



Second and Final Call

for the 6th International Conference on

Life Cycle Assessment in the Agri-Food Sector

Towards a Sustainable Management of the Food Chain

Zurich, Switzerland

November 12–14, 2008

Organised by Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon Research Station ART



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department
of Economic Affairs DEA
**Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon
Research Station ART**

Life Cycle Assessment in the Agri-Food Sector 2008

Objectives of the Meeting

Agriculture and the food sector are responsible for a large share of the environmental impacts and resource use caused by human activity. For certain environmental issues such as the conservation of biodiversity, agriculture is the key driver.

For about 15 years now, the **Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)** method has successfully been used to analyse agricultural production systems and food chains. A variety of inventories, tools and methodical approaches for analysing different food chains have also been developed over this period.

The objectives of the meeting are:

- to show recent developments in terms of methodology, approaches, databases and tools;
- to present applications of the LCA methodology in new case studies or case studies showing new aspects in various food chains;
- to present successful examples of communication of LCA results to stakeholders and their use in decision making.

We'd like to welcome you to the conference "LCA in the Agri-Food Sector 2008", the sixth conference in a series that started in 1996.

Topics

Methods, Tools and Communication

- Inventory, database and LCA tools
- Impact assessment, with particular reference to land use, biodiversity, climate change, carbon cycle, toxicity, soil quality, water use and regionalisation
- Systems analysis, conceptual frameworks, attributional and consequential LCA, system expansion, allocation
- Incorporation of LCA into sustainability assessment tools (with economic/social aspects), eco-efficiency
- Interpretation schemes, communication, interaction with stakeholders, application in decision making

Use and Application

- Plant production, arable cropping systems, fruit growing, vegetables, fodder and grassland production
- Animal husbandry, fisheries and aquaculture
- Non-food crops (for bioenergy, fibre use)
- Food processing, distribution, transport and consumption
- Food-chain management, LCM in the agri-food sector, global and local food-supply chains
- Agri-Food LCA in emerging countries



Timetable

30 April 2008	Submission of abstracts
30 June 2008	Notification of acceptance
July 2008	Publication of programme
30 September 2008	Submission of full papers
15 October 2008	Submission of definitive accepted abstracts
31 October 2008	Last day of registration
12 November 2008, at noon	Conference begins
14 November 2008, at noon	Conference ends
07 January 2009	Review of full paper by scientific committee
31 January 2009	Submission of definitive full paper
28 February 2009	Publication of the full paper on the conference homepage

Call for Abstracts

The conference will include both oral and poster presentations. Deadline for abstract submission, with declaration of presentation preferences, is *30 April 2008*. Your abstract must not exceed a maximum of 500 words and must without exception be submitted using the given Word template.

For all [information](#) regarding format, formalities and deadlines for the submission of abstracts, please visit the conference homepage, where you will find a model abstract and the [Word template](#) for the submission of abstracts.

Proceedings

The Proceedings will be published in two steps:

1. Abstract book: Contains the definitive abstracts. It will be distributed in hard copy to all conference participants and will be available to the public on the website after the conference.
2. Proceedings: The full papers (4–8 pages) will be compiled in the Proceedings. Authors of oral platform presentations are obliged to submit a full paper. For authors of posters, this submission is optional. The manuscripts of the papers will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee and sent back to the authors for revision if necessary. The Proceedings will be made available to the conference participants in PDF format and to the public on the website (end of February 2009). No printed version of the Proceedings is planned.

Registration

Registration will be possible from June 2008 onwards, by visiting the conference homepage. The last day for registration in order to have full documentation at the conference, is 31 October 2008.

Conference Fees

280 Euro Registration before 31 August

350 Euro Registration after 31 August

120 Euro Registration for students

120 Euro Registration for attendees from Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs) as per the World Bank list (view the [complete list](#))

70 Euro Conference dinner

Venue

The conference will take place at Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon Research Station ART in Zurich. The meeting location is easily accessible from the city of Zurich, Zurich Airport and Zurich's main railway station (Zürich Hauptbahnhof).

On the conference homepage you will find a [list of recommended accommodation](#) in and around the city of Zurich, with easy access to the meeting location.

Scientific Committee (latest update: 2007-12-19)

Gérard Gaillard, Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon Research Station ART, Zurich, Switzerland
(Co-Chair)

Thomas Nemecek, Agroscope Reckenholz-Tänikon Research Station ART, Zurich, Switzerland
(Co-Chair)

Claudine Basset-Mens, Ruakura Research Centre, Hamilton, New Zealand

Imke de Boer, Wageningen University, Wageningen, The Netherlands

Tim Grant, Centre for Design, Melbourne, Australia

Kiyotada Hayashi, National Agricultural Research Center, Tsukuba, Japan

Stefanie Hellweg, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology ETH, Zurich, Switzerland

Niels Jungbluth, ESU-Services, Uster, Zurich, Switzerland

Llorenç Milà i Canals, University of Surrey, Guildford, United Kingdom

Bruno Notarnicola, University of Bari, Bari, Italy

Rita Schenck, Institute for Environmental Research and Education, Vashon, USA

Ulf Sonesson, Swedish Institute for Food and Biotechnology, Gothenburg, Sweden

Hayo van der Werf, INRA, Rennes, France

Bo P. Weidema, 2.-0 LCA consultants, Hørsholm, Denmark

Contact and more information

Webpage:

www.lcafood08.ch

E-mail:

lcafood08@art.admin.ch