

EuroMARC — Mountain Agrofood products in Europe, their consumers, retailers and local initiatives



FINAL CONFERENCE OF THE EUROMARC PROJECT

THE DEVELOPMENT OF MOUNTAIN QUALITY FOOD PRODUCTS: PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, CONSUMPTION









DECEMBER 3-4, 2009

MARIBOR, SLOVENIA





Project co-financed by the European Union 6th framework programme for Research and Technological Development





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About the conference

Organisation: University of Maribor, Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences (UM-FALS); Euromontana

Place: University of Maribor, Maribor, Slovenia

Languages: Slovene, English, French, German











The development of mountain quality food products: Production, Distribution, Consumption

Mountain quality food products play vital roles in the sustainable development of mountain areas. The process of production brings added value to mountain areas, and the identity of the territory is reinforced because of its association with local products, with specific methods of production. However, the data on the potential of development of mountain quality food products is very limited. The EuroMARC project intends to fill in this knowledge gap.

The main objectives of the Euro-MARC project are to assess the perceptions and interests of European consumers and retailers regarding mountain quality food products, in order to find ways of adding value to these products, hence contributing to the survival and management of mountain diversity - biological, rural, cultural, and economic.

10 teams from 6 European countries are involved in this three-year project, which started in February 2007.

In order to translate the scientific results obtained by the EuroMARC project into practical information for direct use by stakeholders and policy-makers, **the project has produced**:

- practical guidelines for the development, promotion, and communication of mountain quality food products, to be used by all stakeholders in the supply chains (from primary producers to retailers)
- recommendations relating to policies to enhance the development of mountain quality food products, for policy-makers at European, national, and regional/local levels.

This document is the proceeding of the conference and it contains all presentations that were made by speakers as well as the list of participants to the conference.



Programme

	THURSDAY 3 DECEMBER		
08.30	Registration		
	Opening Session		
Chair: Andreja Borec, UM-FALS, Slovenia			
9.30	Opening session		
	Welcome and introductory speeches: Ivan Rozman, Rector of the Maribor University Joze Merkus, Mayor of Hoče State secretary from the Slovene Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food		
	Context of EuroMARC – presentation of the guidelines and introduction to the programme of the conference. Marie Guitton, Euromontana (EuroMARC project coordinator)		
	Session 1: What makes mountain quality food products so special? The identity of mountain quality food products Chair: Bernd Schuh, ÖIR, Austria		
10.00	The identity of mountain products through the perception of consumers? How do the consumers see mountain products? SIFO, Norway Mountain food as a local identity marker — The products from Tavarna Mare (Romania). Jim Turnbull, Director of ADEPT Fundation The identity of Mountain quality food products throughout the supply chain — how do the actors see the products? The example of Bio vom Berg (Austria). Björn Rasmus, director of Bio vom Berg.		
10.40	Comments from the Project Implementation Board Discussion with the audience		
11.20	Coffee break		
	Session 2: What marketing strategies for mountain quality food products? Chair: Virginie Amilien, SIFO, Norway		
11.50	Key issues for developing the retailing of mountain quality food products. SAC, Scotland An integrated supply chain: Laqueuille water (France) Georges Giraud, ENITA Clermont-Ferrand Mountain quality food products marketed as local products: Zgornjesavinjski želodec - The Upper Savinja dried meat (Slovenia). Joze Tlaker, Association of Zgornjesavinjski želodec producers		
12.30	Comments from the Project Implementation Board Discussion with the audience		



13.10	Lunch	
Session 3: How can tourism support mountain quality food products -		
and vice versa?		
Chair: Markus Schermer, UIBK, Austria		
14.30	Opportunities offered by tourism – Introduction with cases encountered in the EuroMARC project. Markus Schermer, UIBK, Austria	
	Experiences of the establishment of cheese trails as tourist products in Slovenia. Davorin Koren, leader of department for agriculture, forestry and RD, Triglav national Park	
	Tourism and mountain quality food products – an example of Cairngorms Farmers Market (Scotland). Fiona Young, Cairngorms Farmers Markets Organiser	
15.10	Comments from the Project Implementation Board	
	Discussion with the audience	
15.50	Coffee break	
Session 4: How to promote mountain quality food products?		
	Chair: Martin Price, UHI, Scotland	
16.20	Is a mountain quality food label expected? Comparative conclusions from the project. ENITA, France and UHI, Scotland	
	A regional label: the Lactofarm Sibiu (Romania). Rusu Dumitru, Marketing Manager	
	The various promotion strategies of Björli products (Norway). Virginie Amilien, SIFO	
17.00	Comments from the Project Implementation Board	
	Discussion with the audience	
Conclusion of the day		
André Marcon, President of Euromontana		
18.00	Evening programme: wine tasting, common diner, cultural programme (registration required)	



FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER		
	Session 5: What policies can better support and develop mountain quality food products? Chair: Philip Leat, SAC, Scotland	
9.00	The Mountain Foods Process: evaluation of the options offered by national and EU legislation and policies. UHI, Scotland	
	What roles can local initiatives play? Some conclusions from the analysis of LEADER-like initiatives. ÖIR, Austria	
	Political context: the evolution of the European policy of quality of products. Vincent Cordonnier, Agricultural Product Quality Policy Unit, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission	
	The Swiss "mountain" and "alpage" labels. Jacques Henchoz, responsible of PDO/PGI register, Federal Office of Agriculture, Switzerland	
	Conclusions drawn from EuroMARC: recommendations for policy. Ancuta Pasca, Euromontana	
10.30	Coffee break	
	Session 6: Round table discussion - Mountain food products and policy instruments Chair: Olivier Beucheurie, ISARA-Lyon, France	
11.00	Questions to be discussed: How can policies foster development of mountain quality food products and facilitate successful marketing strategies at European, national, regional and local levels? What policy instruments? What tools?	
	Participants:	
	Rareş-Lucian NICULESCU, Member of the European Parliament, Vice-President of the Agriculture Commission	
	Vincent Cordonnier, Agricultural Product Quality Policy Unit, DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission	
	Mira Kos-Skubic, State secretary of the Slovene Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food	
	Alenka Lipuscek-Miklavcic, director of Planika dairy	
	Livia Dömölki, Consumer's association of Hungary (OFE), member of BEUC Jean Gault, SARD-M coordinator, FAO	
	Jean Gauit, SARD-IVI coordinator, FAO	
	Conclusions	
12.40	Lessons from EuroMARC and future research needed. Georges Giraud, ENITA Clermont-Ferrand, France (EuroMARC scientific coordinator)	
	Closing remarks by Ivan Rozman, rector of the Maribor University	
	Closing remarks by André Marcon, President of Euromontana	



13.00

Lunch

Opening session

Presentation

Welcome and introduction

Marie Guitton, Euromontana, EuroMARC overall project coordinator





What is EuroMARC? Introduction to the project and to the conference Marie Guitton, Euromontana



The context

- Why did we make this research:
 - Food and agricultural production in mountain areas is more expensive – need to look for supplementary added value:
 - Agriculture has a role for preservation and valorisation of the mountain heritage (biodiversity, culture, quality of life of European populations = Positive externalities);
 - Clear commitment regarding consumers: when using the word « mountain », not to be deceived







The context

But today:

- Absence of definition for « mountain products » in most European countries (except France and Switzerland).
- Many mountain products are not protected by an official identification (PDO/ PGI/ TSG/ Organic / national identification: 39/122 products studied in the FP5 mountain product project)





What is EuroMARC?

EuroMARC is a 3 years research project financed by the European Union (FP6) Feb 2007 - Jan 2010

10 Teams of researchers from 6 European countries: Austria, France, Norway, Romania, Slovenia, Scotland



/hat is EuroMARC? Introduction to the project and to the conference – 05/12/200





What is EuroMARC?

- EuroMARC objectives were to:
 - assess consumers' interest in mountain food products,
 - analyse through case studies how successful food supply chains can impact the economic situation of a region;
 - identify situation along the supply chain regarding production, processing and retailing mountain quality food products
 - bring forward materials to clarify the definition of mountain products.





What is EuroMARC?

- The work done
 - 1904 consumers' questionnaires
 - · 21 focus groups gathered 184 consumers
 - 1765 mountain food products observed in 351 retail outlets (550 shelves)
 - 22 supply chains of 4 types of mountain products (water, fruits and vegetables, meat prod. & fish, milk & dairy prod.) analyzed
 - 638 retailers surveyed (521 guest. + 117 interviews)
 - 10 cases of regional initiatives compared (5 LEADER)
 - 50 interviews with policy-makers local to European levels
- Involvement of a panel of experts, of Euromontana's members and of members of the European Commission



/hat is EuroMARC? Introduction to the project and to the conference – 05/12/20





EuroMARC outputs

Project findings:

- are **Guidelines for actors** of the supply chains intended to be used by stakeholders.
- Focus on:
 - > The image of MQFP and consumers expectations
 - > The organisaton of MQFP supply chains
 - > The marketing strategies
 - ➤ The promotion of MQFP
 - > The links with tourism
- Policy recommendations for policy makers (recommendations /labeling policy in EU).



What is EuroMARC? Introduction to the project and to the conference – 05/12/2009

FuroMARC final conference, Marthor University, Slavenia



Enjoy the conference!

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What is EuroMARC? Introduction to the project and to the conference – 05/12/200





Session 1

What makes mountain quality food products so special? The identity of mountain quality food products



Presentations

How do consumers conceive mountain quality food products

Virginie Amilien, Alexander Schøll, SIFO

Mountain food as a local identity marker – The products from Tavarna Mare (Romania). Jim Turnbull, Director of ADEPT Fundation

Die Marke der Tiroler Bio-Bergbauern

Björn Rasmus, Bio vom Berg





<u>How do consumers conceive</u> <u>mountain quality food products?</u>

- conclusions from WP1-

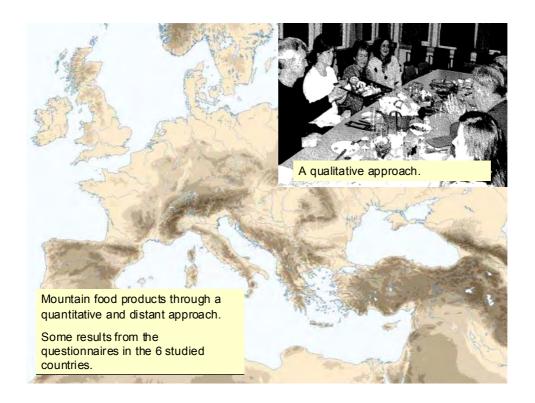
Virginie Amilien and Alexander Schjøll, SIFO



Objectives of WP1

- WP1 did measure the European consumers' interest, perception and expectations towards quality food products coming from mountain areas.
- Data have been collected in, Austria,
 France, Norway, Romania, Scotland and Slovenia.





A positive image

Mountain quality food products are perceived as a **pure**, **traditional** and **quality food**, although informants know about industrial development, pollution or chemicals additives.





Association with food from the mountains

- Health
- Pureness
- Good raw materials
- Authentic
- Traditional
- Great taste
- Good quality
- Cultural value, often linked to origin



An ambivalent many sided image

MQFP is a composition of many different dimensions as food, mountain, nature, market product, local production or nostalgia.



