

Organic conform udder health concepts

How to reduce therapies

Michael Walkenhorst

Christophe Notz, Peter Klocke, Jörg Spranger, Fritz Heil

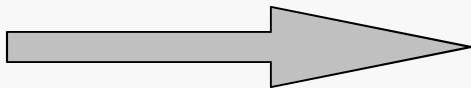
Stages of animal health management in organic farms according to EC Regulation



Horizon

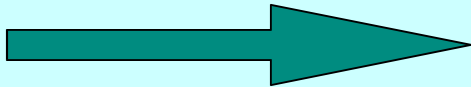
How?

long-term



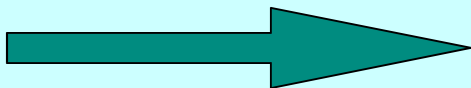
Breeding

medium-term



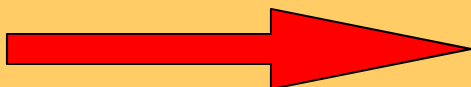
Management & Prevention

short-term



Complementary Medicine

emergency exit



Conventional Medicine

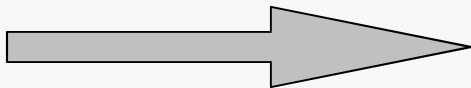
Stages of animal health management in organic farms according to EC Regulation



Horizon

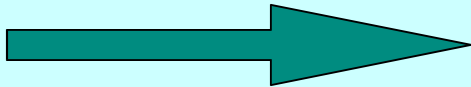
How?

long-term



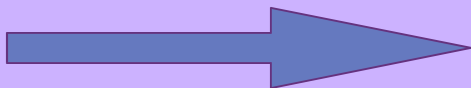
Breeding

medium-term



Management & Prevention

short-term



Complementary Medicine

EC Regulation 1804/1999 and 2092/91, Annex 1 B, 5.2 :

„The principles ... should limit animal-health problems so that they can be controlled mainly by prevention“

Conventional Medicine

Engadin Project – Herd Sanitation

Evaluation of 20 Farms with about 350 cows, high mountain region of Switzerland

Measures:

- **Sensibilisation of the farmers**
- **Control and optimizing of milking technology and hygiene**
- **Control and optimizing of housing**
- **Therapy of mastitis cases (antibiosis versus homeopathy)**
- **Dry off treatment (homeopathy versus placebo and partially additional antibiotic)**
- **Culling of cows with poor udder health prognosis**

