



**Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear European Simmental  
Fleckvieh Cattle Breeders,**

I am very pleased that the 26<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Federation of Simmental Cattle Breeders will take place in my native country Austria and important parts of the agenda are to be set in my closer home Lower Austria. The high proportion of Simmental Fleckvieh, 80% in all of Austria and 90% in Lower Austria, demonstrates the great importance of that cattle breed in this country.

In accordance with the perspective of the EU and its emphasis on sustainable agriculture, I entirely agree that Simmental Fleckvieh cattle breeding should not follow extreme breeding aims, but pay attention to a balancing between economic necessity and biological limitations.

I want to express my gratitude to all those responsible for European Simmental Fleckvieh breeding for their understanding.

Agrarian policy of the EU tries to retain a multi-functional agriculture. This is taken into consideration in the subsidy of animal breeding, and in particular of cattle breeding.

We need the balance between a profitable production of individual farms, market orientation and sustainability.

Former surplus production of milk and beef, including high costs of commercialization, are now successfully under control. This allows necessary developments in our agricultural companies and farms. The organized cattle breeders have always regarded further developments as their target. Therefore they are in a fairly good position in the increasingly stronger international competition.

The presently brisk demand for breeding cattle is confirmation for the important activity of breeding. The Austrian Simmental Fleckvieh is a typical European cattle breed, which has spread in all the world within the last 100 years. Austria has contributed to this expansion.

Since Austria belongs to the countries with high exports of breeding cattle, it is essential that the high level of breeding and the products from cattle breeding are shown in public in regular intervals.

This will be done again this year. Participants of the European Congress of Simmental Fleck-vieh breeders come from 18 member states and will also visit the Simmental Fleckvieh show at the "Rieder Messe".

I feel sure that there will be a number of interesting professional discussions that will set off positive impulses for further developments in European Simmental Fleckvieh breeding.

My best wishes for the proceedings of the Congress and the future of the European Simmental Fleckvieh breeding.

Agnes Schierhuber  
Member of the European Parliament

**Dame i gospodo,  
dragi europski uzgajivači Simentalskog Fleckvieh goveda**

Drago mi je da će se 26. Kongres europske federacije uzgajivača Simentalskog Fleckvieh goveda održati u mojoj domovini Austriji a važni dijelovi programa utvrdit će se u mojoj užoj domovini Donjoj Austriji. Veliki udio Simentalca Fleckvieha, 80% u čitavoj Austriji i 90% u Donjoj Austriji pokazuje veliku važnost ovog goveda u ovoj zemlji.

U skladu s perspektivom EU i njezinim težištem na održivoj poljoprivredi ja se potpuno slažem da uzgajanje Simentalac Fleckvieh goveda ne bi trebalo slijediti krajnje uzgojne ciljeve već obratiti pozornost na ravnotežu između ekonomske potrebe i bioloških ograničenja.

Želim izraziti zahvalnost svima odgovornima za uzgoj europskog Simentalca Fleckvieha na razumijevanju.

Agrarna politika EU nastoji sačuvati multifunkcionalnu poljoprivredu. To se uzima u obzir u poticanju uzgoja životinja a naročito u uzgoju goveda.

Potrebna je ravnoteža između unosne proizvodnje pojedinih farma, tržišne usmjerenosti i održivosti.

Raniji višak proizvodnje mlijeka i govedine, uključujući visoke troškove komercijalizacije sada su uspješno pod kontrolom. To omogućuje potreban razvoj u našim poljoprivrednim poduzećima i farmama. Organizirani uzgajivači goveda uvijek su smatrali razvijanje svojim ciljem. Stoga su u prilično dobrom položaju u sve jačoj međunarodnoj konkurenciji.

Sadašnja velika potražnja za uzgajanjem goveda potvrđuje važnost uzgajanja. Austrijski Simentalac Fleckvieh je tipična europska pasmina goveda koja se proširila po čitavom svijetu u zadnjih 100 godina. Austrija je pridonijela tom proširenju.

Budući da Austrija pripada zemljama visokog izvoza goveda za uzgoj bitno je da se visoka razina uzgoja i proizvoda uzgoja goveda javno pokazuje u redovitim razmacima.

To će se opet učiniti ove godine. Sudionici Europskog Kongresa uzgajivača Simentalca Fleckvieha su iz 18 država članica koji će također posjetiti izložbu Simentalca-Fleckvieha na "Sajmu Rieder".

Sigurna sam da će biti mnogo zanimljive stručne diskusije, što će pokrenuti pozitivne pobude za dalji razvoj uzgoja europskog Simentalca Fleckvieha.

S najboljim željama za rad Kongresa i budućnost uzgoja europskog Simentalca Fleckvieha,

Agnes Schierhuber  
Članica Europskog parlamenta