



Universität
Hohenheim

Erweiterter Studienplan Degree Course Scheme

Curriculum
Timetable of Modules
Admission Regulations
Examination Regulations

Master Programme (M.Sc.)

Organic Food Chain Management

Faculty of Agricultural Sciences
September 2006

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This curriculum provides applicants and students as well as teaching and administrative staff with information about the M.Sc. programme Organic Food Chain Management. It contains general information on the programme, the application procedure, and the structure of the course.

The information presented reflects the current situation. Titles and contents of compulsory and optional modules are often subject to change. Due to administrative reasons such changes can only be considered in printed materials with delay. For this reason all information is provided without liability.

For further information, please refer to the coordinator of the programme (organicfood@uni-hohenheim.de). For up-to-date module descriptions please refer to the web-pages at www.uni-hohenheim.de/lehrkartei/inhalt/lehr.php. **Time schedules and lecture halls of all courses are displayed in the Course Catalogue of the University of Hohenheim**, available at the beginning of each semester at the local book store or online on the university's homepage: www.uni-hohenheim.de.

Table of Contents

The University of Hohenheim	4
Why Study Organic Food Chain Management at Hohenheim?	4
Career Perspectives	4
Programme Design	5
Modules	5
Course Catalogue	6
Course Contents	6
Credit Point System	6
ECTS	7
Study and Examination Plan	7
Examinations	7
Master Thesis	7
Language of Instruction	7
Quality Assurance	8
Academic Calendar	8
Teaching Staff	8
Mentoring	8
Study Abroad	8
Degree	8
Admission Requirements	8
Application Deadline	9
Fees and Expenses	9
Scholarships	9
Cost of Living	9
Housing	10
Visa Application	10
Responsible Scientist	10
Professors in Charge of Compulsory Modules	10
Contact	10
Block Periods	11
Block Schedule: Blocked Modules taught in English	12
Unblocked Modules taught in English	14
Important Advice for the Personal Timetable!	15
Admission Regulations	15
Examination Regulations	19
Identification of Modules (Code)	30
Lecture periods and examination periods	32

The Master Programme Organic Food Chain Management (Organic Food)

The University of Hohenheim

Hohenheim's campus, with its splendid 200-year-old castle, spacious park and botanical garden, is one of the most beautiful in Germany. Hohenheim belongs to the city of Stuttgart. The university campus is a relaxing place in a rural atmosphere, located about 15 km south of the city centre. There is a good connection via public transportation. It has a pleasant, open working atmosphere, and all university facilities are within walking distance. Lecture halls and seminar rooms are equipped with state-of-the-art training media. Four modern computer labs are available for instruction and freely accessible for student exercises. Each student obtains an individual e-mail account. Hohenheim also offers a wide range of opportunities for gaining additional qualifications, e.g. by attending various language courses and courses in Information Technology. Hohenheim's two libraries, with Internet access, are well-equipped and open on weekends. There are additional leisure facilities such as the university's own sports centre and a large number of cultural events.

The University of Hohenheim is one of the leading universities in the field of agricultural sciences in Europe. Its Masters degrees fulfil top standards, and graduates are highly competitive on the international job market. Tuition is free of charge until March 2007. From April 2007 on a tuition fee of Euro 500 per semester has to be paid by every student.

Why Study Organic Food Chain Management at Hohenheim?

Consumers are increasingly interested in the quality of their food and the manner in which it is produced. For this reason, more and more food is produced and processed according to the standards of organic farming. These standards ensure high product quality, the sound use of natural and human resources, the maintenance of biodiversity and the implementation of sustainable production systems without synthetic pesticides and fertilizers.

Organic farming is based on a holistic approach. The processing and marketing of organically grown food requires special skills and knowledge. As the market for organic products is a growing sector on a world wide scale, there is need for experts to provide knowledge on organic food chain management which would include primary food production, food technology and quality control. To meet these demands, the University of Hohenheim has developed the M.Sc. Programme "Organic Food Chain Management". This programme will prepare people of all nationalities for these challenging tasks and offer them a competitive, state-of-the-art training.

Hohenheim is the first university in Europe to offering a Master programme with an emphasis on food chain management in the organic sector.

Career Perspectives

Organic farming is a growing market. It requires persons with a profound knowledge of organic food production, processing and quality control. Graduates will be employed in food processing companies, trade, quality management, extension services, NGOs or other associations and in research and teaching institutions. Moreover, an increasing international trade in organically grown products creates a demand for people with a good knowledge of international certification procedures and standards.

The Master degrees of the University of Hohenheim are highly regarded academically, as well as being well received by employers internationally. The M.Sc. Programme "Organic Food Chain Management" offers an insight into all important steps along the food chain. This broad-based approach enables students to solve problems arising in the subsequent processing of organic food or in quality control, but which are nevertheless related to primary organic production. Students acquire interdisciplinary, solutions-based

analytical skills appropriate to meet the demands faced by employees at all levels in both the public and private sector.

The University of Hohenheim fosters contacts and partnerships with more than 50 universities worldwide as well as many renowned national and international institutions and companies. Students enrolled at Hohenheim are encouraged to take full advantage of this existing network in respect of their studies that opens doors to future opportunities.

Programme Design

The two-year M.Sc. programme “Organic Food Chain Management” comprises four semesters, during which fifteen thematic modules and the Master Thesis have to be completed. The language of instruction is English.

To tackle problems in quality control and processing, knowledge of all aspects of the organic food chain is necessary. Therefore, the M.Sc. programme follows a general approach including primary production as well as processing and marketing. Modern teaching methods such as discussion sessions, research seminars, case studies and excursions to organic farms and processing firms are an integral part of the curriculum. The problem-based interdisciplinary ‘Organic Food Project’ constitutes a major focus of the course.

Eight of the fifteen modules are compulsory and cover all aspects of organic food chain management from plant and animal production to food processing and socio-economic and socio-cultural aspects. The elective modules can be chosen from a broad list of disciplinary and interdisciplinary subjects. The possibility to combine the compulsory modules with different elective modules, offers each student the opportunity to develop a specific profile according to his or her personal career aspirations. A personal mentor from the teaching staff is assigned to advice on appropriate profiles and a smooth and goal-oriented study progress.

