



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
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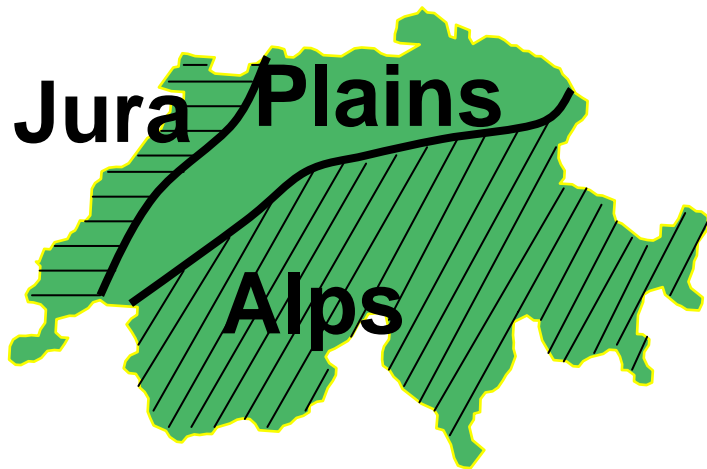
Eidgenössisches Volkswirtschaftsdepartement EVD  
Bundesamt für Landwirtschaft BLW

# Organic Agriculture in Switzerland

October 2007



# Switzerland



- Permanent residents  
7.3 Million
- 4 Languages (German, French, Italian, Rhaeto-Rumantsch)
- A total area of 41'293 square kilometers
- Mountains :
  - 2/3 of the Swiss area
  - 1/4 of the population



# Swiss Agriculture: Some Facts

1. Land use: 1 million hectares (25%)
2. Farms: 60'000 (70% full-time)  
55% on hill- and mountainside  
average farm size: 15 ha
3. Labour force: 4%;  
Share of GDP: 1%
4. Predominant production: milk, meat
5. Level of self-sufficiency: 60%
6. EC market shares in Swiss agricultural  
imports = 80% / Export = 70%

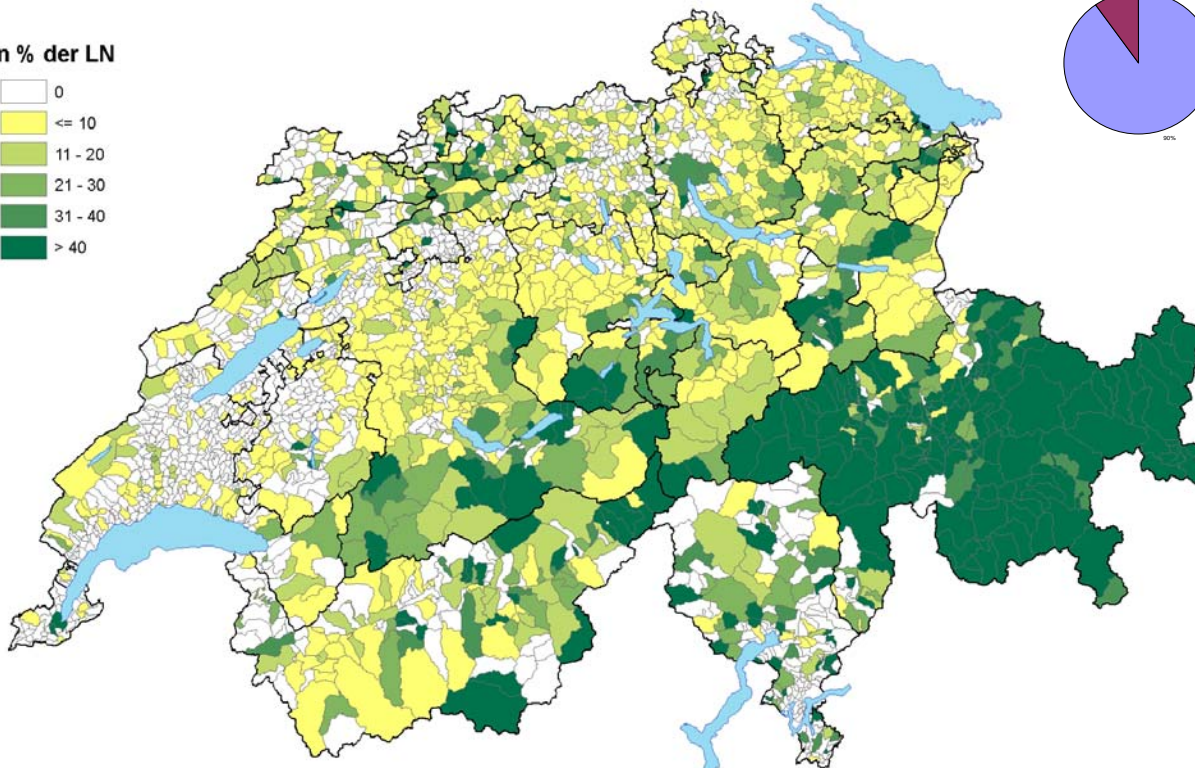
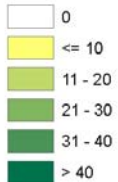




# Organic Agriculture

## Biologisch bewirtschaftete Fläche 2005

in % der LN



Legende:  
Werte pro Gemeinde, Summe der biologisch bewirtschaftete Fläche [ha]  
dividiert durch die LN [ha] der zu Beiträgen berechtigten Betriebe

Kartendaten GG25 © Swisstopo - Quelle: Bundesamt für Landwirtschaft - AGIS/GIS06

- 11.2% of the farms
- 10.5% of the total agricultural area
- SFr. 160.- per capita consumer expenditure for organic food annually (total turnover: 1.18 Mio. SFr.)



