

Activities of the project office in 2024



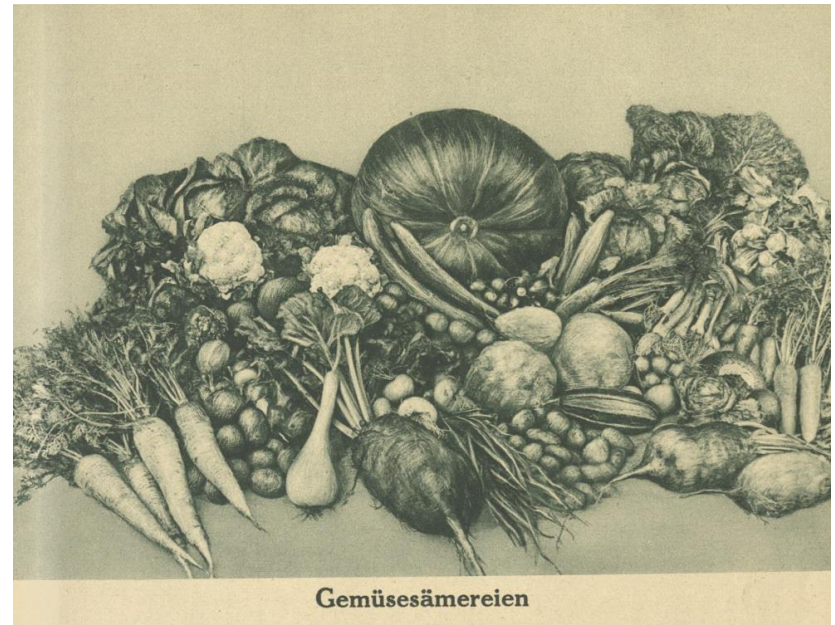
SAVE
foundation

SAVE Annual Meeting, 9-11 September 2024, Torino, Italy

Project start: Historical vegetable varieties in Switzerland



- **Historical Inventory:** comprises a total of 5,528 vegetable, potato and aromatic herb varieties that were cultivated, traded or studied in Switzerland between 1800 and 1960 with 43,407 items of variety information
- current project: link accessions with information of the Historical Inventory
- funded by the Swiss Federal Department of Agriculture (FOAG)
- kick-off in May 2024, duration: 2024 – 2025, budget 60 kCHF



Gemüsesämereien

<https://www.pgrel.admin.ch/pgrel/#/list/variety/detail/1000951/varieties>; figure: Späth-Buch 1720-1930; 1930; Editor: L. Späth, Grossbetrieb für Gartenkultur; Berlin-Baumschulenweg

Wild fruits: creative workshop with top cooks



- Aim: develop new and creative recipes for wild fruits
- 8 top chefs participated in the workshop which took place on 24. January 2024 in Zurich
- recipes are published on:
<https://wildobst.info/wp-content/uploads/rezepte-kreativ.pdf> (in German)



Wild fruits: new data on knowledge database



- Translation of posts into French and English
 - French:
 - 16 menu-texts
 - about 300 species descriptions
 - English:
 - 16 menu-texts
 - about 50 species descriptions
- New specialized text on phytochemicals (DE, FR)



www.wildobst.info

Kosovar Balusha sheep



- Local sheep breed, strain of Pramenka sheep
- evolved in mountainous regions of Kosovo over 2000 years
- SAVE Foundation initiated and funded a genetic study*

→ Aim: conservation project

- Development and implementation of a conservation programme
- Formation of new nucleus groups
- study trip and workshop to inform stakeholders about the importance of conservation and to demonstrate options for valorization
- Public relations to raise awareness
- [Project-concept-Conservation-of-Balusha-sheep-SAVE-Foundation.pdf](#)
- Fundraising is running



* Adeniyi et al. Genes 2022, 13, 866. <https://doi.org/10.3390/genes13050866>

Cattle breeds of the Dodecanese

(1/2)



- Dodecanese: archipelago comprising 12 islands with Rhodes being the main island
- There are three local cattle breeds:
 - Agathonisi-Lipsi: 110-115 cm, used for meat production
 - Nisyros: 122-125 cm, used for meat production (formerly also milked)
 - Kastelorizo: 98-110 cm



Agathonisi-Lipsi cattle



Nisyros cattle



Kastelorizo cattle

Cattle breeds of the Dodecanese

(2/2)



- During the past 11 years Stefano Dellepiane from Amalthia visited the islands on a voluntary basis and kept track of the herds and animals
- Monitoring trip in summer 2023
- Animal numbers: Agathonisi-Lipsi: ~50, Nisyros: ~40, Kastelorizo: 12
- Project concept developed:
 - urgent actions
 - implementation of herdbook
 - conservation programme
 - genetic analyses
- Fundraising is running but difficult



Survey: Zoological gardens and rare livestock breeds



- **Aim: if and how can zoological gardens play a role in the conservation of rare livestock breeds?**
- Online survey end 2023/beginning 2024
- Survey was shared with the networks of EAZA (European Association of Zoos and Aquaria), VDZ (Association of German Zoological Gardens) and FAO DAD-net
- 46 zoos participated, 43 were included in analysis

Zoological Gardens and rare livestock breeds (2/2)



Survey is divided into two sections:

1st part:

general questions regarding European livestock breeds in zoos, i.e. whether the zoological garden already keeps or breeds rare livestock breeds, in which activities the zoo is or could be involved etc.

