



18. July 2019

Call for Abstracts brochure

Organic Animal Husbandry systems – challenges, performance and potentials

**Pre-Conference on Animal Husbandry
on 21-22 September 2020 in Rennes / France
linked to the 20th Organic World Congress of IFOAM**

The organisers wish to offer farmers, advisors and researchers the opportunity to exchange information, experiences and results of recent research with a focus on organic livestock systems and their vital role in sustainable production systems.

This Pre-Conference is linked to the 20th Organic World Congress, which will take place from 21-25th of September 2020, followed by the General Assembly of IFOAM on Saturday, 26th until Sunday, 27th of September 2020 (and parallel tours) in Rennes France.

The Pre-Conference builds upon previous IFOAM Conferences on Organic Animal Husbandry, organized by the IFOAM Animal Husbandry Alliance (IAHA) at the 18th Organic World Congress held in Istanbul in 2014 as well as at the 19th OWC-Congress in New Delhi, India 2017.

Venue: IFOAM congress facilities in Rennes (rooms still to be determined)

Website: <https://owc.ifoam.bio/2020>

Dates: The Pre-Conference will take place on: Monday, 21st of September 2020, 9.00 - 21.30 h and Tuesday, 22nd of September, 9.00 – 16.15 h

IAHA and local French partners in Rennes and in the region of Clermont-Ferrand are able to organise excursions to farms before the Pre-Conference, if there is sufficient interest.

About the Pre-Conference

The Pre-Conference will highlight the role of livestock in sustainable agriculture, with an emphasis on growing organic livestock production worldwide. It will focus on the main challenges under different themes, taking into account the diversity of organic and sustainable animal husbandry systems.

The Pre-Conference will take advantage of the interest expressed by the project coordinators of five European Union CORE ORGANIC livestock research projects and other EU funded organic projects in having a platform to present their preliminary research results. The Pre-Conference will be an opportunity to discuss the projects with colleagues from other parts of the world and to learn from each other's perspectives and experiences.

The Pre-Conference will have keynote speakers and plenary sessions, technical and scientific sessions, poster sessions and workshops. The Pre-Conference will allow for deeper discussions on specific issues critical to the further advance of the organic livestock industry. It will search for synergies with the main Organic World Congress (OWC), make specific contributions to relevant livestock sessions and organise a workshop presenting a summary of the main outcomes and conclusions of the Pre-Conference.

Furthermore, the organisers strongly recommend participants of the Pre-Conference also to submit papers on livestock to the different sessions at the main conference at OWC.

Proposed Pre-Conference themes

1. **Animal-friendly sustainable feeding and grazing-systems:** *(with contributions from EU projects GrazyDaiSy and Organic-PLUS);*
2. **Sustainable livestock rearing and breeding systems** *(with contributions from GrazyDaiSy, ProYoungStock, MIX-ENABLE projects)*
3. **Animal welfare approaches and strategies in combination with environmental impact** *(with contributions from EU project POWER focussing on pigs);*
4. **Animal health management and use of bioactive medicinal plants and other alternative therapeutics:** *(with contributions from projects ProYoungStock, Organic Plus and RELACS);*
5. **Livestock production in diversified systems for better efficiency and sustainability taking into account the optimization of plant production systems and global agricultural production** *(with contributions from EU project MIX-ENABLE; agroforestry and extensive livestock farming)*
6. **Justification of livestock production – combatting the rising agenda of anti-meat and milk (vegan) lobby.** *(Co-benefits of good animal husbandry systems: carbon sequestration, nutrient cycling, biodiversity & landscapes, livelihood, etc.)*
7. **Organic livestock product quality, marketing concepts, certification systems and consumer awareness**
8. **Supporting organic livestock farmers through research, training, education, smart technologies, regulations and policies.** *(Cross-cutting issues)*

If you feel a theme has not been addressed, please email Otto Schmid with your suggestion.
otto.schmid@fibl.org

The detailed content of the programme will be available when abstracts have been received from all participants and the input from the Core Organic projects has been confirmed.

More information will be available on the IAHA website:

<http://www.ifoam.bio/en/sector-platforms/iaha-animal-husbandry-alliance>

Proposed programme structure

| DATE | Morning session I 9.00-10.30 h | Morning session II 11.00-12.30 h | Afternoon session I 14.00-15.30 h | Afternoon session II 16.00-17.30 h | Evening 18.30 h on |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| Monday, 21 nd of Sept. 2020 | Plenary session with max. 1-2 key note speakers. Short overviews from different macro-climatic regions of the world on organic animal husbandry Europe, Africa, South America ,India, Asia, NZ/Australia, North America | 2 thematic sessions in parallel: A. Rearing and breeding systems B: Product quality, marketing, consumers | 2 thematic sessions in parallel: A. Feeding and grazing systems B: <i>not determined yet</i> | Poster Session, afterwards small group thematic workshops | Farm visit with dinner on the farm (near the location) |
| Tuesday, 22 nd of Sept. 2020 | 2 thematic session in parallel: A: Animal health management B: Livestock diversification | 2 thematic session in parallel: A: Animal welfare and environmental impact B: Supporting organic livestock farmers (Cross-cutting issues) | Plenary session: Justification of livestock production (+ 1 key note speaker) Conclusions (15.30-16.15 h) | <i>Time for traveling to reception of OWC 2020</i> | Back in Rennes – registration and opening Ceremony of OWC 2020 |

A more detailed program will be available once the papers/presentations have been selected.

