

# BIOINSTITUT o. p. s.



INSTITUTE FOR ORGANIC AGRICULTURE  
AND SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT



ANNUAL REPORT **2009**

# Introduction

For five years Bioinstitut, o.p.s. has been actively involved in the development of organic agriculture in the Czech Republic. The rapid increase in the number of organic farmers, increased acreage of organically farmed land, diversification in primary production and processing – all these require more and more support – in the form of education, information, advice and scientific research, for which the competent institutions are not sufficiently prepared. Therefore the whole sector has always been struggling with a lack of experts, specialist information and services. Despite the efforts of experts to react to the rapid development, their activities are still fragmented and there is insufficient cooperation and exchange of information. For this reason Bioinstitut has initiated the establishment of the Czech Technology Platform for Organic Agriculture (CTPOA) with the aim of uniting and linking a wide range of people and companies active in the field of organic farming and organic food production. With the signature of a contract all founding members declared their common aim to build and ensure the development of the system of knowledge in the area of OA and organic food production with emphasis on knowledge transfer across all key areas of the sector.

For a long time in the Czech Republic organic farming was only a marginal interest, not only for farmers, primary producers, manufacturers, organic food producers, but also for science & research workers who mainly focus on research and the development of modern methods and technology required by integrated, intensive and precise agriculture.

Information and marketing campaigns over the last two years have activated consumer interest in purchasing organic food, have increased imports and have finally stimulated the interest of Czech manufacturers and food producers in Czech organic raw materials. Likewise the financial stimulus from the government motivates more and more farmers to convert to the organic way of farming.

However, the OA structure in the Czech Republic is not favourable in the long term, i.e. mainly the ratio of arable land to permanent grassland. Also the ratio in dairy and beef production is similar, and as the subsequent processing is also lacking, the majority of animals from organically managed farms are still sold

as conventional. This means that most production and processing of organic foodstuffs is still dependent on the import of raw materials from abroad.

Primary producers are usually unable to fulfil the processors' requirements in terms of volume and stability of supplies and therefore they often begin manufacturing their own produce on the farm and selling directly. Of course, there are more reasons for such a decision, especially the retail price for primary produce, unfavourable supply- delivery conditions etc. Last but not least is the increasing consumer interest in local and regional produce, which motivates farmers to develop their own systems of processing and direct sale.

In an effort to react to such development, Bioinstitut in 2009 dealt with processing meat and milk on farms. Communication with governmental bodies, inspection and control authorities, farmers and experts in meat and milk processing brought results in the form of methodology handbooks on farm-based meat and milk processing, as well as seminars including practical examples of slaughtering and processing.

Besides support for farm production, the organic sector also requires related activities in the area of feedstuffs, veterinary remedies, plant protection etc. also the range of organic seed and seedlings is insufficient. Therefore we are trying to respond to these needs gradually, passing practical requirements to research, bringing experience and tools from abroad, striving to involve experts from other fields who can contribute to the development of OA.

Besides the afore-mentioned operational themes of organic farming we continue to focus on the relationship between agricultural activities and nature protection. We are developing the concept of individual approach in consultancy and the related "Considerate Farm Management Plans". We cooperate with farms included in the "Organic Farmers for Nature" network, helping them with proposals and implementation of measures supported by the "Landscape Care Programme" contributing to diversification and biodiversity protection in the agricultural landscape

More information on Bioinstitut's important activities can be found further in this Annual Report.

Mgr. Pavlína Samsonová

# About the company

Bioinstitut, o.p.s. was founded in 2004 as a partner of the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL Frick, Switzerland. Other co-founders are the Czech Association of Organic Farmers, PRO-BIO, and Palacky University Olomouc, CZ.

Bioinstitut's mission is to support the development of Czech organic farming through the provision of education and information, as well as the transfer of knowledge from the field of science into practice.



## Managerial Board

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Ing. Ludmila Mužiková (from 24. 6. 2009)

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## Company Director

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## Employees

### ■ Mgr. Tomáš Berka

### ■ Ing. Lucie Berková

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### ■ Ing. Ladislav Čáp

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### ■ Ing. Alena Malíková

### ■ Ing. Markéta Sábliková

### ■ Prof. Dr. Ing. Bořivoj Šarapatka, CSc.

### ■ Mgr. Filip Vávra

## External colleagues

### ■ Ing. Radomil Hradil

### ■ Ing. Radim Jarošek

### ■ Mgr. Stanislav Mudra

### ■ RNDr. Jan Pokorný

### ■ accredited OF advisers

### ■ et al.



## *Bioinstitut initiated the foundation of the CTPOA*

To unite and link a wide range of people and companies active in the field of organic farming and organic food production, the Czech Technology Platform for Organic Agriculture (CTPOA) was founded in the Czech Republic.

