



European Network for the durable exploitation of crop protection strategies

IA3 Activity: Human resource exchange

ENDURE - Internal Mobility

Final activity report

(The form has to be filled in and sent to the activity leader – message should be sent to his p.a. denise.barreiro@ibaf.cnr.it – within 15 days after the end of the visit)

Agricultural production systems

1. Information about researcher and sending partner

Name and surname: Mann, Stefan

Professional status: Senior scientist

Sending partner: Agroscope Reckenholz Tänikon

Institute/Department/Research Unit: Socioeconomics

Address: Tänikon 1, 8356 Ettenhausen

E-mail and phone number of the researcher: Stefan.mann@art.admin.ch

Supervisor name*:

Supervisor e-mail*:

Supervisor phone number*:

*Supervisor information only for PhD student, post-doc and junior researchers

2. Information about hosting partner

Hosting partner: INRA Rennes

Institute/Department/Research Unit: UMR SMART

**Address: 4 allée Adolphe Bobierre - CS 61103
35011 Rennes Cedex, France
Supervisor name*: Dr. Laure Latruffe**

Supervisor e-mail*: laure.latruffe@rennes.inra.fr

Supervisor phone number*: 00332 23 48 53 93

* For senior scientist indicate the name of the collaborating colleague

3. Information about the visit

Duration: 1 month

Starting date: 16.6.09

Ending date: 15.7.09

4. Description of the activities and outcomes

Background and context: There is a longstanding collaboration between INRA and ART on the field of agricultural production systems. Scientists of both institutions are interested to understand the choices of farmers with regard to production factors and input use. The exchange provided the opportunity to intensify the intellectual exchange between both organizations, to prepare joint publications and to get inspirations from each other.

Objective: The objective of the stay was to achieve a better understanding of factors influencing farmers at their choice of the agricultural system. Particularly the choice of organic agriculture compared to production systems with the use of pesticides was analysed. The main factors being examined included the social environment of farmers, their attitude towards different agricultural systems and the character of the farm they managed.

Activities carried out: In preparation of the exchange, a survey was carried out among Swiss farmers in which the focus was on their agricultural system, different sets of attitudes and their socio-economic background. The month of exchange was used to develop hypotheses about influencing factors of system choice. The data was sorted and different multifactor analyses were carried out. The results were subsequently discussed and joint publications were started.

5. Links between visit activity and ENDURE

The activities enriched Research Activity 3.2 in which the choice between different use intensities and qualities of pesticides is analysed. Particularly the focus on organic agriculture as a distinct farming system broadened the understanding of the degrees of freedom a farmer has in managing his arable land.

6. Impact

Added value for the researcher: Considerable progress could be achieved in understanding the main determining factors for the agricultural system, such as the strong influence of parents and peers. Interesting clusters in respect to attitudes towards different agricultural systems evolved and now await their publication.

Added value for sending partner and hosting partner: Apart from the scientific progress that could be achieved, also for the research activities within ENDURE, the exchange strengthened the link between the research organizations and enabled the understanding of the specific agricultural situation in France. In addition, it was observed with interest how the organization of work within INRA has been structured, since there are considerable differences between INRA and agroscope. Our French colleagues received a valuable data set that enabled them to answer some of their general issues about system choice.

Ettenhausen, July 20th 2009



Dr. Maurizio Sattin
IA3 activity leader

Approved

