

**Mountain Grassland  
and Livestock Joint Conference  
New perspectives for mountains farming**

**PLANTAHOF, LANDQUART,  
SWITZERLAND  
JUNE 15TH – 17TH**



**PROGRAMME  
EAAP 2026**

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# Welcome to the Mountain Grassland and Livestock Joint Conference

On behalf of Agroscope, the Swiss Confederation's Centre of Excellence for Agricultural Research, the European Association of Animal Production (EAAP), and the FAO–CIHEAM Mountain Pasture Subnetwork, we are pleased to welcome you to the *Mountain Grassland and Livestock Joint Conference*.

This conference provides a platform for exchange on mountain farming systems, bringing together researchers working in the fields of mountain grasslands and livestock. It offers the opportunity to share knowledge, discuss current challenges, and develop new ideas alongside both well established and emerging colleagues.

The program includes engaging scientific presentations and a special session dedicated to the UN Year of Pastoralism. This special session will encourage participants to look beyond their usual perspectives, with impressions of pastoralism from Africa, Central Asia, New Zealand, and South America.

Participants can also look forward to experiencing Swiss hospitality, including regional culinary specialties and a convivial social dinner. The conference excursions will lead into the surrounding alpine landscapes, with visits to alpine summer farms with on site cheese making, a traditional mountain restaurant, areas of special alpine vegetation, and sites illustrating shrub management practices.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Swiss Grassland Association, the Canton of Grisons, and Plantahof, whose help make this event possible.

We are pleased to welcome your participation in this conference and to share with you an exchange of ideas and experiences that supports the sustainable future of mountain grassland and livestock systems.

## Joint organizers



**CIHEAM** International Center for Advanced  
Mediterranean Agronomic Studies  
*Sharing Knowledge, Feeding the Future*

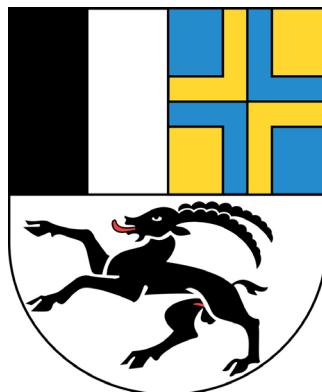


Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,  
Education and Research EAER

**Agroscope**



## Sponsors

# ASR

*successful worldwide*

## Swiss cattle breeders association

The Association of Swiss Cattle Breeders (ASR) is the umbrella organisation of the Swiss cattle breeding organisations Braunvieh Schweiz, Hérens association, Holstein Switzerland, swissherdbook and Suckler Cow Switzerland. If you are looking for cattle genetics, here in Switzerland you will find almost everything – whatever production system you have.

ASR Agency | Schützenstrasse 10 | CH-3052 Zollikofen | T +41 31 381 42 01 | [info@asr-ch.ch](mailto:info@asr-ch.ch) | [www.asr-ch.ch/en](http://www.asr-ch.ch/en)



# Industry Members Club



EAAP started in 2023 a new initiative to create closer connections between European livestock industries and the animal science network. Therefore, the “EAAP Industry Club” was shaped with the specific aim of bringing together the important industries of the livestock sector with our European Federation of Animal Sciences. All companies dealing with animal production (nutrition, genetic, applied technologies, etc.) are invited to join the “EAAP Industry Club” because industries will have opportunity to increase their visibility, to be actively involved in European animal science activities, and to receive news and services necessary to industries. In addition, through the Club, industries will enlarge their scientific network and will receive specific discounts on sponsoring activities. The Industries that already joined the “EAAP Industry Club” are:

 illumina®

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Monitor, Measure, Improve

 NEOGEN®

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LIKE NO ONE ELSE®

 Alltech®

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 VHLGenetics®  
DNA is our core

 NOVUS

 ED&F MAN  
EST. 1783  
Liquid Products

## The Club gives:

Visibility • Company name and logo at EAAP website and all relevant documents • Slides with name and logo at Official Events • Priority links with EAAP Socials • Invite, through EAAP dissemination tools and socials, people to events organized by your company • Information disseminated through a brand new Industry Newsletter • Networking • Joining the Study Commissions and Working Groups • Suggest topics to be considered for Annual Meetings Scientific Sessions • Organize Professional Panel through the EAAP platforms • One free registration to each Annual Meeting and at every meeting organized by EAAP • Five individual memberships at no cost • Many possible discounts (-30%) to sponsor and to increase company visibility through: EAAP Newsletter, EAAP website, EAAP Annual Meetings and workshops • Support young scientist by sponsoring scholarships named by the company • Co-Organize and sponsor webinars

Make yourself more visible within the livestock industry via the animal science network!

For more information please contact [eaap@eaap.org](mailto:eaap@eaap.org)

# Scientific programme

## Monday 15 June

09:30 Welcome Coffee - Foyer in front of Hall 2

10:00 Welcome Speeches - Hall 1 (Weber Saal)

*Joël Bérard - EAAP President*

*Gianpiero Lombardi - Coordinator FAO CIHEAM mountain pasture network*

*Michael Burkard (Head of Agricultural Policy department, Cantonal Office of Agriculture, Grisons)*

*Peter Vincenz (Director of Plantahof)*

*Julie Klötzli (Secretary of Swiss Grassland Society)*

### Session 1. Mountain grasslands and livestock in the context of climate change

Room: Hall 1 (Weber Saal)

Chair: Zanon / Klingler

Session Type: Theme session

Theatre Session 1		Book of Abstracts page
11:00	<i>Invited</i> Challenges of grassland farming in mountain areas <i>G. Peratoner, C. Pauler, M. Schneider, V. Lind, A. Klingler, A. Schaumberger, E. Sturaro</i>	19
11:30	Risk management dynamics and adaptive capacities of Andean and Alpine pastoral systems: insights from temporal and spatial comparisons <i>G. Brunschwig, M. Virapin</i>	19
11:45	Long-term impact of climate change and grazing management on vegetation dynamics of Alpine pastures <i>M. Pittarello, G. Nota, S. Ravetto Enri, G. Lombardi, M. Lonati</i>	20
12:00	Lunch – Restaurant	
13:30	Estimating dairy cows' drinking water intake during alpine grazing using smaXtec bolus data: validation of estimated intake <i>L. Schüpfer, C. M. Pauler, M. K. Schneider, M. Feller, S. Gfeller</i>	20
13:45	Exploring wildlife–livestock interfaces in alpine pastoral systems <i>M. Virapin, E. Sturaro, G. Brunschwig</i>	21
14:00	How French suckler cattle farms in mountainous areas can achieve a balance between economic, environmental, and animal welfare performance <i>L. Mysko, C. Mosnier, P. Veysset, I. Veissier, J. J. Minviel</i>	21
14:15	French mountain pastoral regions facing climate change <i>P. Veysset, E. Sauquet, A. De La Foye</i>	22
14:30	Climate neutral agriculture Grison – emissions and reduction potentials in the alpine canton of Switzerland <i>C. Zosso, D. Bretscher, E. Manzacchi</i>	22

