



AGES

**Austrian Agency for Health & Food
Safety**

Division for Food Security

2015

B. Foeger

Head of Institute for Sustainable Plant Production

Data, Facts, Figures



Founded on June 1, 2002

Fusion of 18 Federal Agencies and Offices

Health and Food Safety Act (GESG)

Legal basis

Republic of Austria

Owner and Main Contracting Authority

60% Ministry of Health

40% Ministry of Agriculture,...



lebensministerium.at

~ 1,400 Staff

at its locations in Vienna, Graz, Innsbruck, Linz, Mödling and Salzburg

900,000 samples tested with
7.2 million individual analyses/year

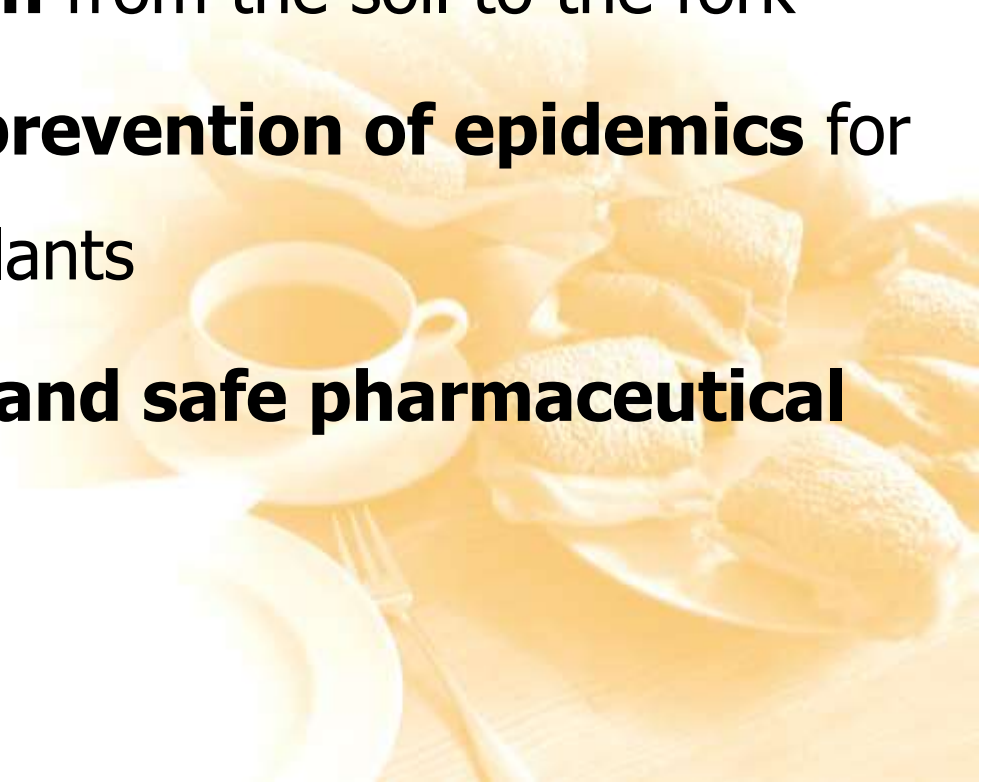
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What is AGES aiming at ?