The programme starts in October (winter semester) of each year. The maximum number of students admitted to the course is 40. A semester consists of five modules. Each module includes three and a half week of instruction and a written exam. In the first two semesters, students undertake a total of 10 modules that comprise of both compulsory and elective modules. In the third and fourth semester, students choose an additional five modules and work on their thesis. The topic of the thesis as well as the supervisor can be chosen from either compulsory or elective modules. It is expected that a thesis will pursue empirical or theoretical questions relating to ongoing research projects. However, suggestions and ideas from students in this matter are actively encouraged. It is also possible to carry out the Master Thesis at one of the various partner universities or research institutions abroad.

Students are encouraged to spend one semester of their second year at a partner university abroad to gain additional experience and to strengthen their individual profile. Assessment is based on the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), which facilitates this kind of international mobility.

Modules

The M.Sc. Programme “Organic Food Chain Management” is composed of eight compulsory modules and seven elective modules, that is, a total of 15 modules over three semesters. One semester remains for the thesis work.

Each module corresponds to a workload of 4 SWS (weekly contact hours per semester), totalling 56 contact hours per module, and in addition at least the same time for preparation at home, summing up to a total workload of about 140-180 hours for one module. It may consist of different forms of teaching (e.g. seminar, lecture, practical, excursion).

The module titles and identification numbers are listed below. For details about contents, timing, lecturers and methods of instruction refer to the module description site (www.uni-hohenheim.de/lehrkartei/inhalt). On that

site, enter the module identification number into the field "module" and click "submit".

The **compulsory modules** are:

- M9101 Cultural, Sociological and General Conditions of Organic Food Production (WS)
- M9102 Socioeconomics of Organic Farming (WS)
- M9103 Food Processing of Organic Food (WS)
- M9104 Organic Farming Basics and Excursions (WS)
- M9105 Markets and Marketing of Organic Farming (SS)
- M9106 Organic Livestock Farming (SS)
- M9107 Organic Plant Production (SS)
- M9108 Organic Food Chain Project (SS)

(WS) = Offered in each winter semester.

(SS) = Offered in each summer semester.

The **elective modules** can be chosen from the complete catalogue of the University agricultural master courses, including more than 30 disciplinary and interdisciplinary subjects. Examples are:

- M5122 Organic Farming in the Tropics and Subtropics
- M1416 Crop Protection in Organic Farming
- M7108 Food Technology and Residues
- M7121 Food Safety and Quality Chains
- M5131 Land Use Economics
- M5102 Ecology and Agroecosystems
- M3126 Knowledge and Innovation Management
- M3132 International Food and Agricultural Trade
- M3130 Food and Gender
- M3129 Farming Systems Research
- M5111 Biodiversity, Plant and Animal Genetic Resources
- M5107 Post Harvest Technology and Food Quality
- M5123 Participatory Research for Sustainable Rural Development
- M5110 Rural Development Policy and Institutions

For the complete catalogue, refer to the websites of the other Master programmes in English language at Hohenheim (www.troz.uni-hohenheim.de) or to www.uni-hohenheim.de/lehrkartei/inhalt/lehr.php. Master level modules are marked by the letter "M" at the beginning of the number code. In exceptional cases, up to two elective modules can be chosen from the Bachelor level, marked by the letter "B" at the beginning of the number code (modules of the Bachelor's basic studies are excluded!), if the choice is oriented on the individual study goals and approved by a mentor of the programme (for code of modules see page 30).

Course Catalogue

The Course Catalogue of the University of Hohenheim is available at the beginning of each semester at the local book store or online at the university's homepage: www.uni-hohenheim.de. The courses can be located inside the course catalogue of the University of Hohenheim by the name of the lecturers responsible for the courses or by the number of the institute. Times and lecture rooms of all courses can be found, and a personal time-table can be worked out. All modules, their courses and responsible lecturers are described from page 19 on. Mind: several non-blocked modules within that catalogue consist of more than one course.

Course Contents

For the contents of all modules see:

www.uni-hohenheim.de/lehrkartei/inhalt/lehr.php.

Credit Point System

Students earn 6 credits for the workload associated with each module. The M.Sc. programme has a total requirement of 120 credits.

The examination result is expressed in grade points. The highest score is 4.0. A score of 1.0 is required for passing. For grade points and grades see page 61. Credits are multiplied with the grade points achieved to derive the number of credit points obtained. In order to calculate the grade point average, the total number of credit points obtained in all modules is divided by the total number of credits collected.

ECTS

The credit point system used in the M.Sc. programme is fully compatible with the European Credit Transfer System, ECTS.

Study and Examination Plan

Students have to seek advice of one of the mentors of the programme on which elective modules are suitable for their individual profile. During the first month of study the candidate must have the study and examination plan approved, in which all chosen modules are mentioned including the definite specification of the examination semester. The study and examination plan has to be signed by a mentor before it is handed in to the examination office. Exchanges of modules are the responsibility of the students. A module cannot be dropped after an examination.

Examinations

Performance is examined through continuous assessment. Each module is examined upon completion. The examinations of the blocked modules are held at the end of the respective block period. Those for the unblocked modules are held in the two examination periods that follow the lectures (week 7-9 and 13-15 in WS, week 28-30 and 41-43 in SS). Students have to register for the examinations of each semester at the examination office during the time period announced at the examination office (within this time period: blocked modules two weeks before exam at the latest!). Withdrawal on the first trial of each module examination is possible up to 7 days before the examination date. The examination will be postponed to the next possible examination period.

The claim for examination expires if:

- a minimum of six examinations has not been passed by the end of the second semester at the latest
- an examination of the compulsory modules has not been passed by the end of the fourth semester at the latest
- an examination of the elective modules has not been passed by the end of the sixth semester at the latest

The claim for examinations does not expire if the candidate cannot be held responsible for the failure to comply with the deadline. The students themselves are responsible for complying with these examination deadlines as well as all other regulations given in the examination regulations. The examination regulations and a leaflet on registration (<https://pruefungsamt.uni-hohenheim.de>) are distributed by the examination office.

Master Thesis

The Master Thesis shall show that the candidate is able to work independently on a problem in the field of "Organic Food Chain Management" within a fixed period of time by applying scientific methods. The exam consists of a written (thesis) and an oral (defence) part. After marking, the candidate has to defend the essential arguments, results and methods of the thesis in a colloquium of 30-45 minutes. The written part of the Master Thesis has to be completed within a period of six months. It is usually written during the fourth semester. There might be cases, depending on the chosen modules, whereby the third semester is more appropriate. Thesis work includes a literature review, new and original data derived from field work, a period of writing-up and, finally, a presentation. This work can be carried out either at Hohenheim University or at one of the partner universities.

