003. In: proceedings of the XXVIII Symposium de Cunicultura, pp:135-144.

Blasco, A., **Piles, M.**, Gianola, D., Varona, L. 2001. Análisis bayesiano de datos longitudinales con modelos no lineales, en poblaciones sometidas a un proceso de selección. Oral communication. **VIII Conferencia Española de Biometría**, Pamplona, Spain, March 5-7, 2001. In: Proc. of VIII Conferencia Española de Biometría.

Piles, M., Gianola, D., Varona, L., Blasco, A. 2000. Análisis de la respuesta correlacionada a la selección por velocidad de crecimiento en las curvas de crecimiento de conejos. Oral communication. **X Reunión nacional de Mejora Genética Animal**, Caldes de Montbui (Barcelona), Spain, June 8-9, 2000. In: Proc. of X Jornadas Nacionales de Mejora Genética Animal.

Blasco, A., **Piles, M.**, Varona, L., Pla, M. 1999. Análisis Bayesiano del efecto de la selección en las curvas de crecimiento en peso vivo en el conejo. Oral communication. **VIII Jornadas sobre Producción Animal**, Zaragoza, Spain, May 1999. In: ITEA Volumen extra, nº 20 tomo I, pp: 258-261.

Piles, M.; Pla, M. Blasco, A. 1997. Efecto de la selección por velocidad de crecimiento en la canal de conejo. Oral communication. **VII Jornadas sobre Producción Animal**, Zaragoza, Spain, May 20-22, 1997. In: ITEA Volumen extra, nº 18 tomo I, pp: 384-386.

Piles, M., Blasco,A. 1989. Estudio del pH de la canal en dos líneas de conejo. Oral communication. **III Jornadas de Producción Animal**, Zaragoza, Spain, May 9-11, 1989. In: ITEA. Volumen extra, 9, pp: 511-513.

Contribution to the edition of SCI journals

Reviewer

- Animal
- Genetic Selection Evolution
- Journal of Dairy Science
- Journal of Animal Science
- Journal of Animal Breeding and Genetics
- Animal Reproduction

Experience in R+D management

- Scientific Director of the Cuniculture Subprogram, of the Institut de Recerca i Tecnologia Agroalimentàries Institute for Food and Agriculture Research and Technology – IRTA.
From: March, 2009 to 2011.
- Member of the **Management Committee** and **Steering Committee** of the European Concerted Research Action (COST Action TD1101: A collaborative European Network on Rabbit Genome Biology) and **Leader of the Working Group 2** (Genetics in meat , fur and pet rabbits and biodiversity resources).

Research exchanges and secondments

- Center: Department of Animal Sciences University of Wisconsin
City: Madison, WI Country: EEUU Date: September- December, 1997 (18 weeks)
Topic: growth curve analysis
- Center: Department of Animal Sciences University of Wisconsin
City: Madison, WI Country: EEUU Date: August, 2000 (5 weeks)
Topic: Model Mixture
- Center: Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences, University of Georgia
City: Athens, GA Country: EEUU Date: July, 2007 (4 weeks)
Topic: Genetic analysis of heat stress

CONTRACTUAL ACTIVITY

Research and transfer contracts with administrations and companies

Title of the contract	Principal Investigator	Budget (EURO)	Funding agency / company	Contract period
Breeding and improvement of a paternal line	M. Piles	52,000	Farmers and companies	1982-on going
Breeding and improvement of a maternal line	M. Piles	119,000	Farmers and companies	1992-on going
Selection and multiplication of a maternal line	M. Piles	30,000	Agrilag	2000-2008
Selection and multiplication of a maternal line	M. Piles	19,000	CUNISOT Centres de selecció i multiplicació S. L.	2002-2012
Selection and multiplication of a maternal line	M. Piles		Técnicas Cunicolas S.A.	2004-2012
Creation and maintenance of an artificial insemination centre: supply of bucks from a paternal line, and advice and technical assistance on male management and dose preparation	O. Rafel	31,000	TECUNSA	2005-2015
Draw of a Catalanian Rabbits Sector Strategic Plan	M. Piles	9,000	Associació Cunicultors Catalunya	2008