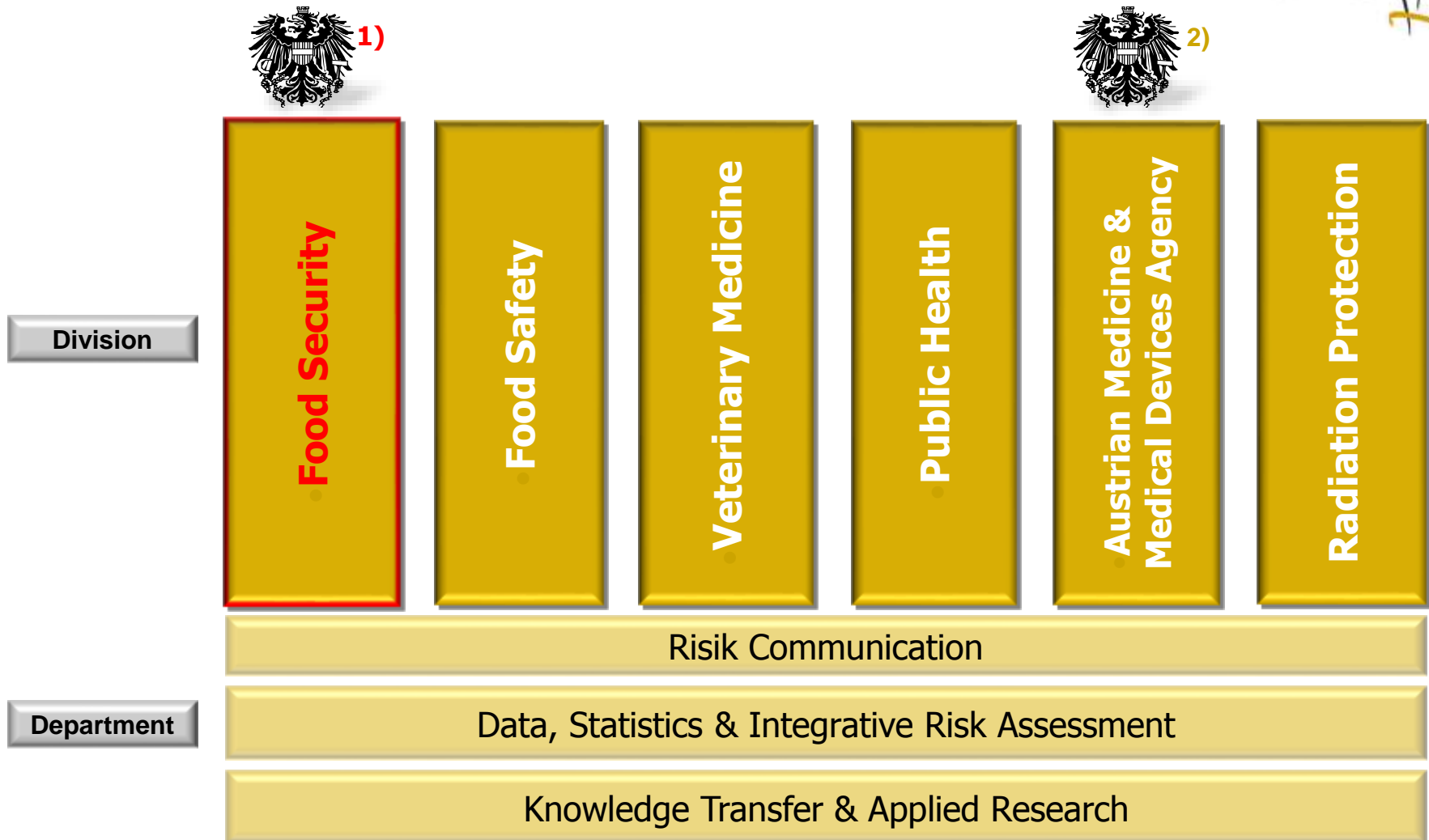
- **Safe food production** from the soil to the fork
- Effective control and **prevention of epidemics** for people, animals and plants
- **Providing effective and safe pharmaceutical products**



AGES tasks along the Food Production Cycle



AGES-Structure



1) Austrian Federal Office for Food Safety

2) Austrian Federal Office for Safety in Healthcare

Data



Analytics and appraisal	~ p.a.
Tests	770.000
Analytic results	7.300.000
Expert opinions (food safety)	25.500
Risk assessments	50
National and international committees	700

Authorities	Decisions	of them Authorizations
BASG	~ 32.500	~ 600
BAES	~ 23.500	~ 20.500

Research/Capacity Building	~ p.a.
Research and knowlegde Transfer Projects ongoing (finished)	120 (45)
Publications peer reviewed	100
Publications popular science	200
Presentations	750
Training, workshops and symposia	100

Staff (2014)	~ Number
Staff in total	1.350
Experts	570
Assessors	290
Memberships in national or international committees	200
Scientific staff	400
PhD/Univ. Prof.	250/13

- Seeds & Potato plant material
- Plant varieties
- Plant genetic resources
- Soil health & Plant nutrition
- Plant protection products
- Plant health
- Feeding stuffs
- Apiculture
- Specific analytics
- Agricultural experimentation
- Marketing standards

Pflanzenschutz- >>
mittelregister





Authority of 1st Instance

(Superior authority: Higher Administrative Court)

Puts into effect the following special administrative laws:

