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NOVA PERSPECTIVA DA ESTRATÉGIA DO PRADO AO PRATO DA UNIÃO EUROPEIA
NEW PERSPECTIVE ON THE FARM TO FORK STRATEGY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
NUEVA PERSPECTIVA SOBRE LA ESTRATEGIA DE LA GRANJA A LA MESA DE LA UNIÓN EUROPEA

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EDITORIAL

NEW PERSPECTIVE ON THE FARM TO FORK STRATEGY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Currently, the Farm to Fork Strategy, in addition to continuing to ensure product traceability, aims to create fairer food systems that promote consumer health and are environmentally friendly.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine demonstrated that food systems must be resilient and sustainable. It is extremely important to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases (trying to have a neutral or positive impact in environmental terms and helping to mitigate climate change), reduce the consumption of natural sources, mitigate or reverse the loss of biodiversity and minimize the effects on human health. Food safety is important in this particular case, and everyone must have access to safe and nutritious food. In addition to all the points mentioned above, there must be a fair economic return for all the intervening links in the food chain, particularly the primary producers. Thus, fair trade must be promoted.

The European Union has drawn up an action plan containing proposals for changing the current legislation, including revisions and initiatives. The points being debated are (i) the sustainable use of pesticides; (ii) the creation of a nutritional label to be placed on the front of the pack; (iii) the establishment of nutritional profiles that restrict the promotion of foods with high salt, sugar and/or fat contents; and (iv) the evaluation and review of legislation relating to animal welfare.

The European Union also aims to achieve the following targets in 2030: (i) Reduce by 50% the use and risk of chemical pesticides and the use of the most dangerous pesticides; (ii) Reduce nutrient loss by at least 50%, ensuring, however, that soil fertility is not compromised. It is also mentioned that the intention is to reduce the use of fertilizers by at least 20%; (iii) Reduce by 50% the application of antimicrobials (such for example, antibiotics applied to farmed and aquaculture animals); and (iv) Convert at least 25% of agricultural land to organic mode. The European Union intends to simultaneously deploy fast broadband Internet in all rural areas by 2025.

Aren't these goals too ambitious? Let's see what the future holds for us. It is everyone's role to promote the use and adaptation of new technologies and research results, combined with society's greater attention to producing more sustainable food for All. For the Planet and Our Society!