



EXCELLENCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Research Institute of Organic Agriculture  
Forschungsinstitut für biologischen Landbau  
Institut de recherche de l'agriculture biologique



# Welcome at FiBL

**Urs Niggli**

# FiBL, involved in organic food and farming system research since 1974



135 staff in Switzerland  
20 staff in Austria  
20 staff in Germany  
80 interns, B.A./Master/PhD  
students

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# Organic farming is much more than about privileged consumers!



**It is a flexible package of sustainable farm management practices.**



# Companion plants to enhance beneficials in the field ('functional biodiversity')



Companion plants serve as food sources within the crop to enhance longevity and oviposition of parasitoids.

Parasitoids: from 2 day survival in cabbage (mono) to 20 days in cabbage + cornflower

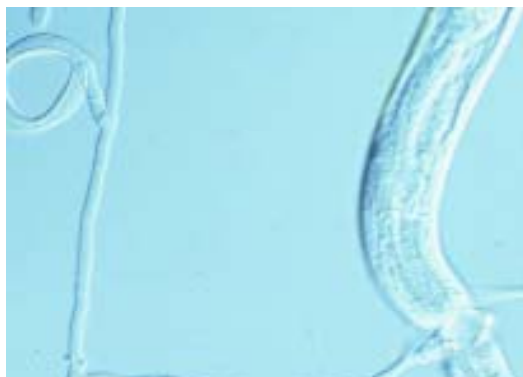
# Control of endoparasites of livestock



Pasture management



Variation in genetic tolerance?



Biocontrol with the fungus  
*Duddingtonia flagrans*



Fooder crops like Chicory  
and Sainfoin (Esparsette)

## Questions we started with 10 years ago

- Organic farming increases soil fertility but does it really enhance soil carbon stocks?
- How can organic techniques be combined with other soil conserving techniques?
- Is the organic management package suitable for any carbon offset mechanism?