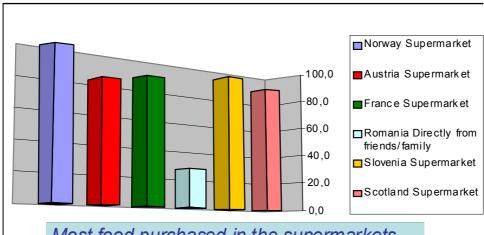


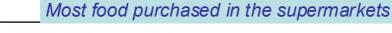
Two different perceptions?

- Meat and dairy products were the most answered product categories in both cases: dairy products (A, F, SI) and meat products (N, Sc)
- Mountain food products are better known (less no answers) than MQFP



Where do respondents use to buy food? Every day-food habits







Euro-MARC





Where do respondents expect to buy MQFP?

Buy MQFP in other sales channels as where they buy their food:

- 1. Directly from the producer
- 2. Farmers' markets and other markets
- 3. Special shops, i.e. butcher



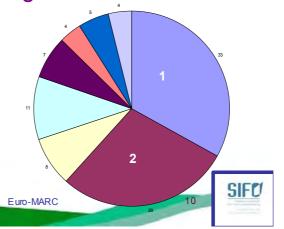


uro-MARC

SIFU

When do respondents use MQFP?

- 1. Tourism / visit at the production place
- 2. Trying something new
- Every day use
- Diner with friends and family
- Week end use





The identity of Mountain food products
Maribor December 3rd 2009

Local identity and standards of hygiene

Connection to the local area: cultural identity and local employment

A standard hygiene quality as good as for regular food products

4 preferred attributes for MQFP:

- Mountain products are part of the cultural identity of local communities
- Mountain products have to comply with industrial standards of hygiene
- Mountain products support local employment
- · Mountain products are connected to specific cultural areas



Importance of a visible link to mountain

- Respondents underline the lack of common definition/ understanding, of what is a mountain food product?
- Comments on the packaging
- Question about trust or doubts about product information / real mountain origin





A positive ambivalence?

MQFP is a composition of many different dimensions as food, mountain, nature, market product, local production or nostalgia:

- its specificity is just situated in the interrelation between the different values
- one individual consumer does not have the same expectation from MQFP in different situations
- all respondents were potential consumers for MQFP



The identity of mountain products

General characteristics:

- To taste good / good quality /original product
- To come obviously, and really, from a mountain area
- To be found in special shops/ not ordinary distribution channels
- To be used in a special situation / not ordinary consumption
- Everybody is a potential consumer of MQFP





A TASTE OF TRANSYLVANIA

An Integrated Approach to Promoting Product and Territory

Linking the traditional characteristics of the product with local life

Final Conference of the EuroMARC Project Maribor, Slovenia

December 2009





Agriculture & Environment





Economic Development

- · What products to produce?
- What services to offer?
- · What and where is the market?
- Visitors had not planned any time in area in their itineraries;
- · Visitors enjoyed meeting local people, but no activities on offer;
- Visitors were asking to buy honey and preserves to take home, but none available in suitable packaging;
- · Reviewed range of local food products from self sufficient producers;
- · Introduced the concept of food and culture tourism;
- · Created demand for local food products by developing tourism;
- Introduced appropriate training in food hygiene for micro producers;
- · Established a route to market for local products.



Local Food Products

- Flavour like it used to taste low environmental impact
- Preserved using traditional methods memories of childhood
- · Traditional recipes handed down over many generations
- · Natural but not certified organic
- · Jams characterised by:
 - unusual wild fruits from the forests and meadows
 - cultivated fruits from the orchards and courtyard gardens
 - high fruit content and low added sugar
 - bursting with flavour
 - no preservatives or other additives



- · Jam making widespread but recipes and fruits are traditional to the area
- Packaging and labelling must be of high standard
- · Name of the producer is included on the jar label
- Fair price to producer, but not cheap in price sensitive domestic market
- Tie-on label tells the story, adding value to the product





Demand for Food Products

- Tourists are looking for readily transportable gift items that relate to their holiday experience;
- Large city urban Romanians are looking for quality well packaged products that are comparable to the choice now offered by supermarkets;
- Small city urban Romanians still have links to home production, are very price sensitive and tend to taste but not buy;
- Export markets are looking for unusual quality products with a story, packaging and labelling that fully complies with EU legislation. They require larger volumes and are very price sensitive.





Promoting Local Food

Saxon Village Preserves – a presidium project supported by the Slow Food Foundation for Biodiversity



Created umbrella "brand" as marketing tool



A Taste of Transylvania experience the food, culture and landscape Logo now being used on produce, road signs and literature;

Hexagonal glass jars for jam, honey & pickles provides part of the brand;

Tie-on labels link product with landscape;

Now recognised as quality brand in local markets.



Providing Information & Local Produce



- Tourist Information Centre, Saschiz;
- Conversion of building funded jointly by ADEPT, Pro Patrimonio & Town Hall;
- Providing retail outlet for quality local produce;
- Web site to promote the area and products www.DiscoverTarnavaMare.org;
- · All creating demand for products and services;
- · Putting money into local economy.



Promoting Other Traditional Products

- · Honey;
- · Sun dried herbs;
- Pickles;
- Syrups;
- · Tinctures.



New Products



such as mature cheese – easier to market than the traditional fresh cheeses

Transnational LEADER project provided expertise in cheese making and the recipe which was combined with traditional skills to produce a unique cheese





Târgul ȚăranuluiBucharest Farmers Market (approved by Slow Food as Earth Market in Nov 09)



Slow Food Markets Bucharest - weekly Apr to Oct Brasov - monthly Apr to Oct



Developing Tourism Activities



Food & Culture Brochure;

Walking Brochure;

Encourages tourists to stay in the area and spend money in the community.







Conclusions

- We focus on creating market demand for quality products rather than increasing production;
- · We focus on those who want to be helped;
- We promote the stories linking landscape and culture to product and producer to consumer;
- We advocate transparent and fair pricing with a short supply chain;
- We focus on providing solutions, not identifying problems.



Thank you

FUNDATIA ADEPT

www.fundatia-adept.org www.DiscoverTarnavaMare.org















Die Marke der Tiroler Bio-Bergbauern





Die Genossenschaft Bioalpin e.Gen

- Gegründet 2002 mit dem Ziel Produkte aus der Tiroler Bio-Berglandwirtschaft verbessert zu vermarkten
- Ca. 40 Mitglieder der Genossenschaft vermarkten die Produkte von etwa 500 zuliefernden Bio-Bauern aus Tirol
- Schwerpunkt Milchprodukte (Käse, Milch, Butter, Joghurt) aber auch Fleischwaren, Obst und Gemüse, Eier, Brot
- Partner sind der LEH in Tirol und Österreich, Deutschland. Umsatz derzeit ca. 4 Mio. €
- BIO vom BERG Produkte müssen Tiroler Ursprung haben, die Betriebe müssen einem Bio-Verband angeschlossen sein







- •Darstellung der Funktion der Genossenschaft am Beispiel der Vermarktung eines Milchproduktes: Tiroler Bio-Käse
- •Versuch der Darstellung der notwendigen Qualitätsparameter:
- •1. Anforderungen des zentralisierten Lebensmittelhandelns
- •2. Anforderungen an ein "Bio-Bergprodukt" aus der Marketingsicht von BIO vom BERG





- Zentralisierter Lebensmittelhandel und Bio-Bergprodukt
- Standards wie: IFS, Milchhygienekontrolle, Milchqualität, Verkehrsfähigkeit, EAN, Deklaration, Ordereinheiten
- Produktstandards wie: garantierte Restlaufzeiten, standardisierte (passende) Gebindegröße, Vorlaufzeiten, generelle Handelstauglichkeit, Standardisierung des Produktes, Mengenplanung, Lieferfähigkeit
- Umsetzbarkeit: Preis, Einbettung in das vorhandene Sortiment, Optik
- Geschmack und Regionalität







"Marketingtauglichkeit" für BIO vom BERG

- Bio-Bergprodukt muss zur Markenwelt passen. Muss als Bio-Bergprodukt erkennbar sein
- Die Ansprüche des LEH müssen erfüllt sein (s.v.)
- Die Herkunft muss erkennbar sein und je mehr "Lokalkolorit" desto besser
- Darf nicht zu besonders sein, da man im Lebensmittelhandel schon sehr besonders ist (keine Drehung)
- Preis/Leistungsverhältnis muss passen



Danke für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit



Session 2

What marketing strategies for mountain quality food products?

Presentations

Key issues for developing the retailing of mountain quality food products (MQFPs)

Philip Leat, Cesar Revoredo-Giha, Beata Kupiec-Tehan, Chrisa Lamprinopoulou, SAC

Laqueille, Auvergne, France.

Georges Giraud, ENITA Clermont-Ferrand

Mountain quality food products marketed as local food products: Zgornjesavinjski želodec - The Upper Savinja dried meat (Slovenia)

Jože Tlaker, Association of Zgornjesavinjski želodec producers







Key issues for developing the retailing of mountain quality food products (MQFPs)

Philip Leat, Cesar Revoredo-Giha, Chrysa Lamprinopoulou and Beata Kupiec-Tehan

Scottish Agricultural College – Edinburgh, UK Maribor, December 2009



Content

- Understanding customers and markets: MQFPs differentiation;
- Creating values: price, margins and premia;
- Communicating values: promotion/education;
- Delivering values: availability, infrastructure and locality distribution.
- Concluding remarks.







Understanding customer

What are we selling?

Products, stories, experiences, unique and exceptional

taste...







Creating values: MQFPs

- Communication of product attributes is crucial for effective retail positioning by producers and retailers.
- Perceptual vs. factual differentiation (specification based).
- Differences in sensory characteristics, nutrition and health value. Do they exist?
- Attributes pertaining to social sustainability of mountain products: support for local communities, resilience of businesses located in mountain areas.
- Marketing function of retail outlets:
 - make available;
 - inform (educate consumers);
 - reassure (about quality and origin etc.);
 - create retail experience (as a part of a trip, tour, adventure etc.)







Creating values: prices, margins, premiums

Any retailer selling MQFPs should address the following

Should MQFPs be more expensive?

 Due to unique characteristics, cost of production and distribution, perceived value....

Should MQFPs be cheaper than average price for similar product?

 It is local, costs less to transport and market, should be price competitive in relation to mass market leaders...

Should the MQFPs prices reflect market situation?

 Price should take into account product category, recent market volume/value and competition...





Prices and Premia: results of EUROMARC price check retail study.

- Not all mountain products received a premium and in some cases the nonmountain products were more expensive.
- MQFPs premia appeared to be very situation specific – depending on the product type, the mountain area, the other value creating attributes embodied in the product, and the existence of substitutes.







MQFPs - creating values

Pricing total experience:

has to be recognized in setting prices, developing promotional campaigns and establishing brands that command long term loyalty...











Communicating values

- Objectives:
 - To generate Awareness, Interest, Desire, Action (AIDA) i.e.
 Informing, educating, persuading, facilitation of purchase.
- Tools retail focus:
 - Product exposition, POS strategies;
 - Mobile direct sales e.g. farmers markets
 - Mass media communication?????





Communicating values

- Labelling issues
- Legislation, register of products, control, creation of meanings;
- Conflicting messages from different sources (labelling proliferation);
- Can mountain origin be a separate "geographical" brand (separate from place brand)?
- Is 'mountain origin' supported as differentiation factor by individual retailers?





