

**Aus dem Institut für Betriebswirtschaft, Agrarstruktur  
und ländliche Räume**

**Bernhard Osterburg (Ed.)**

**Seminar 1: "Good Farming Practice - Definitions,  
Implementation, Experiences" :  
Seminar background, programme and handouts of the  
presentations ; 2-3 June 2003, Braunschweig, Germany**

Manuskript, zu finden in [www.fal.de](http://www.fal.de)

**Braunschweig  
Bundesforschungsanstalt für Landwirtschaft (FAL)  
2003**

Also available at:

[http://www.bal.fal.de/download/seminar\\_on\\_GFP\\_background.pdf](http://www.bal.fal.de/download/seminar_on_GFP_background.pdf)

Institute of Farm Economics  
and Rural Studies



Federal Agricultural Research Centre (FAL)  
Braunschweig, Germany

## **Seminar 1: “Good Farming Practice – definitions, implementation, experiences”**

### **Seminar background, programme and handouts of the presentations**

**2 - 3 June 2003, Braunschweig, Germany**

**EU Concerted Action  
“Developing cross compliance in the EU –  
background, lessons and opportunities”  
QLK5-CT-2002-02640**

**Bernhard Osterburg (editor)**

**Braunschweig, June 2003**



## **Table of contents**

*(for technical reasons, no continuous paging)*

### **Seminar background**

#### **Brief description of the seminar**

#### **Programme**

#### **Participants**

#### **Presentations:**

##### ***Introduction***

Bernhard Osterburg: "Good Farming Practice – definitions, implementation, experiences"

Bernhard Osterburg: "Good Farming Practice" – concepts, definitions, and theoretical background on implementation and enforcement

##### ***Good Farming Practice (GFP) in EU member states and accession countries:***

Vicki Swales, Rosy Eaton: Good Farming Practice in England

Angela Bergschmidt: Good Farming Practice in Germany

Jaroslav Prazan, Andrea Skorpikova: „Good Farming Practice“ definition, implementation, experiences – Czech case

Lone Kristensen: Country Report Denmark

Heike Nitsch: Comparative analysis of Good Farming Practice (GFP) in selected EU and accession countries

Jesko Hirschfeld: Assessment of Impacts of Selected Environmental Standards on Production Cost and Farm Profitability

##### ***Implementation and control of GFP: ... The German perspective:***

Carlo Prinz: National administrations' view: Co-ordination of the Länder in meeting the requirements of Reg. (EC) 1259/99 and Reg. (EC) 1257/99 in defining and controlling good farming practice (GFP)

Jons-Alexander Eisele: Control of environmental law in general and in the framework of Reg. (EC) 1257/99: Procedures, Problems and Perspectives

***Implementation and control of GFP:***

***... Perspectives of different EU member states and regions:***

Hanne Jacobsen, Thorm Bendtsen: Danish Experiences with Good Farming Practice

Hans Brand, Martijn Kromjongh: Cross-compliance (The Netherlands)

Hans Brand, Martijn Kromjongh: Good Farming Practice (The Netherlands)

Estelle Godart, Philippe Rogier: Good farming practice - definitions,  
implementation, experiences in France

Carlo Malavolta, Gianfranco De Geronimo: Implementation and control of GFP:  
Regional Perspectives of the administration in Emilia Romagna (Italy)

Carol Millsopp: Good Farming Practice / Cross-compliance: The Northern Ireland  
experience

***Implementation and control of GFP: Perspectives of the European Commission***

Bernhard Berger: The importance of Good Farming Practice for the environment  
policy of the European Union

Andreas Lillig: Integration of environmental concerns within the CAP: Situation  
and Perspectives

## Seminar 1: Background

The seminar 1 within the EU Concerted Action on cross compliance aims at providing information on definition, control and enforcement of codes of “Good Farming Practice”<sup>1</sup> (GFP) in EU member states and accession countries. Codes of GFP determine minimum standards for farm management and may serve as a precondition for payments to farmers. Although GFP definitions may comprise a broad spectrum of aspects such as protection of natural resources, landscape, historic and archaeological features, labour safety, animal health and welfare, food safety and public health, the main emphasis of the seminar shall be on environmental aspects of GFP, and on standards binding at farm level.

GFP is an important tool of agri-environmental policy. It is used for the correct and complete implementation of Community environmental legislation, e. g. Natura 2000 Directives, the Water Framework and other water Directives, Nitrates and pesticides Directives, and objectives of soil protection. By the same time GFP is relevant for the competitiveness of, and within, the agricultural sector of the EU. Standards of GFP can either be legally binding or formulated as recommendations for technical advice. Codes are set up by the state or its agencies, as well as by advisory services, research agencies and farmers or environmental lobby. GFP requirements for farms may be defined at national or local level, for particular sectors like fruit and vegetables or livestock, for methods of production (e. g. Integrated Crop Management) or for specific management activities like the use of pesticides.