# Swiss Organic Market:

## Snap shots

- Market share organic products (OP) by value: 6.4 % (2004)
- 75 % of OP sold via two retailers: Coop and Migros
- Market share Coop: 50 %  
Market share Migros: 25 %
- High percentage of regular OP buyers (11 %)
- High percentage of occasional OP buyers (65 %)
- Strong private organic label: „Knospe“ („Bud“)
- Strong retailer brand: „naturaplan“ (Coop)

Source: Bio Suisse



# Swiss Organic Farming Ordinance

- Equivalent with requirements of the EC (bilateral agreement)
- In line with requirements of Codex Alimentarius Guidelines
- JAS (Japan): formal approval of equivalence by MAFF
- Inspection by ISO 65-accredited certification bodies



# Specifics of the Swiss legislation I (general)

Agriculture:

- Whole-farm conversion
- Conversion period of two years



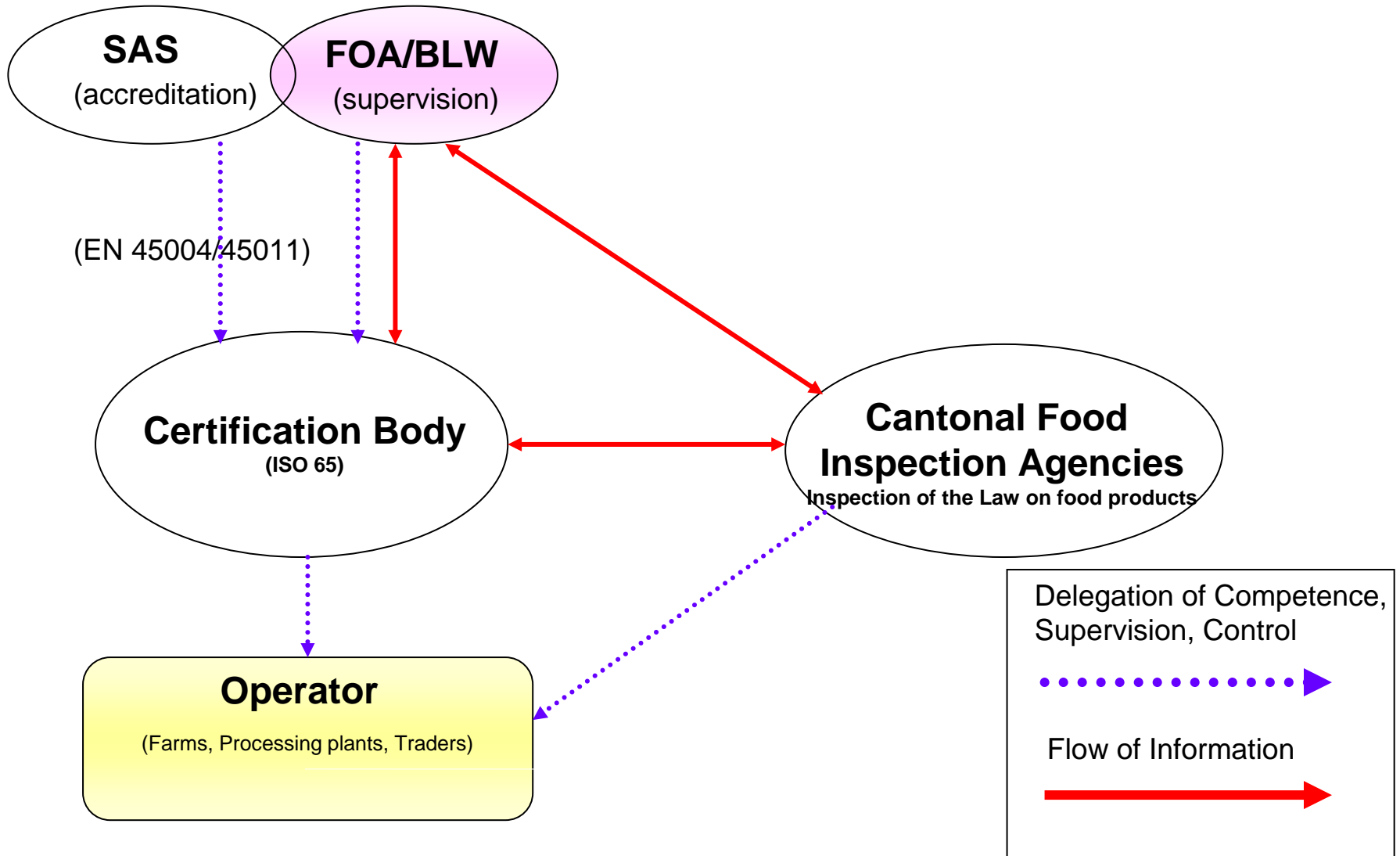
# Specifics of the Swiss legislation II (animal husbandry)

- Basis: Federal programme for „regular outdoor exercise for livestock“
- Soil-bound (no „factory farms“), minimum of 50 % of fodder from own farm





# Swiss Inspection System





# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!