Engadin Project – Herd Sanitation

milking hygiene

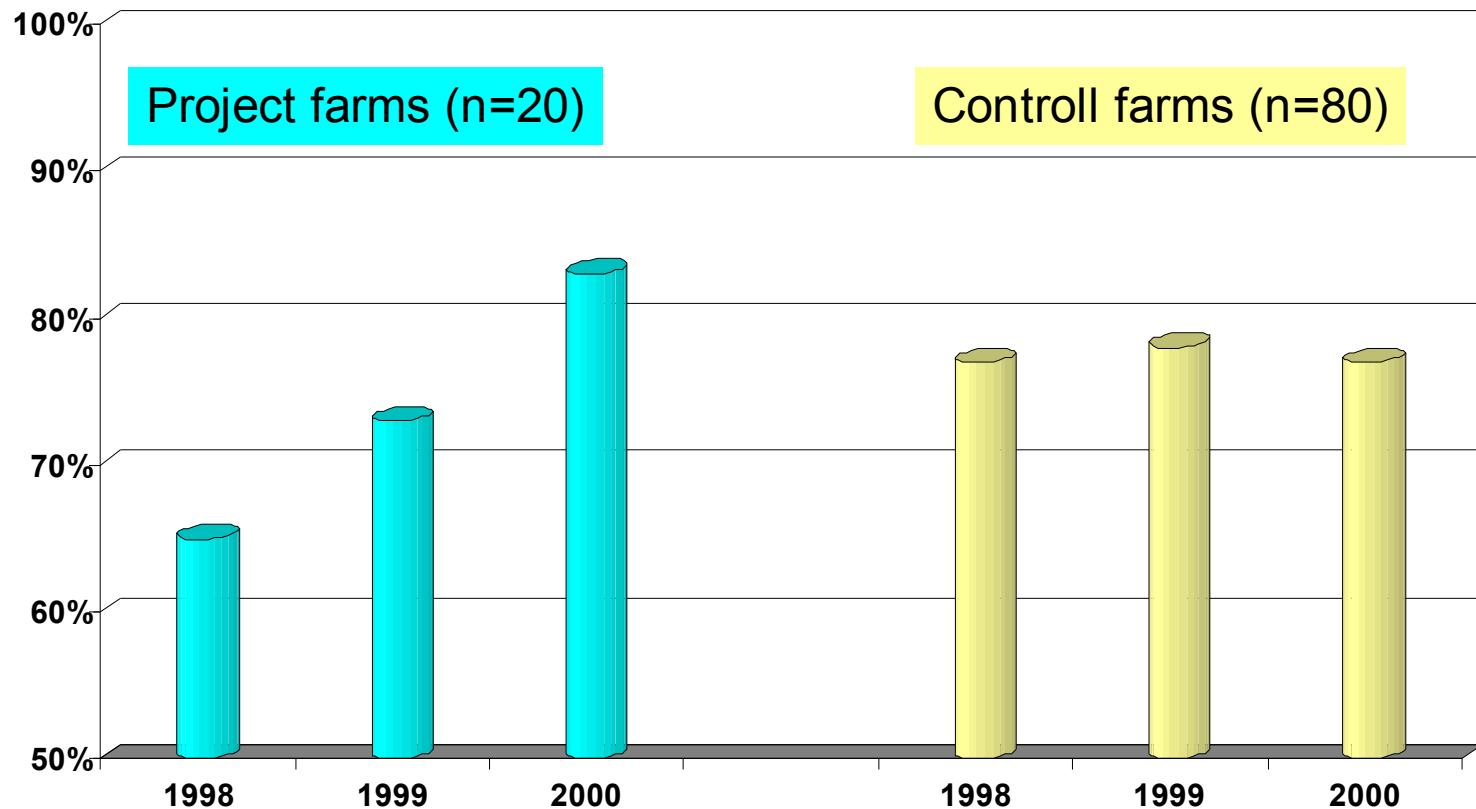
	1998/1999*	1999/2000**
• Foremilking at first	7	14
• Correct teat cleaning	5	18
• Correct udder stimulation	9	17
• Correct handling during application of the teatcup cluster	10	10
• Correct handling during removal of the teatcup cluster	20	20
• Disinfection of the teats after milking	5	13
• Quiet atmosphere	15	19
• Correct herd order of milking	7	15