The organisers envisage 6 sessions lasting 1.5 hours with either

- (a) 4 presentations of 20 minutes (15 presentation + 5 questions) or
- (b) 6 presentations of 15 minutes (10 +5)

The format will depend upon the number of papers received for that session. There will be two parallel sessions.

Each session will have a moderator, who will introduce the session and summarise it at the end.

In addition, there will be poster presentations: approx. 10-20 posters (3 minutes summary in a guided separate poster session).

We plan 3-4 short thematic group discussions to elaborate recommendations (separate session)

Farm tours and visits before the Pre-Conference in Clermont Ferrand (1.5 days) and around Rennes (half day). This will be organised separately by IAHA with colleagues from local French institutions and INRA, if there is enough interest.

We propose the following:

- **Option A – Tour on farms in Auvergne region:** on Friday, 18th September 2020, around Clermont Ferrand (arriving by train from Paris late afternoon) visit of a large organic crop-livestock farm with direct selling in the evening.
On Saturday, 19th Sept. 2020: whole day farm tour, starting from Clermont Ferrand: two experimental farms in Massif du Sancy mountains (involved in Mixenable and ProYoungStock Core Organic projects).
On Sunday, 20th of Sept. 2020 leaving Clermont Ferrand by train/bus early morning, arriving late afternoon/evening in Rennes (6-7 hours travelling time).
- **Option B – Tour on livestock farms and touristic sites in Rennes Region:** Starting Friday morning 18th of Sept. 2020 until Sunday, 20th of Sept. 2020 (in the afternoon possibility to join project meeting of EU-Project OKNetEcoFeed or free programme).

The visits will be charged separately. If you are interested please send a mail to Otto Schmid, Email: otto.schmid@fiBL.org with a copy to Marc Benoit Email marc-p.benoit@inra.fr

Please indicate your preference. Details will be circulated shortly after the summer holidays.

Call for papers and abstract submission details

Abstracts: The organisers invite farmers, advisors, researchers and other interested individuals or groups to submit a short abstract (maximum 300 words), mentioning the number of the conference theme/s. The abstract should contain a title, author (s) names, purpose, methods, results (or preliminary results) /discussion & conclusion(s).

The abstract should be submitted by 31st of October 2019 to:

Otto Schmid, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), Chair of IAHA,

Email: otto.schmid@fiBL.org **and copied to**

Marion Johnson, Organic Research Centre, UK, Email: marion.j@organicresearchcentre.com

Once the abstract is accepted, authors will then be asked to submit their full paper for review. If the paper is accepted authors will receive confirmation of their presentation.

Paper submission guidelines: A paper submission template will be available from the IAHA website at the appropriate time. Papers should be 4 pages long or in the case of interesting research designs (without results) and papers supporting posters 2 pages.

Proceedings

The Pre-conference will publish the proceedings of the Pre-Conference as well as the results of the workshops as pdf on the IAHA website. See example IAHA Conference 2017:

https://www.ifoam.bio/sites/default/files/iaha_pre-conference_proceedings_role-of-livestock_7-8.11.2017_0.pdf

Important dates:

This provisional schedule is envisaged as:

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|--|--------------------------------|
| Detailed information on how to submit abstracts for papers for Pre-conference | 8 th July, 2019 |
| Deadlines for abstracts for Pre-conference (one month later than main OWC) | 31 st October, 2019 |
| Review of abstracts and feedback | 30 th November 2019 |
| Deadline for receipt of full papers and forwarded to reviewers. | 28 th February 2020 |
| Final papers reviewed and confirmation with feedback | 30 th April 2020 |
| Final paper finalized and sent for English check and Layout | 31 st May 2020 |
| Deadline for final registration for Pre-conference | 30 th June 2020 |
| Proceeding finalized without layout | 31 st July 2020 |
| Proceeding layout made – ready for putting on IAHA Website. | 30 th August 2020 |
| 2. Information package to participants | 31 st August 2020 |
| <i>Preconference farm tours (separately organised, not part of Pre-conference – Details will come later)</i> | <i>18-20. Sept. 2020</i> |
| Preconference | 21-22. Sept. 2020 |
| Main IFOAM Organic World Congress 2020 | 23-25. Sept 2020 |

Registration & Registration fee

Please register for the Pre-Conference when you register for the Organic World Congress 2020. It is required that participants of the Pre-Conference take also part in the main Organic World Congress 2020 (at least one day).