Communicating values: MFQPs labels EuroMARC results on MFQPs retailing

Labels:

- might be associated with a particular provenance (a mountain area, a mountain range, a particular mountain locality – thereby fitting with the interest in local or locality food);
- should be justified by a sustained high quality, that reflects attributes well valued and understood by consumers;
- should be promoted so that retailers and consumers become aware of the label's existence and its defining characteristics (e.g., communicating advantages and disadvantages of food production in mountain areas) and
- need to be introduced in a way that avoids confusion and conflict with existing certification labels.







Labels and packaging - main communication vehicle at the point of sale











Communicating values: EuroMARC results on retailing MQFPs

- MQFPs are inadequately promoted with a overreliance on product packaging and labelling

 in the form of an image, symbol or key mountain-related words - to convey a mountain provenance. Promotional efforts vary greatly amongst countries and products' groups.
- Personal communication, in the form of direct interaction between the seller and purchasing consumer was mainly practiced in farm shops, market stalls and specialist retailers.







Delivery of values

- Direct sales
- Local shops
- Multiple retailers
- Web based mail order sales
- Tourism related outlets and catering (restaurants, event related service)

Loch Arthur farm shop







Factors inhibiting market development

- Small scale production frequently gives rise to limited supplies (Slovenia, Norway, France, Scotland).
- Also occasional inconsistency of quantity and quality (Austria, Slovenia, Norway).
- Seasonality of supplies in Norway and Austria.







Concluding remarks

- Diversity of products and markets requires individual approaches when developing MQFP retailing.
- MQFPs do not always command a premium price and in some cases the non-mountain products are more expensive.
- In many instances the "mountain" attribute of MFQPs is not communicated effectively – they therefore require better promotion.



Conflicting messages and associations complicate the exposition of mountain provenance – associations with local identity/ brand are often stronger.



Thank you for your attention

Scottish Agricultural College

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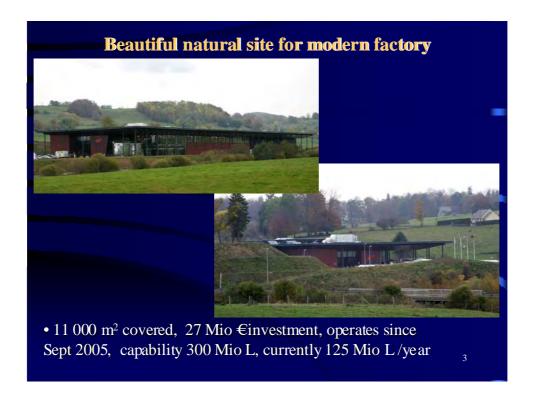


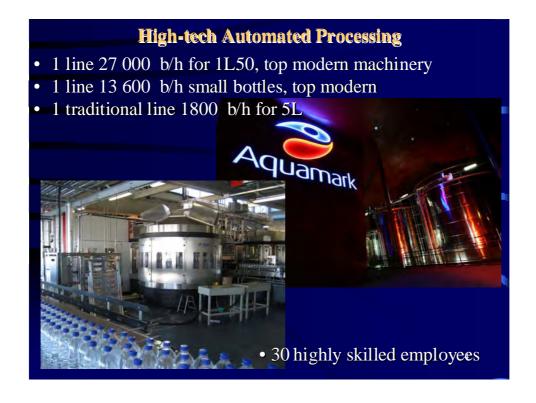


High Nature Value Location

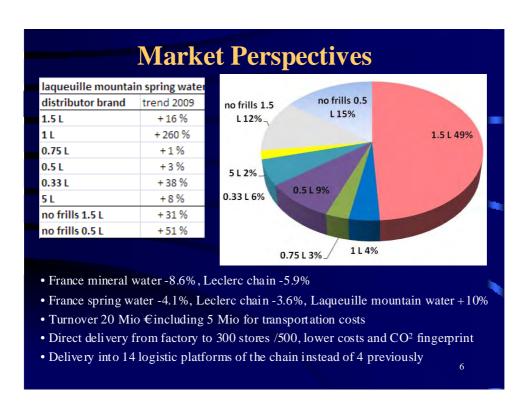
- 3 deep drillings, 1200 m altitude, on ancient volcano "Banne d'Ordanche" 6 km from factory
- Untainted site
- Only pasture
- No cropping
- No village
- No nitre 0.4 mg/L
- No pesticide
- Allowed for 300 000 m³ bottled /year











Management Facts

- 27 Mio €investment, including 10 Mio €for high-tech equipments
- None subside from Government nor regional or local authorities
- 300 K€annual royalties for municipality (owner of drillings)
- All 30 employees living in the county of Rochefort-Montagne
- Personnel costs 6% average cost
- Keep costs under control by increasing bottling & platforms delivery
- Allows to reduce in-store price by 10% in 2009
- Possible in-store gross margin varying from 10 to 30% per product
- Paradox for manager: non profit factory
- Investment will be paid back in 2016



Zgornjesavinjski želodec – kvalitetni gorsko hribovski proizvod Mountain quality food products marketed as local products: Zgornjesavinjski želodec – The Upper Savinja dried meat (Slovenia).

Jože Tlaker, Association of Zgornjesavinjski želodec producers



Zgornjesavinjski želodec je sušena domaca mesnina, ki jo že vec stoletij izdelujejo na obmocju Zgomje Savinjske

doline.
Nacin izdelave je tradicionalen. Sveže svinjsko meso od gnjati in plec zmeljejo in premešajo z na kocke narezano trdo slanino. Nadev zacinijo z morsko soljo, popromin cesnovo

Dobro premešana masa se polni v svinjske mehurje, izdelek se zašije, odcedi in stisne za nekaj dni, nato pa se v leseni s ušil nici postopno suši, kar traja 4-5 mesecev. Dobro osušen se nareže na tanke rezine in ponudi kot narezek ali predjed. Domacini ga uživajo skupaj s cmim domacim kruhom in jabolcnikom.

- Zgornjesavinjski želodec is a local dried meat product and has been produced in the Upper Savinja Valley for hundreds of years.
- The želodec is nowadays still produced in a traditional manner. For the stuffing, fresh pork ham and shoulder meat are ground and mixed with cubes of bacon. The stuffing is spiced with sea salt, pepper and garlic water.
- The stuffing should be well mixed and filled into a pig's bladder, which is then sewed up and skewed, strained and pressed for a few days. Then it is left to gradually dry for 4-5 months.
- When dried well, the želodec is served cut into thin slices as an appetizer. The locals like to have it with some homemade black bread and apple wine.

ZGORNJA SAVINJSKA DOLINA – DOMOVINA ŽELODCA THE UPPER SAVINJA VALLEY – THE HOMELAND OF ŽELODEC





Mountain quality food products marketed as local products: Zgornjesavinjski želodec - The Upper Savinja dried meat (Slovenia) Jože Tlaker, Association of Zgornjesavinjski želodec producers

PRODUCT PRESENTATION

Zgornjesavinjski želodec is a local dried meat product and has been produced in the Upper Savinja Valley, Slovenia for hundreds of years.

The želodec is nowadays still produced in a traditional manner. For the stuffing, fresh pork ham and shoulder meat are ground and mixed with cubes of bacon. The stuffing is spiced with sea salt, pepper and garlic water.

The stuffing should be well mixed and filled into a pig's bladder, which is then sewed up and skewed, strained and pressed for a few days. Then it is left to gradually dry to 4-5 months. When dried well, the želodec is served cut into thin slices as an appetizer.

The locals like to have it with some homemade black bread and apple wine.



ZGORNJA SAVINJSKA DOLINA – DOMOVINA ŽELODCA THE UPPER SAVINJA VALLEY – THE HOMELAND OF ŽELODEC





Lega: v severnem delu Slovenije

Površina: 507 km2

Nadmorska višina kmetij : 300 – 1.327 m

Podnebje : predalpsko, alpskoPrebivalstvo : 16.400

Teritorialna delitev : 7 občin

OMD območje: 100 %

Geogr. position: north of Slovenia

Area : 507 km2

Altitude of farms: 300-1.327 m Climate: subalpine, alpine

Population: 16.400

Territorial partition: 7 municipalities

OMD area : 100 %



DVA ZGODOVINSKO DOKAZANA LJUBITELJA ŽELODCA TWO HISTORICAL PROVEN ADMIRERS OF THE ŽELODEC

ANGLEŠKI KRALJ JURIJ V. (1865-1936)

Georg V, The King of England



JUGOSLOVANSKI KRALJ ALEKSANDER I. KARAĐORĐEVIČ (1888-1934)

The King of »Old« Yougoslavia



Leta 1933 sta oba kralja po diplomatskem lovu odšla na malico v hotel Plesnik v Logarsko dolino. Postregli so jima želodec. Kralj Jurij je bil tako navdušen, da je naročil za več naslednjih let pošiljanje te specialitete na svoj kraljevi dvor v London.

In 1933, after a diplomatic hunt, the two kings visited hotel Plesnik in the Logarska Valley where they were served a plate of želodec. King George was so impressed with it that he ordered a several years' supply for his royal court in London..



GEOGRAFSKA ZAŠČITA IZDELKA GEOGRAPHICAL PROTECTION OF PRODUCT



- Združenje izdelovalcev je leta 2004 realiziralo geografsko zaščito zgornjesavinjskega želodca geografsko
 označbo. Od tedaj je izdelava tega suhomesnatega izdelka zemljepisno omejena in zaščitena. To je kulinarična in
 gastronomska specialiteta. Domačini in gostje so ponosni nanjo.
- The protected geographical indication of the želodec from the Upper Savinja Valley was obtained by the
 association of producers in 2004. Since then, the production of this dried meat product is geographically limited
 and protected. It is a culinary and gastronomic speciality. The locals and guests are proud of it.
- V pričakovanju gostov: kruh, tokec, želodec, sirnek, sveži sir in salama.
- Expecting guests: bread, tokec(apple wine), želodec, sirnek, fresh cheese and salami.



ZAŠČITNI ZNAK IN EMBALAŽA TRADE MARK AND PACAGING

Zaščitni znak zgornjesavinjskega želodca je ovalni emblem prašička v naravnem okolju.
 Izdelek se najprej embalira v vakuumsko PE folijo, nato pa vloži v posebno šeststransko kartonsko škatlo z deklaracijo in nalepko zaščitnega znaka.



 The trade mark of Zgornjesavinjski Želodec is presented as an oval emblem of a piglet in its natural environment.

The product is packed in a vacuum PE foil and put in a specially six-side pasteboard box with declaration and trade mark label.

OCENJEVANJE KVALITETE ŽELODCA THE SENSORIAL ASSESSMENTS OF ŽELODEC

- Združenje izdelovalcev zgornjesavinjskega želodca s sedežem na Rečici ob Savinji vsako leto organizira senzorično ocenjevanje zgornjesavinjskega želodca.
- Komisija ocenjuje sledeče lastnosti: zunanji izgled, izgled in barvo prereza, teksturo, vonj in okus. Njena ocena služi za izobraževanje izdelovalcev, izboljšanje kvalitete izdelkov in večjo motivacijo za izdelavo želodca.



- The Association of the Upper-Savinja želodec producers, located in Rečica ob Savinji, yearly organizes sensorial assessments of the želodec.
- Their commission assesses the following attributes: the physical appearance of želodec, the appearance and
 colour of the cut, its texture, aroma and taste. Their elaborate assessments contribute to the education of
 producers, to inprove quality of the product and to increase the producers motivation.



