

DARCOF II midterm evaluation meeting 2002

The main purpose of the evaluation meeting is to give an evaluation of DARCOF II as a whole with respect to its stated goals and, if necessary, suggestions for adjustments.

The meeting will take place on the 22nd and 23rd of October on Golf Hotel, Viborg.

Tuesday the 22. October:

- 18.30 Velcome by Thomas Hartung, chairman of the board of directors for DARCOF
Organic Dinner
- 19.30 Genel presentation of DARCOF and the DARCOF II research programme (by Erik Steen Kristensen)
Guidance on the plans and procedures for the evaluation meeting (by Erik Steen Kristensen)

Wednesday the 23. October:

- 9.00 Velcome by Thomas Hartung, chairman of the board of directors for DARCOF
- 9.05 Introduction to the evaluation of DARCOF II as a whole, including the background for todays program (by Erik Steen Kristensen)
- 9.30 DARCOF II is presented by way of selected projects – bricks to a whole (by project leaders)
- 10.30 Break
- 11.00 Project presentations continued
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00 Evaluation of DARCOF II as a whole – strengths that can be utilized and weaknesses that needs to be addressed (by the evalutators)
- 14.30 Break
- 15.00 Evaluation of DARCOF II as a whole – discussion in plenum
- 16.30 End

Choice of projects to present DARCOF II

Four projects have been chosen to represent DARCOF II. The number is limited in order to give space to a comprehensive evaluation of DARCOF II as a whole, where both the international evaluators and the participants from DARCOF can contribute to the discussion. The projects have been chosen based on two criteria: they must represent a substantial part of the research effort and they must work with central aspects with respect the organic ideas and the remit of DARCOF II.

The presentations are based on the chosen projects, but there is also a theme for each presentation that represents a larger share of the projects in DARCOF II. There will be 20 minutes for the presentation and at least 10 min. for discussion and comments from the audience.

Project IV og I.3 (relations to projects I.4, I.7, I.8, I.13, I.15, I.16)

Crop rotation systems by Jørgen E. Olesen.

Theme: Organic crop production systems in the long rum – possibilities and restrictions on the production of cereals and pulses.

Project I.10 (relations to projects I.5, I.6, I.11)

Vegetables and catch crops by Kristian Thorup-Kristensen.

Theme: The interplay of crops – possibilities and restrictions.

Project II.3 (relations to projects II.1, II.2, II.4, II.5, II.11, II.12)

Livestock production and bioactive crops by Stig M. Thamsborg

Theme: Production process and product quality – possibilities and restrictions.

Projekt III.2 (relations to projects III.1, III.7, III.8, III.9)

Analyses of the future development of organic farming. v. Søren Frandsen

Theme: Organic agriculture in society – possibilities and restrictions.

Evaluation of DARCOF II as a whole

The evaluators are invited to present their evaluation of DARCOF II as a whole. We have chosen a set of themes in order to cover all the most important aspects. We have also suggested which evaluators could speak on each theme. But it is up to the evaluators what they want to speak about.

The themes have been picked so that they correspond to the remit of DARCOF II: "to produce knowledge that can be used to promote increased production and a closer relationship between the inherent and organic qualities of organic foods". The remit is directed at meeting the demands of the market and at the same time secure the values that are entailed in the organic principles.

- What does DARCOF II contribute to the development of a rational organic production – and could it be done better by changing the way research is done? [Jürgen Hess, Juha Helenius]
- What does DARCOF II say about the organic process qualities of organic products (environment, nature quality, animal welfare, and the organic principles) – and what can research say? [Christine Watson]
- Does DARCOF II give better animal production and products? Can inherent qualities (nutrient composition, food safety, product quality, etc.) be secured through the production process? [Gerold Rahmann, Richard Weller]
- What does the remit of DARCOF II mean for the role of organic agriculture in society? Are there important aspects that are not included in the remit? [Els Wynen]
- Strengths and weaknesses of the research effort in DARCOF II – in light of the international development. [Urs Niggli, Ralph Martin]