* Status before starting the project

** Status in the end of the project

Engadin Project – Herd Sanitation

Percentage of cows with an somatic cell count < 150'000cells/ml

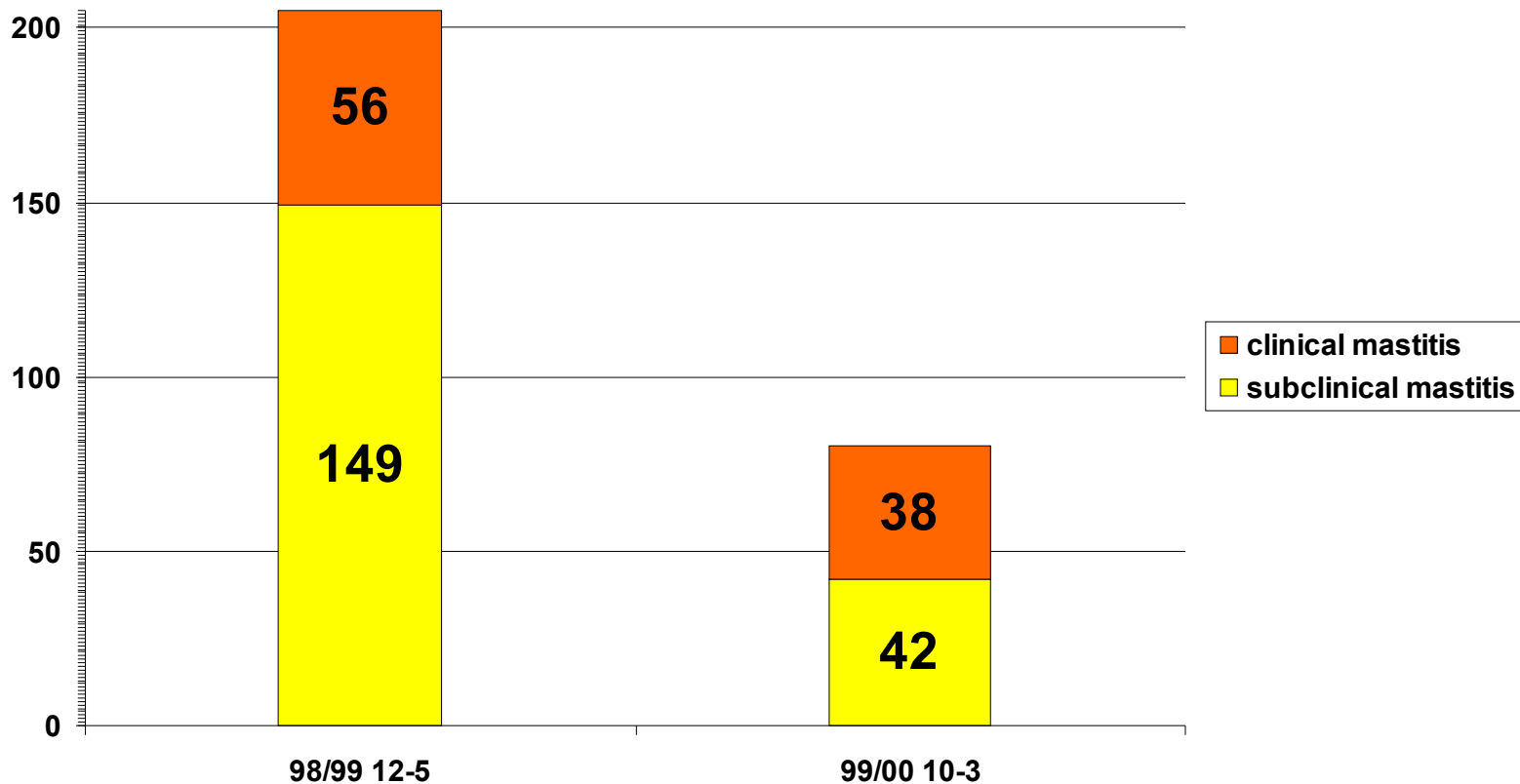


Walkenhorst et al., 2001

FiBL Frick

Engadin Project – Herd Sanitation

number of treated mastitis cases according to characteristics of mastitis



Walkenhorst et al., 2001

FiBL Frick

Antibiotics Minimizing in Udder Health

Investigation in 3 Pilot-Farms with about 100 cows,
north west of Switzerland

Measures:

- Sensibilisation of the farmers
- Control and optimizing of milking technology and hygiene
- Control and optimizing of housing and feeding
- Homeopathic concept in mastitis therapy and prophylaxis, Antibiotics in defined cases
- Culling of cows with poor udder health prognosis