### Flash Talks A

Room: Hall 1 (Weber Saal)

14:45 Session start

15:20 Session end

		Book of Abstracts page
01.03	Relationship between soil microbial and floristic biodiversity of hay meadows in the Dolomite areas <i>E. Basso, C. Pornaro, V. Santos Miguel, I. Rodríguez-Salgado, L. Rodríguez Lopez, S. Macolino</i>	24
01.06	Influence of site conditions on provisioning and non-provisioning ecosystem services of Swiss mountain summer pastures <i>S. Danioth, M. Barandun, C. M. Pauler, N. Buchmann, M. K. Schneider</i>	25

01.07	Sustaining the Thônes and Marthod sheep breed by promoting its strengths. <i>A. Muzeau, G. Lagriffoul, S. Minery, B. Boucaud</i>	26
01.10	Sustainable forage systems in mountain areas: a case study LIFE18 CCM/IT/001093 – LIFE agriCOLture <i>I. Rossi, M. T. Pacchioli, L. Filippi, R. Davolio, A. Pignagnoli, F. Ruozzi</i>	27
01.11	Emergency supplementary irrigation in an Alpine grassland: three-year effects on herbage yield and quality (PNGP, NW Alps) <i>S. Ravetto Enri, M. Pittarello, A. Mainetti, G. Nota, G. Lombardi, M. Lonati</i>	28
01.14	The Black Alpine Pig in Extensive Mountain Farming Systems <i>H. P. Grünenfelder, K. Kusstatscher</i>	29
01.15	Controlling bracken fern through grazing with Black Alpine Pigs – a case study <i>A. Jenni, V. Bühl</i>	30
01.17	Animal Welfare and Cultural Heritage in Alpine Transhumant Dairy Systems of Valtellina (Italy) <i>L. Agnelli, I. Nana, G. Corbellini, G. Nana, D. Agnelli, M. Palombelli, D. Ardenghi</i>	31

## Coffee break and Poster session 1

Room: Hall 2 and Foyer in front of Hall 2

15:25 Session start

16:30 Session end

	Poster Session 1	Book of Abstracts page
01.01	Modeling energy use and greenhouse gases for organic dairy farms in Bavaria <i>K. Böckl, J. Sing, H. Schmid, K. J. Hülsbergen</i>	23
01.02	Contrasting feeding strategies in Swiss dairy farming on milk production, GHG emissions, land use and cow health <i>J. Braun, E. Bookers, B. Reidy</i>	23
01.03	Relationship between soil microbial and floristic biodiversity of hay meadows in the Dolomite areas <i>E. Basso, C. Pornaro, V. Santas Miguel, I. Rodríguez-Salgado, L. Rodríguez Lopez, S. Macolino</i>	24
01.04	Microbiological Air Emissions from a Cattle Barn <i>B. Tombarkiewicz, M. Cupiał, J. Makulska, W. Migdał</i>	24
01.05	When the temperature goes up, do the animals go up? <i>K. Ueda, S. Rieder, C. Beglinger</i>	25
01.06	Influence of site conditions on provisioning and non-provisioning ecosystem services of Swiss mountain summer pastures <i>S. Danioth, M. Barandun, C. M. Pauler, N. Buchmann, M. K. Schneider</i>	25
01.07	Sustaining the Thônes and Marthod sheep breed by promoting its strengths. <i>A. Muzeau, G. Lagriffoul, S. Minery, B. Boucaud</i>	26
01.08	Adapting the SEGAE Serious Game to Simulate Sustainable Mountain Farming <i>M. Cupiał, J. Makulska, B. Tombarkiewicz, W. Migdał</i>	26
01.09	Informing management of traditional wood pastures as key habitat for an endangered bird species in the Jura mountains <i>S. Wider, L. Hunninck, M. Pilati, N. Huber, D. C. Zemp</i>	27
01.10	Sustainable forage systems in mountain areas: a case study LIFE18 CCM/IT/001093 – LIFE agriCOLture <i>I. Rossi, M. T. Pacchioli, L. Filippi, R. Davolio, A. Pignagnoli, F. Ruozzi</i>	27
01.11	Emergency supplementary irrigation in an Alpine grassland: three-year effects on herbage yield and quality (PNGP, NW Alps) <i>S. Ravetto Enri, M. Pittarello, A. Mainetti, G. Nota, G. Lombardi, M. Lonati</i>	28
01.12	Nutritional value and digestibility of Alpine herbs in Switzerland <i>C. Mossu, S. Noth, S. Probst</i>	28

01.13	Alpine Pig Production – Improving Advisory Services through a Practical Guide <i>A. Welti, H. Signer-Hasler, P. Spring</i>	29
01.14	The Black Alpine Pig in Extensive Mountain Farming Systems <i>H. P. Grünenfelder, K. Kusstatscher</i>	29
01.15	Controlling bracken fern through grazing with Black Alpine Pigs – a case study <i>A. Jenni, V. Bühl</i>	30
01.16	The role of Polish Red cattle in sustainable development of mountainous regions in Poland <i>J. Makulska, B. Tombarkiewicz, W. Migdał, A. Węglarz</i>	30
01.17	Animal Welfare and Cultural Heritage in Alpine Transhumant Dairy Systems of Valtellina (Italy) <i>L. Agnelli, I. Nana, G. Corbellini, G. Nana, D. Agnelli, M. Palombelli, D. Ardenghi</i>	31
01.18	Population structure and genomic inbreeding in Spectacled Eye Sheep from Europe <i>D. Neururer, M. Simčič, C. Drögemüller, H. Signer-Hasler</i>	31

## Session 2. Site-adapted animals and management to enhance ecosystem services

Room: Hall 1 (Weber Saal)  
Chair: Zanon / Lombardi  
Session Type: Theme session

	<b>Theatre Session 2</b>	<b>Book of Abstracts page</b>
16:30	Ecosystem Services of Sheep Farming in Mountain Regions of Europe <i>M. Oetiker, M. K. Schneider, B. Reidy, C. M. Pauler</i>	32
16:45	Evolution of ecosystem services in the Spanish Central Pyrenees <i>E. Muñoz Ulecia, M. Critchley, C. Gilli, A. Bernués</i>	32
17:00	Effect of origin and experience on cattle habitat selection in mountainous rangelands <i>E. Padrón Tejera, M. J. García García, M. P. Torralbo Muñoz, D. C. Pérez Marín, F. Maroto Molina</i>	33
17:15	Animal genetic resources and summering – a closer look <i>S. Rieder, K. Ueda, C. Beglinger</i>	33

## Session 3. Pastoralism worldwide

Room: Hall 1 (Weber Saal)  
Chair: Pauler / Peratoner  
Session Type: Theme session

