

Publication

Traditional use of herbal remedies in livestock by farmers in 3 Swiss cantons (Aargau, Zurich, Schaffhausen)

JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)

ID 1580616

Author(s) Schmid, Kathrin; Ivemeyer, Silvia; Vogl, Christian; Klarer, Franziska; Meier, Beat; Hamburger, Matthias; Walkenhorst, Michael

Author(s) at UniBasel [Hamburger, Matthias](#) ;

Year 2012

Title Traditional use of herbal remedies in livestock by farmers in 3 Swiss cantons (Aargau, Zurich, Schaffhausen)

Journal Forschende Komplementärmedizin

Volume 19

Number 3

Pages / Article-Number 125-36

Keywords Ethnoveterinary medicine, Medicinal plants, Organic agriculture, Switzerland, Aargau, Zurich, Schaffhausen

Background: This study investigated the extent of traditional knowledge and use of homemade herbal remedies for livestock by farmers in 3 Swiss cantons (Aargau, Zurich, Schaffhausen). The study focused on organic farms. Methods: At 21 farms, 24 farmers aged 36-83 years were interviewed with a semi-structured, detailed questionnaire. For each homemade herbal remedy, the plant species, mode of preparation, source of knowledge, and application were gathered. Satisfaction of the farmers with the application was estimated with the aid of a visual analogue scale. Results: Information on a total of 165 homemade remedies was collected of which 123 contained a single plant species only (homemade mono-species herbal remedies, HMHR). The 123 HMHR were selected for this paper. They corresponded to 150 different applications and originated from 43 plant species from 30 families. Plants belonging to the families of Asteraceae, Lamiaceae, and Apiaceae were used most frequently. The single most applied species were *Matricaria recutita* L., *Calendula officinalis* L., *Symphytum officinale* L., and *Coffea arabica* L. For each formulation, 1-4 different applications were mentioned, most of them for cattle. The main applications are related to a) skin alterations and sores, b) gastrointestinal and metabolic diseases as well as c) infertility and diseases of the female genitalia. Approximately half of the applications were used during the last 12 months prior to the interview. Conclusion: This study shows that HMHR are used by Swiss farmers for the treatment of different livestock diseases. In general, the farmers were satisfied with the outcome of the applications.

Publisher Karger

ISSN/ISBN 2504-2092 ; 2504-2106

edoc-URL <http://edoc.unibas.ch/dok/A6083698>

Full Text on edoc Available;

Digital Object Identifier DOI 10.1159/000339336

PubMed ID <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22759727>

ISI-Number WOS:000306081700003

Document type (ISI) Journal Article