With the signature of a contract, all its members made a commitment to support an initiative aimed at improving the competitiveness of organic farming and the development of production, distribution, sale and consumption of organic food; to be active in the related areas of science, research, technology and innovation; to support and actively participate in the initiation, creation and implementation of strategic documents in the field of organic agriculture and organic food production.

The Platform was founded in accordance with the initiative of TP Organic and the initiative of the European Commission. On the basis of its constitution, the CTPOA makes a commitment to be active throughout the Czech Republic and, at the same time, to closely cooperate with other TPs established within the EU and other countries.

The founding members collectively drew up a Strategic Research Agenda (SRA) and Implementation Action Plan (IAP). The SRA is the main working document of the Platform, identifying priorities for long-term research and innovation. The IAP defines medium-term and long-term aims for progressive work on the identified priorities within individual research topics according to their importance and with regard to weaknesses of Czech OA and insufficient knowledge. The CTPOA consists of 16 founder members and its membership is open, so further entry is possible. Bioinstitut, o.p.s. has been elected coordinator of the CTPOA.

More information: <http://www.bioinstitut.cz/ctpez.html>



# Implemented Projects

## Research Projects

### *Optimizing Agricultural and River Landscapes in CZ with Emphasis on the Development of Biodiversity*

- **Registration No:** 2B06101
- **Implementation period:** 07/2006 – 06/2011
- **Funding:** Part of research project 2B06101, National Research Program II (Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports)
- **Primary project organizer:** Palacky University Olomouc
- **Co-participants:** the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, the Czech Agricultural University in Prague, Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry, the Research Institute for Fodder Crops, the Potato Research Institute, OSEVA – Research Station

One of Bioinstitut's objectives within this research project is to create and verify a procedure for plans for environmentally considerate management in the landscape. The project is thematically connected to the Organic Farmers for Nature project where we transfer the results of research directly into practice on the agricultural enterprise.

### *Optimizing Organic Agriculture and Chosen Agro-environmental Measures with Emphasis on Nature and Landscape Conservation*

- **Registration No:** SP/2d3/155/08
- **Implementation period:** 07/2008 – 12/2010
- **Funding:** Research and Development, the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic
- **Primary project organizer:** Bioinstitut, o.p.s.

- **Co-participants:** Palacký University Olomouc; the Research Institute for Soil and Water Conservation, Prague; the Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information, Prague – Brno division

The project focuses on organic farming and selected agroenvironmental measures with the aim of enhancing their benefit for nature and landscape conservation and improving the OF system.





Norwegian – Czech research project  
focusing on legume-cereal mixes

### *The Use of Legume-Cereal Intercropping for Increased Self-sufficiency in Fodder and Maintenance of Soil Quality on Organic Farms in the Czech Republic*

- **Implementation period:** 12/2008 – 05/2010
- **Registration No:** A/CZ0046/1/0024
- **Funding:** The project is supported by the EHP and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms and by the Czech State Budget via the Research Support Fund

The project verifies possible LCI components with regard to the conditions of organic farming, and with regard to new varieties, potential weed levels, mechanical methods used in organic farming, cultivation economics and, primarily, the nutritional value of feedstuff.

### *Educational Projects*

#### *EZZB – Organic Agriculture and Processing Organic Food*

- **Implementation period:** 09/2008 – 12/2010
- **Funding:** a public commission of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic

The organizer of the public commission is the PRO-BIO Association of Organic Farmers with its branches and regional centres in cooperation with Bioinstitut, o. p. s. and EPOS – the Association of Organic Farming Consultants in the Czech Republic.

The aim of the project is to ensure sufficient information for successful and competitive organic farming management, to increase public awareness of

its benefits and advantages and thus contribute to its general development in the Czech Republic. Within the scope of fulfilling orders, in 2009 we elaborated methods of processing meat and milk on the farm, and through seminars connected with practical demonstrations of processing we offered them to organic farmers. We provide grants to model farms for the establishment of information points; we distribute information and educational material and hold seminars for farmers, state administration and the public.

#### *Organic Farmers for Nature:*

#### *Model Organic Farms as an Example for Preservation of Nature and Landscape at the Level of Agricultural Enterprise*

- **Implementation period:** 07/2008 – 06/2010
- **Funding:** Supported by a grant from Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway within the EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms through the Social Development Fund, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic, and Liechtenstein's Sonnenwiese Foundation via FiBL.

The aim of this project is to support organic farming as an important prerequisite for maintaining species diversity and rural landscape diversity. Therefore a network of model organic farms in different regions has been established and the active exchange of knowledge and experience is supported among farmers, advisers, nature protection authorities and the public.