	<b>Theatre Session 3</b>	<b>Book of Abstracts page</b>
17:30	<i>Invited</i> Pastoralism in arid and semi-arid zones of Africa <i>S. Taugourdeau, S. El Aayadi, Y. Chebli, J. H. Andriarimalala, A. A. Diouf, M. H. Assouma, M. Vigne, J. D. Cesaro</i>	34
17:50	<i>Invited</i> Austral rangelands: Challenges in Patagonian Ranching and a Behavioral Approach to Grazing Heterogeneity Inspired by New Zealand hill and high country Livestock Systems <i>C. A. Moreno Garcia, P. Cipriotti, J. Hickford</i>	34
18:10	<i>Invited</i> Pastoralism in the Asian steppe: High livestock numbers and climate change threaten the health of pastures and the livelihoods of local populations <i>L. M. Michler, A. C. Treydte, A. Nanjid, G. Oyunsaikhan, P. Kaczensky</i>	35

# Tuesday 16 June

## Session 4.

## You never walk alone: land-use conflicts or coexistence?

Room: Hall 1 (Weber Saal)  
Chair: Bernués / Sturaro  
Session Type: Theme session

	Theatre Session 4	Book of Abstracts page
8:30	<i>Invited</i> Using Genetic Monitoring for Evidence-Based Management of Large Carnivores in the Alps <i>T. Skrbinšek</i>	35
9:00	Sámi reindeer pastoralist system facing anthropogenic land use pressure: Considering limitations in access to pasture, what characterizes herding communities that still have room to adapt to climate change? <i>L. Duris, L. Rönnegård, S. Adler, P. Sandström, M. Alam, A. Skarin</i>	36
9:15	Farmers' perspectives on large carnivores damage prevention tools and management alternatives in mountain livestock systems <i>E. Torres, A. Bernués, Á. Ruiz, A. Grau, M. Y. R. Couto, I. Casasús, D. Martín-Collado</i>	36
9:30	Infection pathways of animal diseases transmitted on alpine pastures, using tuberculosis as an example <i>R. Mühleder, A. Nigsch, D. Polzer, B. Pohl, A. Allinger, C. Leth, M. Stätter, C. Firth</i>	37

## Flash Talks B

Room: Hall 1 (Weber Saal)

9:45 Session start  
10:45 Session end

		Book of Abstracts page
02.01	Assessing the use of virtual fencing for managing European Bison in the Swiss Jura – a pilot study <i>P. Fuchs, E. Delattre, O. Holzgang, M. Probo</i>	37
02.02	Farmers' perspectives on the legitimacy of the governance of the livestock and large carnivores' conflict in mountain areas <i>E. Torres, A. Bernués, Á. Ruiz, A. Grau, M. Y. R. Couto, I. Casasús, D. Martín-Collado</i>	38
02.03	Measuring resilience at the farm level: Do objective and subjective indicators tell the same story? <i>M. Y. Couto, A. Prat-Benhamou, E. Muñoz-Ulecia, A. Bernués, D. Martín-Collado</i>	38
02.04	Perception of unfavourable topography as a barrier to grazing in Europe <i>A. Van Den Pol-Van Dasselaar, G. Peratoner</i>	39
02.06	Is valorisation within the textile sector economically viable for local alpine wool? Evidence from a regional break-even analysis <i>P. Cornale, B. Camisassa, N. Thompson, A. Mimosi, L. M. Battaglini, R. Senatore, C. Costamagna, V. M. Merlino</i>	40
02.08	Working Conditions on Alpine Farms – From Shepherds to Cheesemakers <i>A. Rössli, M. Feller</i>	41
02.09	Impact of alpine pasture grazing on butter fatty acid profile, and physicochemical properties <i>L. Serva, A. Zoroaster, L. Magrin, S. Segato, P. Berzaghi, G. Cozzi</i>	41
02.11	Predicting Beef Fatty Acid Composition from Diet and Plasma Profiles Using Multivariate Models <i>M. Acciaro, L. Sulas, G. Carta, S. Banni, E. Murru, C. Manca, C. Dimauro, M. Fiori, A. Cabiddu, G. A. Re, M. G. Molinu, G. Piluzza, V. Giovanetti</i>	42
02.12	Development of a Grass-Fed Beef production system in Sardinia <i>A. Frongia, M. R. Carboni, M. Acciaro, M. Congiu, M. Decandia, L. Salis, M. Sitzia</i>	43
02.14	Technological needs and challenges faced by Scottish stakeholders in mountain areas <i>C. Morgan-Davies, A. McLaren, J. Munro, Q. Riejen, D. Mccracken, J. Holland, G. Tesniere</i>	44
02.15	Acute behavioral responses of ewes to virtual fence cues <i>S. Nyamuryekung'E, G. Jørgensen, I. Hansen, L. Grøva</i>	44

02.16	Pasture use intensity and vegetation: insights from multi-year GPS tracking and remote sensing in historical alpine pasture of Eastern Alps	45
	<i>S. Raniolo, S. Da Re, A. Ceppatelli, E. Sturaro</i>	
02.18	GPS-based indicators to support grazing management in dairy sheep	46
	<i>M. Acciaro, C. M. Pauler, M. K. Schneider, M. Decandia, A. Frongia, M. Sitzia, V. Giovanetti</i>	
02.19	The TeAMa platform as an innovative technology for pasture management in mountain areas	46
	<i>M. Sitzia, M. Acciaro, M. R. Carboni, S. Marino, G. Carru, A. Solinas, F. Martini, G. Maiorano, M. Addis, A. Frongia</i>	
02.20	Efficacy of satellite based monitoring of dry matter yield per hectare (DMY/ha) in grassland: A case study in the Upper Rhine Region	47
	<i>J. Kappl, A. Al Baqain, M. Keller, L. Fritzinger, S. Weidmann, C. Eck, E. Strang, L. M. Dale, A. Blanco-Vogt</i>	
02.22	Field-based grazing evidence proxies livestock stocking rate in alpine pastures	48
	<i>G. Marengo, M. Pittarello, M. Lonati, G. Lombardi, A. Mainetti, S. Ravetto Enri</i>	
02.24	Landscape legacies and disturbance responses in Alpine semi-natural dry grasslands	49
	<i>G. Gervasio, G. Marengo, G. Nota, N. Anselmetto, M. Garbarino, S. Ravetto Enri, G. Lombardi, M. Lonati</i>	
02.25	Agroserv H2020: promoting international mobility of researchers	
	<i>M. Coppa</i>	

