ANIPLAN:
Minimising medicine use in organic dairy farms through animal health and welfare planning

C. Leeb, J. Brinkmann, E. Gratzer, B. Hansen B. I.F. Henriksen, J. Huber S. Ivemeyer, S. March, C. Mejdell, M. Neale, P. Nicholas, S. Roderick, G. Smolders, E. Stöger, M. Walkenhorst, L. K. Whistance, C. Winckler, M. Vaarst

Overview

Coordinator: Mette Vaarst

1. Partners , Objectives and Method
2. Main results
   - Farms and Health & Welfare Planning
   - 8 Principles of Health & Welfare Planning
   - Minimising Medicine Use
3. Link to main end users and Application of results
4. Gaps in knowledge and new research questions generated
5. Conclusions

ANIPLAN

CORE Organic

1. ANIPLAN Objectives

To minimise medicine use in organic dairy herds through active and well planned animal health and welfare promotion and disease prevention.

- **Application of animal health and welfare assessment**

- Develop animal health and welfare planning **principles**

- Develop **guidelines for communication** about animal health and welfare promotion

1. ANIPLAN Countries & Partners

Austria	
BOKU; VUW; FIBL	39 farms
Switzerland	
FIBL	15 farms
Germany	
Univ. Göttingen	42 farms
Denmark	
Univ. Aarhus	15 farms
Netherlands	
Univ. Wageningen	10 farms
Norway	
Bioforsk, Nat. Vet. Institute	6 farms
UK	
Dutchy College, Univ. Aberystwyth, Soil Association	20 farms
ANIPLAN total	**147 farms**

1. ANIPLAN Method

A = assessment
HP = health planning
E = evaluation

E

HP

A

year 1

year 0
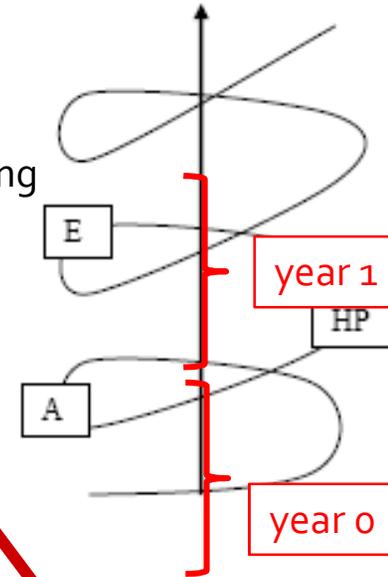
A set of principles developed

In each country a process started:
Assessments => feed-back
Dialogue => Health Planning
Evaluating

