



Forschungsinstitut für biologischen Landbau FiBL  
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## Overview ongoing projects at FiBL (animal breeding)

SABRE-TP

ETH, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## Organic AI-Bulls

- Project in cooperation of FiBL, Bio Suisse and Swissgenetics



(will be presented later)

## Productive life of dairy cows (Michael Walkenhorst, Anna Bieber, Rennie Eppenstein)

- Parameters influencing productive life-span: animal-, herd-/management- and farmer-perception-related
- How important is productive life for environmental and socio-economic impacts of livestock
- Transdisciplinary development of a Swiss specific strategy to optimise the productive life of dairy cows

Project in partnership with Agridea and HAFL and in close cooperation with Swiss cattle breeding organisations (ASR), Agroscope, Bio Suisse, IP Suisse, Migros, Qualitas, RGD/KGD, SMP, STS, SVW, VPHI and with Swiss dairy farmers.

Financed mainly by BLW and in addition by several further cooperation partners.

## Searching for new selection traits in dairy cattle (Anet Spengler, Anna Bieber, Florian Leiber, Cem Baki)

- Feeding and ruminating behaviour (measured with sensors) as indirect traits for resilience and efficiency  
Sponsored by Fondation Sur la Croix / Horizon 2020 (Gentore)
- Fibre residues in faeces (within the AI-bulls-project)



## Unser Hausschwein (pig breeding for organic farms)

### Barbara Früh, Anna Jenni

- On organic farms with pastures for pigs and mainly food waste-feeding the main Swiss breeds are not suitable because their production is too high (number of piglets / daily weight gain) and therefore they are too demanding concerning feed and other resources like housing.
- Therefore some organic farmers decided to create a new breed with the help of FiBL.
- Five robust breeds - 1 from Germany and 1 from Croatia as well as Duroc and Edelschwein - are crossed on 18 organic farms. The crossings are organised bei Anna Jenni (FiBL). The goal is to create a new breed after several generations, as soon as the production and robustness traits will be convincing.
- Sponsored by Stiftung Edith Maryon, Fondation Sur la Croix and Bio Suisse

## Criteria for the «Clover-Label»

- Discussions with organic farmers groups (groups for different breeds), every year, to adapt the criteria for the clover-Label (Kleeblatt-Label)

Paid by Bio Suisse (who owns the clover label)



## Searching for solutions for performance testing in cow-calf-contact-systems (ccc) on dairy farms (Anet Spengler, Claudia Schneider)

- Dairy farms practising ccc-systems are increasing.
- Performance testing results (milk amounts and contents) are often not realistic, because cows usually keep residual milk in their udders
- Solutions have to be found for reliable performance testing
- Preliminary solution: no performance testing for the first 90 days of lactation, then weaning
- A practice abstract will be written on that subject

Sponsored by Core Organic Cofund (ProYoungStock-Project; financed by BLW)