## Coffee break and Poster session 2

Room: Hall 2 and Foyer in front of Hall 2

10:45 Session start

12:00 Session end

	Poster Session 2	Book of Abstracts page
02.01	Assessing the use of virtual fencing for managing European Bison in the Swiss Jura – a pilot study	37
	<i>P. Fuchs, E. Delattre, O. Holzgang, M. Probo</i>	
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	<i>M. Y. Couto, A. Prat-Benhamou, E. Muñoz-Ulecia, A. Bernués, D. Martín-Collado</i>	
02.04	Perception of unfavourable topography as a barrier to grazing in Europe	39
	<i>A. Van Den Pol-Van Dasselaar, G. Peratoner</i>	
02.05	Dairy goat systems productions in alpine mountains area: sustainability and profitable approach	39
	<i>L. F. Flach, E. Sabia, T. Zanon</i>	
02.06	Is valorisation within the textile sector economically viable for local alpine wool? Evidence from a regional break-even analysis	40
	<i>P. Cornale, B. Camisassa, N. Thompson, A. Mimosi, L. M. Battaglini, R. Senatore, C. Costamagna, V. M. Merlino</i>	
02.07	Dairy steer fattening to replace suckler beef systems in mountain regions	40
	<i>A. Scheurer, I. D. Gangnat</i>	
02.08	Working Conditions on Alpine Farms – From Shepherds to Cheesemakers	41
	<i>A. Rööslj, M. Feller</i>	
02.09	Impact of alpine pasture grazing on butter fatty acid profile, and physicochemical properties	41
	<i>L. Serva, A. Zoroaster, L. Magrin, S. Segato, P. Berzaghi, G. Cozzi</i>	
02.10	The Quality Beef from Carpathian Pastures	42
	<i>W. Migdal, J. Makulska, B. Tombariewicz, M. Cupal, Ł. Migdal</i>	
02.11	Predicting Beef Fatty Acid Composition from Diet and Plasma Profiles Using Multivariate Models	42
	<i>M. Acciaro, L. Sulas, G. Carta, S. Banni, E. Murru, C. Manca, C. Dimauro, M. Fiori, A. Cabiddu, G. A. Re, M. G. Molinu, G. Piluzza, V. Giovanetti</i>	
02.12	Development of a Grass-Fed Beef production system in Sardinia	43
	<i>A. Frongia, M. R. Carboni, M. Acciaro, M. Congiu, M. Decandia, L. Salis, M. Sitzia</i>	
02.13	Quantifying nitrogen input and output flows of mountain farms in Grisons to support site-adapted fertilisation	43
	<i>E. Tanner, F. Liebisch</i>	

02.14	Technological needs and challenges faced by Scottish stakeholders in mountain areas <i>C. Morgan-Davies, A. McLaren, J. Munro, Q. Rieijnen, D. Mccracken, J. Holland, G. Tesniere</i>	44
02.15	Acute behavioral responses of ewes to virtual fence cues <i>S. Nyamuryekung'E, G. Jørgensen, I. Hansen, L. Grøva</i>	44
02.16	Pasture use intensity and vegetation: insights from multi-year GPS tracking and remote sensing in historical alpine pasture of Eastern Alps <i>S. Raniolo, S. Da Re, A. Ceppatelli, E. Sturaro</i>	45
02.17	LIVEBIOTRACK: Smart, Green Technologies for Livestock Tracking and Grazing Management <i>A. Confessore, L. Stendardi, C. Pugliese, F. Sirtori, L. De Guttry, S. Parrini, C. Dibari, G. Argenti, C. Aquilani</i>	45
02.18	GPS-based indicators to support grazing management in dairy sheep <i>M. Acciaro, C. M. Pauler, M. K. Schneider, M. Decandia, A. Frongia, M. Sitzia, V. Giovanetti</i>	46
02.19	The TeAMa platform as an innovative technology for pasture management in mountain areas <i>M. Sitzia, M. Acciaro, M. R. Carboni, S. Marino, G. Carru, A. Solinas, F. Martini, G. Maiorano, M. Addis, A. Frongia</i>	46
02.20	Efficacy of satellite based monitoring of dry matter yield per hectare (DMY/ha) in grassland: A case study in the Upper Rhine Region <i>J. Kappl, A. Al Baqain, M. Keller, L. Fritzinger, S. Weidmann, C. Eck, E. Strang, L. M. Dale, A. Blanco-Vogt</i>	47
02.21	Multi-sensor correction of Sentinel-2 LAI for pasture biomass estimation in Northern Apennine grasslands <i>L. Stendardi, L. Leolini, S. Costafreda-Aumedes, L. De Guttry, M. Moriondo, G. A. Vasquez Villano, G. Argenti, C. Dibari, C. Pugliese, A. Confessore, C. Aquilani</i>	47
02.22	Field-based grazing evidence proxies livestock stocking rate in alpine pastures <i>G. Marengo, M. Pittarello, M. Lonati, G. Lombardi, A. Mainetti, S. Ravetto Enri</i>	48
02.23	GPS-based insights into movement behaviour and space use of the Rock Partridge in Apennine Mountain grasslands <i>P. Girotti, P. Viola, A. Rossetti, F. Morandi, B. Ronchi, N. Lacetera, R. Primi</i>	48
02.24	Landscape legacies and disturbance responses in Alpine semi-natural dry grasslands <i>G. Gervasio, G. Marengo, G. Nota, N. Anselmetto, M. Garbarino, S. Ravetto Enri, G. Lombardi, M. Lonati</i>	49
02.25	Which mountain pastures matter? Fine-scale selection within pastoral systems by a mountain bird of conservation concern <i>P. Viola, P. Girotti, C. M. Rossi, A. Rossetti, F. Morandi, B. Ronchi, N. Lacetera, M. N. Ripa, R. Primi</i>	49

## Session 5.

## Feeding livestock by mountain grassland

Room: Hall 1 (Weber Saal)  
Chair: Cozzi / Eppenstein  
Session Type: Theme session

	Theatre Session 5	Book of Abstracts page
12:00	Optimising protein production on dairy and beef cattle farms in mountainous areas <i>M. Fazzari, B. Genin, P. Aeby, E. Ollion, P. Rufer, P. Veyssset, B. Reidy</i>	50
12:15	Assessing pastoral value in alpine grazing systems using remote sensing <i>L. De Guttry, L. Stendardi, A. Confessore, C. Aquilani, C. Pugliese, S. Rainis, N. Staglianò, P. Choler, A. Bayle, G. Argenti, C. Dibari</i>	50
12:30	Predicting pasture nutritive parameters using low-cost NIRS on fresh and dried samples <i>P. Berzaghi, M. Pietrobon, E. Garbin, L. Serva, G. Cozzi</i>	51
12:45	Trade-offs among grass-based veal production systems along an altitudinal gradient <i>G. Mesbahi, A. Vitra, A. K. Steiner, F. Leiber, J. Werner</i>	51
13:00	Organizational information	

# Wednesday 17 June

## Session 6. Economy and social context of grassland-based livestock production

Room: Hall 1 (Weber Saal)  
Chair: Cozzi / Tesnière  
Session Type: Theme session