## Events

Within the projects carried-out in 2009 we organised fourteen educational events on various themes for farmers, advisers, representatives of state administration, students and the public,. Over 350 people took part in our seminars, a fact which we appreciate and comprehend as appreciation of our efforts to prepare an interesting programme and invite professional lecturers. We always try to hold these events right on organic farms and we help them to create their own information and education sites. In this report we mention only a selection of events to illustrate the range of topics we dealt with in 2009

### ***Seminar /17th –18th February 2009, Sluňákov Water in an agricultural landscape and organic beekeeping***

A two-day seminar for specialists and the public was held in the Sluňákov Centre for Ecological Activities in Horka nad Moravou near Olomouc.

The first day was devoted to the issues of water in the agricultural landscape from several points of view. Inconsiderate farming activities leading to pollution of water resources and water-erosion of soil were discussed; as well as the impact of a change in farming management



in relation to global climate change – mainly in the context of the importance of greenery for water retention in the landscape. The seminar was accompanied by a short excursion to Litovelské Pomoraví PLA (Protected Landscape Area), focusing on revitalisation projects in the region of Sluňákov and aspects of the river landscape within the PLA.

The topic of the second day was “Pollinators in the Agricultural Landscape” and the current critical decline in bee colonies was discussed. The seminar participants were acquainted with the significance of bees for a healthy landscape and informed about the need for a well balanced,

*Seminar in Sluňákov: Water in an agricultural landscape and organic beekeeping*



diverse landscape for the life of bees. An important part of the seminar was devoted to bees as bio-indicators of quality of environment, due to their sensitive reaction to pollution.

As a follow-up to the seminar, two lectures were published in the “Farmers for Nature” Bulletin of the BIO monthly magazine: “The Importance of Vegetation and Water in Reducing Climatic Change” by Jan Pokorný and “Pollination of seed-production stands of alfalfa by solitary bees (*Rhophitoides canus*) by Antonín Přidal from Mendel University.

*Seminar / 18th – 19th April 2009 Slunečná Organic farm, Želnavá and 29th – 30th May 2009, Lidečko Slaughtering and meat processing in organic farming, with a practical example of farm slaughter*

Two-day seminars on slaughtering and meat processing on farms provided sufficient theory and practice for the participants. In the theoretical part there was special emphasis on current EU standards as well as Czech legislation relating to principles of slaughter, and also processing, labelling and sale of meat and meat products.

Fundamental information was given on abattoir certification in organic farming and on contractual processing. The organisers of the seminar introduced their publication entitled “Slaughtering and meat processing in

organic farming – guidelines and recommendations for slaughtering and meat processing on the farm.”

On the second day of both seminars cattle slaughtering was demonstrated for participants. Slaughtering on Slunečná organic farm was performed in cooperation with the Regional Veterinary Administration (KVS) České Budějovice. Together with the farm owner KVS representatives patiently explained all rules and difficulties involved in operating an abattoir, duties of the entrepreneur and they answered a number of related questions. Seminar participants mostly asked about the requirements of state administration authorities for carrying out farm slaughter, frequency of inspections in regard to frequency of slaughter, financial costs and other issues relating to farm slaughtering. Other questions also related to quality control of carcasses, the necessity for veterinary examination etc.

In Wallachia the slaughtering was carried out in the Valčík low-capacity abattoir in Valašské Klobouky in cooperation with KVS Zlín. As with the first seminar, a KVS representative, lecturers and the abattoir owner answered numerous questions from participants.

*Bioinstitut working meeting at Bemagro farm in Malonty / June 2009, Malonty*

Bioinstitut employees and some external colleagues met at Bemagro farm to discuss current topics in the field of organic farming, but also to literally work “in the field”. Bioinstitut staff were shown around the farm, learned

about the farm's operation and took part in some activities (hoeing beet crops and milking). Their three-day stay was also filled with discussion of practical farming problems, farm plans, the situation in the OF movement, and this was all done in the field.

The last day was devoted to biodynamics. The invited expert Petr Dostálek provided participants with a practical demonstration on the preparation and application of some biodynamic preparations on the farm.

### *Working excursion to Hucul farm / 17th June 2009*

Thanks to cooperation with Bioinstitut, students of the secondary School of Agriculture in Poděbrady visited one of the model organic farms – the Hucul farm in Janova Hora in the Krkonoše mountains. The students spent a day there, learned about Hucul horse breeding and had an opportunity



*Working excursion to Hucul farm*



*Working meeting of Bioinstitut staff on Bemagro farm in Malonty*



to take a ride, but mainly got to know the daily routine of the farm and tried some farm work for themselves. They were involved in the removal of dock from organic pastures. Under OF conditions this means mechanical removal without the use of herbicides. Such an ecologically considerate method is also suitable for this area as the farm fields are situated within a National Park. Afterwards the students wrote a short report on their work and, using photographs they had taken themselves on the farm, they created an introductory presentation of the farm which they later used within Project Days at their school.

