

Forschungsprojekte an der Wiederkäuerklinik der Vetsuisse-Fakultät Bern

Forschungsschwerpunkt	Sperrmilch
Projekttitel	Questionnaires on the disposal of waste milk with antimicrobial residues and related perceptions on Swiss dairy farms
Inhalt	<p>Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a major global threat to human and animal health. To counter its emergence, antimicrobial stewardship and the reduction of antimicrobial use (AMU) have been promoted in recent years. Nevertheless, AMU remains inevitable in some instances. In dairy productions, AMU results in the production of non-saleable milk containing antimicrobial residues. Little is known on the "optimal" practices for the disposal of this milk with regard to AMR, or more generally on the practices currently in place on Swiss dairy farms. In many countries, feeding waste milk (WM) containing antimicrobial residues to calves is a common practice. This practice may expose calves to a number of antimicrobial drugs in various concentrations, and can result in increased levels of AMR in calves' commensal fecal flora. On the other hand, it is suspected that eliminating WM with manure may also result in the selection of AMR and the dispersal of AMR genes in the environment. Previous studies have shown that feeding WM to calves may be more common on larger farms or farms in non-organic production, and that perceived benefits of this practice may include economic benefits and convenience.</p> <p>The objectives of this study are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To document practices regarding disposal of WM containing antimicrobial residues on Swiss dairy farms; 2) To identify extrinsic and intrinsic factors (e.g. herd and producers' characteristics, and perceived risks and benefits related to WM disposal practices, AMU, and AMR) associated with WM disposal practices
Hauptverantwortliche	Wiederkäuerklinik
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Finanzierung	Universität Bern;
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Beginn	November 2020