	<b>Theatre Session 6</b>	<b>Book of Abstracts page</b>
8:30	<b>Invited</b> Evolution, perspectives and challenges of cattle farms in mountainous areas <i>C. Mosnier</i>	52
9:00	Economic Viability of Swiss Summer Farms <i>M. Feller, T. Blättler, M. Meyer</i>	52
9:15	Estimating the Costs of Improving Animal Welfare: A Case Study of Italian Simmental Mountain Dairy Farms <i>A. Triatmojo, Z. Von Davier, G. Fichter, M. Gauly, T. Zanon</i>	53
9:30	A comparative analysis of resilience of mountain and nonmountain livestock systems with different level of intensification <i>M. V. Castori, M. Y. R. Couto, A. Prat-Benhamou, A. Bernués Jal, D. Martin-Collado</i>	53
9:45	Structural Drivers Reshaping Transhumance Systems in Mediterranean Turkey <i>S. Ocak Yetisgin</i>	54

## Session 7. New ways to maintain the heritage of grassland and livestock

Room: Hall 2 (Züchter-Saal)  
Chair: Grøva / Pittarello  
Session Type: Theme session

	<b>Theatre Session 7</b>	<b>Book of Abstracts page</b>
9:00	Resilience of transhumant pastoral systems in the Catalan Pyrenees <i>K. Schatton, A. Garreau, E. Schmitt, F. Pauné, D. Barjolle</i>	54
9:15	Transhumance: cortisol in milk as non-invasive tool to assess adaptation response <i>I. Manenti, M. Coppa, L. M. Battaglini, A. Bellato</i>	55
9:30	The role of sheep grazing for the conservation of alpine grassland habitats: a case study from Eastern Italian Alps <i>E. Sturaro, E. Basso, A. Ceppatelli, S. Da Re, C. Pornaro, S. Raniolo</i>	55
9:45	Do biodiversity payments bend the curve? Six decades of evidence on Swiss mountain grasslands <i>M. Barandun, E. Knop, M. K. Schneider</i>	56
10:00	Coffee break Foyer in front of Hall 2	

## Session 8. From pasture to plate: product quality along the production chain

Room: Hall 1 (Weber Saal)  
Chair: Coppa / Dovc  
Session Type: Theme session

	<b>Theatre Session 8</b>	<b>Book of Abstracts page</b>
10:30	Carcass value of Black Alpine Pigs <i>I. D. M. Gangnat</i>	56
10:45	Impact of genetic traits, alpine transhumance and grassland traits on carcass characteristics of extensively fattened beef <i>R. C. Eppenstein, S. Martig</i>	57
11:00	Rapid Infrared Spectroscopy for Assessing Beef Quality and Farming Intensification in Europe <i>A. Lopez, B. Martin, J. F. Hoquette, C. Labonne, F. Ferlay-Demiaz, I. Constant, V. M. Moretti, D. Andueza</i>	57

11:15	From labels to landscapes: mountain products with specification of origin or quality can help maintain grasslands and their ecosystem services	58
	<i>F. Joly, G. Guérin, E. Caumette, B. Martin, L. Jouaron, P. Gerber</i>	
11:30	Individual risk factors for <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> mastitis in transhumant dairy herds in western Alps	58
	<i>A. Bellato, I. Manenti, L. M. Battaglini, M. Coppa</i>	
11:45	Effect of two consecutive heat waves on dairy cow's activity and milk quality	59
	<i>L. Rey-Cadilhac, A. Boudon, A. Chauvin, C. Hurtaud</i>	

## Session 9. Bits and pixels: software and sensors for grassland-based livestock systems

Room: Hall 2 (Züchter-Saal)  
 Chair: Morgan-Davies / Klingler  
 Session Type: Theme session

	Theatre Session 9	Book of Abstracts page
10:30	Understanding the needs, obstacles, and expectations of farmers and advisors regarding digital innovation and technology for rangeland livestock systems across Europe (DIGI-Rangeland)	59
	<i>G. Tesnière, J. Sveinbjörnsson, C. Morgan-Davies, L. Grøva, G. Catean, A. Tolar, M. Jouven, A. Lempési, F. J. Rodríguez-Rigueiro, M. Rombach, Y. Kazakova-Mateva</i>	
10:45	SatGrass: An Operational Satellite-Based System for Daily Grassland Yield and Forage Quality Estimation in Austria	60
	<i>A. Klingler, F. Vuolo, A. Dujakovic, S. Braun, L. Gaier, A. Schaumberger</i>	
11:00	Ecosystem service of erosion prevention: a remote sensing assessment in grassland-based mountain dairy farms in north-eastern Italy.	60
	<i>S. Da Re, F. Joly, M. Berton, C. Pornaro, E. Sturaro</i>	
11:15	Precision Livestock Farming applications in Alpine dairy systems: a case study in Northern Italy	61
	<i>M. Pavolini, A. Tamburini, G. Gislón, M. Zucali, A. Sandrucci</i>	
11:30	Use of GPS collars to assess the effect timing of post-partum upland grazing has on ewe home range area	61
	<i>M. P. Dever, F. P. Champion, A. McLaren, C. Morgan-Davies</i>	
11:45	Virtual Fencing for the Management of Dairy Cows in Alpine Pastures: Opportunities, Challenges, and Integrated Technological Solutions	62
	<i>A. Confessore, C. Aquilani, L. Stendardi, L. De Guttry, F. Sirtori, S. Rainis, C. Pugliese</i>	

## Session 10. Shrubs and trees: friends or foes of mountain grasslands?

Room: Hall 1 (Weber Saal)  
 Chair: Ravetto Enri  
 Session Type: Theme session

	Theatre Session 10	Book of Abstracts page
13:30	Foraging behaviour of pigs, Highland cattle and donkeys in woody-encroached silvopastoral systems: a synthesis of three case studies	62
	<i>J. Volpe, G. Nota, M. Pittarello, S. Ravetto Enri, M. Lonati, G. Lombardi</i>	
13:45	Foraging behaviour of goats and heifers on mountain pastures encroached by <i>Alnus viridis</i>	63
	<i>L. S. Mochi, P. Fuchs, C. Pauler, P. Mariotte, M. Probo</i>	
14:00	How dwarf shrub encroachment influences subalpine plant and grasshopper diversity	63
	<i>C. M. Pauler, C. Treiber, K. Hahn, M. Barandun, S. Dietz, K. Schmieder, M. K. Schneider</i>	

# The European Federation of Animal Science - EAAP

The main aims of the EAAP are to promote, by means of active co-operation between its members and other relevant international and national organizations, the advancement of scientific research, sustainable development and production systems; experimentation, application and extension; to improve the technical and economic conditions of the livestock sector; to promote the welfare of farm animals and the conservation of the rural environment; to control and optimize the use of natural resources in general and animal genetic resources in particular; to encourage the involvement of young scientists and technicians. More information on the organization and its activities can be found at [www.eaap.org](http://www.eaap.org).