Language of Instruction

All compulsory modules are taught in English. Likewise, the elective modules can be chosen from a broad list of disciplinary and interdisciplinary modules offered in the English language. Students who speak German can also choose

modules being in the German language. However, we recommend foreign students to acquire German language knowledge for everyday life. Students whose mother tongue is not English are advised to attend accompanying courses in scientific English.

Quality Assurance

The quality of courses and modules is evaluated in a two year rotation by the students of all study programmes. The evaluation sheets are distributed and evaluated by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and the results are sent back to the lecturers in an **anonymous** format. The lecturers are asked to discuss the results with the students at the end of their courses.

Academic calendar

In the winter semester (WS) courses usually begin in week 42 and end in week 6 of the new year. In the summer semester (SS) courses begin in week 14 and end in week 27. In each semester the lecture period is followed by an examination period of three weeks. Blocked modules of the WS usually begin in week 42, those of the SS in week 14.

Teaching Staff

Most modules are organised and taught by professors of the University of Hohenheim, who have broad experience in international research. Students also benefit from Hohenheim's active links with academic partners worldwide. Guest speakers from partner universities as well as research, development and policy institutions cover additional topics thus enriching the curriculum with special fields of expertise.

Mentoring

A personal mentor from the teaching staff is assigned to advise on appropriate profiles and support smooth and goal-oriented progress. The study and examination plan has to be signed by a mentor before it is handed in to the examination office. Elective modules that are suitable for the individual profile, can be discussed first with the department advisor for the programme.

Study Abroad

Students are encouraged to spend one semester in the second year at a partner university abroad to gain additional experience and further strengthen their individual profile. Our credit point system is intended to facilitate the mutual acceptance of courses attended at different universities. Assessment is based on the ECTS which facilitates such kind of international mobility. German students are strongly advised to spend a semester abroad. The third semester is particularly suitable for integrated study abroad. Students will preferably spend this time at one of the four partner universities of the Euro League for Life Sciences: Universität für Bodenkultur Wien (BOKU), Austria; Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL), Denmark; Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Sweden; Wageningen University, Netherlands. On the basis of an agreement on quality standards, the members of the Euro League for Life Sciences have agreed to mutually recognize study achievements. Quantitative parity of study achievements is based on the ECTS. Students may also request to spend the semester at universities other than those mentioned above.

Degree

After successful completion of all modules as well as the thesis, the student is awarded the degree "Master of Science" (M.Sc.) in Organic Food Chain Management. This degree entitles the student to continue with a Ph.D./doctoral programme if the total grade is above average.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the M.Sc. programme "Organic Food Chain Management" at Hohenheim is restricted to 40 students per year. Applicants require an above-average Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) or equivalent degree in Agriculture or a related discipline (e.g. Biology, Food Technology, Economics, Nutrition Sciences, Environmental Sciences) following at least three years of university studies. For German students, an above-average FH-Degree or a university "Vordiplom" and two semesters of the "Hauptstudium" are generally acceptable. Apart from grades and educational achievements, professional experience, motivation and other relevant activities (e.g. social, political) will

be considered. Basic understanding of nature sciences and computer literacy are assumed.

Applicants whose native language is not English and who are not resident in a country with English as official language have to provide a proof of proficiency in English (i.e. a minimum of 500 points in the paper-, or 180 points in the computer-based TOEFL test).

We also require a proof of a financing source for non-EU-residents for the duration of the study. This may either be a bank statement in case of own financial means or proof of award of a scholarship. If applicants have not received information on sponsorship from the scholarship awarding institution by the time they send off their application to the University of Hohenheim, they have to enclose a copy of the application for a scholarship.

A maximum of 40 students is admitted to the programme each year, consisting of an approximately equal number of German and international participants. Admission is ultimately based on students' grade point averages, educational background and relevant professional experience, motivation and other relevant activities, as well as on the proof of a financing source for non-EU-residents.

Application Deadline

The "Organic Food Chain Management" M.Sc. programme starts in October (winter semester) of each year. Application deadlines are:

non-EU-citizen 15th of April; EU citizen 15th of July*

*Late applications can be considered when there are places still available. Please contact the Programme Coordinator for further questions.

The application form can be downloaded from <http://www.uni-hohenheim.de/organicfood>. It can also be obtained from the programme office.

The completed form, together with the documents specified therein, should be sent to:

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E-mail: organicfood@uni-hohenheim.de

Fees and Expenses

Tuition is free of charge until March 2007. From April 2007 on a tuition fee of Euro 500 per semester has to be paid by every student. Also students are required to pay the registration fee (at present Euro 105 per semester). Students are expected to cover their own living expenses, including housing, food, health insurance, study materials etc.

Scholarships

Unfortunately, the University of Hohenheim is neither in a position to provide scholarships nor to assist with the application procedure. Applications for grants should therefore be directed to the relevant organisations.

Applicants wishing to obtain a grant are advised to request detailed information from the German Embassy or Consulate in their home country. It is generally advisable to apply for a scholarship and to secure confirmation well in advance.

Cost of Living

Students have to come up for their own living expenses. The standard of living is comparatively high and so is the cost of living. On estimate, a single student needs approximately Euro 600 per month. Apart from accommodation fees and food expenses, additional costs have to be taken into account, i.e.

excursion fees, registration fees (see above), health insurance (which is a prerequisite for registering with a German university), personal liability insurance, study material, etc.

Housing

Each student is responsible for finding accommodation for him-/herself. The University of Hohenheim cannot guarantee accommodation in dormitories due to lack of capacity. However, the University of Hohenheim offers assistance with looking for accommodation. This may help international students to fulfil visa requirements. Rent for a single-room apartment amounts to about Euro 250 to 400 per month, depending on the size of the flat and distance from the University or the city of Stuttgart.

Visa Application

Students from outside the European Union have to apply for a visa in order to study in Germany. Applicants are strongly advised to contact the cultural department of the German Embassy or Consulate responsible for the city of residence as soon as the letter of admittance has been received. The letter of admittance will certify that knowledge of the German language is not required for participating in the Hohenheim Master programme.

