



Dominic N. Annen

Dipl.-Ing. Lebensmitteltechnologie

Institute for Food and Resource Economics
Department of Economic and Agricultural Policy

Staff member since May 2007
Phone: +49 (0) 228 / 73 - 2328
dominic.annen@ilr.uni-bonn.de



RHEINISCHE FRIEDRICH-WILHELMS-UNIVERSITÄT

Doctoral Project

**AN INTEGRATED EVALUATION OF MINIMUM ANIMAL WELFARE
STANDARDS OF HOUSING CONDITIONS EXISTENT ON
AUSTRIAN AND GERMAN PIG FATTENING AND CATTLE FARMS**

Short description

On June 26th 2003, EU farm ministers adopted a fundamental reform of the common agricultural policy (CAP), based on the "decoupling" of subsidies from specific crops as well as its modulation and linkage to the adherence of "cross compliance"(CC)-conditions related to environmental, food safety and animal welfare standards. One main objective of the CC system is to establish minimum EU production standards on farm level that are controlled by monitoring agencies of the respective EU member states (NITSCH & OSTERBURG, 2005).

A comparison of 31 private and state-driven farm certification schemes in seven EU member states, drawn by a recent EU-funded project¹, shows synergy effects with the European CC-system. Whereas there is often additional overlap in the respective sets of standards, both approaches establish minimum standards, use an inspection protocols to check compliance and enforce sanctions if these standards are not met. Depending on the type of animal production, the spectrum of obligations ranges from requirements of food safety and quality to animal welfare standards. (FARMER et al., 2007)

The existence of minimum standards, established by private or public certification schemes and the European CC-system, enables a differentiated assessment of

¹ CROSS COMPLIANCE project, EU 6th Framework Programme, Priority 8.1 (European Commission, DG RTD contract no. SSPE-CT-2005-006489)

the minimum animal welfare standards for compliant farms and a comparison with existing CC legislation. Hence, the objective of this doctoral project is to assess the regional status of farm animal welfare of fattening pigs and cattle in Austria and Germany how it is fostered by private, state-driven and CC legislation. In order to achieve this, first, an inventory of existing private and state-driven animal welfare assurance schemes in Austria and Germany was conducted and synergies between legislative and certification requirements for animal welfare were evaluated.

References:

Farmer, M. and Swales, V. (2007): Exploring the Synergies between Cross Compliance and Certification Schemes, Deliverable 8: Synthesis Report of Certification Schemes in 7 EU countries and 3 non-EU countries, Paper prepared for SSPE-CT-2005-006489 Facilitating the CAP reform: Compliance and competitiveness of European agriculture.

Nitsch, H. and Osterburg, B. (2005): Cross Compliance (CC) in der EU und Ökologischer Leistungsnachweis (ÖLN) in der Schweiz – Eine vergleichende Analyse. FAL: Arbeitsberichte des Bereiches Agrarökonomie 07/2005.