



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Federal Department of Economic Affairs FDEA
Federal Office for Agriculture FOAG

Environmental value of animal genetic resources

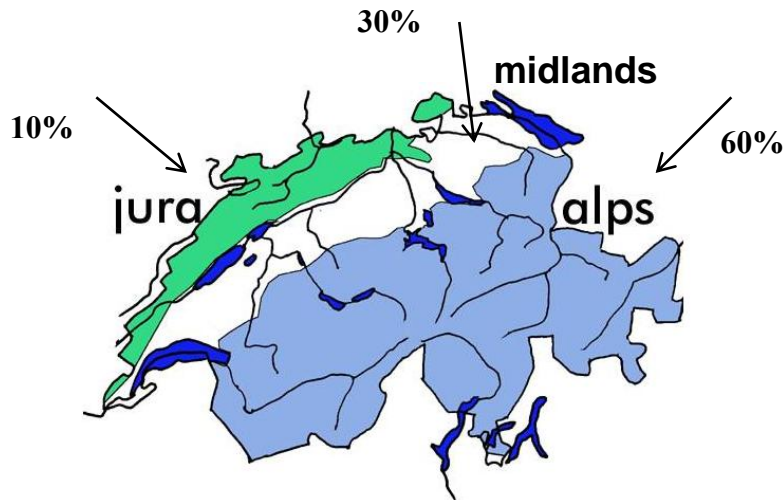
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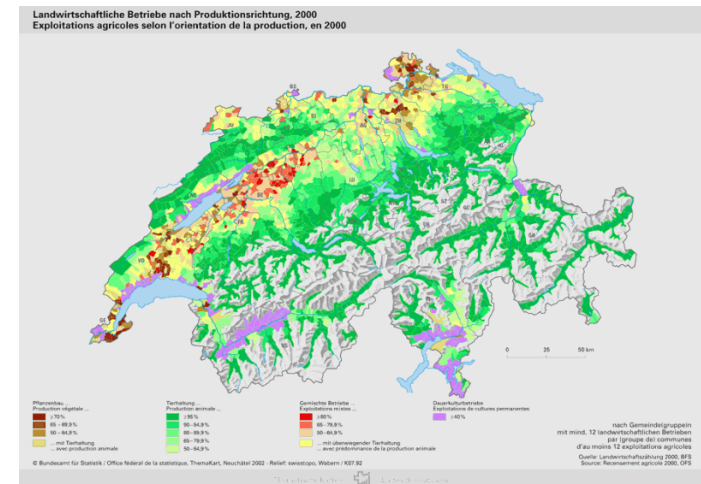


1. Country description

Switzerland is a typical grassland, livestock farming has therefore always played an important role. It's climate and topography make it ideal for animal production and explain the rich variety of livestock breeds created in such a small area.



source: team 28950



source: BFS



2. Species/breeds with clear environmental value

Cattle, sheep, **goats**

Booted goat

Mountain goat well suited to grazing at high altitude, where fooder is scant and climatic conditions are harsh.



Source: all project pictures : PSR

Mainly kept for conservation grazing but also for milk or meat



3. Natural environment

In the Jura region we find wood pastures, poor and dry meadows and grassland created by centuries of sustainable agriculture. Due to increasing abandonment of farming in difficult terrain, trees, scrub and other undesired plants have taken over open spaces and reduced pastures.





Research Project with bootied goats

Encouragement of bootied goats in traditional landscape conservation of poor meadows and rough pastures:

- **Maintain the endangered breed bootied goat**
- **Reactivate goat pasture farming in the Jura and give the region it's traditional landscape back**
- **Ensure sustainable grazing management through marketing concepts for profitable goat breeding**
- **Act as initiator for further projects**





4. Value of the breed related to the environment

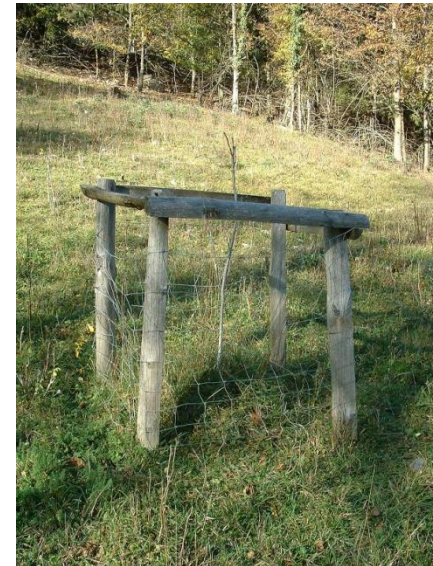
- Between 2004 -2006, 31 booted goats were grazing 18 ha.
- Small amount of animals on surface → irregular grazing pressure favorising diversity of fauna and flora (environmental good).
- Wood pastures saved, growth of scrub reduced, forest kept within its borders (link to protected area).
- Gain of grazingland and variety of plants (environmental services).





5. Problems, threats encountered

- Low number of booted goats
- High costs for fencing
- Protection of trees to be saved
- No threats for the breed itself





6. Specific support, actions, results

- Projects for endangered Swiss breeds can be cofinanced by Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG)
- Several partners cofinanced this project
- Promotion of an endangered breed
- Promotion of a specific product /pâté botté





Thanks for your attention!