The basic requirements for a student visa are the following: valid passport, photographs, proof of high school diploma / previous university study, letter of admittance from the University of Hohenheim and proof of a financing source for the duration of the study (or at least for the first year). As a prerequisite for obtaining a visa at least EUR 500 per month are required. Therefore, for the first year, applicants will have to prove a minimum availability of EUR 6,000 of own resources, unless some other financing source is at their disposal. In the latter case, one (or more) person(s) or sponsor(s) have to take official responsibility for all costs pertaining to the entire period of study.

Responsible Scientists

Prof. Dr. Torsten Müller
Department Fertilisation with Soil Chemistry


Dr. Sabine Zikeli
Coordinator for “Organic Farming and Consumer Protection” at the University of Hohenheim

Professors in Charge of Compulsory Modules

Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Claupein, General Crop Farming
Prof. Dr. Stephan Dabbert, Production Theory and Resource Economics
Prof. Dr. Anne Valle Zárate, Animal Breeding and Animal Husbandry in the Tropics and Subtropics

Contact

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Block Periods 2006/2007

	Block	Period
Winter Semester	1	16.10. – 08.11.2006
	2	09.11. – 01.12.2006
	3	04.12.06 – 09.01.2007
	4	11.01. – 02.02.2007
	5	05.02. – 27.02.2007
Summer Semester	6	02.04. – 26.04.2007
	7	27.04. – 23.05.2007
	8	24.05. – 20.06.2007
	9	21.06. – 16.07.2007
	10	17.07. – 08.08.2007

Lectures in the winter semester will start in the 42nd week of the year
 Lectures in the summer semester will start in the 14th week of the year

A schedule of all modules taught in English at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences is available at the Dean's Office

Admission regulations for the Master Degree Course in Organic Food Chain Management at the University of Hohenheim

From 15 July 2005

Based on §§ 63, Section 2, 29 Section 2 of the Higher Education Act (Landeshochschulgesetz - LHG) of the Federal State of Baden-Württemberg in the version of 1 January 2005 (GBl. p. 1 ff), 6a of the University Admission Law (Hochschulzulassungsgesetzes - HZG) in the version of 22 March 2003 (GBl. p. 201), last amended by Article 1 of the Law of 23 November 2004 (GBl. p. 798), in conjunction with §§ 3 Section 1, 20 of the University Admission Law (Hochschulvergabeverordnung - HVVO) of 12 May 2005 (GBl. p. 404), the senate of the University of Hohenheim passed the following Statutes on 9 February and 13 July 2005.

§ 1 Area of Application

(1) The University of Hohenheim shall allocate the places available for study within the Master degree course Organic Food Chain Management, as specified in the relevant regulations from the Ministry of Science concerning the number of admissions, in accordance with the following regulations.

(2) Admission to higher semesters shall not take place in the winter semester 2005 / 2006.

§ 2 Selection Quotas

(1) The available places at the university are allocated in accordance with § 1 as follows:

1. 50 out of a hundred to
 - German applicants,
 - citizens of other EU member states,
 - foreign or stateless applicants who hold a German university entrance qualification,
 - Children of parents who live in the Federal Republic of Germany and are citizens of countries that have signed the agreement on the European Economic Area but are not member states of the European Union, provided that these citizens are or have been employed in the Federal Republic of Germany, and
2. 50 out of a hundred to other foreign applicants.

A separate order of priority is established for each of these two quotas. Places at the university that remain available in one of the quotas shall be added to the other quota.

§ 3 Admission Form and Deadlines

(1) Applications must be received at the University of Hohenheim by:

a) 15 July for the winter semester for applicants in the category mentioned in § 2, Section 1 and by 15 April for applicants in the category mentioned in § 2, Section 2.

b) 15 January for the summer semester for applicants mentioned in § 2, Section 1 and by 15 October of the preceding year for applicants in the category mentioned in § 2, Section 2.

(2). The following documents shall be enclosed with the application insofar as these are not already at the University:

a) proof of submission of the prerequisites of admission mentioned under §§ 4 and 5.

b) a statement whether the candidate has not forfeited the right to sit examinations in any of the study programmes mentioned in appendix 3 or is in current examination proceedings in any of these study programmes.

§ 4 Entry Requirements

(1) Admission requirements are as follows:

1. have attained an above-average Bachelor degree or equivalent academic qualification in

a) Agricultural Sciences

or

b) courses listed in appendix 1

or

c) a Bachelor degree with a course content of 50% in Bsc. Agricultural

or

d). with proof of specific knowledge that serves as a prerequisite for the chosen study programme

in a German university, foreign university or academic institution for a stipulated study period of a minimum of three years or an equivalent recognised degree

and

2. has proven evidence of a good command of English, generally by means of a TOEFL test with at least 500 points from the paper and pencil test or at least 180 points in the computer-based test.

Article 2 does not apply to applicants whose mother tongue is English.

(2) The following aspects may be considered when assessing above-average examination results:

a. University final degrees graded with a minimum of 2.5 (good) or comparable equivalent qualifications.

b. Individual grades in majors which show suitability for the chosen study programme.

c. Letters of recommendation, preferably from professors of the university where the degree examination which forms the admission requirement for this Master programme originated; should these proofs be in a language other than German or English, it shall be necessary to provide an officially witnessed translation in German.

d. Proof of the academic ranking of the applicant within the university for the degree examination which forms the admission requirement for this Master programme

(1) The admission committee decides on the condition of parity. The recognition of qualifications from institutions in foreign countries is agreed upon by the Federal Conference of Ministers of Education (*Kultusministerkonferenz*) as well as agreements according to university partnerships. In case of doubt, the final decision is undertaken by the Centre of Foreign Education (*Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB)*). The condition of parity for study courses in appendix 2 is not required.

§ 5 Admission Requirements

(1) Should the number of applicants qualified in accordance with § 4 exceed the total number of places available for study, a ranking order shall be drawn up and selection shall be made on the basis of the following criteria:

a. Type, orientation and final grade of the examination specified as an admission requirement in § 4.

b. Result of the language test specified as an admission requirement in § 4, Section 1, Article 2.

c. Specific academic suitability established through specific proof of studies and examinations.

d. Vocational training, practical experience or other activities which show suitability for the chosen study programme

e. Motivation report in English.

Should the documented evidence of conformity listed in a. - d. be in a language other than German or English, it shall be necessary to provide a legally certified translation in German.