RAZLIKE Z INDUSTRIJSKIMI MESNINAMI THE DISTINCTION FROM INDUSTRIAL MEAT PRODUCTS

LASTNOST / Characteristic	INDUSTRIJSKI ŽELODEC Industrial product	ZGORNJESAVINJSKI ŽELODEC
Izdelovalec / Producer	mesna industrija/ meat industry	kmetije /home farms
Meso (svinjsko) / Meat (pork)	z velikih farm / from big farms	domači hlev / home pigstys
Vsebnost mesa / Meat content	75 %	85-90 %
Dodano meso / Supplement meat	govedina / beef	
Aditivi / Supplements	E 250 – Na nitrit (konzervans) E 310 – propil galat (antioksidant) E 316 – Na izoaskorbat (antioksidant) E 621 – Na glutaminat (ojačevalec okusa) taste amplifier dekstroza / dextrose	ne / no česen / garlic česen / garlic ne / no sladkor / sugar
Klima sušenja / Drying climate	umetna – kontrolirana Arteficial - controlled	naravna natural
Čas sušenja,zorenja / Drying time	2 meseca / 2 months	4-5 mesecev / 4-5 months
Geografska zaščita Geographical protection	ne / no	geografika Sovenija oznacho Ministrativo za kireliptivo, gozdantne in pretrano
Tradicija izdelave /Tradition of making	15 let / 15 years	Preko 100 let/ over 100 years

TRŽENJE / MARKETING

- A/ NEPOSREDNA PRODAJA / DIRECT SALE Kupec = potrošnik Buyer = consumer

 IZDELOVALEC → POTROŠNIK / PRODUCER

 Prodaja na domu / Selling at home

 Prodaja na kmečkem turizmu / Selling at tourist farms

 Prodaja v lokalnih gostiščih / Selling in local guest houses PRODUCER -▶ CONSUMER



Zgornjo Savinjsko dolino letno obišče preko 150.000 obiskovalcev Prodaja na gostoljubnih turističnih kmetijah je naš največji prodajni adut. To je naša tržna niša.

The Upper Savinja Valey is yearly visited by over 150.000 visitors.

Our best and strongest sale method is selling in hospitable local guest houses. This is our market niche.



Prodaja na lokalnih/regionalnih kmečkih tržnicah Selling on local and region farm markets



- V načrtu : prodaja obiskovalcem Mozirskega gaja kot spominek
- Plan: selling želodec as a souvenir to visitors of the Mozirje Flower Park





B/ POSREDNA PRODAJA / INDIRECT SALE

Kupec ni tudi potrošnik/ The buyer is not also the consumer

- Prodaja podjetjem, bankam,... za pogostitve in reprezentančna darila Selling to companies, banks... for catering and representation gifts
- Prodaja občinam in državnemu protokolu. Selling to municipalities and the state protocol.

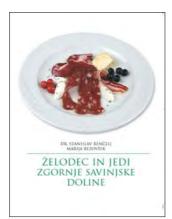


C/ POSREDNA PRODAJA PREKO TRGOVINE / INDIRECT SALE OVER TRADE

- Zaradi relativno malih kapacitet izdelave, dragega certificiranja in visokih trgovskih marž, trenutno prodaja preko trgovske mreže ni predvidena.
- V 2. fazi po povečanju proizvodnje leta 2012, načrtujemo tudi prodajo v izbranih trgovinah z lokalno tipičnimi zaščitenimi proizvodi.
- Because of the relative small number of producing capacities, very expensive certifying and high trade margins, selling over commercial networks is not seen as appropriate.
- In the second phase after increasing the production in 2012, the product is planned to be traded in specialized markets with typical local protected products.



D/ POSPEŠEVANJE PRODAJE / PROMOTION OF SALE



Monografska publikacija: ŽELODEC IN JEDI

ZGORNJE SAVINJSKE DOLINE Avtorja: dr. Stanislav Renčelj

Marija Bezovšek

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Monographic publication: ŽELODEC AND DISHES OF UPPER SAVINJA VALLEY

Authors: dr. Stanislav Renčelj Marija Bezovšek

COBISS: 232386560 Rečica ob Savinji, 2007

PRIZNANJA / AWARDS



POTRDILO O KVALITETI (NAD 15 TOČK) BRONASTA PLAKETA (17-18 TOČK) SREBRNA PLAKETA (18-19 TOČK) ZLATA PLAKETA (19-20 TOČK)

CERTIFICATE OF QUALITY (OVER 15 PTS) BRONZE PLAQUETTE (17-18 PTS) SILVER PLAQUETTE (18-19 PTS) GOLD PLAQUETTE (19-20 PTS)



IZHODIŠČA TRŽNE POLITIKE STARTING POINTS OF THE MARKETING POLICY

- lokalno in regionalno prepoznavna trajna mesna specialiteta veliko število malih izdelovalcev (okrog 1.500)
- skupna letna proizvodnja 30.000 do 50.000 kg želodca
- delež eksterne prodaje cca 30 %, lastna poraba 70% visoka dodana vrednost živega dela izdelovalcev (75%)
- visoka prodajna cena izdelka (30 40€/kg) ne potrebuje subvencij

- presežno povpraševanje glede na ponudbo relativno cenovno neelastična ponudba $\eta s = \Delta s/\Delta p$ in neelastično povpraševanje $\eta d = \Delta d/\Delta p$, katerih vrednost < 1
- izdelovalci še niso pridobili uradne certifikacije sedanja recesija je zmanjšala turistične tokove za okrog 10%. Nekaterim izdelovalcem njihove stalne stranke niso prevzele lani naročenih izdelkov.
- Locally and regionally recognizable permanent meat speciality
- Large number of small manufacturers (about 1.500)
 Common annual production 30.000 50.000 kg of Želodec
- Share of outside sale around 30%, own consumption 70%
- High adding value to the producers own labour input (75%) High sale price of product (30 40 ϵ /kg)

- Require no direct support

 Excess demand in comparison to supply relatively price non-elastic supply $\eta s = \Delta s/\Delta p$ and non-elastic demand $\eta d = \Delta d/\Delta p$, which are both < 1

 The producers have not gained a certificate yet

 The current recession reduced tourist streams for about 10%. Some of the
- regular customers have not picked up products they ordered last year from their producers.



CILJI TRŽNE POLITIKE / GOALS OF MARKETING POLICY

- Kvalitetna in količinsko zadostna trajna ponudba želodca
- Geografsko zaščito pridobiti tudi v prostoru Evropske unije
- Razviti čimbolj enotno tehnologijo, kontrolo in označevanje
- Potrošnikom / turistom dati koristne informacije o kvaliteti, pristnosti in ekološki prijaznosti izdelka brez umetnih
- Povečati ekonomski interes izdelovalcev za dopolnilno dejavnost
- Izobraževati izdelovalce v tehnoloških in tržnih znanjih.
- Sufficient supply of želodec of good quality
- Geographical indication to expand on EU region
- Development of uniform technology, control and labeling of the product
- Supplying the consumers / tourists with useful information on quality, authenticity and environmental friendliness of the product containing no artificial additives
- Increasing of producers' economical interest for the supplemental activity
- Technological and marketing education of the producers.





NOČNA MORA ŽELODCA NIGHTMARE OF ŽELODEC





Želodec zaide v akcijsko prodajo med poceni delikatese velikih diskontnih trgovskih verig.

Želodec gone the wrong way in an action sale among low price groceries in big discount trade chains.

NAJOKUSNEJŠE JE NA IZVORU THE TASTE IS BEST AT THE SOURCE















MESTO LYON, FRANCIJA LYON, FRANCE







- Na predstavitvi v okviru projekta EuroMARC v Lyonu je naš izdelek naletel na veliko zanimanje, odobravanje in povpraševanje.
- Če bi hoteli vsakemu prebivalcu tega francoskega mesta postreči samo 1 porcijo (10 dag) želodca, bi morali tja peljati našo kompletno proizvodnjo 4 let.
- As part of the EuroMARC project, the product was presented in Lyon, where it gained much attention, approval and demand.
- To be able to serve each resident of this city only one helping (10 dag) of želodec, it would take the entire production of the past 4 years.

Our policy shall respect recommendations and guidelines of the following projects

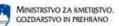












The project of realization of the protected geographical indication is co-financed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food of the Republic of Slovenia and The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) by the LEADER approach.

Autor: Jože TLAKER, univ.dipl.oec.

Maribor, December 2009



Session 3

How can tourism support mountain quality food products and vice versa?



Presentations

Opportunities offered by tourism—Introduction with cases encountered in the EuroMARC project

Markus Schermer, UIBK

Cirarske ceste kot turisticni product

Davorin Koren, Triglave National Park

Tourism and mountain quality food products—an example of Cairngorms farmers market

Fiona Young, Cairngorms farmers market organisation



"How can tourism support mountain quality food products - and vice versa?"

Some Opportunities offered by tourism

Product	Advantage	Precondition / disadvantage
Breakfast on Farm (Holiday on Farm)	High revenue	Labour intensity, regional on- farm processing of products
Farmers breakfast in hotels	Defined, fixed program	Collective organisation
Menu on own farm/summer farm	High revenue	Seasonality
Supply of restaurants	Quantity	Logistics, control, only best pieces (meat)
Culinary souvenir - farm shop - cooperation with hotel - Internet sale	Durable products	Speciality connected to region image
Seasonal culinary events	High turnover in short time	Collective organisation
Regional product trail etc.	Regional added value	Even distribution of benefits necessary

"How can tourism support mountain quality food products - and vice versa?"

- Examples:
 - Buschenschank, Hofschank: South Tyrol/Italy
 http://www.redrooster.it/en/farm-bars/
 - Co-operation with local restaurants: "Stubaier Kostbarkeiten" Tyrol/Austria
 - http://www.stubaier-kostbarkeiten.at/
 - http://www.stubai.at/xxl/ lang/en/ season/at2/ area/unter/ubArea/743948/index.html
 - Culinary souvenir: Internet sales of mountain cheese Vorarlberg/Austria
 - http://www.kaes.at/de/products/basiclist/0/20/0/de/list.html
 - · Seasonal culinary events: /Skye and Lochalsh food trail
 - http://www.skyefoodtrek.co.uk/
 - ➤ http://www.taste-local.co.uk/skye/events/index.html
 - Permanent regional product trail: Käsestrasse Bregenzerwald
 - http://www.kaesestrasse.at/





Buschenschank, Hofschank: South Tyrol Haly



- http://www.redrooster.it/en/farm-bars/
- The 'Mountain Inn Guide' published by the Farmers' Union of South Tyrol liste two types of « farm bars »
 - traditional country inns ('Buschenschänke'), serve a glass of wine and home-made food for both locals and tourists.
 - farms serving food without own vineyards 'Hofschänke' serve home made products
 - Both need strict quality controls in order to receive the 'Red Rooster' logo







"Stubaier Kostbarkeiten" Tyrol/Austria



- http://www.stubaier-kostbarkeiten.at/
- •The label "Stubaier Kostbarkeit (Treasure)"



- Delicatessen
 - •Besides taditional culinary highlights such as Kaminwurzn, Speck, and Grammelschmalz, you can find rareties such as goatsmilk Schnapps or handwoven sheepwool cardigans and spelt pillows. Eggs, honey products, fruit, vedgetables, cereals and juices round off the product choice.
- •Free culinary guide
 - •with addresses of producing and selling farmers and health food shops, restaurants, inns and huts







- http://www.kaes.at
- Internetshop for 7 farmers from the Bregenzerwald, Vorarlberg /Austria.
 - · Webshop sending cheese all over Austria and Germany
 - Different cheese varieties
 - · Recently also cheese from Swiss farmers
 - Founder of a further project for internets ale of rare products (in cooperation with slow food http://www.vielfalt.com/)
- Possibility for tourists to get the specialities of their holiday region also during the year





Skye and Lochalsh food trail

- http://www.skyefoodtrek.co.uk
- "Your holiday isn't complete without a Taste of Local Food"
 - · combines walking trail with visiting local food producers
- Skye and Lochalsh Food Link is a Community Interest Company on the isle of Skye embracing an area including the Cuillin Mountains and part of the North West Highlands of Scotland.
- The members are:
 - salad and herb growers, fruit growers, fishermen, farmers, smallholders, crofters, shellfish farmers, scallop divers, organic growers, processors, meat producers, cheese makers, confectioners, bakers, jam and chutney makers, smoke houses, retailers, hoteliers, restaurateurs and local food supporters.
- One of the most notable achievements has been the Food Link Van which basically distributes food from 26 producers, twice a week, to over 60 hotels, restaurants, visitor attractions and retailers throughout the area, thereby assisting distribution and helping to maximise the linkage between food production and visitors to the area, as well as local consumers.