2. Results- Health and Welfare Planning

Dialogue
One to one
Stable school

External persons
External knowledge
Evaluation of condition

Planning process

Farmer ownership

Feedback Report

Recommendations

'Animal health and welfare plan' = what the farmer plans to do and how
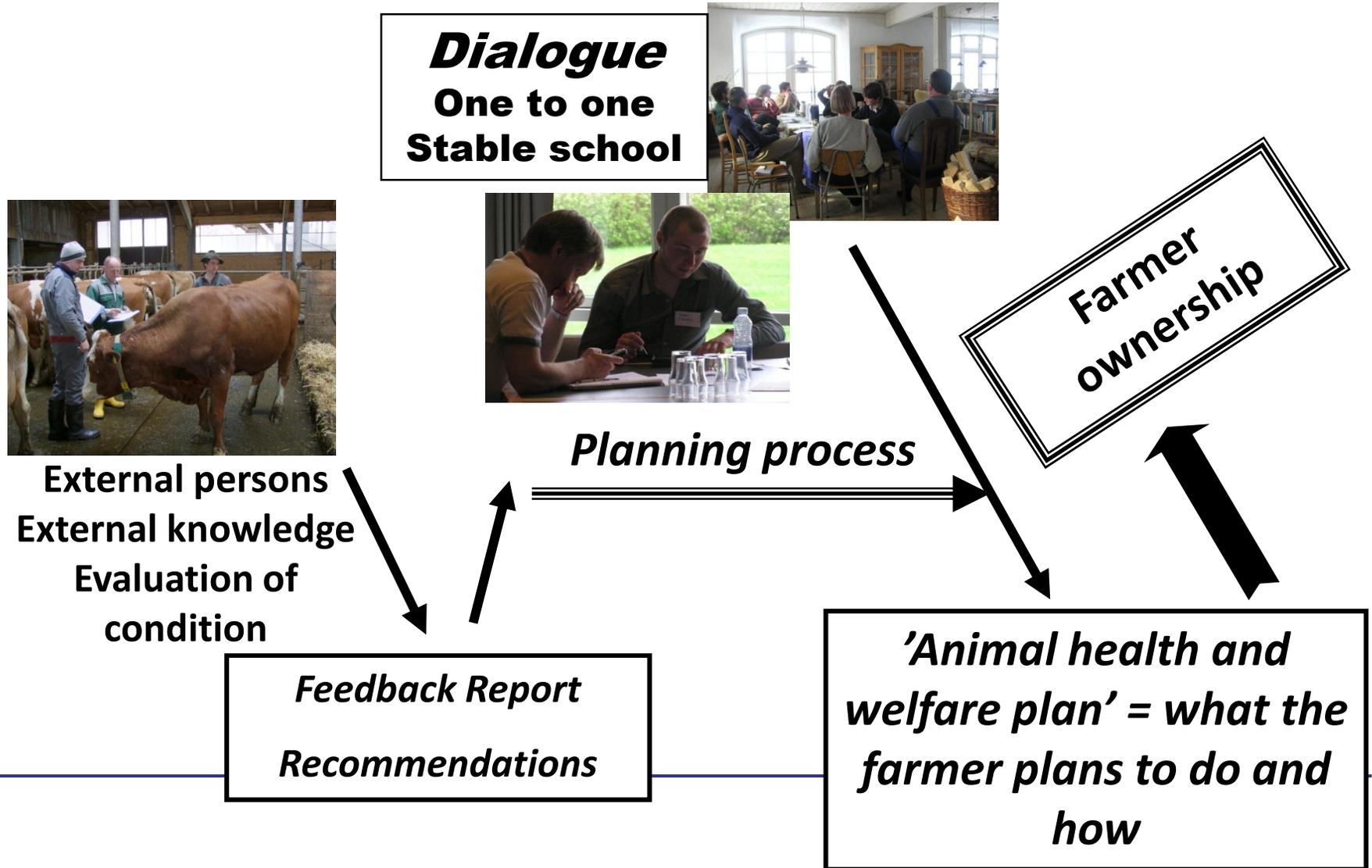
2. Results – 8 Principles

1. The process => continuous improvement
2. Farm specific
3. Farmer ownership
4. External person(s) should be involved
5. External knowledge
6. Organic principles framework
7. Written
8. Acknowledge good aspects
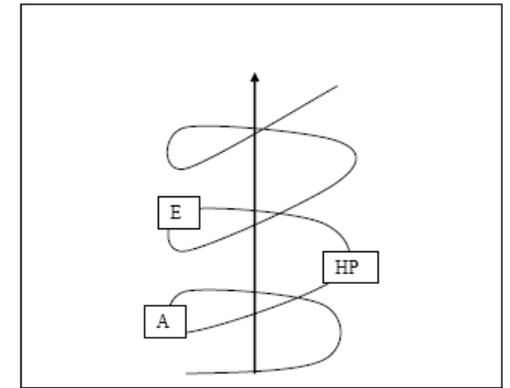
2. Results- ANIPLAN farms

	AT (n=39)	CH (n=15)	DE (n=42)	DK (n=15)	NL (n=10)	NO (n=6)	UK (n=20)
herd size (number of cows)	40 (22 − 63)	31 (14 − 75)	70 (32 − 159)	129 (43 − 251)	62 (35 − 138)	21 (13 − 27)	225 (77 − 412)
daily milk yield (Ø kg)	22.5 (± 2.9)	19.3 (± 3.2)	22.1 (± 3.5)	24.1 (±3.5)	20.6 (±3.2)	21.3 (± 2.8)	-
number of lactations (Ø)	3.2 (± 0.6)	3.7 (± 0.5)	3.1 (± 0.6)	2.5 (±0.3)	3.2 (±0.4)	2.3 (± 0.2)	-