FORMATION, TRAINING AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Supervised PhD and MSc Thesis (teaching experience)

- **MSc Thesis:** Effects of heat stress on doe performance during lactation in rabbit. Mohammed Bark, University of Zaragoza (Spain), September 20th, 2011
- **PhD Thesis:** Exploring the genetics of the efficiency of fertile AI dose production in rabbits. Llibertat Tusell Palomero. Technical University of Valencia (Spain), July 25th, 2011. European Doctorate Mention. *Summa cum laude* by unanimous decision.
- **MSc Thesis:** Interaction of genotype x artificial insemination conditions for male effect on fertility and prolificacy. Llibertat Tusell Palomero. Technical University of Valencia (Spain), December, 2009. Qualification: Excelent (9/10)
- **PhD Thesis.** Kinetic study of semen production and benefits of crossing selected lines. Mónica García Tomás. University of Barcelona (Spain). October 17th, 2006. *Summa cum laude* by unanimous decision.

Final Projects and contract practices

- Grade: Ingeniero Técnico agrícola
Title: “Efecto de la selección por velocidad de crecimiento sobre la curva de crecimiento en conejos”
Student: Eva Rodriguez
University: Universidad Politécnica de Valencia, Spain
Director: M. Pla and M. Piles
Date: 1996
- Students in contract practices at IRTA- Cunicultura:
 - Llibertat Tusell
 - Lluís Cano
 - Romina Girbau
 - Pilar Callado.

Articles published in national and technical journals

- García-Tomás, M.; **Piles, M.** 2007. Darrers estudis sobre l'ús dels mascles d'inseminació artificial i les característiques de qualitat seminal. **Conills**, 45: 22-27.
- Ramon, J.; Rafel, O.; **Piles, M.** 2004. Resultados de gestión en España. GTE 2002: Algo falla. **Boletín de Cunicultura**, 133:24-27.
- Ramon, J.; Rafel, O.; **Piles, M.** 2003. GTE 2001. Resultados de gestión en España. **Boletín de cunicultura**, 130:13-15.
- Ramon, J.; Rafel, O.; **Piles, M.** 2002. GTE 2000. Resultados de gestión en España. **Boletín de cunicultura**, 124:36-40.

Rafel, O.; **Piles, M.**; Ramon, J. 2000. Gestión técnico económica 1999. Un año a la expectativa. **Cunicultura**, 148:293-297.

Piles, M. 1997. La mejora genética de los machos terminales. **Lagomorpha**, 89:16-20.

Conferences and seminars

Piles, M.; García-Tomás, M. 2006. Darrers avanços en inseminació i genètica del conill. Organization: Federació d'Associacions de Cunicultors de Catalunya. Date: November 25, 2006. Granollers (Barcelona) Spain.

Piles, M. 2013. Breeding Programs in Meat Rabbit Production. January 17, 2013. Máster de Ingeniero Agrónomo. Organization: Department of Animal Production. University of Lleida. Lleida, Spain.

Other merits

Dissertation committee member:

- Student: Patricia Laborda Vidal
Thesis: "Selection for ovulation rate in rabbits"
Date: November, 2011
- Student: Maribel Merchán Acedo
Thesis: "Análisis de genes candidatos y estudio de expresión génica en líneas de conejo seleccionadas divergentemente para capacidad uterina"
Date: Abril, 2007
- Student: Juan Pablo Sánchez Serrano
Thesis: "Genetic analysis of longevity in rabbit does for meat production. Constitution and evaluation of a long-lived – productive rabbit line"
Date: December, 2005
- Student: Wagdy Ahmed Ibrahim Mekkawy
Thesis: "QTL bayesian analysis"
Date: February, 2005
- Student: Jorge Alberto Ramírez Tellés
Thesis: "Características bioquímicas del músculo, calidad de la carne y de la grasa de conejos seleccionados por velocidad de crecimiento"
Date: October, 2004