Käsestrasse Bregenzerwald



- http://www.kaesestrasse.at/
- The region of Bregenzerwald in Austria is a successful example of selling mountain products at farm level and organising a regional tourism strategy around these products.
- The Käsestrasse (cheese route) is based on the association of farmers, dairies, alpine huts, restaurants, commercial enterprises, and tourism under the thematic topic of cheese.
- Currently, the association created around the route has 200 members. Producers in the region produce more than 30 types of cheese. Product promotion is ensured through the organisation of many events along the cheese route, but also by signboards fixed on all shops, hotels, restaurants, sky lifts and craft enterprises on the route.
- The region is "sold" together with mountain cheeses in Austria and abroad.







Final conference of the EuroMARC project
The development of mountain quality food products:
Production, Distribution, Consumption

SIRARSKE CESTE KOT TURISTICNI PRODUKT

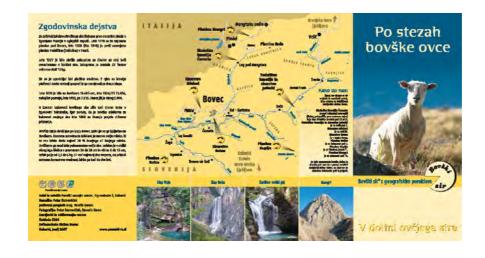
Davorin KOREN, Triglavski narodni park

December 3-4, 2009 Maribor, Slovenia



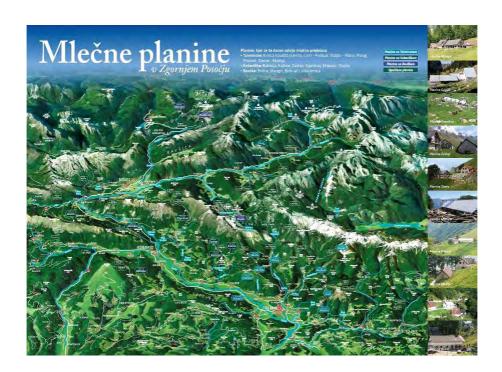












Sirarska cesta



Predpogoji:

- samoini ciativnost nosilcev;
- oblikovani programi delovanja;
- izvajanje programov s strani nosilcev ali zunanje podpore; participativnost nosilcev (zagotovljeno financiranje in profitabilnost).



Sirarska cesta

- stalna ponudba;
- urejen prostor;
- usposobljeno osebje;
- izpolnjene zakonske zahteve;
- oblikovan programski del iniciative.



Hvala za pozornost!



Tourism and mountain quality food products an example of Cairngorms Farmers Market











- Tourism worth £134m (1.5 million EUR) to the local economy; providing up to 3900 jobs.
- Cairngorms Farmers Market operates in Aviemore and Grantown.
 - Resident population of CNP 17,000.
 - Visits to area 1.2million



The Cairngorms
Farmers Market:

Serving tourism and local community.





Development of Cairngorms food

- 1998 First Farmers Market in Scotland
- 2004 Pilot Markets in Cairngorms
- market research: Farmers Market attracts day visitors to town.
- Local public support for a local Farmers Market.
- 2006 Cairngorms Farmers
 Markets launched funding from
 Leader, Cairngorms National Park
 Authority, Councils + enterprise
 company.
- 8 Markets in o6, average 6 stalls products: beef, lamb, bread, fruit, honey, cheese, veg, tablet.





Cairngorms Farmers Market

Benefits of the Cairngorms Farmers Market

- Low cost entry to retail CFM fundamental to 6 business start ups.
- Face to face interactions with customers.
- Reconnects people with their food and the land.
- Contributes to the local economic development + sustainability.
- Provides fresh healthy food with minimal additives or preservatives.
- Environmental benefits lower food miles, reduced unnecessary haulage.
- Links with tourism holiday makers and day visitors.



The Cairngorms Farmers Market 2009

- Stall numbers 9 18
- 17 Markets per year.
- Good customer base, Grantown best.
- Growing volumes of produce through Market.
- Producers looking for more outlets, some to employ staff.







Food Producers developed niche markets

- Baln afettach: Time shares weekly deliveries of beef, lamb, eggs.
- Balliefurth: Tourist diversifications holiday cottages, B&B, farm tours, links farming and food production.
- Achnahannet: New business Dec 07. Outlets CFM + local shops.
- Delfour Hatchery: New business Aug o6.Outlets CFM, local shops, other Farmers Markets. Won National awards + now negotiating contract with major high class food retailer.







Tourism + Farm Produce

- Balliefurth Leaf Farm (Linking Environment and Farming) Source of household income 2008/9
 - o Farm 47%
 - o Tourism 20%
 - o Off Farm 33%
- Of which 15% direct sales







Consumer awareness





- LEAF Open Day opportunity to invite the general public on to a farm
- CFM team work together with mini market + interpretation activities.
- Builds loyalty, awareness, understanding through innovative and educational approach.



Interpretation at CFM



- Interpretation materials link farming, wildlife, landscape and people.
- Raffle fun, draws people into conversation.







Integrated policies

- Value home produced food products
- Farm subsidy assessment must encompass whole farm
- Make local food a priority across ALL Government departments need joined up policy
- Planning and Licence punitive hurdles
- Public benefits:
 - Protects landscape
 - Enhances the environment
 - Carbon efficient
 - Quality food supply







Challenges ahead

- Increase number of food producers many farmers very traditional in approach.
- Bureaucracy time consuming + costly (Market Licence, Planning permission). Initial costs in o6 -£180, 09 - £1000+
- Public support for agriculture lacks focus on food products sold direct.
- Major challenge for CFM to be viable and self sustaining in 2010.



The Cairngorms Farmers Market a long term future?

We hope you can continue to take a slice of the Cairngorms home with you!







Session 4

How to promote mountain quality food products?





Presentations

Is a mountain quality food label expected? Comparative conclusions from the project.

ENITA, France and UHI, Scotland

A regional label: the Lactofarm Sibiu (Romania). Rusu Dumitru,

The various promotion strategies of Björli products (Norway)
Virginie Amilien, SIFO



Is a Mountain Quality Food label expected?

Comparative conclusions from the project

C. Tebby, G. Giraud, Enita Clermont R. McMorran, M. Price, Perth College



A label for mountain products?

- What does a label imply?
 - · protection for mountain products,
 - · promotion tool, enabling quick identification by consumers,
 - certification and control → Implies additional costs.
- How can a label be successful?
 - if the definition and eligibility criteria suit mountain area producers and processors,
 - · if consumers are aware of it and able to recognise it,
 - · if its definition answers consumers' expectations.
- need to investigate perceptions and expectations regarding mountain products



The labelling issue in EuroMARC

- In EuroMARC, we studied
 - mountain producers' and processors' perceptions of their products (quality characteristics)
 - · consumers' expectations regarding mountain products.
- Labelling issue specifically approached:
 - · In focus groups with consumers,
 - · In written consumer surveys,
 - · In written retailer surveys,
 - · Also came up in face-to-face interviews.





Do consumers think there should be an official label?

- Focus groups: At the end of the discussion, consumers feel there is a need for information on the origin of the products, and whether products are really from mountain areas.
- "Do you think that for mountain quality food products there should be a governmental/EU label to certify that these products really are mountain products?"

HICOC PICAGO	0 00		111000		10000		
•	Austria	France	Norway	Romania	Scotland	Slovenia	Overall
Yes (%)	83	83	64	100	64	92	81
No (%)	10	11	19	0	12	6	10
Number of respondents	338	359	303	300	302	302	1904

Yes" although not as prominent in Norway and Scotland







Do retailers think a label would be appealing? Which label?

- "Do you think the label : f"mountain product" ["mountain quality food product" might increase the appeal of such products?"
- "Do you think that labelling products as coming from a specific mountain area (examples) would enhance their appeal?"

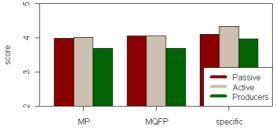
	Austria	France	No rw ay	Romania	Scotland	Slovenia	Overall
Appeal of "mountain product" label	3.8	4.1	4.1	4.3	3.4	3.8	3.9
Appeal of "MQFP" label	4.2	3.7	4.2	4.4	3.4	3.9	4.0
Appeal of specific mountain area label	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.4	3.8	4.0	4.1

Agree", but preferences vary according to country



Do retailers think a label would be appealing? Which label?

- Retailers surveyed sold mountain products:
 - After a producer or a wholesaler contacted them or following a central purchasing decision PASSIVE
 - Having approached a producer or a wholesaler ACTIVE
 - Because they retailed their own produce PRODUCERS (Scotland)



Producers (direct retailers) are not as favourable towards the labels







Is a label expected? Results from supply chain interviews

- A label requires a strict definition of what a mountain product is.
- The issue of free-riding using images of mountains on packaging (esp. bottled water) came up more often.
- Having too many labels would confuse consumers.
- Geographical origin labels can sometimes convey sufficiently the mountain origin, even though some consumers are supposedly not interested in the geographical origin.
- "An official label" is rarely spontaneously mentioned as a way to improve promotion of mountain products, and only by producers or processors.
- Slovenians are particularly supportive of a label (geographical or quality)
- A label may be too expensive for low-volume supply chains
- Can/should the label be specific to small scale supply chains?



Is a Mountain label expected? C. Tebby, G. Giraud, R. McMorran, M. Price





Is a Mountain Quality Food label expected?

Yes	But		
Consumers are generally favourable. There is a need for information on the origin of the products	They are favourable when asked. No market study conducted.		
Retailers are generally favourable	Direct retailers (producers, more concerned by the issue) are less favourable. They are not all in favour of the same type of label (MP, MQP, specific mountain range).		

Face-to-face interviews with supply chain actors showed a divergence of opinions. They are generally aware of the issues of labelling.



ls a Mountain label expected? C. Tebby, G. Giraud, R. McMorran, M. Price







Marketing and labelling policy analysis

Multiple advantages recognised by stakeholders

- Consumer-producer link is critical
- Milk quota gap
- Clarify terminology align non-EU Schemes?
- 50-60% supportive (Round 1 Stakeholder interviews)
- 60%+ supportive (Round 2 Stakeholder Interviews)

But.....