- Seed Act
- Propagative Material Act
- Plant Variety Protection Act
- Plant Protection Product Act
- Plant Protection Act
- Feed act
- Fertilizer Act
- Marketing Standards Act
- IUU Fishing Regulation



Focus of presentation



1. Plant Genetic Resources
2. Variety Registration
3. Agricultural Experimentation
4. International Cooperation



AGES – Plant Genetic Resources



- Collection, conservation, characterization, evaluation, documentation of PGRFA
- Genebank of agricultural crops and medicinal and aromatic plants (~ 5.000 accessions)
- National database on plant genetic resources
- National coordination on preservation of PGRFA
- ECPGR working groups and international cooperation
- Supporting utilization of PGR eg. on farms
- Material transfer of PGR





AUSTRIA: VARIETY REGISTRATION



DUS-test : The variety must fulfill the criteria

- D**istinctness
- U**niformity
- S**tability

VCU: (Value of Cultivation and Use & **Environmental Benefits**)

Compared with other varieties the candidate should be:

- better in an important character or
- better combination of these characters

Variety denomination



Austrian List of Varieties



EU Common Catalogue of Varieties

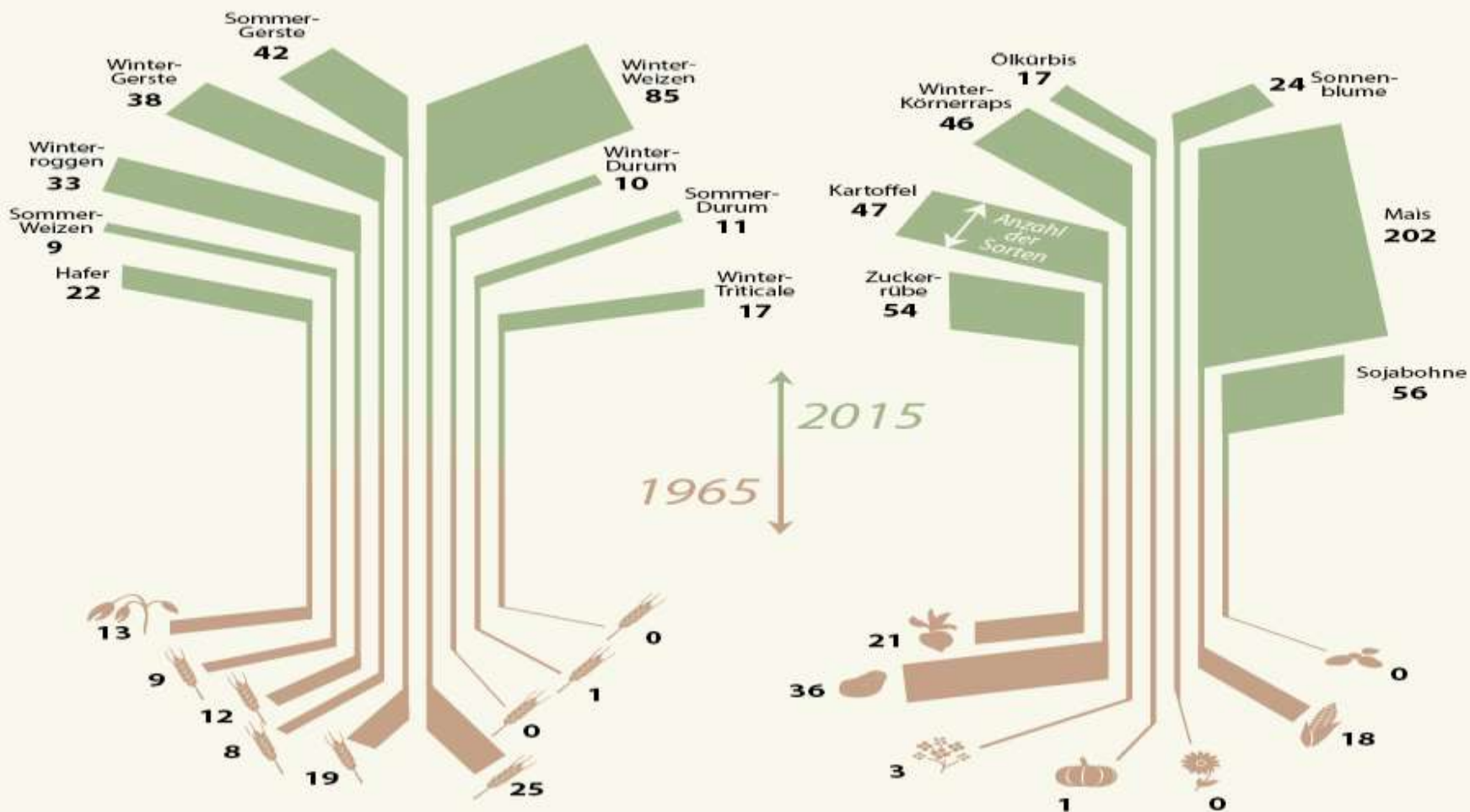


Austrian Descriptive List of Varieties

Number of plant varieties in Austria 1965 : 2015