Registration details will be available on the website of the OWC2020 organisers (from November 2019 on).

<https://owc.ifoam.bio/> and the IAHA Website. <https://www.ifoam.bio/en/sector-platforms/iaha-animal-husbandry-alliance>

A financial contribution to the meals and Pre-Conference rooms and materials will be charged by the OWC organizers. More details will come later.

Accommodation

Once participants have registered for the Organic World Congress, the local organisers will recommend appropriate hotels near the conference site.

Program organisation:

Otto Schmid, Chair of IFOAM Animal Husbandry Alliance
Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, FiBL,
Ackerstrasse 113 / Postfach 219, CH-5070 Frick, Switzerland
Email: otto.schmid@fibl.org

Main organisers with contact persons

IFOAM Animal Husbandry Alliance

- <https://www.ifoam.bio/en/sector-platforms/iaha-animal-husbandry-alliance>
- Contact person: Otto Schmid, Chair of IFOAM Animal Husbandry Alliance, otto.schmid@fibl.org

In collaboration with

- **ITAB & INRA** (France) as Conference organisers
Contact: Frédéric Rey Frederic.Rey@itab.asso.fr
- **EU-Core Organic Projects**¹.
 - o Project GrazyDaiSy - Dairy cattle meet their natural needs through grazing, dam-rearing and health support
http://projects.au.dk/fileadmin/user_upload/grazydaisy_leaflet_web.pdf
Contact: Mette Vaarst, project coordinator GrazyDaiSy, DK, mette.vaarst@anis.au.dk
 - o Project ProYoungStock - Promoting young stock and cow health and welfare by natural feeding systems, <https://www.proyoungstock.net/>
Contacts: Anet Spengler and Anna Bieber, FiBL, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, CH, anet.spengler@fibl.org, anna.bieber@fibl.org
 - o Project MIX-ENABLE - MIXEd livestock farming for improved sustainABiLity and robustnEss of organic livestock <http://projects.au.dk/coreorganiccofund/research-projects/mix-enable/>
Contacts: Guillaume Martin INRA, France, Guillaume.martin@inra.fr,
Marc Benoit INRA, France, marc-p.benoit@inra.fr
 - o Project POWER - Power to strengthen welfare and resilience in organic pig production
<http://projects.au.dk/coreorganiccofund/research-projects/power/>
Contact: Anne Grete Kongsted, Aarhus University, Denmark,
anneg.kongsted@agro.au.dk

¹ CORE Organic Cofund is a collaboration between 26 partners in 19 countries/regions on initiating transnational research projects in the area of organic food and farming. CORE Organic Cofund has initiated 12 research projects. Read more at the CORE Organic Cofund website: <http://projects.au.dk/coreorganiccofund/>

- **Other EU-Projects under Horizon 2020 Programme**
 - o Project Organic-PLUS - Pathways to phase-out contentious inputs from organic agriculture in Europe <https://organic-plus.net/>
Contact: Ulrich Schmutz, Coventry university, UK, ab6217@coventry.ac.uk
 - o RELACS – 'Replacement of Contentious Inputs in Organic Farming Systems', <https://relacs-project.eu>
Contact: Lucius Tamm, FiBL, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, CH, lucius.tamm@fibl.org

Organising committee members and scientific advisory board

Organising Committee:

- Otto Schmid (IAHA Chair, Switzerland)
- Marion Johnson, ORC, UK / GoodEarthGreatFood, NZ (IAHA Steering Group)
- Chris Atkinson, Soil Association, Bristol, United Kingdom (IAHA Steering Group)
- Mette Vaarst, Aarhus University, Denmark
- Anet Spengler & Anna Bieber, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, FiBL, Switzerland
- Barbara Früh, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), Switzerland
- Antoine Roinsard & Catherine Experton, ITAB, France
- Marc Benoit, INRA, France

Scientific Advisory Board for Pre-Conference (Review Committee)

- Members of Organising Committee (see above)
- Mahesh Chander, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, India
- Muazzez Comert, Izmir University, Turkey (Member Steering Group of IAHA)
- Angela Escosteguy, Brazil (Member Steering Group of IAHA)
- François Labelle, Canada (Member Steering Group of IAHA)
- Nitya Ghotge, Anthra, Pune, India
- Annegret Kongsted, Aarhus University, Denmark
- Guillaume Martin. INRA, France
- Wytze Nauta, Louis Bolk Institut, The Netherlands
- Ulrich Schmutz, Coventry University, United Kingdom

Conference organisers and supporters:

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| <p>IAHA - IFOAM Animal Husbandry Alliance</p> |  |
| <p>ITAB – Institut Technique de l’Agriculture Biologique</p> |  |
| <p>INRA – Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique</p> |  |
| <p>FiBL - Research Institute of Organic Agriculture</p> |  |
| <p>Core Organic Projects</p> |  |
| <p>IFOAM – Organics International</p> |  |
| <p>Good Earth Great Food (NZ)</p> |  |