(2). The criteria listed in Section 1 shall be evaluated by the admissions committee on the basis of a set of criteria drawn up in advance. Each individual criterion shall be evaluated on a scale from 1 - 10.

§ 6 Admission Procedure

(1) The vice chancellor decides on the application request upon the recommendation of the admissions committee.

(2) The application may be rejected if:

a. the admission prerequisites under §§ 3 - 5 are not met

and/or

b. the applicant has forfeited his/her right to sit examinations in a Master course listed in Appendix 3 or is currently engaged in examination procedures in these study programmes.

(3). Generally, the rest of the procedure relating to the admission and matriculation regulations of the University of Hohenheim remain unaffected.

§ 7 Admissions Committee

(1) The admissions committee consists of five members from the academic staff with tenure, at least three of whom must be professors and one be a student member with advisory vote.

(2) The chairperson, his or her representative and the members of the admissions committee shall be appointed by the council of the faculty of Agricultural sciences. Members shall be appointed for a period of two years, the student member for a period of one year. Reappointment is permissible.

§ 8 Coming into Effect

These admission regulations take effect from winter semester 2005/2006.

Stuttgart, 15 July 2005

Professor Dr. Hans-Peter Liebig
President

Appendix 1

Study programmes for which the condition of parity is not required as stipulated in § 4, Section 1, Article 2b are the following Bachelor degree courses:

- Agriculture
- Business Administration and Management
- Food Sciences
- Horticulture
- Food Technology
- Environmental Sciences
- Wine Management
- Economics

The faculty of Agricultural Sciences can deem study programmes other than those listed here as essentially equivalent and can extend the list to include other courses.

Appendix 2

German study programmes which are deemed essentially equivalent to the German Bachelor study programme "Agrarwissenschaften" at University of Hohenheim according to § 4, Section 3, Sentence 4 are:

- Diplom Studiengang Agrarwissenschaften/ Agrarwirtschaft/Landwirtschaft"
- Diplom-Studiengang Biologie
- Diplom-Studiengang Agrarbiologie
- Diplom-Studiengang Betriebswirtschaft (-lehre)
- Diplom-Studiengang Ernährungswissenschaften
- Diplom-Studiengang Forstwissenschaft
- Diplom-Studiengang Gartenbau
- Diplom-Studiengang Geoökologie
- Diplom-Studiengang Lebensmitteltechnologie
- Diplom-Studiengang Lebensmittelwirtschaft
- Diplom-Studiengang Umweltwissenschaften
- Diplom-Studiengang Volkswirtschaft (-lehre)
- Diplom-Studiengang Weinbetriebswirtschaft
- Diplom-Studiengang Wirtschaftswissenschaften
- Staatsexamens-Studiengang Tiermedizin
- Staatsexamens-Studiengang Lebensmittelchemie

The faculty of Agricultural Sciences can deem study programmes other than those listed here as

essentially equivalent and can extend the list to include other courses.

Appendix 3

Study programmes which are deemed essentially equivalent to the Master course "Organic Food Chain Management" at Hohenheim according to § 3, Section 2, Article b and § 6, Section 2, Article b are:

- Master programme in *Agrarwissenschaften* at the University of Hohenheim.
- Master programme in *AgriBusiness* at the University of Hohenheim
- Master programme in Agricultural Sciences, Food Security and Natural Resource Management in the Tropics and Subtropics at the University of Hohenheim.
- Master programme in Environmental Protection and Agricultural Food Production at the University of Hohenheim
- Master programmes *Agrar- und Gartenbauwissenschaft* at the Humboldt University in Berlin.
- Master programme in *Agrarwissenschaften* at the Friedrich-Wilhelms-University in Bonn
- Master programmes *Agrarwissenschaften und Umweltmanagement* at the Justus-Liebig University in Giessen.
- Master programme in *Agrarwissenschaften* at the Georg-August University in Göttingen.
- Master programme in *Agrarwissenschaften* at the Martin-Luther-University in Halle.
- Master programmes in *Gartenbauwissenschaften, Horticulture and Pflanzenbiotechnologie* at the University of Hannover.
- Master programme in *Agrarwissenschaften* at the Christian-Albrechts University in Kiel
- Master programme in *Agrarökologie* at the University of Rostock
- Master programme in *Landnutzung* of the Scientific Centre Weihenstephan at the Technical University Munich
- Master programmes in *Ökologische Landwirtschaft* or English programme, International Agriculture at the University Kassel in Witzenhausen.

Examination regulations for the Master Degree Course in Organic Food Chain Management at the University of Hohenheim

From 1 July 2005

Based on § 19, Section 1, § 34, Section 1 and § 60, Section 2 of the Higher Education Act (Landeshochschulgesetz – LHG) of the Federal State of Baden-Württemberg, the Senate of the University of Hohenheim passed the following study and examination regulations on 11 May 2005.

On 1 July 2005 the President of the University consented to it in accordance with § 34, Section 1, LHG.

CONTENTS

Part One:

General Provisions

- § 1 Objective of examinations
- § 2 "Master of Science" degree
- § 3 Duration and structure of the degree course
- § 4 Admissions and examination board
- § 5 Mentors
- § 6 Examiners and co-examiners
- § 7 Accreditation of other study periods, study and examination performance
- § 8 Omission, withdrawal, deception, violation of regulations

Part Two:

Examinations

- § 9 Admission to the "Master of Science" examination
- § 10 Admission procedure
- § 11 Type and scope of examinations
- § 12 Examination deadlines, **forfeiting the right to sit examinations**
- § 13 Failure to comply with examination deadlines by students with children and in the event of illness
- § 14 Oral examinations
- § 15 Written examinations
- § 16 Partial performances and partial examinations
- § 17 *Master-Thesis*
- § 18 Handing in and assessment of the *Master- Thesis*
- § 19 Defence and grading of the *Master-Thesis*
- § 20 Assessment of examination performance, determination of grades
- § 21 Credits, *credit points* and the overall mark

- § 22 Passing and failing the "Master of Science" examination
- § 23 Repetition of "Master of Science" examination, deadlines
- § 24 Transcript
- § 25 "Master of Science" certificate

Part Three:

Final provisions

- § 26 Invalidity of examinations
- § 27 Access to the examination files
- § 28 Coming into effect

Part One

§ 1 Objective of examinations

(1) The course in Organic Food Chain Management leads to the academic degree "Master of Science".