2. Results –Focus areas (371 focus areas /119 farms
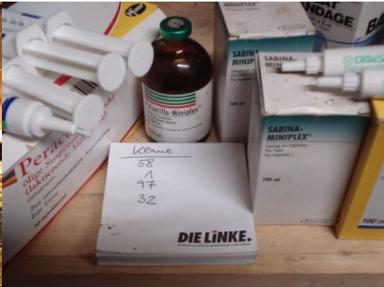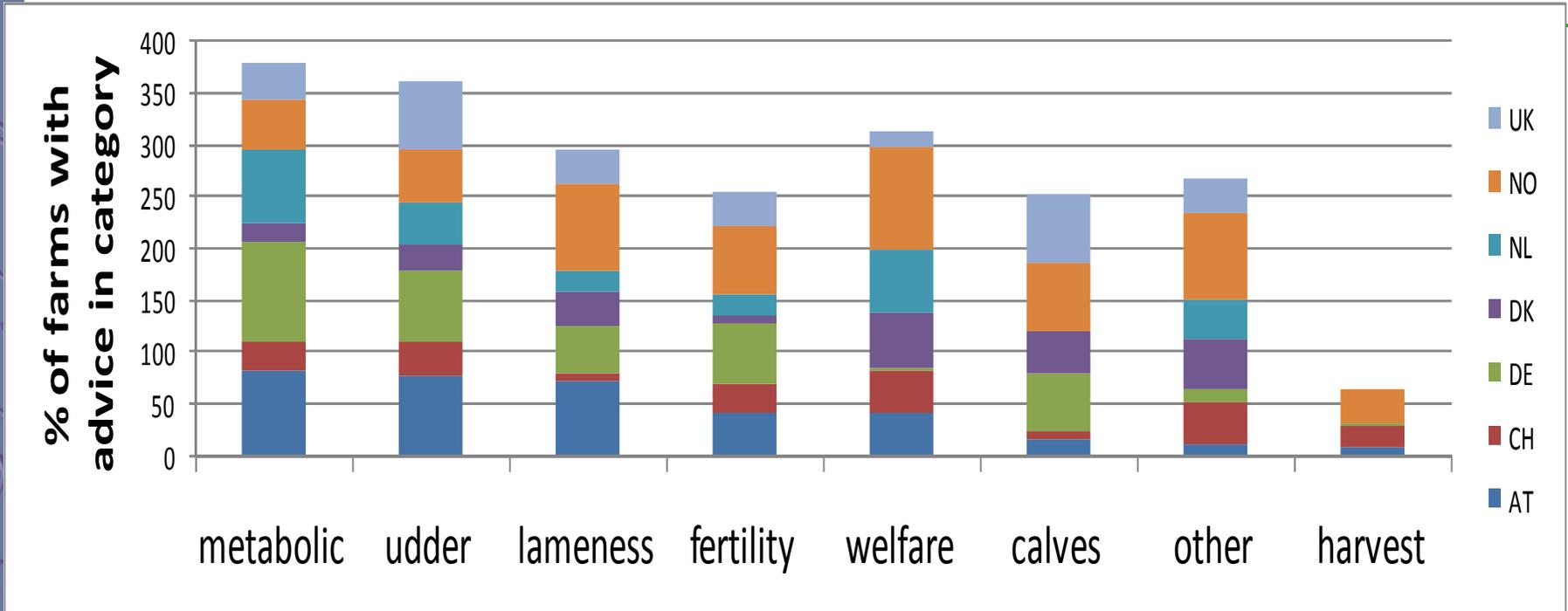
2. Results – Antibiotic udder treatments

Udder treatments in year 0 (Y0) & year 1 (Y1) (medians, quartile)

Bar chart: udder treatments per cow and year, Y0 (red) and Y1 (green)