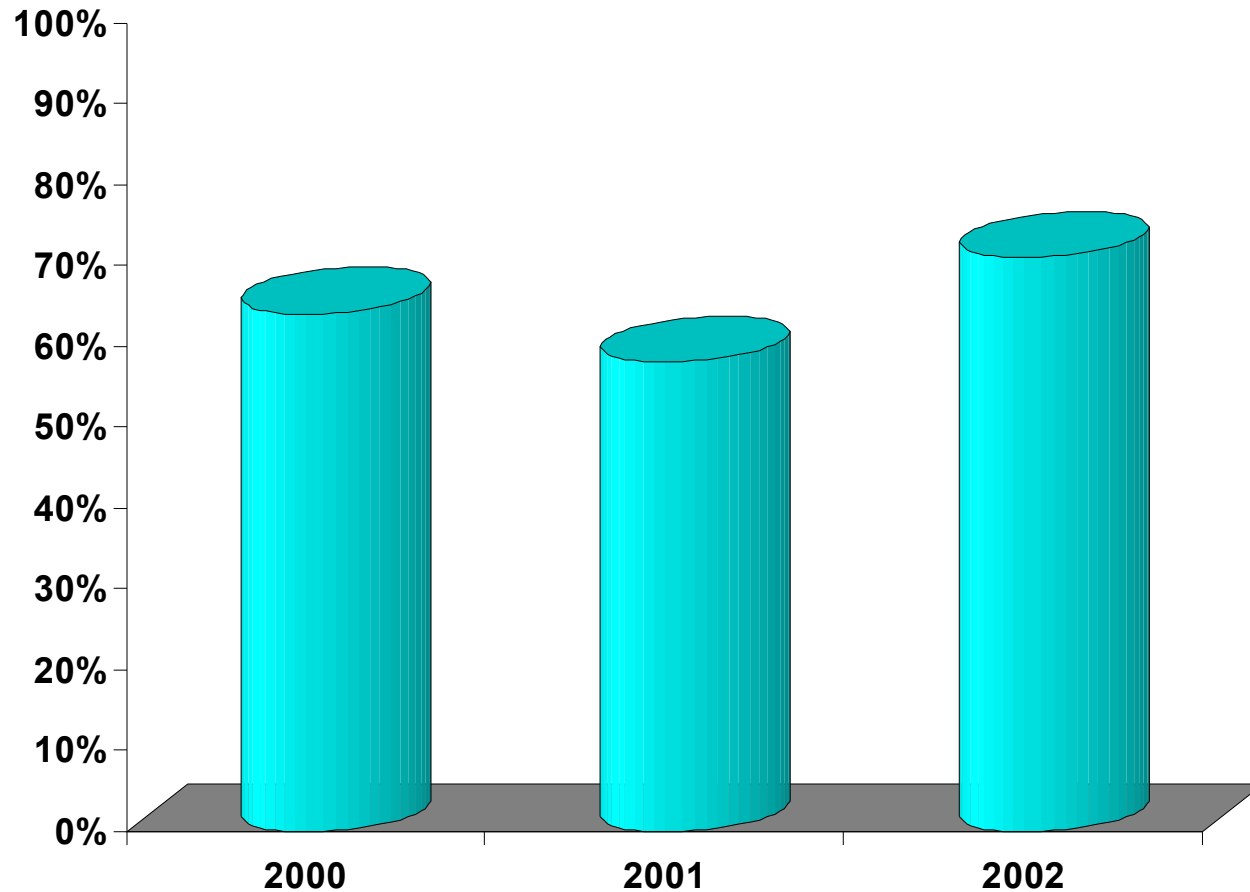
Antibiotics Minimizing in Udder Health

Evaluation of 3 Pilot-Farms with 100 cows, north west of Switzerland

Placing emphasis on a better co-operation between practical veterinarian and the farmer in the issue of preventive herd health management