(2) The examination "Master of Science" in Organic Food Chain Management determines whether students are familiar with the overall scheme of the content of the studies, whether they are able to apply corresponding scientific methods and knowledge and whether they are well versed in the knowledge of the subject.

§ 2 "Master of Science" degree

After passing the "Master of Science" examination, the academic grade "Master of Science" (abbreviated: M.Sc.) shall be awarded by the faculty of Agricultural Sciences.

§ 3 Duration, structure, scope and language of the degree course

(1) The time period for the completion of the course work requirements including all examinations is four semesters. This includes the period required for writing the *Master-Thesis*.

(2) The Master course is based on a Bachelor's degree or an equivalent academic qualification. For more details, see the admission regulations.

(3) All courses consist of modules of 4 semester hours per week and this corresponds to a workload of 6 credits. For a successful completion of the Master course work, a total workload of 15 modules, corresponding to 90 credits and 60 semester hours per week have to be passed. The mandatory *Master-Thesis* accounts for a workload of 5 modules corresponding to 30 credits and 20 semester

hours per week. The total workload required for the degree "Master of Science" in "Organic Food Chain Management" is 120 credits and corresponds to 80 semester hours per week.

(4) The coursework orientates itself to the study plan and complemented by the module description handbook.

(5) Students must take examinations for each module within the designated examination periods according to § 12. All modules with the exception of the Organic Food Chain project are blocked. The faculty of Agricultural Sciences decides on which modules are offered as blocked or unblocked.

(6) The course consists of a compulsory and an optional part. In accordance with § 11 Section 1-5, the compulsory part comprises 8 compulsory modules corresponding to 48 credits and the optional part comprises 7 modules corresponding to 42 credits. Optional modules are chosen in accordance with § 5, Section 2 after consultation with a mentor.

(7) The compulsory modules shall always be undertaken in English. The number of optional modules offered in English will be at least the minimum number of 15 modules (Section 3) required for successful completion of the Master course work. The *Master-Thesis* is to be written in English. The examination board may allow exceptions in accordance with §17, Section 6.

§ 4 Admission and examination board

(1) An examination board, responsible for the organization of the examinations and duties relating to examination regulations, shall be established. It shall consist of five members of full-time research staff, three of whom are to be professors and one student in an advisory role. The chairman and his/her deputy shall be professors. Term of office shall be two years, and one year for the student. A reappointment is permissible.

(2) The chairman and the members of the examination board shall be appointed by the faculties of Agricultural sciences. The deputies of the chairman and assistant members shall be appointed at the same time.

(3) The examination board shall ensure that provisions governing the examination regulations are adhered to in the proper manner. It shall make decisions in case of doubt concerning the interpretation of the examination regulations. It shall regularly inform the faculties about the periods of study and examination, the

actual time needed for writing the *Master-Thesis* as well as examination grades and the overall grade. The reports shall be made public in an appropriate way by the university. The examination board shall make suggestions concerning reforms of the curriculum and the examination regulations. The examination board shall be supported in carrying out its duties by the examination office.

(4) The chairman is responsible for the affairs of the examination board. He/she shall prepare meetings, manage them and decide in case of parity of votes. He or she can consult the examination office. The examination board can assign some of its duties to the chairman insofar as there is no contradiction to legal regulations. The examination board shall be informed on a regular basis about the execution of his/her duties.

(5) Members of the examination board have the right to be present during examinations.

(6) Incriminating decisions made by the examination board, its chairman or the examination office must be reported in writing to the student by the examination office immediately with explanations specifying legal grounds and legal remedy instructions.

(7) Members of the examination board, its deputies as well as examiners and co-examiners are subject to official secrecy. If they are not employed as civil servants, they must be advised about confidentiality by the chairman.

(8) The examination board shall also be in charge of the duties of the admissions board of the Master course Organic Food Chain Management.

§ 5 Mentors

(1) The examination board shall allocate a personal mentor to each student at the beginning of his or her studies. The academic profile of both the student and the mentor shall be taken into consideration during the allocation process.

(2) A person may only become a mentor if he/she meets the prerequisites according to § 17, Section 3. He/she is appointed by the faculty of Agricultural sciences.

(3) At the beginning of the first semester, each student of the Master's course Organic Food Chain Management shall receive a course guidance service by his/her personal mentor.

Students are obliged to take part in this course guidance service.

§ 6 Examiners and co-examiners

(1) The examination board shall appoint all examiners responsible for the examinations. If there are two or more examiners responsible for an examination, the examination board shall undertake to make sure that the main aspects of the examination subject are represented appropriately. Only professors, "Privatdozenten" as well as members of the scientific staff who have held courses of the module subject to examination may be appointed as examiners. Persons who have passed a Master of Science examination in Organic Food Chain Management, Agricultural sciences, or any other equivalent examination may be appointed as co-examiners.

(2) The names of the examiners appointed for the respective modules shall be announced by the examination board. The appointed examiners undertake to administer the examination within the designated period unless they are unable to come due to good reason which they shall have to justify to the chairman of the examination board.

§ 7 Recognition of study periods, study and examination performance

(1) Study periods, study and examination performances of the same course of studies at another German university or an equivalent institute for higher education shall be acknowledged without checking parity.

(2) Study periods, study and examination performances at other university courses of studies shall be recognized insofar as parity has been determined. The *Master-Thesis* is excluded from this. Parity shall be determined if study periods, study and examination achievements correspond to content, scope and requirements of the course of studies at the university of Hohenheim. The overall inspection and evaluation is crucial and not a schematic comparison. If study periods, study and examination achievements performed at another university are accepted, parity regulations agreed upon by the Federal Conference of Ministers of Education (*Kultusministerkonferenz*) and the Federal Conference of University Principles shall be taken into account as well as agreements according to university partnerships. The examination board shall decide on recognition.

(3) The recognition of parts of the Master examination may be rejected if more than half of the total of 120 *credits* are to be recognized in accordance with § 3, Section 1, Sentence 4.

(4) Sections 1 and 2 are applied to study periods, study and examination achievements of officially recognised distance learning; Section 2 is also valid for study periods, study and examination achievements at other institutions of education, particularly publicly or officially recognized vocational colleges (*Berufsakademie*) advanced technical colleges, schools of engineering, official candidate schools of the former German Democratic Republic.