*Working seminar – Nature protection on a farm level and Considerate Farm Management Plans, Věcov*



### *Working seminar / 18th – 19th June 2009, Věcov Nature protection on a farm level and Considerate Farm Management Plans*

The two-day working seminar on the Kadeřávek family farm focused on the need for individual consultation in the field of agroenvironmental measures (AEM) and other measures affecting the relationship between agriculture and protection of nature, landscape, soil and water on a farm level. Czech experts (UZEI, DAPHNE, Bioinstitut) and colleagues from Great Britain and Austria introduced possible approaches to drawing up farm plans and how to make further use of these plans as a new measure within the Rural Development Plan (RDP).

Participants from state administration and non-governmental organizations were given the opportunity



to discuss advisory services for farmers aimed at nature protection. Inspiring contributions from foreign colleagues showed the way that Czech advisers could take. In conclusion the participants agreed on further tasks which need to be accomplished in order to integrate this type of advisory service in the RDP. The theoretical part of the seminar was followed by a practical demonstration of an adviser's work on a farm when both foreign advisers, Phil Lyth and Alois Wilfling presented various methods of field work. This was followed by a tour of the Kadeřávek farm where the seminar was held. The Kadeřávek family have approximately 90 hectares of grassland within the Žďárské vrchy Protected Landscape Area and their main focus is pedigree sheep breeding (Suffolk and East Friesian). In cooperation with the PLA authority and with financial support from the Care of Landscape Programme the Kadeřáveks have built a pool on their land and created new landscape features by planting trees and shrubs.

### **Seminar**

*22nd June 2009, Palacký University Olomouc*

*23rd September 2009, Jihlava*

### **Seed production under organic farming conditions**

The seminars were designed for both suppliers and purchasers of seed. A representative of the Seed and Planting Material Division of ÚKZÚZ (Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture) began by

introducing the current legislation relating to seed production and changes that will be introduced in the new legislative amendment.

The PRO-BIO Trading Company Ltd. presented the current seed-market situation, gave an estimation of the future development of the market and the target situation in the field of organic seed.

Lecturers from the Crop Research Institute (VÚRV) presented the principles of growing cereals which, according to their properties, are suitable for organic farming, i.e. spelt wheat, emmer wheat, millet and buckwheat. They presented each species in detail, including



their requirements in terms of growing conditions, agrotechnical interventions and criteria which individual species must meet during inspection of propagating material, post-harvest processing and in the process of seed approval. In the afternoon block, BIOPREPARATY s.r.o. and Agritec s.r.o. companies presented a new plant protector as well as an auxiliary soil preparation which can both be used in organic farming. At the end of the seminar, Bioinstitut introduced the OrganicXseeds database ([www.bioosiva.cz](http://www.bioosiva.cz)). The participants had the opportunity to work

*Bioacademy*



with the database, try out various ways of searching and learn in detail about the options presented. Seed producers and suppliers tried out entering their range of cultivars into the database. They were also acquainted with the registration process which allows access to the database as a supplier.

### *Bioacademy / 24th June 2009, Lednice na Moravě 2nd Scientific Conference*

Bioinstitut participated in organizing Bioacademy – 9th European Summer Academy on Organic Farming, traditionally held by PRO-BIO Association of Organic Farmers. Within Bioacademy, Bioinstitut organized the second Scientific Conference. Its topics were: Diversity in Organic Plant Production, Soil Quality and Diversity in OF, Sustainability and Diversity in Horticulture and Organic Sector. During the conference various specialists from several European countries exchanged the latest findings in OF research relating to landscape and individual components of the environment.

All contributions presented within the Scientific Conference were then published in the Bioacademy 2009 Proceedings. Partner organisations: Palacký University Olomouc, FiBL - Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, Bioforsk - Norwegian Institute for Agricultural and Environmental Research, University of Bonn, Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information in Prague, Bio Forschung Austria and Slovak Research Institute of Pedology and Soil Protection.



*Field day / 29th June 2009, Čechovi  
organic farm in Postřelmov  
Legume-cereal crops and soil quality  
in organic farming*

In cooperation with LCI Organic partners – Agritec Šumperk and Mendel University in Brno, Bioinstitut organized a field day focusing on semi-operational experiments with legume-cereal crops and practical demonstrations of soil quality evaluation. A total of 30 people took part in the field day, including organic farmers, advisers and teachers from secondary schools and universities. The field day began with Agritec employees checking on field experiments, giving information about legume cultivars and providing consultation on pests, disease and weeds. This was followed by a lecture by a Norwegian colleague Reidun Pommeresche (Bioforsk Organic) who demonstrated, with the help of an interpreter the process of evaluating soil quality using worms as a suitable bioindicator. The programme was concluded by Prof. Bořivoj Šarapatka (UPOL) and Ing. Vítězslav Hybler, PhD., who introduced the methodology for evaluating soil quality on an organic farm, together with a practical example of the soil sampling technique.



