



Institute
of Animal Production in the
Tropics and Subtropics

Euroleague
FOR LIFE SCIENCES

Organic livestock farming

May 24 – June 21, 2006

Module of the M.Sc. Programme Organic Food Chain Management
of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of Hohenheim University

Joint course of the Subject Area "Animal Science" of the Euroleague for Life Sciences

Animals play an integrative role in organic farming systems. Their breeding and husbandry is based on ethical concepts on human-animal relationship and animal welfare in a socio-cultural context. These translate into principles for breeding, feeding, housing and health care, that again lead to specific practices for the different livestock species (cattle, pigs, sheep, goat, poultry) in the diverse farming systems.

Following an interactive learning approach, the course combines the presentation of knowledge on relevant facts and relations with enabling students to assimilate knowledge themselves for the elaboration of specific topics. An international team of experts and students will jointly assess differences between conventional and organic livestock farming as well as socio-cultural, regional and species specific characteristics of organic livestock farming.

The course deals with the following key subjects:

- role of animals in organic farming systems
- diversity of organic livestock farming systems
- ethical concepts of animal – man relationship
- animal welfare concepts
- international regulations
- principles of husbandry, breeding, feeding, housing and health management for different livestock species
- quality of organic livestock products and their control
- international trade of organic livestock products.

For the following topics, students will elaborate and present case studies and will have opportunity to gain practical insight when participating at scheduled field trips:

- regional production and premium marketing of pork using local breeds
- organic milk production, processing and quality control
- integration of organic sheep and goat husbandry with landscape management.

The integrated and problem oriented course concept supports students' learning process in order to improve their understanding of complex issues of organic livestock farming and their ability for professional judgement.



Participants: The course is aimed at students of agricultural and veterinary sciences or related subjects who have already passed university elementary courses for at least 2 years. The maximum number of participants from Euroleague partner universities is 20.

Location: University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany

Coordination: Institute of Animal Production in the Tropics and Subtropics, University of Hohenheim

Fees: 350 EURO (incl. housing) or 70 EURO (excl. housing) for all expenses that are directly related to the course. Travel expenses and food are *not* included. The possibility to obtain scholarships for the course should be discussed with the International Relation Officers of the local universities.

Credits: 6 ECTS

Language: English

Call for applications: Please use application forms provided under <http://www.euroleague-study.org/>
The deadline for application is March 31, 2006 or until places are filled.

For further information please contact our website: www.euroleague-study.org



Contributing Institutions:

University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, Germany

BOKU University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria

Wageningen University and Research Centre, Wageningen, The Netherlands

National Veterinary Institute, Oslo, Norway

Universidad de Cordoba, Cordoba, Spain

FiBL Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, Frick, Switzerland

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