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| Module Name | Module Code |
| Modelling Grass-Based Dairy Systems | agrarAEF876-01a |
| Module Coordinator | |
| Prof. Dr. Friedhelm Taube | |
| Organizer | |
| Institute of Crop Science and Plant Breeding - Organic Agriculture | |
| Faculty | |
| Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences | |
| Examination Office | |
| Faculty of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences - Examination Office | |

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| ECTS Credits | 6 |
| Evaluation | Graded |
| Duration | one semester |
| Frequency | Only takes place during summer semesters |
| Workload per ECTS Credit | 30 hours |
| Total Workload | 180 hours |
| Contact Time | 60 hours |
| Independent Study | 120 hours |

| Module Courses | | | |
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| Course Type | Course Name | Compulsory/Optional | SWS |
| Lecture | Introduction to agroecosystem modelling | Compulsory | 2 |
| Practical exercise | Application of agroecosystem model frameworks | Compulsory | 1 |
| Seminar | Analyses on grass-based dairy systems | Compulsory | 1 |
| Prerequisites for Admission to the Examination(s) | | | |
| The prerequisite for admission to the examination is a passed and graded seminar paper, including a written paper and an oral presentation. The grade is included in the examination grade at a rate of 50% only to improve the grade. | | | |

| Examination(s) | | | | |
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| Examination Name | Type of Examination | Evaluation | Compulsory / Optional | Weighting |
| Oral Examination: Modelling Grass-Based Dairy Systems | Oral Examination | Graded | Compulsory | 100 |
| Further Information on the Examination(s) | | | | |
| 1.+2. period in summersemester 1. period in wintersemester examiner: Dr. Poyda QIS 70700 with number of Examination 70710 In 2020, if approved as scandinavian guest lecturer: Dr. Iris Vogeler | | | | |

| Course Content |
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| <p>Participants of this module are taught in the theoretical background and the application of agroecosystem models to simulate yield formation and matter fluxes in forage production systems for dairy cattle. The module focusses on grass-based systems such as permanent grasslands used for silage and grazing as well as ley-arable systems combining clover-grass with arable crops in a crop rotation. A main focus of the module will be the modelling of nitrogen (N) fluxes in different dairy systems. The lecture provides the theory of crop modelling, from empirical to mechanistic model approaches and gives a broad range of examples for the application of grass and crop models. Furthermore, the lecture informs on the benefits of modelling and for which types of studies and research questions model approaches can provide deeper insights and process-understanding. The lecture also introduces specific agroecosystem models used to simulate all relevant processes and feedbacks in the soil-plant-atmosphere system, including nutrient and greenhouse gas fluxes. In the exercise, students are introduced to the application of a widely used agroecosystem model framework and work on pre-defined exercises that aim to sensitize students to the relevant impact factors for different processes in forage production systems. The exercises mainly deal with the impact of soil, management including animals and cultivated crops on yield and environmental impact of the forage production systems with special emphasize to N fluxes. Students are provided with data to set up and evaluate their model runs. Finally, students work independently on individual exercises that have to be completed by using the agroecosystem model framework and the respective results are presented at the end of the course</p> |
| Learning Outcome |
| <p>Students achieve knowledge on the principles of modelling plant growth and matter fluxes in agroecosystems with a specific focus on N cycling in grass-based dairy systems. The theoretical background and the application of agroecosystem models will improve the understanding of processes and feedbacks in the soil-plant-atmosphere system. By the completion of the exercises, students develop or improve practical knowledge on the application of the agroecosystem model software, data handling, sensitivity analyses, parameter optimization and model evaluation. During the seminar part of the module, the students improve their abilities to interpret, visualize and present their results. Overall, this module will improve the students' system-thinking and ability to assess forage production systems in terms of potential synergies and trade-offs of different goals (productivity vs. environmental footprint).</p> |
| Reading List |
| <p>Holzworth et al. (2018): APSIM Next Generation: Overcoming Challenges in Modernising a Farming Systems Model. <i>Environmental Modelling & Software</i> 103, 43–51, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsoft.2018.02.002. APSIM General Training Manual https://www.apsim.info/Documentation/TrainingManualsandResources/APSIMGeneralTrainingManual.aspx Further material will be provided during the course</p> |

| Additional Information |
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| <p>Maximum number of participants: 20 Enrollment by OLAT within workdays Monday through Friday in the 1st week of the 2. audit period of the preceding semester. Following information is necessary: matriculation number last name first name striven degree study program stu-Email</p> <p>The allocation of the places takes place in the 2nd week of the 2. audit period of the preceding semester. Acceptance of the place by students only through participation at the first day of the course. Students without a place can get a place at the first day of the course by move-up procedure.</p> |

| Use | Compulsory / Optional | Semester |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Master, 1-Subject, Agricultural Sciences, Specialisation Agricultural Economics, (Version 2017) | Optional | - |
| Master, 1-Subject, Agricultural Sciences, Specialisation Agribusiness, (Version 2017) | Optional | - |
| Master, 1-Subject, Agricultural Sciences, Specialisation Crop Sciences, (Version 2017) | Optional | - |
| Master, 1-Subject, Agricultural Sciences, Specialisation Animal Sciences, (Version 2017) | Optional | - |
| Master, 1-Subject, Agricultural Sciences, Specialisation Environmental Sciences, (Version 2017) | Optional | - |
| Master, 1-Subject, Dairy Science, (Version 2017) | Optional | - |
| Master, 1-Subject, Nutritional and Food Science, (Version 2013) | Optional | - |
| Master, 1-Subject, Nutritional and Consumer Economics, (Version 2017) | Optional | - |