*Field day on Čechovi organic farm in Postřelmov*

*Seminar / 5th – 6th September 2009, Slunečná organic farm in Želnavá and Vlastimil Kamír's farm, Borová*  
***Considerate farming in large-scale protected areas, places for nature on organic farms***

The two-day seminar focused on the topic of farming activities within large-scale protected areas and the possibilities for increasing species diversity on farms. The main aim of the first seminar was to inform participants about possibilities or problems relating to care of grassland within Šumava National Park, in relation to species diversity of meadow and wetland communities, access to sites and the quality of fodder from particular sites – from the point of view of both nature protection and agricultural use. The seminar was followed by an excursion to Šumava NP – the annually flooded alluvial area of the Vltava River. This area is characteristic in its great species diversity of meadow and wetland communities even on a small acreage, which therefore requires considerate and environmentally friendly agricultural use. The second seminar was held on Ing. Vlastimil Kamír's Borová, farm situated in Blanský les PLA. Seminar participants were acquainted with possibilities for increasing biodiversity on organically farmed land through the example of Borová stream revitalisation.

*Seminar*  
*9th – 10th October 2009, Slunečná organic farm, Želnavá,*  
*16th – 17th October 2009, Secondary School of Agriculture*  
*and Science, Rožnov p. Radhoštěm and Josef Ondruch's farm,*  
*Valašská Bystřice*  
***Farm processing of milk and milk products in OF with***  
***a practical example of operation on farm***

Two-day seminars with a practical example of on-farm milk processing were planned for participants from Bohemia on Ing. Pavel Štěpánek's Slunečná organic farm in Želnavá, and for Moravian farmers at the Secondary School of Agriculture and Science in Rožnov pod Radhoštěm and on Ing. Tomáš Ondruch's farm in Valašská Bystřice. Unfortunately, due to bad winter weather the participants did not visit this second location.

The theoretical part of the seminars included contributions by several lecturers who, as a team, have written a handbook entitled *Farm Processing of Milk in Organic Farming*.

The discussion mainly centred on topical questions on the direct sale of milk via milkomats – especially hygiene requirements, advantages and deficiencies of such methods of sale – which were addressed by a representative of the Veterinary Hygiene Division, Department of Public Health and Ecology of the Czech State Veterinary Administration.

The greater part of the seminar was a talk by a lecturer from the Secondary School of Dairy Industry and Higher Vocational School of Food Technology in Kroměříž, focusing on production methods and processing of milk – from its composition through milk treatment and pre-processing modification to production of various dairy products.

Invited specialists from the local veterinary administration were also actively involved in discussion within the seminars.

The practical part of the second seminar day in Slunečná began with morning milking of cows and goats, followed by a demonstration of processing and a tour of the premises and equipment of the small farm dairy.

The great interest in organic milk processing was proven by numerous questions from participants their interest in presentations and the possibility to take photographs of the dairy, as well as purchasing Slunečná's organic dairy produce.

## *Seminar / 2nd November 2009, Chrudim Ecological production and the hazard of GMO contamination*

The seminar organized by Bioinstitut within its educational program for inspection authority staff was led by Dr. Christoph Then, German expert from the Scouting Biotechnology company, originally a veterinary surgeon who has been dealing with GMO issues for fifteen years. His lecture focused on explaining the technically random and unavoidable GMO occurrence in both conventional and organic produce (an exception included in legislative standards for accidental, unintentional contamination) and on zero tolerance of unauthorized GM crops (those not approved for import and for growing within the EU). Dr. Then stressed the fact that, if a level of tolerance of seed contamination is introduced, then its limits will cause enormous problems in the whole production chain as segregation would be very difficult. The lecture also dealt with examples of labelling products as GMO-free, cases of detected contamination in the last ten years and the costliness of separating production. Dr. Then summarised a prognosis that further GMO crop development will continue towards insect-resistant and herbicide-resistant crops but only a very small percentage will be devoted to research into climate-resistant plants (i.e. plants reacting



*Seminar on Farm Processing  
of Milk in OF with a practical  
example of operation  
on Slunečná farm*

to climatic change). According to Dr. Then it is already clear that cultivating plants for climatic change via biotechnology is very difficult and better results can be achieved through traditional cultivation.

### *Seminar / 23rd November 2009, Valeč, Karlovy Vary Experiential education on the farm: eco-educational programmes for schools in the farm environment*

AREA viva non-profit organisation and Bioinstitut, o.p.s. organised this seminar on experiential learning on the farm. The invitation was accepted by teachers, representatives of public administration and farmers. Education on farms in general was discussed as well as its inclusion in the General Education Programme and the prospects of the branch.

The PRO-BIO LEAGUE participated with their educational publication entitled “On an organic farm with Biáček the Donkey, or How ‘Bio’ is born” for pre-school and school children and a related educational programme for schools which has been started, in the form of a pilot project, in 10 Prague schools and on one organic farm. Seminar participants agreed that, compared to merely obtaining information from printed material or lectures in a classroom, a visit to a farm has far greater impact on comprehension of the organic farming system.