- Why mountains specifically? (Other landscapes etc.)
- EU schemes unsuited to regional marketing?
- HNV Scheme conflict or complementary?



ls a Mountain label expected? C. Tebby, G. Giraud, R. McMorran, M. Price



Possible Levels of Action for EU Mountain Food Labelling

- 1. EU Regulated Mountain Products Scheme (criteria?) PDO/PGI - beyond origin? - stocking densities? organic?
- 2. NGO-led / private collaborative EU Mountain Quality Scheme & label; centrally monitored or self-regulating?
- 3. Define key terms in EU Marketing Standards (optional reserved terms); "Mountain Product
- 4. EU Strategy for Non-EU labelling schemes (definitions; criteria)

OR – EU High Nature Value (HNV) label (extensive agri)



a Mountain label expected? C. Tebby, G. Giraud, R. McMorran, M. Price











Lactofarm est basée à Hamba, à 12km de Sibiu, dans une zone de basses montagnes.



-S.C."LACTOFARM"-HAMBA – est une compagnie à capital 100% roumain, crée il ya plus de 12 ans.

A travers le temps, l'innovation et des investissements permanents ont contribué au développement graduel de la compagnie et de la qualité des produits. Elle dispose d'un abattoir et de ses propres magasins et emploie 49 personnes.

La mission de la compagnie

- -La mission de la compagnie restera la production et la promotion des charcuteries de montagne d'une qualité supérieure.
- -Devenir une référence sur les marchés local et national avec des produits de charcuterie traditionnels de montagne.
- -Satisfaire les exigences les plus hautes d'une gamme varié de consommateurs.
 - -Créer des nouveaux lieux de travail dans la région.















Certification

- -Lactofarm croit qu'en plus de la qualité et du marketing, le succès est basé sur l'innovation continuelle de nos produits.
- -Notre société a crée ainsi un produit nouveau, plus sain, qui remplace une grande quantité du sel des charcuteries par des minéraux (Calcium et Phosphore) «Produits bons pour la santé». C'est un produit accessible aux personnes ayant un régime alimentaire pour des raisons de santé des nouveau acheteurs.
- -Ces nouveaux produits, sont certifiés et protégés par l'Office d'Etat pour invention et marques de Bucarest.



Lactofarm Romania

- La diversification des produits permets d'adresser une large catégorie des consommateurs.
- Notre ambition est de pouvoir vendre des charcuterie de qualité à travers le pays et l'Europe.
- Cette croissance aura des bénéfices pour les habitant de la région de montagne (emploi et maintien de la population dans la région, valeur ajouté pour les matières premières, promotion de la région)





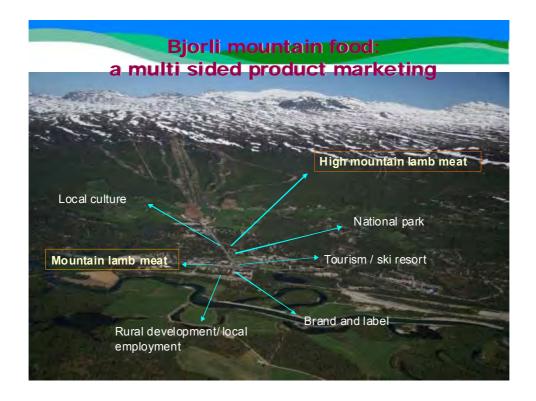
The various promotion strategies of Bjorli products (Norway)
- "Fenalår" [Cured mutton legg]
as a case study-

Virginie Amilien, SIFO









Local employment and rural development

Co-operation with Bjorli/ the commune of Lesja to build the entreprise

Co-operation with mountain meat processors to get mountain know how and local identity











From local to regional strategy

Careful processing and choice of raw material







Cooperation with retailers

• Co-operation with 3 of the 4 main distribution channels:

Coop Norway: Obs, Coop Mega / Ica Maxi / Norges gruppen: Matvarehuset Ultra.

- Distribution in speciality shops
- Distribution at local level: from own outlet to special shelves in Bjorli grocery shop







National park - Tourism







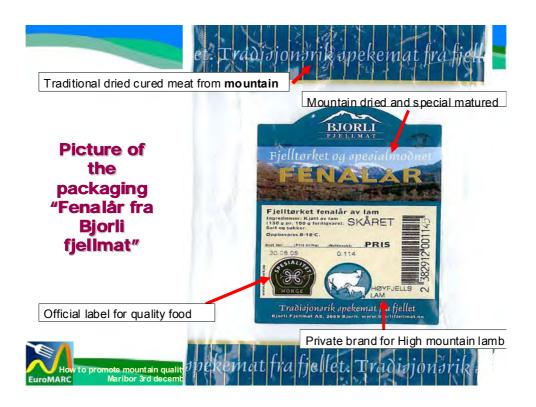




Euro-MARC
o promote mountain quality foo d products?

Maribor 3rd december 2009

10



Session 5

What policies can better support and develop mountain quality food products?



Presentations:

Premia for differentiated products at the retail level: can themarket put a value on the mountain attribute?

Philip Leat, SAC

The influence of local initiatives on mountain product valueadded chains

Bernd Schue, ÖIR

The evolution of the European agricultural product quality policy

Vincent Cordonnier, European Commission, DG Agri

The Swiss "mountain" and "alpage" labels.

Jacques Henchoz, Federal Office of Agriculture of Switzerland

Conclusions drawn from EuroMARC: recommendations for policy.

Ancuta Pasca, Euromontana





The Mountain Foods Process: Evaluation of the options offered by National and EU Legislation and Policies

Euro-MARC WP5: Rob Mc Morran and Martin Price Centre for Mountain Studies, UHI - Perth College



WP5 Objectives

- 1. Policy review Constraints & opportunities
- 2. Review policies relevant to the <u>promotion & labelling</u> of mountain quality-foods
- 3. Identify synergies & discrepancies
- 4. Recommendations

Method: 50 Interviews





he Mountain Foods Process: Evaluation of the options offered by National and EU Legislation and Polic ob Mc Monagaind Martin Price, Brussels, 65 November, 2008



Use of Terminology at the policy level

Country	Level of definition and understanding of						
	The term 'mountain' in national policy	The term 'mountain foods' in national policy	The term 'mountain foods' among the general populace				
Norway	No criteria/definition	Not used/defined	Understood as a general term; not in common usage				
Slovenia	No national criteria (LFA)	Not used/defined in policy	Used as a term but not in common usage				
Scotland	No national criterion (LFA) 'Agriculture not occurring in mountains'	Not used/defined in policy	Not used or well understood				
France	Defined: LFA system and national policy (Mountain Law)	Mountain Food can use French Mountain Label from Mountain Law	Relatively well known. Consumers not always clear on meaning of labels				
Romania	Defined using LFA system and national policy	Not used/defined in policy	Reasonably well-known, perhaps not in frequent usage				
Austria	Defined using LFA system	Not used/defined in policy	Relatively well known				



Terminology - Key Points

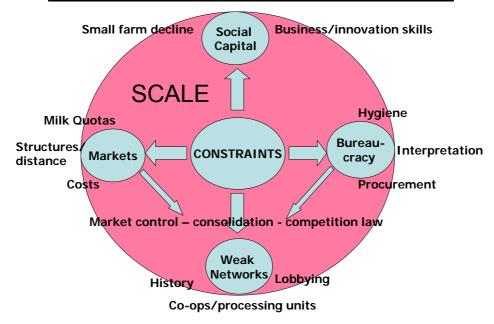
- Other terms speciality, farm, traditional, regional (foods) – preferred by some
- Norwegian / Scottish respondents:
 - ➤ Support all disadvantaged farmers!
 - ➤ 'Mountain Foods' inappropriate
- 60% support (EU) definition of mountain regions / foods
- EU less supportive support national initiatives



The Mountain Foods Process: Evaluation of the options offered by National and EU Legislation and Policy Roo Me Morran and Martin Frice, Brussels, St. Nevember, 2008.



MOUNTAIN FOODS PROCESS - POLICY



MOUNTAIN FOODS PROCESS - POLICY





Existing EU-Labelling Schemes - KEY ISSUES

PDO / PGI / TSG / Organic



PDO/PGI – Mountain label conflict or mountain criteria?

TSG – uptake/intellectual property/inconsistent

-> A new definition?

Organic - not extensive

Promotion and awareness

Not suited to small producers

-> A new small producer scheme?



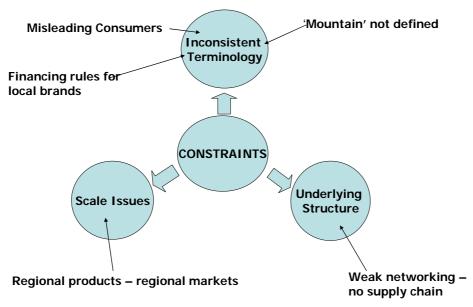








Non-EU Schemes - CONSTRAINTS





Non-EU Schemes - OPPORTUNITIES

 Marketing standards – reserved terms





- EU Labelling Strategy (70-80%)
 - · Clarify use of regional names
 - Define key terms (criteria)
- Regional development Food networks
 - Lead regional products







WP5 Conclusions and Recommendations

- 1. MQFL? Difficult at EU Level Labelling alone insufficient;- integrate policy & recognise benefits
- 2. EU-wide food labelling strategy and national strategies major potential
- 3. Member State policy interpretation / implementation guidelines
- 4. Regional development: high-quality regional lead products / networks
- Integrate regional agriculture / food in sustainable regional initiatives (e.g. biosphere reserves, organic regions, national parks)





What roles can local initiatives play?

Some conclusions from the analysis of LEADER-like initiatives

B. Schuh (Austrian Institute for Regional Studies and Spatial Planning – OIR)



Content:

- Local initiatives in EuroMARC what did we do
- The definitions and hypotheses
- The findings and conclusions







"local initiatives" "mountain products" "mountain products"

defined in EuroMARC: LEADER (like) measures, quality mountain food, mountain regions





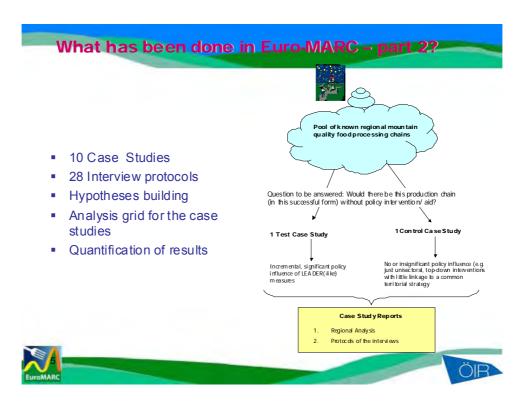
What has been done in Euro-MARC?

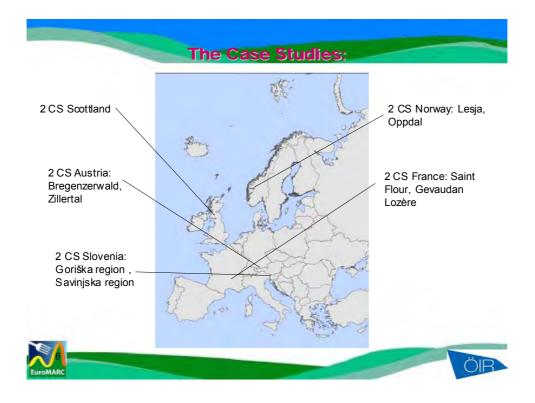
The guiding objective among others in Euro-MARC will be, to identify factors for success or failure in local initiatives devoted to marketing of mountain quality-food products.