Country	Y0	Y1
AT (37)	0,44	0,37
CH (15)	0,1	0,1
DE (28)	0,48	0,48
DK (15)	0,18	0,16
NL (10)	0,32	0,11
NO (6)	0,08	0,17
all (111)	0,3	0,23
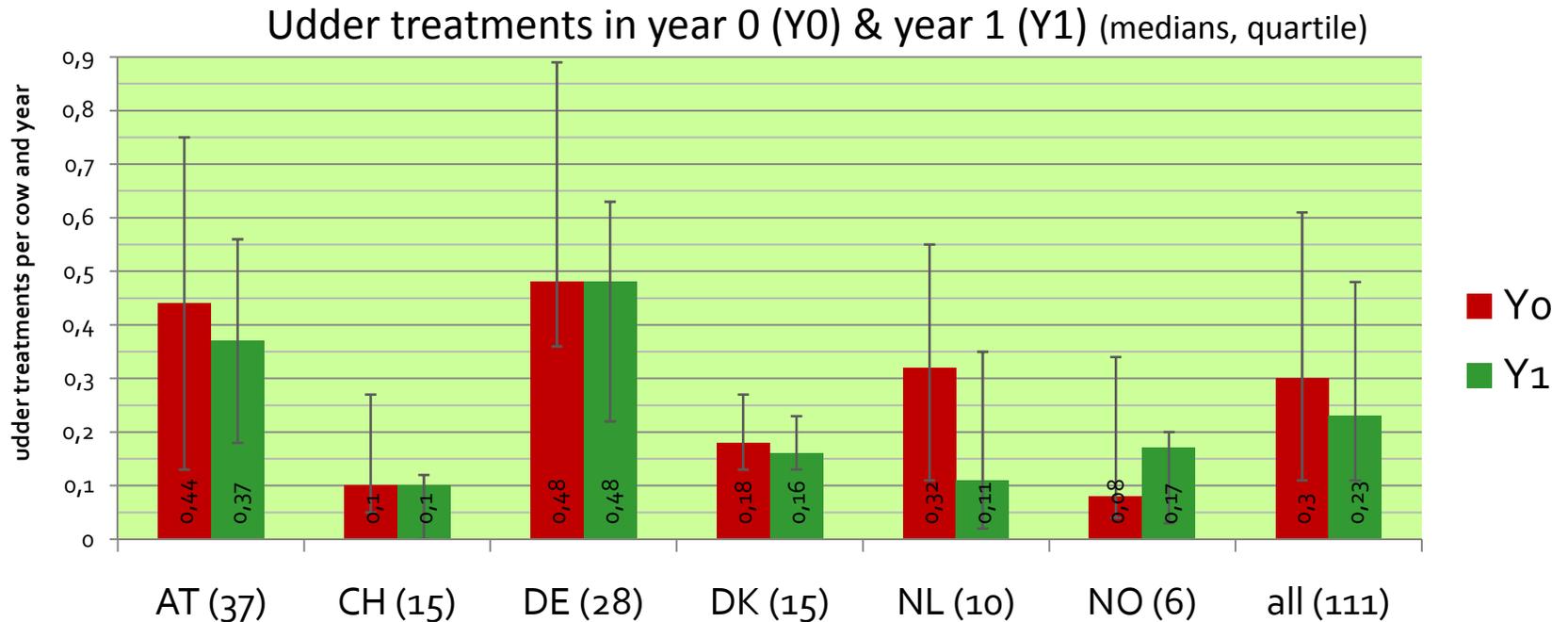
GLM with udder treatments as repeated measures (factor: year)

Factors	Level [1]	F	P	
intercept		91.21	**< 0.001**	
year	within	8.85	**0.004**	Y0 > Y1
country	between	5.71	**< 0.001**	
FAUH	between	3.00	0.086	

[1] within = within subject effects; between = between subject effects, FAUH = focus area udder health

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3. Link to main end users

Farmers

- Strong links in all participating countries for participating farmers
- Connected projects

Advisory systems

- Advisors/vets informed/invited to participate during health planning process
- Qualitative interviews existing national advisory structures

3. Application of Results

Application in other projects/advisory systems

- Austria: "Kuhpraktiker" (with BIOAUSTRIA)
- UK and Norway: Facilitator training for Stable schools
- Germany: Stable school Project

The concept is flexible describes a process and how to adjust it to different conditions

applicable in all countries

4. Gaps in knowledge and new research questions generated

- Strategies for successful implementation
- Practical questions related to organic farming relevant solutions
- Long term process
- Other animal production systems, species & age groups
- Different advisory systems and intensity
- Non/monetary expectations and outcomes of farmers

5. Conclusions

- **8 Principles for Health and Welfare Planning**
- **Communication:** different ways following the same principles (e.g. one- to-one, stable schools)
- Health and welfare planning allows **improvements and reduction of antibiotics**
- The **process of planning** is crucial, not "having a plan".

Thank You!

- For Listening!
- All participating farmers and advisors
- All ANIPLAN Partners and other Project participants
- All National funding bodies and CoreOrganic!