Representatives of three organic farms introduced their activities – Stateček u Lněníčků farm with their education for parents and children, Kozodoj organic farm with their educational programme and Valeč organic farm where the farmer Vojtěch Veselý does not so much introduce the farm or animals to visiting children, but mainly his work: how much must be done to provide consumers with food, drink and clothing.

## *Prepared for farmers*

### *Information boards*

For farms involved in our projects we make information boards to acquaint the public with the farm’s activities and its interesting natural features. These robust wooden stands with full-colour posters on a plastic surface are situated at sites popular with tourists (hiking trails, farm access roads). The aim is to inform visitors and also local people, about the character of organic farming. Every board is an original in terms of its content, describing the history of the area, production focus of the farm, explaining how organic farming benefits the landscape, nature and wildlife. In 2009, seven info-boards were made for Slunečná farm, Ing. Dalibor Vacek’s farm, Hucul farm (2 boards), Orlice River farm, Agrisen farm and Stateček u Lněníčků.

### *Leaflets*

We also produce promotional leaflets for farms involved in our projects with information about individual farms. In 2009 this involved leaflets for Ing. Dalibor Vacek’s farm and an update of the leaflet for Hucul farm.

### *Presentations for farmers*

For farmers participating in the Farmers for Nature project we create powerpoint presentations about their farms which can be used within educational programmes, seminars and Farm Open Days, the offer is still open; so far three farms have taken advantage of it.

*Launch of  
OrganicXseeds  
database test operation*



Every organic farmer has a legal obligation to use seed and planting material cultivated according to organic farming rules. Only in the case of organic seed being unavailable is it possible to apply for an exception for the use of untreated conventional seed or planting material. To meet these requirements, Council Regulation No. 834/2007 requires every UE country to keep a database of seed and potato planting material available in organic quality. The Czech Republic fulfils this duty via ÚKZÚZ and the available range is published on the ÚKZÚZ website.

Within the “Organic Agriculture and Processing Organic Food” project supported by the Czech Ministry of Agriculture, Bioinstitut worked on launching the test operation of the international OrganicXseeds database, run by FiBL Germany which has been successfully used in several other European countries.

During 2009 all Czech producers and distributors of organic seed gradually registered in the database and they advertise their range at [www.biososiva.cz](http://www.biososiva.cz). Producers and distributors administer their current available range themselves and farmers can react to it. Our aim is to offer the MoA a flexible tool for the development of the organic seed market in CZ which, in the future, could replace the existing records kept by ÚKZÚZ. In 2010 official approval of the database is to be negotiated with the MoA and ÚKZÚZ.



*Information boards and leaflets*

# Prepared for the public

## Bulletin

In a regular section of the nation-wide “Bioměsíčník” monthly magazine we provide information on organic farming and biodiversity and inform readers about experience of organic farming and related issues abroad.

The Organic Farmers for Nature Bulletin is distributed in printed form to all PRO-BIO members, farms included in the OFfN project and also to consumers – subscribers. Approximately 6000 copies a month are printed. During 2009, 11 Bulletin issues were published with the following topics:

- Phenology of plants as a substitute for general grasscutting schedules.
- Biogas stations and utilization of their product (not only) in organic farming – experience from abroad
- Pollination of seed-production stands of alfalfa by solitary bees (*Rhopitoides canus*)
- The current state of organic seed in CZ, visits to “Farmers for Nature” member farms
- Agroenvironmental measures in Northern England
- Agroenvironmental measures in Lower Austria
- The importance of vegetation and water in reducing climatic change
- River landscape and organic farming

- Agroenvironmental measures in Northern Ireland
- Cross compliance in the Czech Republic
- Measures to reduce soil compaction

An electronic archive of all issues (in Czech language only) is available at [www.bioinstitut.cz](http://www.bioinstitut.cz)

## Website

Latest information from the fields of research, projects and cooperation, as well as invitations to events and seminars, offers of publications, a photogallery and press information is all available on the Bioinstitut website [www.bioinstitut.cz](http://www.bioinstitut.cz).



# Publication

## ***Practical Procedures – Farm Processing of Milk in Organic Farming***

*Quality of milk, hygiene regulations for processing, direct milk sale / Principles of breeding cattle, sheep and goats in organic farming*

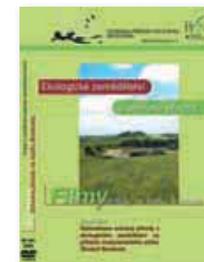
Bioinstitut has elaborated practical procedures together with a team of experts and practitioners; specialists from the Department of Veterinary Hygiene and Ecology of the State Veterinary Administration were consulted on sections relating to hygiene of milk-processing. The handbook provides comprehensive information on the possibilities of processing milk on the farm and direct sale. The handbook is not intended as a rigid instruction book but will help farmers to understand the relevant legislation and answers many questions arising before the start of business.

