

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

Die Untersuchung ist durchgeführt

- für die BR Deutschland, von

Prof.Dr.Dr. P. RINTELEN

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. VEYRET

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**