## Former Presidents

1949-1961	A.M. Leroy (France)
1961-1967	R. Trehane (United Kingdom)
1967-1972	J.M. Rijssenbeek (The Netherlands)
1972-1978	J.H. Weniger (Germany)
1978-1984	E.P. Cunningham (Ireland)
1984-1990	A. Roos (Sweden)
1990-1996	A. Nardone (Italy)
1996-2000	P. Solms-Lich (Germany)
2000-2004	A. Aumaitre (France)
2004-2008	J. Flanagan (Ireland)
2008-2012	K. Sejrsen (Denmark)
2012-2016	P. Chemineau (France)
2016-2020	M. Gauly (Germany)
2020-2024	I. Casasús (Spain)

## Council members

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- Jöel Bérard (Switzerland)

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- Klemen Potocnik (Slovenia)
- Diana Ruska (Latvia)

## FAO Representative

- Badi Besbes

## Auditors

- Georgia Hadjipavlou (Cyprus)
- Zygmunt Maciej Kowalski (Poland)

## Alternate Auditor

- Jeanne Bormann (Luxembourg)

## Secretary General

- Andrea Rosati

The European Federation of Animal Science (EAAP) has close established links with its sister organizations of American Society of Animal Science (ASAS), American Dairy Science Association (ADSA), Canadian Society of Animal Science (CSAS) and Asociación Latinoamericana de Producción Animal (ALPA) and is also member of the World Association for Animal Production (WAAP).



# FAO-CIHEAM Network

The FAO-CIHEAM Network on Pasture and Forage Crops is an international scientific and technical cooperation platform established in 1978 and incorporated into the ESCORENA framework in 1995 through collaboration between FAO and CIHEAM. The network was created to promote the exchange of scientific knowledge, the development of shared methodologies, the implementation of collaborative research projects, the dissemination of results through publications, and the training of researchers in the field of pasture and forage crop systems. It is structured into two complementary sub-networks: the Mediterranean Forage Resources sub-network, focused on Mediterranean environments, and the Mountain Pastures sub-network, devoted to temperate mountain regions. The network is currently coordinated by Dr. Claudio Porqueddu of the National Research Council of Italy (CNR), based in Sassari.

The Mountain Pastures sub-network, initially established as a working group in 1962 and formally integrated into the wider network in 1978, has developed into a major international forum for research on mountain grasslands, pastoral systems, forage resources, and their ecological and socio-economic functions. With approximately 400 members from numerous countries across Europe and beyond, it represents a broad scientific community. Its principal activities include the organization of biennial meetings and thematic workshops, the promotion of research and development initiatives, the publication of proceedings and scientific reports, and the support of training opportunities for early-career researchers.

Over the decades, the sub-network has made a substantial contribution to advancing knowledge on mountain pastures, particularly in relation to sustainability, livestock systems, biodiversity, ecosystem services, and environmental conservation. Its meetings and collaborative activities have fostered durable links among research institutions, encouraged international mobility, and supported the scientific education of younger generations of scholars. More broadly, the network has played a significant role in strengthening transnational cooperation and in consolidating a shared scientific framework for the study and management of pasture and forage systems in mountain areas.

# Agroscope

Agroscope is the Swiss Confederation's center of excellence for agricultural research and a key partner in advancing sustainable food systems. As a national research institute, Agroscope develops science-based solutions that support productive, resilient, and environmentally responsible agriculture across Switzerland's diverse landscapes—from lowland arable systems to alpine grasslands.

Agroscope conducts interdisciplinary research on forage production, grazing management, ruminant nutrition, animal health and welfare, biodiversity, and climate adaptation. Its work integrates ecology, agronomy, animal science, and socio-economic perspectives – including the specific challenges of high-altitude and marginal regions.

Agroscope collaborates closely with farmers, advisory services, universities, and public authorities to ensure that research outcomes are practical and impact-oriented. Through long-term field experiments, on-farm trials, and innovative monitoring approaches, the institute contributes to maintaining productive agriculture while safeguarding ecosystem services.

# Organizers of the Mountain Grassland and Livestock Joint Conference

## Scientific Committee

- Alberto Bernués - CITA
- Mauro Coppa - University of Turin
- Giulio Cozzi - University of Padua
- Peter Dovc - University of Ljubljana
- Mathias Gault - VETMEDUNI Vienna
- Giampiero Lombardi - University of Turin
- Andreas Klingler - Raumberg-Gumpenstein
- Vibeke Lind - NIBIO
- Massimiliano Probo - Agroscope
- Claire Morgan Davies - SRUC
- Claire Mosnier - INRAE
- Caren Pauler - Agroscope
- Manuel Schneider - Agroscope
- Thomas Zanon - University of Bolzano
- Minja Zorc - University of Ljubljana

## Organizing Committee

- Caren Pauler - Agroscope
- Manuel Schneider - Agroscope
- Riccardo Carelli - EAAP
- Andrea Rosati - EAAP

# About Landquart and Plantahof

The conference will take place in **Landquart**, a small town situated at 520 m a.s.l., surrounded by the scenic mountains of the Eastern Swiss Alps. The region offers a wide range of recreational and cultural landscapes, from high alpine areas shaped by a long tradition of mountain farming to vineyards producing excellent wines, as well as attractive hiking trails. Thanks to excellent transport connections, the region's internationally renowned spa and sports resorts are also easily accessible.

The venue, **Plantahof**, is a newly renovated stately building from the early 19th century. Today, it serves not only as the agricultural school of the Canton of Grisons, but also as the cantonal agricultural advisory centre, supporting all aspects of farming and rural life through regional offices across the canton. Plantahof offers a broad programme of continuing education for farmers and acts as a “*showcase of the farming profession*”. To this end, it operates a large and diverse agricultural enterprise with several sites, ranging from valley farms to alpine summer farms, and includes an on site farm shop.