- ➤ In order to do so the main aim within this WP will be to test whether and how far LEADER/ LEADER like measures as mainstreamed principle of rural development programmes of the EU, provide a basis for supporting (in the first place) the supply side of local food chains in mountain areas.
- WP-4 will therefore consist of an analysis of territorial local initiatives (inside and outside the LEADER programme) oriented towards marketing of mountain food products









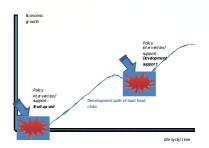
The guiding principles of analysis:

- The eight modes of governance
 - Sustenance, allegiance, charisma, planning, competition, conciliation, strategic vision, shared responsibility
- The three modes of operation
 - · Animation, structuring, consolidating



The hypotheses on potential effects of LEADER on MQF supply chains:

- The start-up case
 - innovative entrepreneur (or a group of innovative entrepreneurs) → policy as supporter
 - societal regional identity, local knowledge and traditions → policy as facilitator
- The development support case
 - economic thinking, analysis and good business administration skills → policy as supporter
 - direct support strengthening the economic basis of the enterprises involved → policy as facilitator





Euro-MARC



General Conclusions:

- Successful regional mountain food supply chains enhance economic, social
 and environmental sustainability. Regional embeddedness is a key factor
 of success. Strengthening both, regional identity and the local image, farmer
 associations create new jobs and more diversity.
- LEADER initiatives can function as Start up Aid as well as Development Support for food supply chains in structural changes, strengthening the cooperation amongst the different actors/firms, enabling financing investments for being more successful and competitive and optimizing organisational structures.
- Taking the three LEADER actions "Animation", "Structuring" and "Consolidation" into account, LEADER can play an important role for building up and developing successful mountain food supply chains.
- It is important, that LEADER (like) initiatives not only offer/use their own funding possibilities and instruments, but use multiple sources of financing projects that are of interest for different organisations. → delivery mechanisms shape the regional supply chains



Euro-MARC



Some caveats due to the narrow definitions in EuroWARC:

The underestimation of the power of LEADER:

- Missing systemic linkages outside the quality mountain food supply chain ⇒ see Appennino Genovese
- Missing the cross-sectoral benefits of LEADER especially in the service sector or crafts → see "Verein Pillerseetal – Leogang"
- LEADER is not everything ⇒ without critical mass of entrepreneurs, innovative thinkers and some risk no development in regional setting of rural areas (incl. Mountain areas is possible)
- Thus mountain product value chains rely on people in place capable and willing to carry on this development.
- Policy support can not replace the disadvantages of mountain areas accessibility, lack of services, brain drain, demographic change, but may offer remedies to symptoms







Results from the regional development perspective:

- No clear indication, that mountain food supply chains are different from food supply chains in remote rural areas all over Europe (accessibility, demographic change, economic decline)
- Findings:
 - Entrepreneurial spirit is a "conditio sine qua non" for the set up and development of quality food initiatives
 - Policy support also through bottom-up measures (like LEADER) will only support and facilitate → mostly enabling networking and linking food supply chains to other sectors (tourism)
 - Regional identity, traditions, social ties are both the seed bed for quality food initiatives and a
 possible benefit from their establishment
- <u>Lessons for EU policy</u>: better think how to foster entrepreneurial spirit and innovative behaviour among farmers and food processors, rather than support infrastructure alone ro sales support





Recommendation:

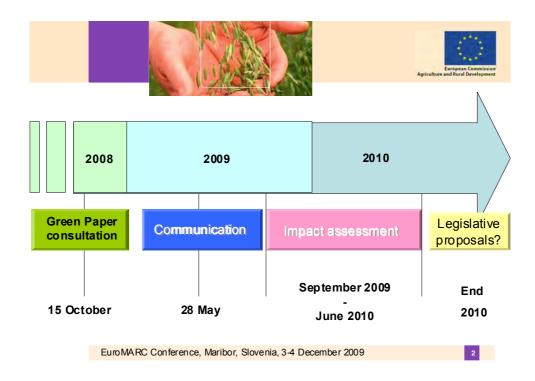
Strengthen the entrepreneurial spirit and innovative behaviour among farmers and food processors:

- Streamlining of territorally supportive EU propgrammes Structural Funds and Rural Development – one stop shops as delivery mechanisms
- Stop crowding out of the innovators and highly qualified by contradicting "support messages" – luring out the better trained, innovative work force from agriculture into secondary and tertiary sector.
- Establish policy delivery mechanisms oriented towards the needs of regions (i.e. of the local population) by enabling bottom-up processes and unified development strategies (one region one programme)
- Reward innovative behaviour, by buffering the risk for the single entrepreneur (venture capital)













Green Paper Consultation

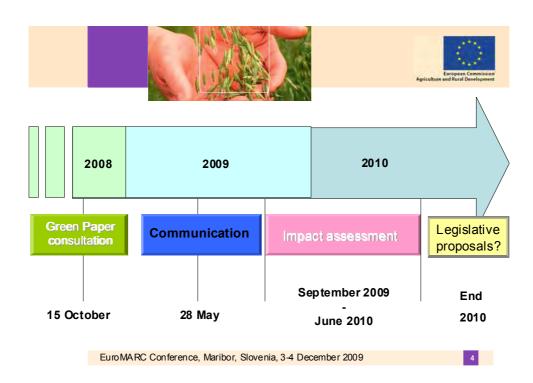
Question 3: what about laying down definitions for general terms such as 'mountain farming'?

→ 560 contributions; large consensus among respondents to give priority in particular to 'mountain' (only processors clearly against)

Arguments: avoid distortion; transparency for consumers; intra EU trade facilitation; protection of added value for producers - BUT need to avoid unnecessary costs



Euro MARC Conference, Maribor, Slovenia, 3-4 December 2009





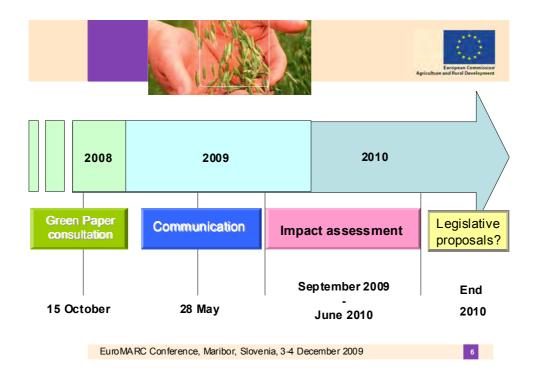


To improve communication between farmers and consumers

- Reserved terms: investigate the feasibility of introducing an optional reserved term: 'product of mountain farming'
- Geographical indications: benefits to mountain products but no specific "Mountain PDO"; guidelines on sustainability criteria
- Private and national food certification schemes: guidelines to reduce consumers confusion and redtape on farmers

Euro MARC Conference, Maribor, Slovenia, 3-4 December 2009

.







Technical analysis that support any legislative proposals

- Identify problems and objectives first
- Define options
- Analyse economic, social and environmental impacts of each option
- Need data
- Assists political choice

Euro MARC Conference, Maribor, Slovenia, 3-4 December 2009







Problems: e.g.

- Mountain products not well identified in marketplace
 farmers in mountain areas do not get a valueadded price premium / consumers not sure they can trust claims
- Definitions of mountains not coherent and most MS do not have any definition
- If consumers cannot identify products produced on farms delivering environmental benefits, they will be reluctant to purchase these products / pay a premium

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Options for term 'mountain' in IA

- Option 1: status quo (same as 'no EU action')
- Option 2: reserve the term 'product of mountain farming' for agricultural products
- Option 3: enable a specific labelling for mountain products
- Option 4: define guidelines to use a specific labelling for products of mountain farming
- Option 5: ...



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Conclusions

- Until June 2010: preparation of impact assessment
 (quantitative) data needed, feedback from stakeholders expected
- (2nd semester) 2010: possible presentation of the guidelines and legislative proposals – to be adopted by Council of ministers and European Parliament

Euro MARC Conference, Maribor, Slovenia, 3-4 December 2009









Thank you for your attention

Vincent CORDONNIER

DG Agriculture and Rural Development Unit H.2 – Agricultural product quality policy

Communication: http://www.ec.europa.eu/agriculture/quality/policy/communication_en.htm

Quality: http://www.ec.europa.eu/agriculture/quality/index en.htm

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Mountains in Rural Development

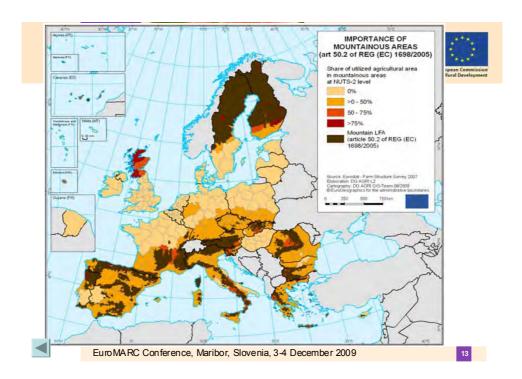
Definition as Least Favoured Areas in Regulation (EC) 1257/1999, art. 18:

- Characterized by considerable limitation of the possibility for using the land and appreciable increase in cost of working
- Existence because of altitude of difficult climatic conditions (shorter growing season)
- At lower altitude, presence of steep slopes requiring the use of expensive equipment
- Areas north of the 62nd Parallel and certain adjacent areas

EuroMARC Conference, Maribor, Slovenia, 3-4 December 2009









Département fédéral de l'économie DF i Office fédéral de l'a criculture OFAG

Protection of the Swiss designations "mountain" and "alp"

4 December 2009

Référence: [Fabasoft Nr. der Unterlage/Fichi er interne]

Instruments of support and differentiation

- Ordinance on contributions to summer pasture
- Ordinance « mountain » and « alp »



Pro tection des désignations su isses | EuroM ARC Mari bor Jacques Henchoz / OFAG / 4 décembre 2009



Objectives of the protection of labels

- · Rules of the game / security of the law
- Tools for the producers (differentiation, segmentation of the offer)
- · Garantee for the consumers
- → The products labelled « mountain » or « alp » must be certified since 1 January 2009.

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Protection of the products from the mountains and alps

The labels « mountain » and « alp » have a market value!

Quality Strategy

Quality is one of the main aces of Swiss agriculture; it enables the products to stay competitive within the country and on the attractive markets abroad.

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Ordinance on contributions for summer pastures

- Art. 1 Scope
 - 1 The contributions for summer pastures are distributed for grazinganimals on summer pastures. (*expressed as livestock units fodder dry matter LUFDM*).
- · Art. 7 Issuing the admissible load with livestock
 - 1 The canton issues, for each summer pasture unit, pastures and pasture communities, *the admissible load* in:
 - a. sheep, except ewes;
 - b. other LUFDM.

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Ordinance on contributions for summer pastures

- Art. 15 Fertilization of the possible pasture surfaces
 - 1 The fertilization of the pastures must favour a balanced floral diversity, rich in different varieties. It has to comply with moderate and gradated utilisation of the pastures.