## ***“Organic farming including nature protection?” a Czech version of an educational film***

The “Farmers for Nature” project included a translation of a German educational DVD film entitled “Organic farming – optimisation with regard to nature protection – the Brodowin biodynamic farm example”. The film describes considerate farming methods and shows specific measures which can be used on farms to support wildlife. The film translation was followed by subsequent translation of a handbook.

## ***Nature Protection in Organic Farming***

The handbook deals with the issues of wildlife protection under the OF system. It arose as a result of experiments on Brodowin farm in north-eastern Germany and it is applicable to Czech conditions. The first part of the book shows the advantages and potential of organic farming in terms of nature protection and the situation of enterprises in North-eastern Germany. It explains why nature-friendly measures are essential, especially in fieldcrop production. The book describes the ecological importance of biotopes in clover-grass, cereals and landscape features and introduces the basic strategy for their protection. The next practical part includes brief and easy instructions focusing on the protection of animals and plants. Short descriptions of relevant measures for nature protection help farmers to decide on which plots of land it is worth protecting certain species of flora and fauna and reveal the impact of agricultural production. Practical examples show specific possibilities for whole-farm optimisation of nature protection.





### ***BIOACADEMY 2009 Proceedings***

Proceedings of lectures from the 2nd Scientific Conference within Bioacademy on the theme of “Organic Farming – A Response to Economic and Environmental Challenges”.



### ***Practical Handbook: Organic Cultivation of Standard Orchards***

The handbook provides farmers with information for successful and economically sustainable production of quality fruit on standard trees. The translation from the Swiss original is adapted and supplemented with information on traditional forms of fruit-growing in CZ, especially in marginal areas.



### ***The New EU Regulation on Organic Food and Farming: (EC) No. 834/2007 Background, assessment, interpretation***

In cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Bioinstitut, o.p.s. published a Czech version of a dossier by IFOAM EU Group which interprets the new regulation for the specialist public in the organic sector and which was introduced during Biofach 2009. The comprehensive publication describes the development of the regulation, summarises and explains all changes, describes requirements for labelling according to the new regulation and includes a new final chapter – “MoA comments on some provisions of the new legislation” serving as an interpretation of the regulation.



### ***A practical Guide: A Place for Nature on Your Farm***

This colour catalogue with numerous photos explains the significance of natural or near-natural sites on farmland and where such sites can be found on farms. It also describes specific types of “places for nature”, informs farmers what can endanger such sites, how to prevent such endangerment and how to conserve or even increase biodiversity of animal and plant species. It includes instructions and rules for establishing new sites, as well as a brief list of grants (national and European) which can be used as financial assistance in the maintenance of the chosen types of site. The publication can be downloaded free of charge from the Bioinstitut website.

# Financial Report 2009

<b>COSTS</b>		
<b>Itemised costs</b>	<b>CZK</b>	<b>EUR</b>
Materials – general consumption	197 779	7 473
Travel	434 776	16 428
Other services	1 834 050	69 301
Wages	2 895 705	109 416
Statutory social insurance	835 345	31 564
Other taxes and fees	180	7
Exchange rate losses	149 405	5 645
Other costs	158 985	6 007
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6 506 225</b>	<b>245 843</b>

<b>REVENUES</b>		
<b>Itemised Revenue</b>	<b>CZK</b>	<b>EUR</b>
Earnings from own produce	200 433	7 574
Earnings from sale of services	1 683 436	63 610
Earnings from sale of goods	5 080	192
Interest	13 607	514
Exchange rate profit	244 384	9 234
Accepted contributions (gifts)	129 005	4 875
Other revenue	4 943	187
Contributions within the company	63 522	2 400
Operational grants	4 396 600	166 129
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6 741 010</b>	<b>254 714</b>

<b>ECONOMIC RESULT</b>		
	<b>CZK</b>	<b>EUR</b>
Overall costs	6 741 010	254 714
Overall revenue	6 506 225	245 843
<b>ECONOMIC RESULT</b>	<b>234 785</b>	<b>8 872</b>

EUR = 26.465 CZK  
(according to the Czech National Bank  
exchange rate for Dec. 31, 2009)