Landwirtschaftliche Kulturartenzahl in Österreich

1965 im Vergleich zu 2015



Field trial sites of AGES

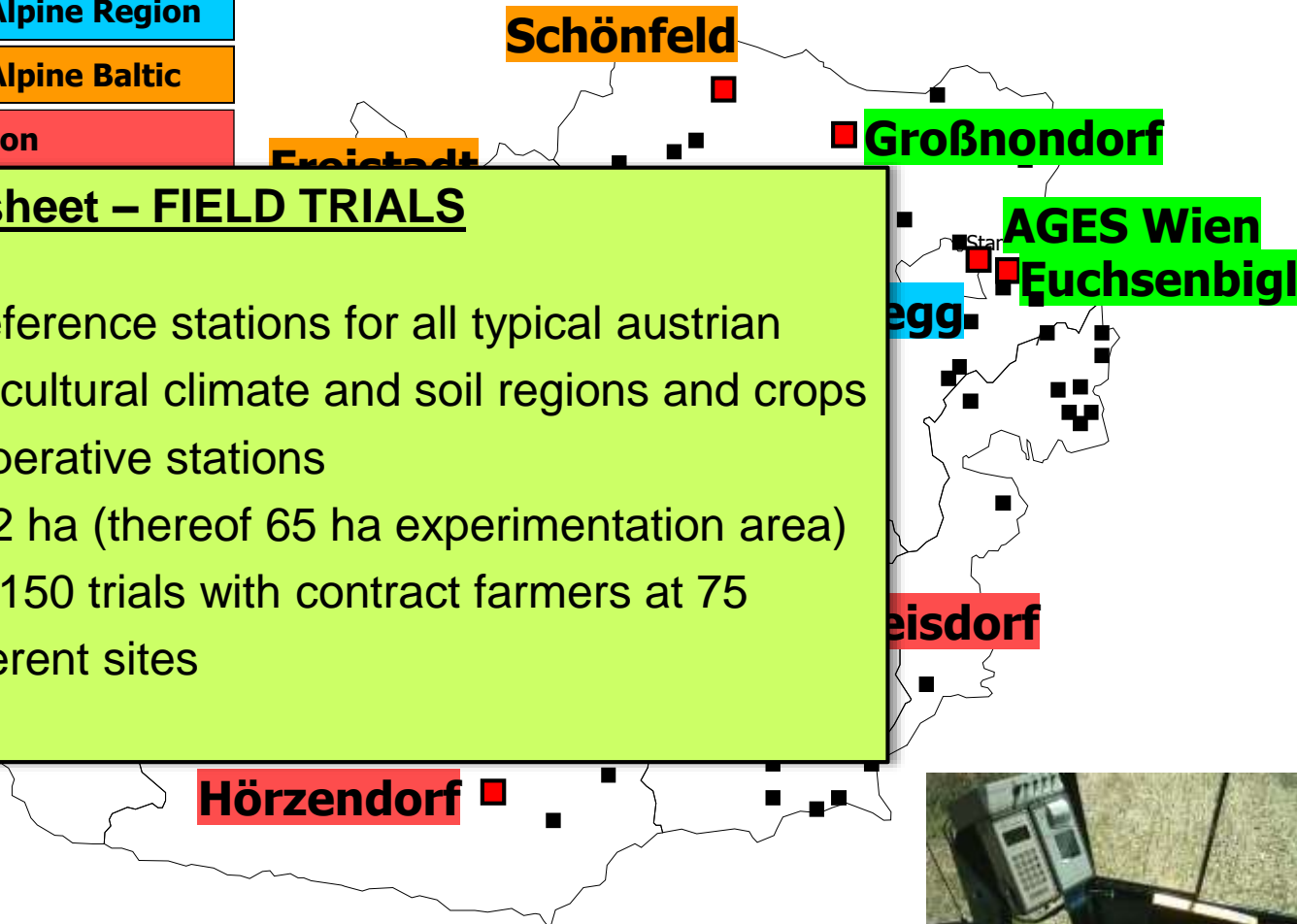


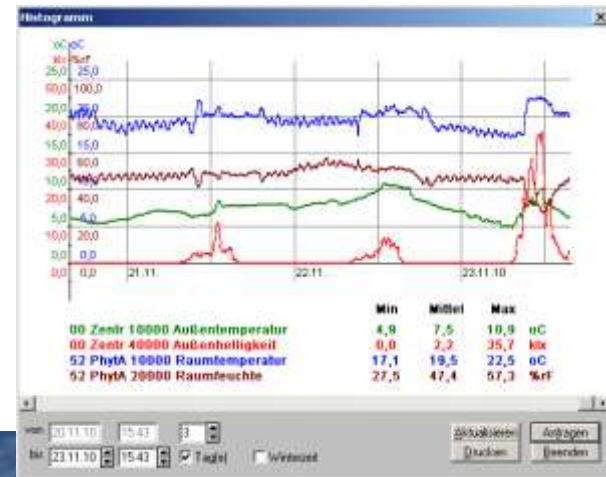
- Reference-station Pannonic Region
- Reference-station Northern-Alpine Region
- Reference-station Northern-Alpine Baltic
- Reference-station Illyric Region

■ Experiment

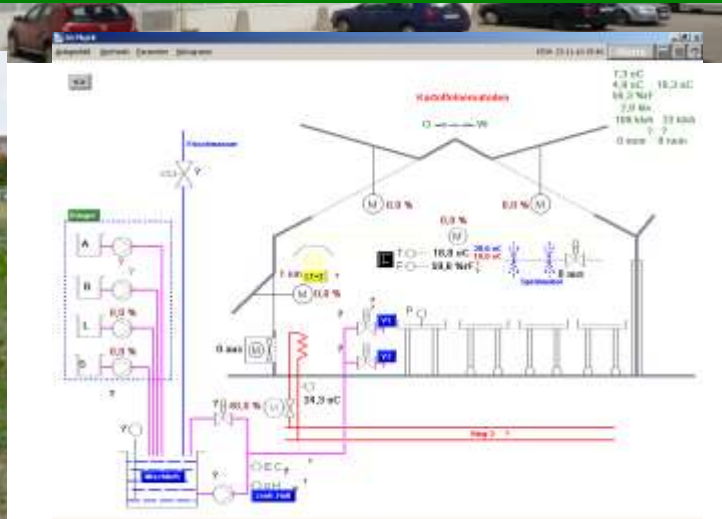
Data sheet – FIELD TRIALS

- 4 reference stations for all typical austrian agricultural climate and soil regions and crops
- 8 operative stations
- ~ 82 ha (thereof 65 ha experimentation area)
- ca. 150 trials with contract farmers at 75 different sites





