Organic research

at Agroscope Liebefeld-Posieux research station ALP

- Milk and meat production
- Milk and meat processing
- Safety and quality



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Cow type adapted for grazing

The aptitude of Holstein cows with New Zealand genetic background for milk production on pasture is investigated in an organic farming system. *Fredy Schori*





Energy requirements of dairy cows on pasture

The additional energy requirement of cows for physical and feeding activities on pasture compared to stall-fed cows are identified.

Frigga Dohme, Andreas Münger





Effect of tannins in ruminants

Condensed tannins are natural plant constituents, which may have beneficial effects on protein metabolism and against gastrointestinal worms. The nutritive value of tanniniferous forages is determined and the effects of condensed tannins on protein metabolism are analyzed. *Frigga Dohme, Yves Arrigo*

Beneficial constituents of cow milk

By varying the cow's feeding, attempts are being made to enhance beneficial constituents of milk, like conjugated linoleic acid, omega-3 fatty acids, vitamins and trace elements. *Ueli Wyss, Isabelle Morel*





Quality criteria for sheep and goat milk

Approved thresholds for processing relevant criteria like bacterial and somatic cell counts as well as clotting aptitude and beneficial constituents are defined. *Jürg Maurer*



Udder health

Investigations in prevalence, spreading and virulence factors for the mastitis pathogen Streptococcus uberis are carried out in Switzerland. *Walter Schaeren*

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Extensive beef production

Development and improvement of extensive, pasture-based beef production systems in marginal regions, e.g. mountain areas is intended. André Chassot

Reduction of respiratory diseases in veal production





The development of prevention schemes to reduce the use of antibiotics for respiratory disorders in veal production is planned. *Michel Rérat*



Piglet health

The efficacy of different management and feeding strategies to reduce the mortality of new born piglets as well as to obtain healthy weaned piglets without the preventive use of antibiotics is studied. *Andreas Gutzwiller*





Feeding and fat quality in entire male pigs

The aim is to evaluate the relationship between feeding and carcass adipose tissue composition of entire male pigs. *Giuseppe Bee, Peter Stoll*





Online detection of boar taint

Together with industry partners the detection of boar tainted carcasses using the electronic nose will be adapted to an industrial scale, if the interest from industry persists. *Giuseppe Bee, Silvia Ampuero Kragten*



Label commission "Processing & Trade"

A delegate of ALP is member of the technical commission working out the guidelines for ingredients and processing of organic foods produced under the label of Bio Suisse. *Daniel Wechsler*



Premium cheese in organic quality

Production of healthy premium cheese using traditional and innovative processes is supported. *Daniel Wechsler*



Starter cultures in "bud" quality

Starter cultures (microorganisms) in organic quality ("bud" label) for fermented milk products (yoghurt, cheese) are developed and produced. Novel freeze-dried products will also be offered. *Elisabeth Eugster-Meier*



Low input processing of milk

The knowledge of low input processing of milk will be deepened. Magali Chollet



E-number-free raw and boiled sausages

Synthetic food additives for the extension of shelf life, appearance, flavour, consistency and handling have to be declared with E-numbers. The objective is to produce raw as well as boiled sausages supplemented with additives in their natural form and consequently no need for E-number declaration.

Ruedi Hadorn

Food safety

Questions around safety in the food chain of animal products are treated. Health risks can be identified as well as quantified through risk analysis and reduced by appropriate measures. *Thomas Berger*



Ecologically and economically viable apiculture

Honeybees ensure pollination of around 80% of crop and wild plants. Topics like sustainable pest and disease control, disease prevention, sustainable management and quality of products are investigated. The management of our research apiary complies with the guidelines of organic farming. *Peter Gallmann*

Economics and public goods

The competitiveness of specific production systems - e.g. organic - will be assessed in economical terms. Positive as well as negative effects on public goods like air, water, landscape etc. will be accounted for. *Evelvn Meyer*



Treatment of questions from practice

Questions about production and processing of feeds as well as foods are treated. Various analyses are carried out by ALP. Walter Glauser, René Imhof, Ernst Jakob





Enforcement tasks

Enforcement tasks, as official feed inspection, authorisation of silage additives etc., which also concern organic agriculture, are executed. *Michel Geinoz*