Antibiotics Minimizing in Udder Health

Cows with Somatic Cell Count < 100'000/ml

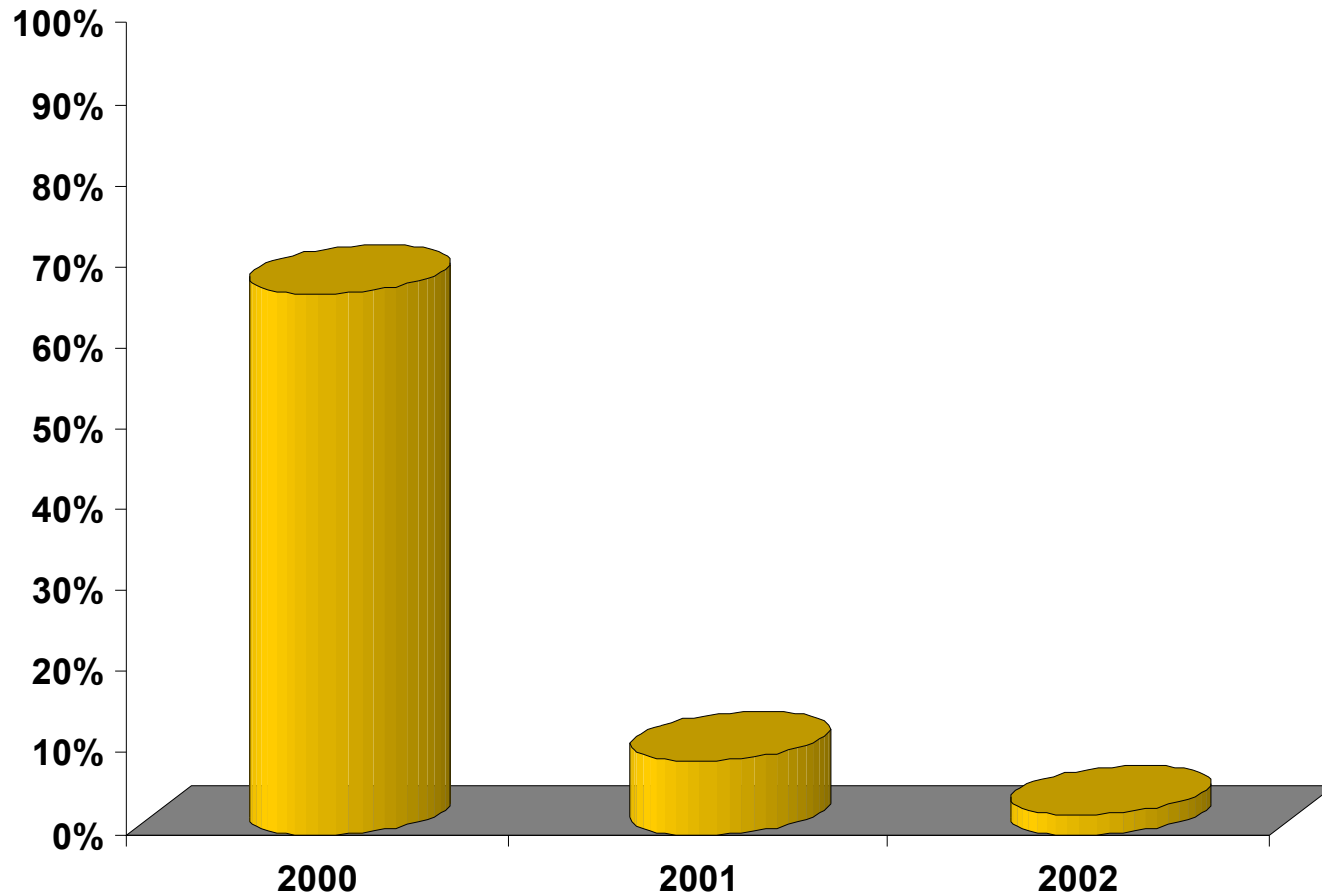


mod. nach Notz et al., 2001

FiBL Frick

Antibiotics Minimizing in Udder Health

Antibiotic therapies*



*dry off and lactation treatment

mod. nach Notz et al., 2001



Pro-Q

**Promotion of the quality
of biologically produced
milk in Switzerland**

- **Fritz Heil, Silvia Ivemeyer, Peter Klocke, Christophe Notz, Claudia Schneider, Jörg Spranger, Michael Walkenhorst**

Pro-Q



- **n= 300 farms / 3year**
 - **Analyse of mastitis risk factors**
 - **Preventive veterinary medicine**
 - **primarily complementary (homeopathic and physical) mastitis treatment**
-
- **Reduction in the use of antibiotics in udder treatment**
 - **Improvement of udder health state**
 - **Improvement of milk quality**

Pro-Q Analysis of mastitis factors



Housing

stable

management

pasture and feedlot

Human-cow interaction



Pro-Q Analysis of mastitis factors



Quality and quantity of feedstuff

Feeding management

Pro-Q Analysis of mastitis factors



cow status of nutrition

body conditioning score (BCS)

milk recording data

Pro-Q Analysis of mastitis factors



milking hygiene

milking management

Pro-Q Analysis of mastitis factors



milking technology



Pro-Q Analysis of mastitis situation



	clinical examination	quarter based bacteriology	quarter based SCC	milk recording data
start	X	X	X	
after 1 st project year	X	X	X	
monthly				X
dry off (if SCC<100 or CMT pos.)	X	X	X	
calving (if SCC<100 or CMT pos.)	X	X	X	
mastitis	X	X	X	
mastitis + 30d	X	X	X	

Pro-Q - Prevention management



- **Basic analysis of mastitis causing factors and mastitis status**
- **Kick of meeting with farmer, practical veterinarian and FiBL veterinarian**
- **Internet based information network according to herd health (mastitis) status - for farmers and veterinarians**
- **Monthly advising with the practical veterinarian and the FiBL veterinarian**

Pro-Q - treatment of mastitis



- primarily based on homeopathy and other complementary ways of therapy
- all treatments by practical veterinarian
- practical veterinarian will be advised and educated in complementary veterinary medicine by the FiBL veterinary team
- antibiotics only in specific individual cases of mastitis