Experimental Facilities



Technical experimentation infrastructure

Greenhouse



Station for pot plants



Greenhouse



Phytotrone



Tissue-culture



Technical infrastructure



International cooperation



1. Capacity building
2. Research projects
3. Scientific Cooperation



Capacity building projects



Twinnings

- Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA 09 IB AG 01 TWL): Strengthening of the capacities of the phytosanitary services in BiH
- Bulgaria (BG/2007/IB/AG/06/UE/TWL): Testing, Field Inspection and Seed Control for GMO control of seed and propagating material
- Czech Republic (CZ/06/IB/AG/08-TL): Improved Implementation of Acquis in the Area of Food Safety Surveillance
- Slovakia (SK06/IB/HE/01/TL): Improving analyses and risk assessments regarding residue pesticides
- Turkey TR 07 IB EN 01, Capacity strengthening and support of implementation of Nitrates Directive in Turkey (in co-operation with Austrian Environmental Agency–UBA)
- Latvia (LV/2006/IB/AG-02TL): Strengthening of the capacity of the Competent Authorities on the application of food hygiene requirements in the specific sectors of food chain, running (in cooperation with Agrarmarkt Austria -AMA)
- Czech Republic (CZ/05/IB/AG/01-TL): The optimization of CISTA control activities in the field of feedingstuffs safety in the frame of Reg (EC) 882/2004 implementation
- Serbia (SR/06/IB/JH/01): Implementation of Integrated Border Management in Serbia (in cooperation with the Austrian Agency for European Integration and Economic Development-AEI)
- Lithuania (LT/2005/IB/AG01): Administration of Import/Export, Market Information System, effective use of Farm Accountancy Data Network and Organic Agriculture (in cooperation with Agrarmarkt Austria-AMA)
- Slovenia (SI/2005/IB/AG/04): Risk assessment methodology and Risk assessment in the food chain regarding microorganisms (in cooperation with Agrarmarkt Austria-AMA)
- Bulgaria (BG/2004/IB/EC/01): Strengthening of the system for health control on trade with chemical substances, preparations and products and strengthening the capacity for control on the novel foods and novel food ingredients, and for control on the irradiated foods and food ingredients (in co-operation with Austrian Environmental Agency–UBA)
- Cyprus (CY/2003/IB/EN/01/TL): Developing of capabilities for integrated risk assessment of chemicals at State General Laboratory (SGL)* (in co-operation with Austrian Environmental Agency–UBA),
- Slovakia (SK/03/IB/EN/02): Biosafety Monitoring System (in co-operation with Umweltbundesamt–UBA)
- Slovenia (SI/2003/IB/EC/02): Further development of chemical safety (in co-operation with Umweltbundesamt-UBA)
- Regional Countries (West Balkan): EU-CARDS Regional Programme "Support to and Coordination of Integrated Border Management Strategies"

Capacity building projects



Better training for safer food

e.g.: European commission, organisation and implementation of training activities concerning the evaluation and registration of plant protection products and control of their proper use and marketing

Development Cooperation

Serbia: Integrated Regional Development Plan of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (agriculture, organic agriculture)

Bilateral Projects

- Saudi Arabia: Laboratory training for experts of the Saudi Food and Drug Authority (since 2010)
- Croatia: Laboratory trainings
- Lithuania (2008): Workshop – GMO in feed inspections for Lithuanian officials
- Bulgaria – TAIEX (2007): Workshop on phytosanitary inspections at import and transit

Cooperation with international organisations

- UNIDO: "Food Safety Infrastructure in Palestine - The way forward" (2010)
- UNIDO: Thai national food institute study visit (2010)
- IAEA: Bangladesh: Establishing a Veterinary Drug Residue Laboratory
Algeria: Training Laboratory "Antibiotic Residues in Food of Animal Origin"
Various countries: "Development of Radiometric and Allied Analytical Methods to Strengthen National Residue Control Programmes for Antibiotic and Anthelmintic Veterinary Drug Residues" (2009 - 2013)

Research - challenges

- Climate change adaptation
- Food security
- Food safety
- Human health
- Plant health
- Animal health
- Risk assessment

National research projects



Examples:

- Consequences of climate change on ecosystem functions, water balance, productivity and biodiversity of agricultural soils in the Pannonian area.
- Modelling epidemiological and economic consequences of Grapevine Flavescence dorée phytoplasma to Austrian viticulture under a climate change scenario
- Climate change induced invasion and socio-economic impacts of allergy-inducing plants in Austria
- Food security risks for Austria caused by climate change
- Appearance of *Diabrotica virgifera virgifera* L. in Austria
- Copper as Plant Protection Product – Strategy for a sustainable use
- Development of a geo referenced exposure model for the evaluation of Plant Protection Products regarding ground water contamination risks
- Losses of honey bee colonies during hibernation or in supposed cases of intentional colony destruction - what were the reasons?
- Dust as an indicator for the detection of *Salmonella* in the Austrian production of mixed feed in storage facilities and along the production chain

