

27. Wissenschaftliche Fachtagung
„Perspektiven in der Milchproduktion –
Intensitäten, Ressourcennutzung, Umweltwirkungen“
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Pastures – a valuable resource

Kurzfassung

European grassland area has been significantly reduced by 15 Mha during the last forty years in favour of the production of fodder maize and other annual crops (FAOSTAT, 2011). The increasing global demand for meat and milk, environmental concerns about the sustainability of intensive production systems and concerns about food quality and safety favour an increasing role for grassland-based ruminant systems in the future. These systems are likely to be more environmentally sound, economically viable, productive and efficient with respect to scarce inputs (Peyraud *et al.*, 2010).

Thus far, the requirements and expectations of stakeholders with respect to multi-functionality of grasslands in Europe are not fully known. They are studied in the project MultiSward (funded by the European Union under grant agreement number FP7-244983). A stakeholder analysis revealed that the most important stakeholders for grasslands are the traditional foursome of primary producer, policy maker, research and advice. They are followed by NGO's (nature, environment), education and industry (Van den Pol-van Dasselaar *et al.*, 2012). In the presentation, preliminary results of a questionnaire for stakeholders (available on www.multisward.eu) will be given. These preliminary results will provide some insight in the stakeholder's requirements and expectations with respect to multi-functionality of grasslands within different European regions. Grasslands provide provisioning services, regulating services, supporting services and cultural services. The different services of grasslands are highly appreciated, especially the provisioning services including high quality forage, milk production and meat production. The large European grassland area is seen as essential for economy and environment.

Literatur

- FAOSTAT (2011) <http://faostat.fao.org/>. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, Italy.
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