In practice, most definitions of GFP established by governments or agricultural administration are based on requirements defined by national or local legislation. On the other hand, the codes may encompass also additional, non-statutory requirements. Legal definitions of GFP serve as standards for farm management, as criteria for control and punishment in order to enforce environmental law, as a baseline for incentive oriented agri-environmental measures, which involve requirements beyond GFP, and as a precondition for public payments to farmers. Such payments linked to GFP can be direct payments in the framework of the EU common market organisations, that means within the “1<sup>st</sup> pillar” of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), or support given for agri-environmental measures (AEM) or in less favoured areas (LFA) according to Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 for rural development, the “2<sup>nd</sup> pillar” of CAP.

The focus of the seminar will be on GFP definitions according to the EU Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 („Rural Development Regulation“) as well as Regulation (EC) 1259/1999 (“Horizontal” or “Common Rules Regulation”) and their implementation. According to the Horizontal Regulation, GFP standards have to be defined either as general mandatory environmental requirements, or as specific environmental requirements constituting a condition for direct payments („cross compliance“). However, the implementation of

---

<sup>1</sup> „Good Farming Practice“ (GFP) and „Good Agricultural Practice“ (GAP) are understood as synonymous terms.

cross compliance, that is the attachment of environmental conditions to agricultural support policies, is up to now optional for EU members states. In the Agenda 2000 Mid Term Review process, the introduction of obligatory cross compliance and the inclusion of more aspects such as food safety and public health into the definition of GFP are discussed. Against the background of the current negotiations, the seminar shall provide insights into the ongoing debate and give space for a discussion of future prospects.

In contrast to the facultative cross compliance according to the Horizontal Regulation, compliance with defined codes of GFP as a precondition for payments within AEM and LFA support according to the Rural Development Regulation is mandatory in all member states. The inclusion of such codes in the rural development plans is obligatory for member states since Agenda 2000. According to Regulation (EC) 445/2002 for the implementation of the Rural Development Regulation, verifiable standards for control of GFP compliance have to be established by the member states in their rural development plans. Control and punishment procedures have to be carried out according to the Integrated Administration and Control System for EU area-oriented payments. This means that control procedures have to follow standardised guidelines, and on the spot controls have to be performed in 5 % of farms participating in AEM or receiving LFA support.

Experiences made in the area of Rural Development can serve as an example for how cross compliance might develop in the future, which potential benefits can be achieved and which problems and shortcomings have to be taken into consideration. Effectiveness and efficiency of mandatory measures depend highly on implementation and enforcement of standards. Aspects of administrative implementation such as operational procedures, appropriate verifiable indicators for detection of compliance, and selection of farms to be inspected are crucial for the understanding whether standards once defined and published take really effect in practice. Therefore, administrative procedures and experiences with control and enforcement are key issues for the seminar.

Since information on the administrative implementation of GFP is scarce, often not systematically monitored, not published or even not open to the public, the compilation of basic information throughout EU member states resulted in a disappointing exercise. Thus, the organisers decided to not send out a comprehensive background paper before the seminar. This document describes objectives of the seminar and contains the programme and presentations. The organisers appreciate the valuable input of the invited experts and members of the Concerted Action. We are grateful to be allowed to publish all seminar presentations in this document, and we apologise for the technical imperfection of this document. The preparation of a more comprehensive seminar report containing papers, national reports, comparisons and other background information, is in process. This second document will be published in July 2003.

## Seminar

### “Good Farming Practice – definitions, implementation, experiences”

**in the EU Concerted Action “Developing cross compliance in the EU –  
background, lessons and opportunities”, QLK5-CT-2002-02640**

**2 - 3 June 2003, Braunschweig, Germany**

**Objectives:** Provide information and exchange experiences on the definition and enforcement of codes of “Good Farming Practice” in EU member states and accession countries as a tool of agri-environmental policy, with a focus on EU regulations (Reg. (EC) 1257/1999 and Reg. (EC) 1259/1999) and their implementation, and discussion of future perspectives.

**Participants:** administration involved in the control of Good Farming Practice (ministry as well as local level), representatives of the EU-commission, representatives of EU farmer’s organisations, EU environmental and other NGO’s as well as water agencies, invited scientists and project partners/members of the Concerted Action

**Language:** English

**Venue:** Institute of Farm Economics and Rural Studies of the Federal Agricultural Research Centre (FAL) in Braunschweig, Germany. Braunschweig is located about 1.5 hours by train from Berlin and 1 hour from Hannover airport, in the north of Germany. A shuttle service from/to Braunschweig train station will be provided.

