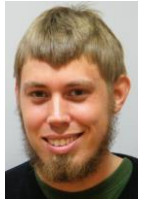


Analysis of sainfoin's bioactive compounds and improving its agronomy



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Sainfoin is a candidate species to adapt forage production to expected future climate (drought stress events) and is known for its beneficial effects both for the environment and animal health. These benefits are due to its plant secondary metabolites, and particularly the condensed tannins (CT).

However, sainfoin is still agronomically weak (yield, competitive ability, persistence). Consequently, research to increase sainfoin's agronomy and CT content/composition is conducted at Agroscope, in cooperation with the ETH Zurich.

Aim: Optimisation of sainfoin cultivation and selection for high yield, persistency, drought stress tolerance and optimal CT content

Methods: Drought shelters, UPLC-MS/MS (Mass-spectrometry), HCL-Butanol analysis, ¹⁵N tracers, specific leaf area (SLA)