2nd part:

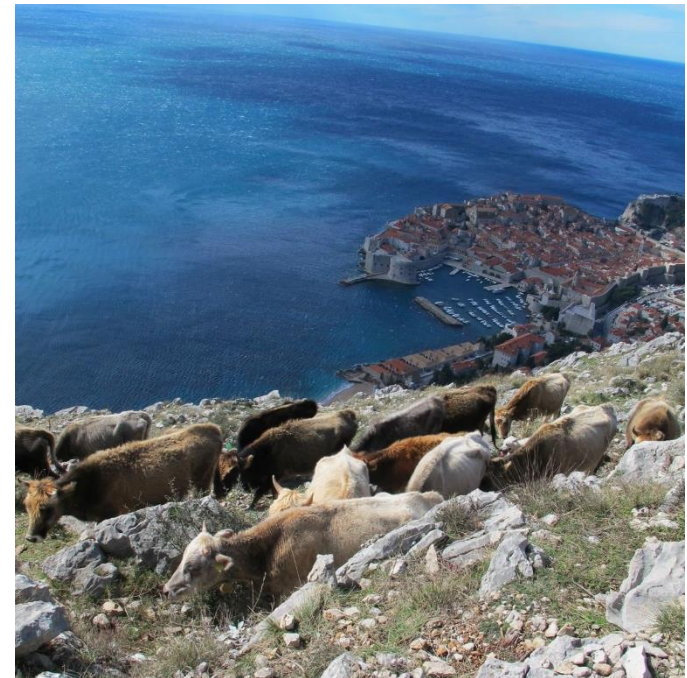
addresses zoos that keep rare livestock breeds and asks for data on livestock populations and use.

Analysis of survey is in progress. 😊

Survey: Busha-cattle



- Busha cattle: transboundary cattle breed of the Balkans
- BushaLive: project funded by FAO, realized from 2013 to 2015*
<https://save-foundation.net/en/balkan/>
- follow-up survey with regard to animal numbers and use of cattle in 2019/20
- latest survey in 2023/24
- analysis of recent survey is in progress



Herd of Busha cattle above Dubrovnik

* some results have been published: Broxham, E.T.; Kugler, W.; Medugorac, I. (2015) Front. Genet. **6**:73
<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/genetics/articles/10.3389/fgene.2015.00073/full>

Arca-Net

www.arca-net.info



- Originally initiated to assist farms in the promotion of products from traditional livestock breeds
- Extended to cover also crop varieties
- August 2024: 774 institutions registered of which 482 keep animals (15 animal species, 790 breeds)

The screenshot shows the Arca-Net website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Arca-Net', 'Search', 'Map', and 'About'. Below this, there are flags for Germany, UK, and Italy. A search bar is present. The main content area is titled 'Arche-Hof Birk' and includes tabs for 'Details', 'Directions', 'Animals', 'Plants', and 'Products'. The 'Details' tab is active, displaying the following information:

Address
Arche-Hof Birk
Helingerstr. 9
DE - 87480 Weitnau - Hellengerst

Telefon: 08378/932669
Fax: 08378/923494
Email: → archehof@bio-birk.de
Webseite: → <http://www.bio-birk.de/>

Category
Ark Institution
City Farm/School Farm

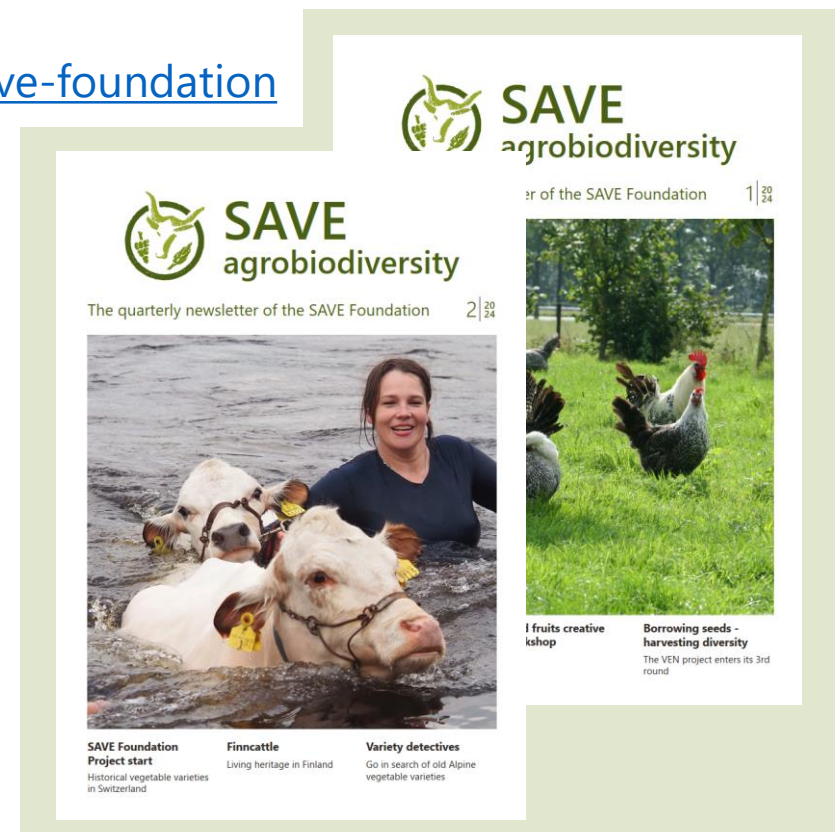
Arc
GEH

To the right of the text is a photograph of a brown cow grazing in a green field. Below the main content, there is a 'Networks' section with a thumbnail image of a website and the text 'European Agrobiodiversity Network'.

Further activities



- Quarterly newsletter: redesign and set-up of new mailing distribution
- New profile on linkedIn:
 - <https://ch.linkedin.com/company/save-foundation>
 - 101 Follower
- Presentation of activities with regard to animal genetic resources at the ERFPA General Assembly (August, Florence)
- member of EU-LI-PHE (European Network of Livestock Phenomics) since March 2024 (<https://eu-li-phe.eu/>)





Thank you
for your attention