## Conference planning

15 JUNE 2026	ROOM	PROGRAM
09:30 – 10:00	Foyer in front of Hall 2	Welcome Coffee
10:00 – 11:00	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Welcome speeches
11:00 – 12:00	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Session 1 - Mountain grasslands and livestock in the context of climate change (Part 1)
12:00 – 13:30	Restaurant	Lunch
13:30 – 14:45	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Session 1 - Mountain grasslands and livestock in the context of climate change (Part 2)
14:45– 15:20	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Flash talks A
15:20 – 15:25	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Organizational information
15:25 – 16:30	Hall 2 and foyer in front of Hall 2	Coffee break + Poster session 1
16:30 – 17:30	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Session 2 - Site-adapted animals and management to enhance ecosystem services Theater presentations
17:30 – 18:30	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Session 3 - Pastoralism worldwide
18:30 – 20:00	Restaurant	Dinner

16 JUNE 2026	ROOM	PROGRAM
08:30 – 09:45	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Session 4 - You never walk alone: land-use conflicts or coexist-ence?
09:45 – 10:45	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Flash talks B
10:45 - 12:00	Hall 2 and foyer in front of Hall 2	Coffee break + Poster session 2
12:00 – 13:00	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Session 5 - Feeding livestock by mountain grassland
13:00 – 13:05	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Organizational information
13:05 – 13:30	Restaurant	Lunch to go
13:30 – 19:00	Meeting point: Plantahof farm shop	Excursions
19:00 – 22:00	Restaurant	Social Dinner

17 JUNE 2026	ROOM	PROGRAM
08.30 - 09:00	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Keynote speech: Claire Mosnier (INRAE)
09:00 - 10:00	Session 5: Hall 1 (Weber Saal) Session 6: Hall 2 (Züchter-Saal)	Session 6 - Economy and social context of grassland-based livestock production Theater presentations
		Session 7 - New ways to maintain the heritage of grassland and livestock Theater presentations
10:00 - 10:30	Foyer in front of Hall 2	Coffee break
10:30 - 12:00	Session 7: Hall 1 (Weber Saal) Session 8: Hall 2 (Züchter-Saal)	Session 8 - From pasture to plate: product quality along the production chain
		Session 9 - Bits and pixels: software and sensors for grassland-based livestock systems
12:00 - 13.30	Restaurant	Lunch
13:30 - 14:15	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Session 10 - Shrubs and trees: friends or foes of mountain grass-lands?
14:15 - 15:00	Hall 1 (Weber Saal)	Poster award + closing
15:00 - 15:45	Meeting point: Main en-trance	Optional visit research barn of Plantahof

# Useful information

## How to Reach the Venue

### From Zurich Airport (ZRH)

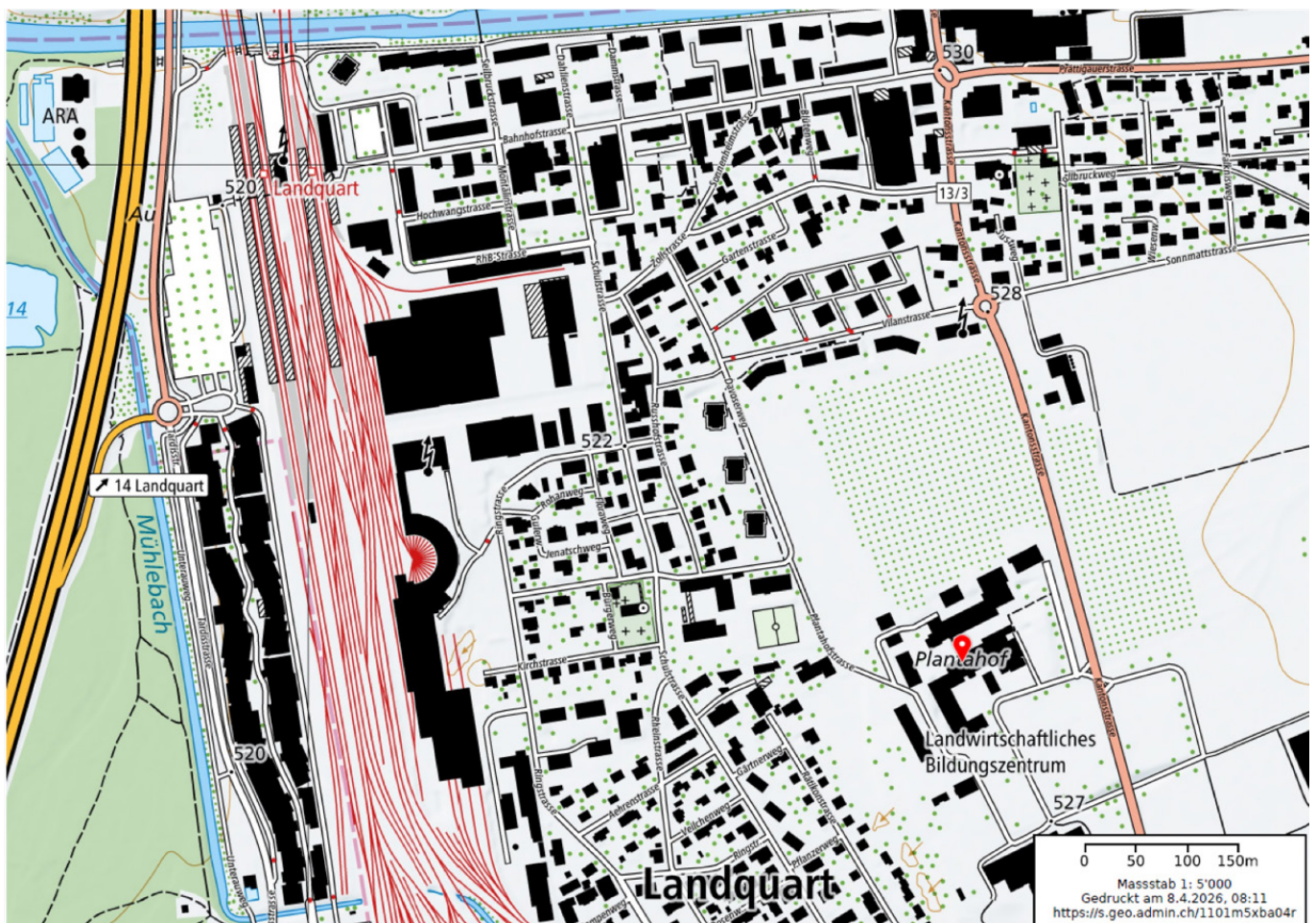
**By Train:** Take the Intercity 5 to Zurich Main Station and from there the Intercity 3 to Landquart station. Travel time: 1h22