**Accommodation:** Rooms have been reserved at the Marriott Courtyard Hotel located in the city centre.

Courtyard Braunschweig  
Auguststrasse 6-8  
38100 Braunschweig  
e-mail: sandra.josko@courtyard.com  
Phone: +49 531 4814-0  
Fax: +49 531 4814-100

**Seminar co-ordination:** Federal Agricultural Research Centre (FAL),

Contact: Bernhard Osterburg  
e-mail: bernhard.osterburg@fal.de  
Phone: +49 531 596 5211  
Fax: +49 531 596 5199

**Co-ordination of the Concerted Action:** Institute for European Environmental Policy, London

**Project website:** <http://www.ieep.org.uk/research/Cross%20Compliance/Welcome%20Page.htm>

**This project is funded by the Commission of the European Communities RTD programme Quality of Life and Management of Living Resources under project reference QLK5-CT-2002-02640. The content does not necessarily reflect the views of the Commission and in no way anticipates future Commission policy in this area.**



**Programme of the Seminar**  
**„Good Farming Practice – definitions, implementation, experiences”**  
**2 – 3 June 2003 in Braunschweig, Germany**

**1<sup>ST</sup> DAY 2. JUNE 2003**

before 13:00	Snacks
13:00 – 13:20	Welcome & Introduction to the Concerted Action “EU Cross Compliance”
13:20 – 13:40	“Good Farming Practice” – concepts, definitions, and theoretical background on implementation and enforcement <i>Bernhard Osterburg; FAL, Institute of Farm Economics and Rural Studies</i>

**Good Farming Practice (GFP) in EU member states and accession countries**

13:40 – 14:00	Country Report England <i>Rosy Eaton, Vicky Swales</i> <i>Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP)</i>
14:00 – 14:20	Country Report Germany <i>Angela Bergschmidt</i> <i>FAL, Institute of Farm Economics and Rural Studies</i>
14:20 – 14:30	Discussion
14:30 – 15:00	Coffeebreak & Snack
15:00 – 15:20	Country Report Czech Republic <i>Andrea Škorpiková, VUZE - Research Institute for Agricultural Economics</i>
15:20 – 15:40	Country Report Denmark <i>Lone Kristensen</i> <i>Royal Veterinary Institute, Department for Landscape Management</i>
15:40 – 16:00	Comparative analysis of GFP in selected EU and accession countries <i>Heike Nitsch</i> <i>FAL, Institute of Farm Economics and Rural Studies</i>
16:00 – 16:30	Discussion
16:30 – 17:00	Assessment of impacts of selected environmental standards on production cost and farm profitability in Germany <i>Jesko Hirschfeld</i> <i>Institute for Ecological Economy Research (IÖW)</i>

**17:00 - 17:30** Coffeebreak

**Implementation and control of GFP: The German perspective**

17:30 - 17:50	National administrations view: Co-ordination of the German <i>Länder</i> in achieving the requirements of Reg. (EC) 1259/99 (963/2001) and Reg. (EC) 1257/99 in defining and controlling GFP <i>Dr. Carlo Prinz; German Federal Ministry of Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture</i>
17:50 – 18:10	Viewpoint of a German regional administration: Control of environmental law in general and in the framework of Reg. (EC) 1257/99 - procedures, problems and perspectives <i>Dr. Jons Eisele; Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection, Agriculture and Consumer Protection of North Rhine-Westphalia</i>
18:10 - 18:30	Discussion

Shuttle from FAL to the Marriot Courtyard Hotel, short sight-seeing walk in the historic centre of Braunschweig, Dinner in a traditional German restaurant at the old market place (Gewandhaus).

**2<sup>ND</sup> DAY: 3. JUNE 2003**

**Implementation and control of GFP: Perspectives of different EU member states and regions**

- 08:30 – 08:50 National perspective of the administration in Denmark  
*Hanne Jacobsen, Thorm Bendtsen*  
*The Danish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries*
- 08:50 – 09:10 National perspective of the administration in The Netherlands  
*Dr. Hans Brand, Martijn Kromjongh*  
*Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries, The Netherlands*
- 09:10 – 09:30 National perspective of the administration in France  
*Estelle Godart, Philippe Rogier*  
*Ministère de l'agriculture, de l'alimentation, de la pêche et des affaires rurales*
- 09:30 – 10:00 Discussion
- 10:00 – 10:30 Coffeebreak
- 10:30 – 10:50 Regional perspective of the administration in Emilia-Romagna, Italy  
*Dr. Gianfranco de Geronimo, Dr. Carlo Malavolta*  
*Regione Emilia-Romagna*
- 10:50 – 11:10 Regional perspective of the administration in Northern Ireland, U.K.  
*Dr. Carol Millsopp*  
*Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD), Northern Ireland*
- 11:10 – 11:30 Discussion