(5) If the study and examination performances are recognized, the grades are accredited so long as they are comparable and included in the calculation towards the final grade as stipulated in the respective examination regulations. As a rule, the number of European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits to be accredited shall be the number granted by the university where they originated. If grades are not comparable, the note "passed" shall be certified. Recognition may be mentioned in the certificate.

(6) There is a legal claim on recognition if prerequisites according to Sections 1-4 exist. The recognition of study and examination performances and study periods, is made officially in case these were performed within the scope of the legislation governing higher education (*Hochschulrahmengesetz*). Students shall present the required documents for recognition.

§ 8 Omission, withdrawal, deception, violation of regulations

(1) An examination shall be graded as "fail" (F; 0 *grade-points*) if the candidate is absent at the time of the examination without good reasons or withdraws from it without good reasons after the examination has started. The same applies to written examinations which are not performed within the designated time.

(2) Reasons raised for the withdrawal and absence must be immediately reported in writing and substantiated to the examination board. In the event of sickness, a medical certificate must be presented. In case of doubt, a certificate by the public health officer must be presented. If the reason is sanctioned, the candidate shall resit the examination at the earliest possible date. If examination results already exist, these shall be recognized.

(3) If the candidate attempts to influence the result of his or her examination performance through deception or the use of unauthorised aids, the respective examination performance is to be graded "fail" (F; 0 *grade-points*). A student who distracts the regular procedure of the examination may be excluded from the continuation of the examination by the respective examiner or the person in charge of supervision; in this case the respective examination performance shall be graded "failed" (F; 0 grade points). In the event of grave occurrences, the candidate may be excluded from sitting further examinations.

(4) The persons concerned may demand that the decisions be reviewed according to Section 3, Article 1-2 by the examination board within a period of two weeks. Incriminating decisions must be reported and explained immediately in writing to the candidate. The candidate should be given explanations specifying legal grounds and legal remedy instructions.

Part Two: Examinations

§ 9 Admission to the "Master of Science" examination

(1) Students may only be admitted to the "Master of Science" examination if:

1. he/she is registered for the Master course in Organic Food Chain Management at the University of Hohenheim
2. he/she has not forfeited the right to sit examinations in the Master course Organic Food Chain Management, or an equivalent course at a German university or an equivalent institution for higher education and if he/she has not failed any of the examinations required by these regulations
3. a study and examination plan according to Section 2 is already submitted.

(2) Students must have their study and examination plan for the master's examination, in which all of the chosen modules are specifically named and binding, approved before registering for the first examination. The examination board shall approve the plan at the recommendation of the mentor. Admission to

these examinations counts as binding when the requirements in Section 1 are fulfilled.

(3) Alterations to the study and examination plan are not permitted for modules for which examinations have already been taken.

(4) Students have to register their chosen modules, and thus their module examinations, in writing each semester at the examination office during the registration period specified by the examination committee. When registering, students have to state whether they wish to be examined in the first or second examination period according to § 12, Section 1, Article 2. Withdrawal from or alteration of the examination date is possible. Students may withdraw from an examination up to 7 days before the examination date by notifying the examination office and the examiner either personally or in writing. Students have to sit a minimum of three module examinations per semester. Students may not withdraw from repeat examinations according to § 23 unless they cannot be held responsible for the withdrawal. If the examination for a module is not sat within the period specified, it will count as a fail (F, 0 *grade-points*), unless the candidate cannot be held responsible for failure to comply with the deadline or the let-out clauses defined in § 13 are invoked.

§ 10 Admission procedure

(1) The application for admission to examinations of the compulsory modules must be presented in writing to the examination office. The following documents shall be enclosed insofar as these are not already at the examination office,

1. proof of the prerequisites of admission mentioned under § 9, Section 1,
2. a statement whether the candidate has not ultimately passed an examination according to § 9, Section 1, Article 2 or forfeited the right to sit examinations in this study program or is in current examination proceedings.

(2) If a candidate is not able to enclose a document required according to section 1 in the stipulated way, the examination board may allow him/her to provide the proof in another way.

(3) The examination office is in charge of admissions on behalf of the examination board. In case of doubt the examination board shall decide.

(4) Admission shall be rejected if:

1. the prerequisites mentioned under § 9, Section 1 are not met
2. the documents according to Sections 1 and 2 are incomplete or incorrect

(5) Students of other Master courses at the University of Hohenheim who have obtained admission to examination according to the respective examination regulation and have not lost their claim for examination shall be admitted to the examination of the Master course Organic Food Chain Management. The same applies to students of other German universities, equivalent institutions for higher learning, other educational institutions, particularly, public or officially recognized vocational colleges (*Berufsakademie*) as well as foreign universities, insofar as these students take part in lectures, seminars and examinations within the scope of accepted German or international study exchange programs. The examination board shall take a decision in case of doubt.

§ 11 Type and scope of examinations

(1) The "Master of Science" examination consists of

1. A total of 15 examinations in the compulsory and elective modules according to Sections 2-5;
2. A *Master-Thesis* according to § 17 including its defence.

(2) The 8 compulsory modules corresponding to 48 *credits* are stipulated as follows:

- a) Organic Farming Basics and Excursions
- b) Cultural, Sociological and General Conditions of Organic Food Production
- c) Markets and Marketing of Organic Food
- d) Socioeconomics of Organic Farming
- e) Organic Plant Production
- f) Food Processing of Organic Food
- g) Organic Food Chain Project

The Organic Food Chain Project takes place within a semester. The topic is interdisciplinary. Three to four students undertake one topic and are supervised by 3 to 4 examiners according to § 6, Section 1.

(3) Seven elective modules corresponding to 42 *credits* are to be chosen from the Master Degree catalogue of the University of Hohenheim in order to create a profile

(4) With the approval of the examination board, study and examinations of up to 5 modules and 30 ECTS credits can be chosen from the range of courses of other studies at Hohenheim University, other German institutions of higher learning and international universities.

(5) A maximum of three compulsory modules may be replaced with the corresponding number of electives in accordance with Sections 3 and 4 if knowledge corresponding to the content and scope of the modules to be replaced can be proved in the previous study programme which forms the admission requirement for the study programme Organic Food Chain Management. Permission shall be granted by the examination committee upon application by the student and upon recommendation from the mentor. § 7, Section 5 shall apply.

(6) Students may take exams in a maximum of 3 further modules other than those actually stipulated. The results shall be in the examination certificate on request but shall not influence the overall grade.