### From Zurich Hauptbahnhof (Main Station)

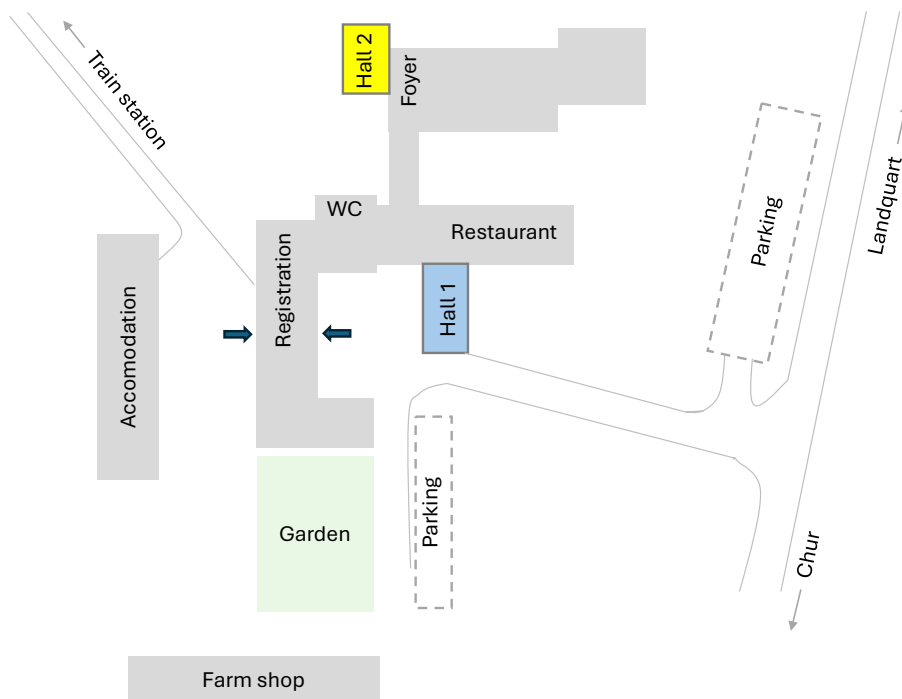
**By Train:** Take the Intercity 3 to Landquart station. Travel time: 1h04

**By car:** Leave the A13 motorway at exit Landquart (exit number 14) and follow the signs towards Landquart / Igis. Continue on the main road towards Landquart village. After a short drive, turn right following the signs "Plantahof" onto Plantahofstrasse. Parking spaces are signed on site.

## Map: walk from train station Landquart to Plantahof



## Site map of Plantahof



## Language

The official language of the conference is English. In the canton of Grisons, there are three official languages: German, Rumantsch (an endemic Neo-Latin language) and Italian. At **Plantahof**, the common language is **Swiss German**, but English is widely spoken, especially in academic and professional settings.

## Passport and Visa

Switzerland is part of the **Schengen Area**, allowing **EU citizens** to travel without a visa. Additionally, nationals from several non-EU countries, including the **United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand**, can enter **visa-free for up to 90 days**. For specific visa requirements, please consult the <https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/>

## Official Invitation and Certification

Participants can request an **official invitation letter** to assist with Visa requirements to [riccardo@eaap.org](mailto:riccardo@eaap.org). The invitation does not impose any financial obligations on the organizing committee. **A certificate of attendance** will be provided for all registered participants.

## Liability and Insurance

The organizing committee is not responsible for personal accidents, lost or damaged property. Participants are encouraged to arrange their own **travel and health insurance** before arriving at Plantahof.

## Health and Emergency

In case of an emergency, dial **144** (Swiss emergency number) for immediate assistance. For any urgent communications to the organizers you may contact Manuel Schneider (+41 79 728 55 79) or Caren Pauler (+49 157 357 310 56).

## Currency

The official currency in Switzerland is the **Swiss Franc (CHF)**. Most major credit and debit cards are accepted, and ATMs are widely available. Currency exchange services can be found at airports, train stations, and banks.

## Local Time Zone

Switzerland operates on **Central European Time (CET, UTC/GMT +1)** and follows **Daylight Saving Time (CEST, UTC/GMT +2)** from late March to late October.

## Climate

Summer in Landquart is warm and can be rainy, with temperatures ranging from **12°C to 24°C (54°F to 75°F)** in **June**. It is recommended to bring **light layers and a rain jacket** as weather conditions can vary.

## Electricity

Switzerland uses **Type J electrical sockets with a standard voltage of 230V and a frequency of 50Hz**. Travelers from countries using different plug types should bring an adapter.

# Information for participants

## Wi-Fi access

**Wi-Fi network name:** Plantahof-Gast

After connection, you can register with your mobile phone number. Unfortunately, this only works for Swiss, Austrian, Italian, German and Liechtenstein phone numbers. Therefore, we invite you to find a friendly colleague from one of these countries to let you in.

## Registration Desk

The registration desk will be located near the main entrance of Plantahof and will open on Sunday 14 June 2026 from 6-9 p.m. and on Monday from 8 a.m.

## To Authors

Authors who do not wish to have their PDF presentations or posters made available on the EAAP website must notify EAAP by June 30, 2026. This can be done by sending an email to [riccardo@eaap.org](mailto:riccardo@eaap.org). After this date, EAAP will assume permission to include the presentation/poster on the website.

## Posters

Poster sessions will be organized both on 15 and 16 June 2026. Posters should be in portrait format and A0 size (841 x 1189 mm). Poster sessions will take place in hall 2 alongside the coffee.

## Theatre and Flash Talk Presentation Upload Desk

The upload desk for theatre presentations will be available at the registration desk on Sunday evening and Monday morning. The support team will assist participants with the upload process. Please ensure that your presentation is on a portable USB drive. Meeting rooms will be equipped with MS Windows computers, so PowerPoint presentations (\*.ppt; \*.pptx) are preferred. Each theatre presentation is allotted 12 minutes, plus 3 minutes for questions. Each flash talk is allotted for 3 minutes in total.

## Coffee breaks

Coffee breaks will take place in the foyer of hall 2 (Züchter-Saal).

## Lunches and social dinner

Lunches and the social dinner will take place in the Plantahof restaurant.

## Conference Website

The Mountain Grassland and Livestock Joint Conference website is live and optimized for smartphone navigation. It contains detailed information about the conference program and venue. You can visit the conference website at the following link: <https://mlg2026.eaap.org>.

## Conference App

The conference program will be available for all delegates by downloading the app "EAAP" available for iOS/Android.

# Essential vocabulary for survival in Switzerland

(not to be taken too seriously)

ENGLISH	STANDARD GERMAN <i>(you will be understood)</i>	SWISS GERMAN <i>(you will be loved)</i>
<b>GENERAL</b>		
Hi	Hallo	Hoi
Hello	Guten Tag	Grüezi
Thanks	Danke	Merci
Please	Bitte	Bidde
Goodbye	Auf wiedersehen	Adee
<b>FOOD AND DRINK</b>		
Enjoy!	Guten Appetit!	En Gueta!
Cheers	Prost	Proschd / Viva
Cheese	Käse	Chääs
Wine	Wein	Wii
Jam	Marmelade	Gompfi
Croissant	Butterhörnchen	Gipfeli
Coffee	Kaffee	Kaffi
Reception	Stehempfang	Apero
<b>TRAVELING</b>		
Train	Zug	lisebahn
Platform	Gleis	Perro
Ticket	Fahrkarte	Billett
Coach	Reisebus	Car
Where is...?	Wo befindet sich...?	Wo isch echt...?
<b>FARM LIFE</b>		
Cow	Kuh	Chue
Heifer	Jungvieh	Gushti / Mese
Horse	Pferd	Ross
Goat	Ziege	Gaiss
Cat	Katze	Büüsi
Farmer	Landwirt	Buur
Mountain summer farm	Alm	Alp