EU research projects



UMBRELLA	Using MicroBes for the REgulation of heavy metaL mobiLity at ecosystem and landscape scAle: an integrative approach for soil remediation by geobiological processes	FP7-ENV-2008-1	FP7
ERINHA	European Research Infrastructure on Highly Pathogenic Agents	FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2010-1	FP7
PROMISE	Protection of consumers by microbial risk mitigation through combating segregation of expertise	FP7-KBBE-2010-4	FP7
EUPHRESCO	Coordination of European Phytosanitary (Statutory Plant Health) Research Coordination II	FP7-ERANET-2010-RTD	FP7
CATCH-C	Compatibility of Agricultural Management Practices and Types of Farming in the EU to enhance Climate Change Mitigation and Soil Health	FP7-KBBE-2011-5	FP7
SNIFFER	Sensory devices network for food supply chain security	FP7-SEC-2012-1	FP7
SPICED	Securing the spices and herbs commodity chains in Europe against deliberate, accidental or natural biological and chemical contamination	FP7-SEC-2012-1	FP7
Q-collect	Coordination and Collaboration between reference collections of plant pests and diseases for EU Plant Health Policy	FP7-KBBE-2013-7-single-stage	FP7
C-IPM	Coordinated Integrated Pest Management in Europe	FP7-ERANET-2013-RTD	FP7

EU research projects



FATIMA	Farming Tools for external nutrient Inputs and water Management	H2020-SFS-2014-2	H2020
LANDMARK	LAND Management: Assessment, Research, Knowledge base	H2020-SFS-2014-2	H2020
INSPIRATION	Integrated Spatial Planning, land use and soil management Research Action	H2020-SC5-2014-one-stage	H2020
VISTART	Vigilance and Inspection for the Safety of Transfusion, Assisted Reproduction and Transplantation	HP-JA-2014 - BASG	3HP
EMERGE	Efficient response to highly dangerous and emerging pathogens at EU level	HP-JA-2014	3HP
COENJA2014	Joint Market Surveillance Actions on medical devices intended to be re-sterilized focusing on information in the Instruction for use and validation data necessary for the re-sterilisation by the user	HP-JA-2014 - BASG	3HP

EFSA Studies



ongoing:

Apple-pest	Collection of data and information with ELS approach for the EU-28 regarding EU pests and pathogens of apple fruit	RC/EFSA/ALPHA/2014/
RONDOS	Review of nonmonotonic dose-responses of substances for human risk assessment	GP/EFSA/SCER/2014/01
PESTREP	Scientific and technical assistance on the drafting of the 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 Annual Reports on Pesticide Residues", CFT/EFSA/PRAPER/2010/01	CFT/EFSA/PRAPER/2010/01

finished:

MOs_as_PPP	Literature search and data collection on RA for human health for microorganisms used as plant protection products	OC/EFSA/PRAS/2013/02
ALPHA	Preparatory work for the pest categorization of 3 bacteria listed in the annexes of the Council directive 2000/29/EC	NP/EFSA/ALPHA/2014/06-CT01
DATA2014	Re-coding of the food descriptors of EFSA Chemical Occurrence Database and Food Consumption Database entries according to the FoodEx2 food classification and description system	NP/EFSA/DATA/2014/02
BIOMO2013	Updating and revising the historical datasets in EFSA's Zoonoses databases	OC/EFSA/BIOMO/2013/01 LOT 2
CaSPeRL	Case studies for the application of the Guidance of EFSA on Submission of scientific peer-reviewed open literature for the approval of pesticide active substances under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009, using substances for which dossiers are submitted under Regulation (EU) No 1141/2010	CFP/EFSA/PRAS/2012/01

EFSA Studies



finished:

BIOHAZARD	EFSA2 Food of plant origin with low water content (such as seeds, nuts, cereals, and spices): production methods Food of Plant Origin: Production methods and microbiological hazards linked to foodborne disease."	CFT/EFSA/BIOHAZ/2012/01
BIOMO-Zoonosendatenü bermittlung	Implementation and testing of electronic submission in XML format of zoonoses, zoonotic agents, animal population, antimicrobial resistance and food-borne outbreaks data in the European Union	CFP/EFSA/BIOMO/2011/01
PRIMA PHACIE	EFSA: Pest risk assessment for the European Community plant health: A comparative approach with case studies	---
---	Impact of metabolic and degradation processes on the toxicological properties of residues of pesticides in food commodities - Tox. Residues of pesticides in food commodities	CFP/EFSA/PPR/2008/02
WRAPSTUN	Entwicklung von Risikobewertungsrichtlinien für das Töten und Betäuben von Tieren	CFP/EFSA/AHAW/2007/01
---	Development of a standard food classification and data model as a basis for the collection of chemical occurrence data (LMSVG; GESG)	---

Aims and targets of the Division for Food Security



Execution of law



Competitiveness



Research (Scientific work)

Food security / Sustainability



Dissemination



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