In principle, fertilizers must come from the summer pasture unit itself.

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Ordinance on contributions for summer pastures

Art. 17 Additional feedingstuff

- 1 To alleviate exceptional situations due to meteorological situations, it shall be permitted to use up to 50 kg of fodder dry matter or 140 kg of silage fodder per normal ration NR (ration for 100 days per animal) and per summer pasture period.
- 2 For the lactating cows and milk sheep and goats, an additional supply of 100 kg of fodder dry matter and of 100 kg of concentrated feedingstuff per NR and per summer pasture period is allowed.
- 4 Detailed records must be kept (date, type, quantity, origine) of the use of additional fodder.

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O Ordinance on the designations « mountain » et « alp »

- Art. 1 Scope
 - 1 This ordinance shall apply to the use of the designations «mountain» et «alp» for unprocessed agricultural crop and livestock products and for processed agricultural crop and livestock products.
- Art. 3 Certification
 - 1 These products can only be labelled as «mountain» or «alp» if the compliance with the requirements has been certified.

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designation « mountain »

Art. 4 Use of the label «mountain»

The label «mountain» may be used for:

 Agricultural products produced in a summer pasture region or in a mountain area as regulated in the Ordinance on Agricultural Areas of 7 December 1998.

Art. 1* Areas and regions

1 The surface used for agriculture is sub-divided in areas and regions in the cadastre of the agricultural production.

*Ordinance on Agricultural Areas of 7 December 1998

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Designation « mountain »

- 2* The region of summer pasture comes up to the surface used by tradition for the alpine economy.
 - 3* The mountain regions:
 - a. mountain area IV;
 - b. mountain area III;
 - c. mountain area II;
 - d. mountain area I.

* Ondinance on the Agricultural Areas of 7D ecember 1998



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Designation « mountain »

Art. 2* Criteria for the delimitation of areas in mountain and lowland regions

- a. Climatic conditions, first of all the duration of the vegetation period;
- b. Channels of communication, first of all the links from the village or from the closest centre;
- c. the configuration of the ground, first of all the terrain in slope and in steep slope.

* Ordinnance on Agricultra l Are as du 7 D écember 1998

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Designation « mountain »

 Processed agricultural products from agricultural products within the meaning of let. a and processed in the summer pasture regions or in a community that is fully or partly in the mountain area or in the summer pasture region.

The label « mountain » may also be used:

- For milk: if the processing of the raw milk to drinking milk has taken place outside of the area according to paragraph
 1:
- For the cheese: if the ripening has taken place outside of the area according to paragraph 1.3



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Designation « mountain »

Art. 5 Feedingstuff

For the products labelled « mountain », at least 70 % of the ration of the ruminants calculated in dry matter must be from the summer pasture region or from a mountain area.

Art. 6 Ingredients

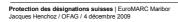
For the products labelled « mountain », the agricultural ingredients must be from the summer pasture region or from a mountain area.

Protection des désignations suisses | EuroMARC Maribor Jacques Henchoz / OFAG / 4 décembre 2009

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👽 Designation « mountain »

- The agricultural ingredients which do not come from the summer pasture region or from a mountain area, may be used provided the farmer is able to satisfy the certification body that insufficient ingredients are available from the summer pasture region or from a mountain area.
- The percentage of these ingredients may not exceed 10 % of the agricultural ingredients in the total of the weight registered at the moment of processing. Sugar and the original non-agricultural ingredients shall not be included.





Designation « mountain »

- Art. 7 Particular prescriptions concerning the production of meat
 - 1 For the products labelled « mountain », the animals for slaughter must have spent at least two thirds of their lives in the summer pasture region or in a mountain area.
 - 2 The animals may be slaughtered outside of the summer pasture region or mountain area, provided the slaughtering takes place within no more than two months after their departure from the summer pasture region or a mountain area.

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Designation « alp »

- Art. 8 Use of the designation « alp »
 - 1 The label « alp» (e.g. cheese from the alp) may be used for:
 - a. Agricultural products produced in the summer pasture region regulated in the Ordinance on Agricultural Areas of;
 - b. Processed agricultural products originating from agricultural products regulated in letter a and processed in the summer pasture region.

Protection des désignations su isses | E uroM ARC Mari bor Jæques Henchoz / OFAG / 4 décembre 2009



Designation « alp »

1bis The designation «alp» may also be used:

- a. for milk: if the processing of the raw milk to drinking milk takes place outside of the area;
- b. For cheese: if the ripening takes place outside of the area.

Art. 9 Special provisions for products from the alps

1 For the products with the label «alp», the agricultural ingredients must be from a summer pasture region (exceptions idem as for « mountain »).

Protection des désignations su isses | EuroM ARC Mari bor Jacques Henchoz / OFAG / 4 décembre 2009

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Certification body

- Art. 10 Inspection by the certification body
 - The inspection of compliance with the requirements of the ordinance at hand shall be carried out at the holdings that use the labels « mountain » or « alp » on their final products (users) at least once every two years. The inspections are carried out by
 - a certification body appointed by the user or
 - an inspection body mandated by the certification body.



Pro tection des désignations su isses | E uroM ARC Mari bor Jacques Henchoz / OFAG / 4 décembre 2009



Certification bodies

Art. 12 Certification bodies

- 1 For their activities the certification and inspection body must be:
- a. Accredited in Switzerland;
- b. Approved by Switzerland within an international agreement, or
- c. Authorized or approved for the activity within Swiss law.
- 2 The certification body shall together with the user draw up a report including the elements of control.

Protection des désignations su isses | EuroM ARC Mari bor Jacques Henchoz / OFAG / 4 décembre 2009

1

Thank you for your attention



Protection des désignations su isses | EuroMARC Mari bor Jacques Henchoz / OFAG / 4 décembre 2009





<u>Policy recommendations</u> from the EuroMARC research project

Ancuta PASCA, Euromontana



The official outputs of EuroMARC

- Policy recommendations for stakeholders at every decision-making level: European, country, regional/local
- Guidelines for actors in mountain product supply chains, advisory services, tourism sector





Key points

- What EuroMARC tells us:
 - · There is a latent demand for MP
 - · Supply chains are not organised enough to use that opportunity
- MP potential could be further exploited with:
 - · Better identification of mountain products
 - · Better organisation of supply chains
 - · Better communication and marketing towards consumers
- What could be the role of EU institutions and EU policies in fostering development of MP?



3

The latent demand: The positive image of mountain products

- Respondents have, in general, a positive image of mountain products:
 - **Consumers** associate the word "mountain" with nature and purity and they consider mountain food as special, natural, products of good quality.
 - Retailers and members of supply chains characterize MQFP by their taste, provenance, traditional type of production and natural environment. The official labels were not main characteristics.
 - → How can we help them to identify these products?





A European protection framework

Why a framework at EU level:

- Countries/regions taking action
- Distortion of the single market (abundance of products and no definition)

3 options:

- A minima: Harmonised definition of the mountain areas and of mountain products at the EU level
- Creation of a reserved term for the mountain products
- Establishment of a Mountain Products « Label »



-5

 EuroMARC consumers very supportive for the creation of a Mountain Products label

from 64% in Norway and Scotland (least supportive) to 92% in Slovenia (most supportive)

	<u>Austria</u>	France	Norway	Scotland	Slovenia	Overall
Yes (%)	83	83	<u>64</u>	<u>64</u>	92	<u>81</u>
No (%)	10	11	<u>19</u>	<u>12</u>	6	<u>10</u>
Number of	338	<u>359</u>	303	302	302	1904
<u>respondents</u>						

- The retailers agree only under some conditions:
 - strong communication of the label
 - promotion of the mountain provenance
 - promotion of products' qualities

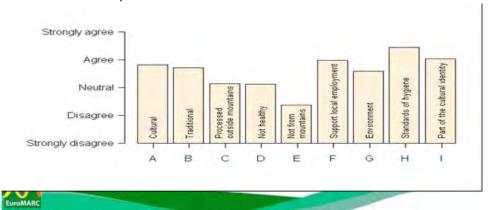


- 6



Defining clear criteria for a protection of mountain quality food products

What is important for consumers?



Recommendation 2

Maintaining and using possibilities of the interpretation of European legislation

Respondents pointed out that the existing regulatory systems, especially those on hygiene, can disadvantage mountain (small-scale) producers, as costs linked to their enforcement can be very high.







Raising awareness on the opportunities that MQFP represent for actors of supply chains

An awareness raising campaign should be launched to make actors in the food chains aware of the potential interest in mountain quality food products and to organise themselves in relation to market trends.



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Recommendation 4

Fostering the production of mountain quality food products

- Supporting environmentally-friendly methods of production in mountain areas
- · Developing producers business skills
- Supporting innovation in the mountain quality food products supply chain
- Prioritising the development of infrastructures in mountain areas



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Fostering collaboration inside mountain quality food products' supply chains

- Giving special assistance to low-volume supply chains
- Helping actors to overcome bottlenecks of mountain production



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Recommendations 6

Supporting market penetration by communication about mountain quality food products to consumers

- Communicating about mountain quality products as a specific category of products
 - > First step definition of a marketing term
 - > Communication of the mountain products as a category
- Giving value to cross-fertilising communication on products and the presentation of production regions



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About EuroMARC

What is EuroMARC?

The EuroMARC project "European To obtain this overview, the Euro- Practical quidelines: their objecand consumers" (project no. SSPE- faceted research programme: CT-2006-044279) is a three-year research project, involving 10 partners from six countries under the overall coordination of Euromontana and the scientific coordination of ENITA Clermont-Ferrand.

The research project considered the perception and interest of the European consumers in mountain foods as well as supply chains for mountain food products in six different countries (Austria, France, Norway, Romania, Scotland and Slovenia) and was commissioned against • quality food policies. New developments (e.g. interest in clarifying the systems of quality certification, in improving their communication to the European consumer, and the need to provide consumers more information about food products on the market) present challenges and opportunities for all actors of the food sector in mountain areas, from farmers to retailers.

Euro-MARC provides a representative overview of the different opinions and expectations regarding mountain food products, along the food chain from farmers, processors and retailers to consumers, as well as a panorama of the policies supporting mountain products.

The work carried on

Mountain Agrofood products, retailing MARC partners undertook a multi- tives are to provide advice and hints

- 1904 consumers answered a questionnaire and another 184 persons participated in discussion groups which focused on some specific mountain products
- 1765 mountain products were observed on the shelves of outlets in the 6 countries,
- 638 distributors were interviewed (of which 514 by a written questionnaire)
- 4 types of products were anaa background of changing European lysed along the entire supply chain (water, fruits and vegetables, meat products, milk and milk products),
 - 10 cases of regional food initiatives (LEADER-like or not) in mountain areas were compared, and
 - European level were interviewed

The outputs

to further develop the production of mountain quality food and to increase the financial return from their marketing for all actors of mountain supply chains. They are dedicated to:

- all actors in supply chains for mountain products (farmers, processors, retailers);
- enterprises and people working in related sectors, like the tourism sector;
- extension services (public or private) working with enterprises in the mountain products supply chains.

Policy recommendations: based on the results of EuroMARC, a list of political recommendations for policymakers have been prepared. For each policy level; European, coun-50 policy makers from local to the try and regional/local, a summary of the recommendations has been adapted.

The guidelines and the policy recommendations as well as more information on the project are available on the EuroMARC webpage on:

www.mountainproducts-europe.org



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION...

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