**Implementation and control of GFP: Perspectives of the European Commission**

- 11:30 – 11:50 The importance of Good Farming Practice for the environment policy of the European Union  
*Dr. Bernhard Berger., European Commission DG Environment*
- 11:50 – 12:10 Integration of environmental concerns within the CAP: Situation and Perspectives  
*Andreas Lillig, European Commission DG Agri*
- 12:10 – 13:00 Discussion, further steps in the Concerted Action

Shuttle from FAL to Braunschweig railway station.



Seminar on Good Farming Practice, 2-3 June 2003, Participants

Title	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	Concerted Action partners and members
	David	Baldock	Institute for European Environmental Policy	U.K.	X
	André	Bannink	VEWIN (Netherlands Waterworks Association)	The Netherlands	
	Thorm	Bendtsen	The Danish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries	Denmark	
	Harriet	Bennett	Institute for European Environmental Policy	U.K.	X
Dr.	Bernhard	Berger	EC DG ENV	EU COM	
	Angela	Bergschmidt	Federal Agricultural Research Centre (FAL)	Germany	X
Dr.	Hans	Brand	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries	The Netherlands	
	Lenka	Camrova	IREAS	Czech Republic	X
	Pedro	Cremades Redondo	Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentacion	Spain	
Dr.	Gianfranco	De Geronimo	Regione Emilia-Romagna	Italy	
	Dimitrios	Dimopoulos	Ministry of Agriculture	Greece	
	Anton	Dippold	Bavarian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Germany	
	Rosy	Eaton	Institute for European Environmental Policy	U.K.	X
Dr.	Jons-Alexander	Eisele	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, Agriculture and Consumer Protection Northrhine-Westfalia/Germany	Germany	
	Gábor	Figeczky	WWF Hungary	Hungary	
	Richard	Findon	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	U.K.	
	Estelle	Godart	Ministère de l'agriculture, de l'alimentation, de la pêche et des affaires rurales ( MAAPAR) – France	France	
	Jesko	Hirschfeld	Institute for Ecological Economy Research (IÖW)	Germany	
Mgr.	Abraham	Hofhanzl	Ministry of the Environment	Czech Republic	
	Hanne	Jacobsen	The Danish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries	Denmark	
	Yanka	Kazakova	WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme	Bulgaria	
	Heinrich	Kemper	Deutscher Bauernverband	Germany	
	Lone	Kristensen	The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University	Denmark	X
	Martijn	Kromjongh	Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries	The Netherlands	
	Andreas	Lillig	EU-Commission, DG AGRI	EU COM	
Dr.	Carlo	Malavolta	Regione Emilia-Romagna	Italy	
Dr	Carol	Millsopp	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) , Northern Ireland	U.K.	
	Heike	Nitsch	Federal Agricultural Research Centre (FAL)	Germany	X
	Bernhard	Osterburg	Federal Agricultural Research Centre (FAL)	Germany	X
Dr.	Andrea	Povellato	INEA (Istituto Nazionale di Economia Agraria)	Italy	X
Dr.	Carlo	Prinz	Federal Ministry of Consumer Protection, Food and Agriculture	Germany	
	Karin	Reiter	Federal Agricultural Research Centre (FAL)	Germany	X
	Helen	Richardson	Environment Agency	U.K.	
	Philippe	Rogier	Ministère de l'agriculture, de l'alimentation, de la pêche et des affaires rurales ( MAAPAR) – France	France	
	Christel	Schmelzeisen	Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)	Germany	
	Florian	Schöne	Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V.	Germany	
	Andrea	Škorpiková	VUZE - Research Institute for Agricultural Economics	Czech Republic	X
	Vicki	Swales	Institute for European Environmental Policy	U.K.	X
	Erna	van der Wal	CLM	The Netherlands	X
	Gerwin	Verschuur	CLM Research and Advice Plc	The Netherlands	X
	George	Vlahos	Agricultural University of Athens	Greece	X
Dr.	Romualdas	Zemeckis	Lithuanian Institute of Agrarian Economics	Lithuania	X
	Tomas	Zidek	VUZE - Research Institute for Agricultural Economics	Czech Republic	X