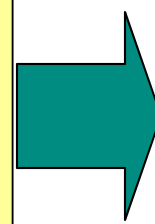
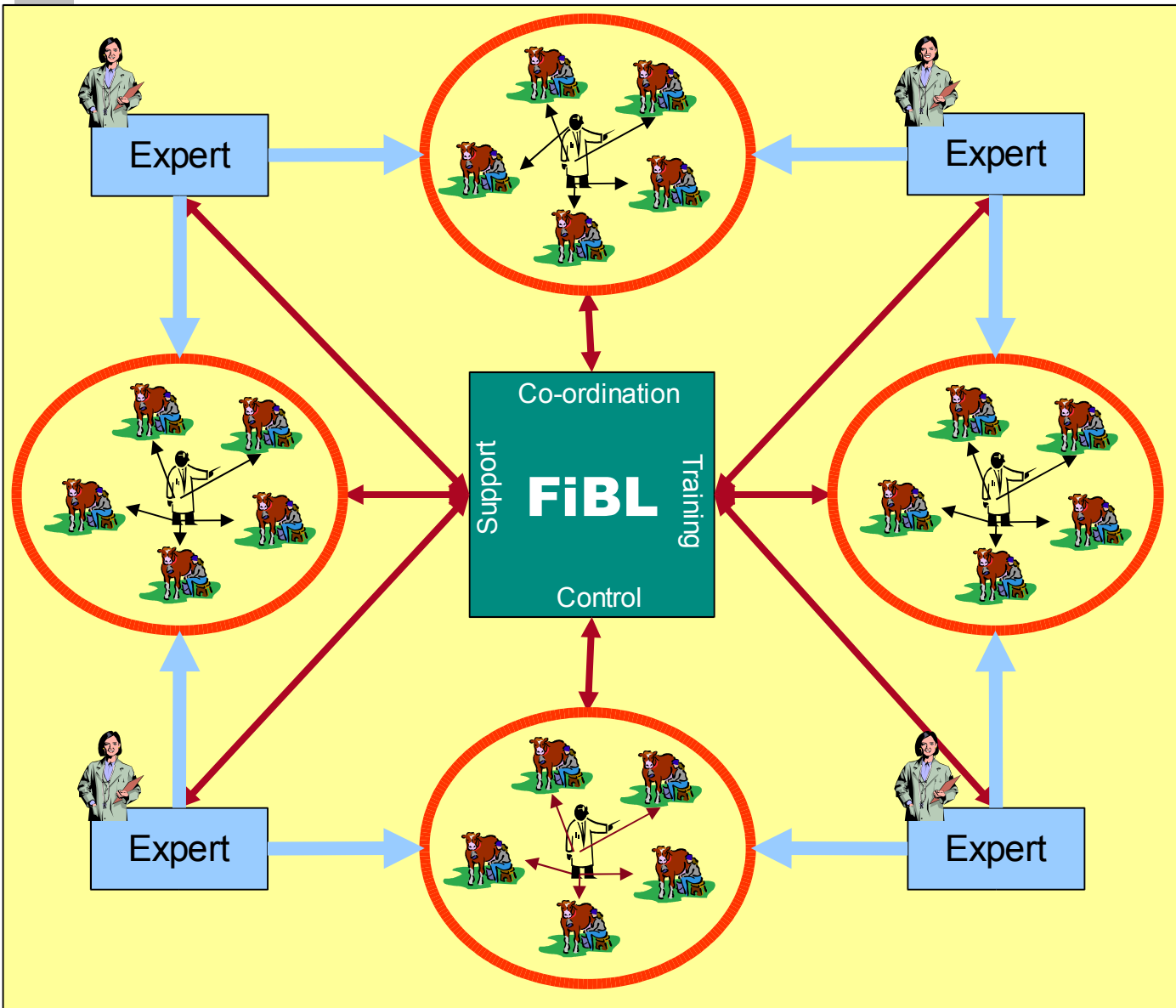


Pro-Q summary and overall aims

- Guidelines for producers, veterinary surgeons and experts
- Investigation minutes on farm level
- Current control of the data
- Intervention guidelines and measures

- Information Center (Hotline, Internet, Newsletter)
- Permanent advice and training
- Expert network

Pro-Q: Quality milk network on producer level



Pro-Q
Quality milk