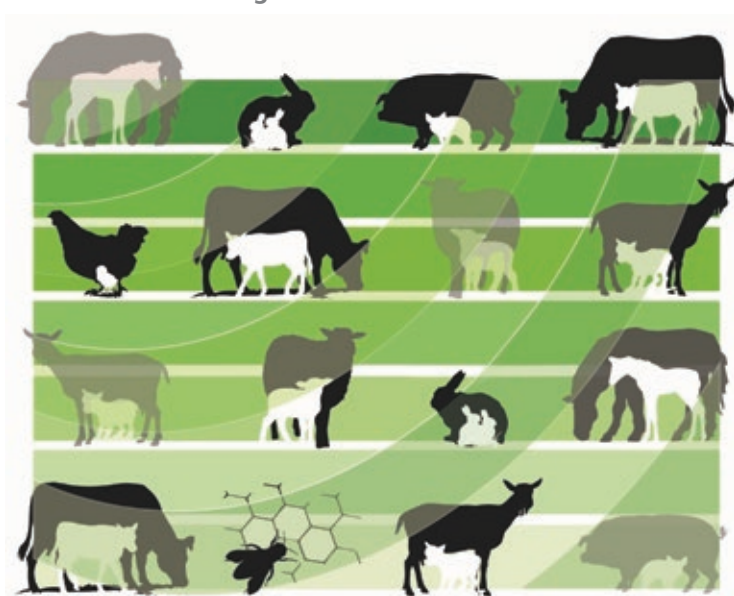




Farm animal genetic resources in Switzerland



Capra Grigia goat and Braunvieh cow



Joining forces to conserve Swiss breeds

In 1994, Switzerland ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity, thus undertaking to support the conservation and sustainable use of native breeds. A total of 38 – cattle, pig, sheep, goat, horse, chicken, rabbit and honeybee – breeds are now recognised as native Swiss breeds. Of these, at least 18 are at risk of extinction. Over the past 20 years, the Federal Office for Agriculture (FOAG) has therefore provided financial support for more than 60 projects concerned with the conservation of native breeds. In addition, breeders, breeding organisations, the ProSpecieRara foundation and research institutions are working together to promote the conservation and sustainable use of native Swiss breeds. The FOAG coordinates these activities at the national level and, at the international level, represents Switzerland in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and in European networks.

The booklet “Farm animal genetic resources in Switzerland” includes information on Swiss agriculture, an overview of conservation activities and detailed descriptions of the 38 native Swiss breeds. For anyone interested in learning more about Switzerland’s unique breed diversity, it represents an essential resource.

Eringer cow



Freiberger horse



Swiss Large White pig



Engadine sheep



Copperneck goat



Dark Bee



Appenzell Spitzhaube chicken



Swiss Fox rabbit



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