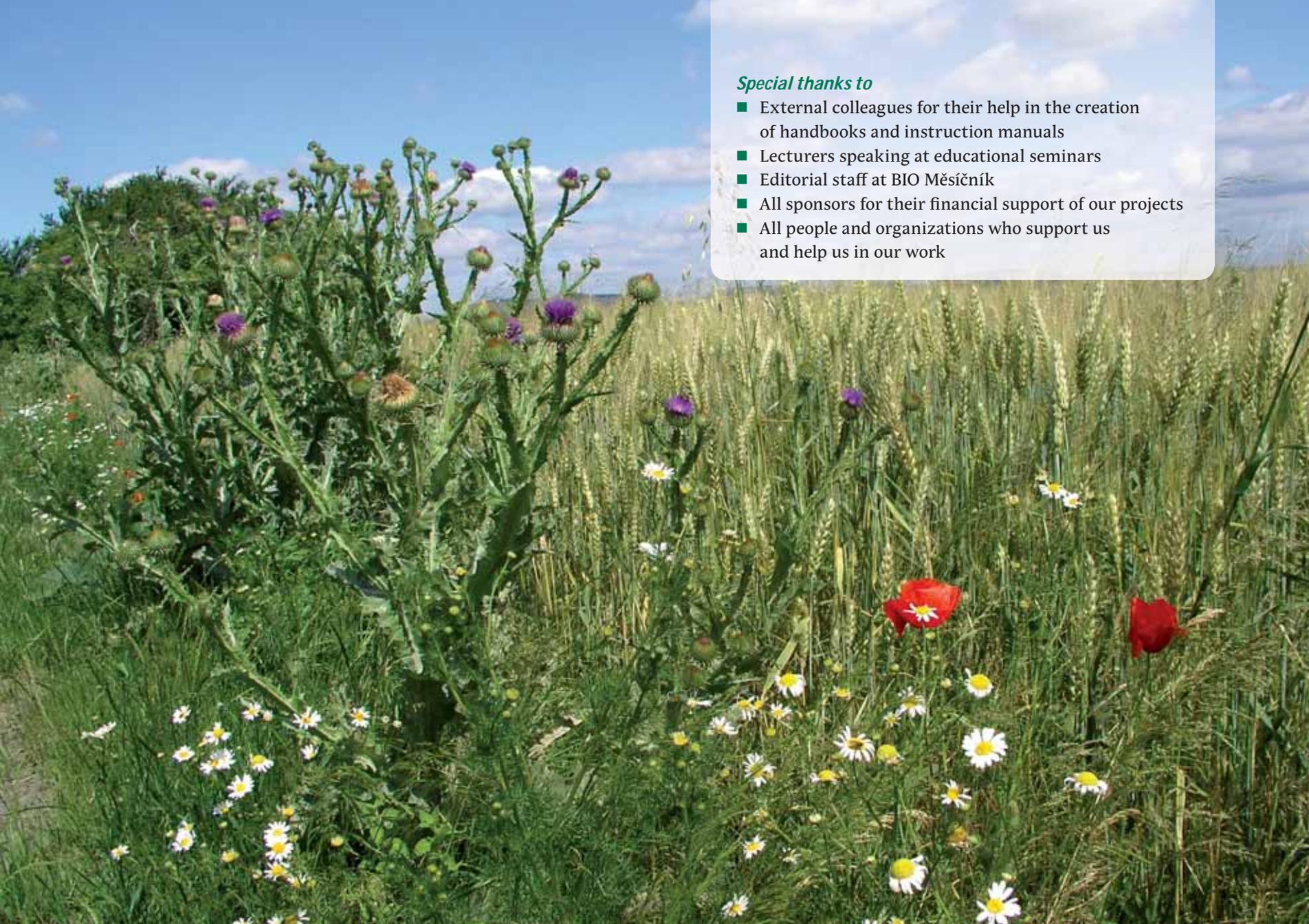
## *Bioinstitut is a member of*

- Czech Technology Platform for Organic Agriculture
- PRO-BIO Association of Organic Farmers
- Green Circle platform
- IFOAM EU Group

## *Cooperation with organizations*

- FiBL Research Institute of Organic Agriculture – Switzerland, Germany, Austria
- PRO-BIO Association of Organic Farmers, Šumperk and regional branches, CZ
- Faculty of Science at Palacky University in Olomouc, CZ
- Ministry of Agriculture CZ
- Ministry of the Environment CZ
- Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection, CZ
- Sonnenwiese Stiftung Foundation, Lichtenstein
- IFOAM EU Group, Brussels
- Bioforsk – Norwegian Institute for Agricultural and Environmental Research, Norway
- Mendel University of Forestry and Agriculture, Brno, CZ
- State Phytosanitary Administration, Brno Division, CZ
- ÚKZÚZ – Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture
- State Veterinary Administration, CZ
- KEZ, o. p. s., CZ
- Daphne Institute of Applied Technology, CZ
- Agritec, s. r. o., CZ
- ÚZEI – the Institute of Agricultural Economics and Information, CZ
- VÚMOP – the Research Institute for Soil and Water Conservation, CZ
- PRO-BIO League, CZ
- Organic farms participating in the “Organic Farmers for Nature” network





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- External colleagues for their help in the creation of handbooks and instruction manuals
- Lecturers speaking at educational seminars
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- All sponsors for their financial support of our projects
- All people and organizations who support us and help us in our work



**Bioinstitut, o. p. s. (public benefit corporation)**

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Company recorded in the Business Register of the Regional Court in Ostrava  
On 9th April 2005, Section 0, File 198

