

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF MOUNTAIN  
AGRICULTURE IN THE ALPS

## **Mountain Agriculture - Challenges and Perspectives**

**A. Heißenhuber**

**TU München – Weihenstephan**

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## **Selected goals of mountain agriculture**

- Preserving the widespread farming of the traditional cultural landscape**
- Preserving and supporting farming that suits local conditions and is environmentally sustainable**
- Protecting natural resources and ecosystems**
- Promoting additional sources of income and improving the living and working conditions (preservation of employment and the creation of value)**

## **Considerations on how to achieve these goals**

- **Framework conditions for a sustainably productive mountain agriculture**
- **An efficient and sustainable CAP**
- **Compensation for higher production costs**
- **Payment for the provision of public goods**
- **Increasing the added value of mountain products**

# **Framework conditions for a sustainably productive mountain agriculture**

- **Multifunctionality as a guiding principle**
  - **Core of the European agricultural sector**
  - **Goal of the EU Common Agricultural Policy**
- **Mountain agriculture**
  - **Livestock suited to the available land**
  - **Premia based on the number of livestock who eat roughage**
  - **Sustainable production methods**
  - **Indication of origin for mountain products**
  - **Compensation for added burdens**

## The cultural landscape as a co-product



## Landscape after the disappearance of agriculture



# **An efficient and sustainable CAP**

- **Questions on the CAP**
  - **Can the current CAP still be effectively communicated to society?**
  - **Is the current CAP still justifiable within the agricultural sector?**
  - **What are the side effects of the current CAP?**
  - **What is the extent of its future financial volume?**
- **Further development of the CAP**
  - **New concept**
  - **2-pillar model**
    - **1st pillar**
      - **Capping**
      - **New elements**
    - **2nd pillar**
      - **Co-financing**
      - **Scope**

## **Compensation for higher production costs**

- **Higher production costs**
- **Preservation of livestock farming that is suited to the local conditions**
- **Payments for (economically) less-favoured areas**
- **Support to investments for the further development of mountain agriculture**

## Hausmitteilungen über LANDWIRTSCHAFT

### Berglandwirtschaft im Alpenraum der Europäischen Gemeinschaften

I. Grundlagen und Anregungen für eine  
Entwicklungspolitik

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- für die BR Deutschland, von

Prof.Dr.Dr. P. RINTELEM  
Direktor des Instituts für Wirtschafts-  
lehre des Landbaues  
FREISING-WEIHENSTEPHAN

unter Mitarbeit von Dr. H. REINHARDT und  
Dr. K. HIEB

Institut für Wirtschaftslehre  
des Landbaues  
FREISING-WEIHENSTEPHAN

- für Frankreich, von

Prof. P. WEYRET  
Leiter des "Institut de Géographie alpine"  
Universität GRENOBLE

- für Italien, von

Dr. C. ZANON  
Landwirtschaftsberater  
MERANO

## **Payment for the provision of public goods**

- **Payment for the increased requirements in terms of environmental protection**
- **Payment for maintaining a desirable farming practice - for environmental or landscape reasons - when this cannot be ensured in the current market conditions (compensation for natural handicaps)**
- **Incentive components**
- **Protection of species vs. agriculture (conflict of interests)**

## **Improvement of the added value of mountain products**

- **Quality strategy (product and process)**
- **Premium brands**
- **Labels**
  - **Mountain products**
  - **PGI**
  - **PDO**
  - **TSG**
  - **Milk codes**
  - **Certificate, such as composition of feed ration**
  - **Fancy names**

## **Conclusion**

**Mountain agriculture has good prospects, thanks to the combination of:**

- **Engaged farmers**
- **Targeted agricultural policies**
- **Innovative enterprises in the upstream and downstream sectors and**
- **Responsible consumers**