(7) The examination of a module may be an oral or a written exam. The examination may be divided in sections according to § 16, Section 1 which can be weighted differently. At the suggestion of the examiner of the respective module, the type of examination and the weighting of the partial performances shall be regulated by mutual agreement with the faculty of Agricultural sciences according to § 16, Section 3 and shall be written down in the study plan.

(8) Examinations may be taken as soon as the partial achievements necessary for the admission to the respective examination according to section 7 are presented. § 12, Section 1 and 2 should be taken into consideration.

§ 12 Examination deadlines, forfeiting the right to sit examinations

(1) Each semester has two examination periods of three weeks each. The first examination period begins directly after the end of the semester, the second at the end of the vacation period or the beginning of the following semester. The examination committee decides the exact dates of the examination periods one semester in advance. The examination periods for blocked modules (§ 3, Section 5, Article 2) fall at the end of the relevant block.

(2) Examinations should be taken in the examination periods immediately after the module or in the second examination period at the latest. For blocked modules (§ 3, Section 5, Article 2), examinations should be taken immediately after the relevant block or in the first examination period of the following semester at the latest. If the examination for a module is not taken within the period specified, it shall count as a fail (F, 0 grade points), unless the candidate cannot be held responsible for failure to comply with the deadline or the let-out clauses defined in § 13 are invoked.

(3) The right to sit examinations shall be deemed as expired in the following cases:

1. if fewer than six module examinations have been passed by the end of the second semester,
2. if the examinations for the compulsory modules have not been passed by the end of the second examination period of the fourth semester and/or the examinations for the elective modules have not been passed by the end of the sixth semester.

The right to sit examinations does not expire if the candidate cannot be held responsible for failure to comply with the deadline or the let-out clauses defined in § 13 are invoked. Insofar as compliance with deadlines for the initial registration for examinations, the repetition of examinations, the reasons for failure to attend examinations and the compliance with deadlines for assessed work are concerned, the illness of a candidate shall be treated as equivalent to the illness of a dependent child for which the candidate is the main or sole provider. Such cases shall be decided by the examination committee upon application by the candidate. Should the reasons for failure to comply with examination deadlines be deemed insufficient or inadequate, the relevant examinations have to be sat immediately. The examination committee shall set the examination dates. The candidate is responsible for immediately informing the examination committee of any changes in circumstances.

(4) At the beginning of each winter semester the members of the faculty for Agricultural Sciences responsible for the modules shall suggest examination dates and examiners for the elective module under their responsibility for that winter semester and the following summer semester. The examination dates shall be suggested within the examination periods defined in Section 1.

(5) The list of examiners and the dates for the examinations shall be set by the examination board within the examination periods and are binding.

(6) The students are individually responsible for complying with the examination deadlines given in this regulation.

§ 13 Failure to comply with examination deadlines by students with children and in the event of illness

(1) Candidates, who have to care for a child under three years of age and live with him/her in the same household and are solely responsible for looking after him/her, are allowed to take individual examinations after the expiry of the designated periods. Examination dates for examination repetitions may only be extended by 2 semesters. This right expires at the end of the semester in which the prerequisites mentioned under Article 1 elapse. This right expires at the end of the semester in which the child has completed his/her third year at the latest. The candidate is obliged to present the respective proof. She/he is obliged to report changes to the prerequisites immediately.

(2) A person who is not able to go to lectures regularly and to meet the expected study achievement on account of ongoing sickness or a permanent physical handicap, is allowed to undertake examinations after periods which are regulated in the examination regulations have expired. Examination periods for examination repetitions may only be extended by up to two semesters. The extension period is three years at the most. The candidate must present the respective proof and medical certificates in particular. In case of doubt, the examination board can demand a medical certificate issued by a physician recognised by the board or a public health officer. The candidate is obliged to report any changes to the prerequisites immediately.

(3) Section 1 applies to persons who make use of the term of retention of § 3, Section 2 and § 6, Section 1 legal protection for mothers.

§ 14 Oral examinations

(1) In an oral examination, the candidate shall demonstrate understanding of the overall subject matter and the ability to relate theories and principles within the subject matter. Moreover, the examination shall determine

whether the candidate has a broad basic knowledge.

(2) Oral examinations shall be held in front of several examiners (committee examination) or one examiner and one co-examiner as an individual or group examination. A committee examination shall be held if a module comprises several sections (according to the course structure) and is represented by more than one examiner according to § 6, Section 1. In this case the grade shall be determined on account of a final mutual consultation. The examiner shall consider the assessment of other examiners and co-examiners respectively before the grade is determined.

(3) The duration of an oral examination shall be a minimum of 20 minutes and a maximum of 30 minutes per candidate and module.

(4) The essential subject matter and results of the examination of the respective modules shall be taken down in the minutes. The result shall be announced to the candidate after the respective oral exam.

(5) A seminar paper on a specific problem of a special field which can be assigned to a module can also be accepted as an oral exam. A seminar paper may only be assigned as part of an examination as defined under § 16. In case of group work, the individual performances must be clearly identifiable and assessable. Articles 2-4 are applied accordingly.

(6) Students who wish to take the exam at a later examination date shall be permitted as audience as far as spatial arrangements allow for them and the candidate does not object. The admission shall not include the consultations and the announcement of the grades.

§ 15 Written examinations

(1) The written examination shall show that students are able to detect a problem and find ways to solve it with the usual methods of the subject in a limited period of time and with limited aids.

(2) Written examinations shall be assessed by two examiners. The grade shall result from the arithmetic average of the two assessments. The assessment procedure shall not exceed a period of four weeks.

(3) The duration of an assessment test shall be two hours and a maximum of three weeks for a written paper

(4) With the exception of examination papers, written assessed work, e.g. essays or project reports, may also be submitted as group work insofar as the individual contributions for assessment can be clearly distinguished and assessed and fulfil the conditions stipulated in Section 1. The distinction may be identified based on details of sections, page numbers or other objective criteria which enable clear and definite distinction between contributors.

§ 16 Partial performances and partial examinations

(1) Partial performances are seminar papers as defined by § 14, Section 5, written papers as well as laboratory protocols as defined by § 15, Section 4. They are assessed according to § 20 and recognised as partial examinations.

(2) The planned assessment elements and their weighting in the individual modules shall be detailed in the curriculum in accordance with § 11, Section 7.

(3) The weight of partial performance in the result of the examination of a module is 30 % at the most.

§ 17 Master-Thesis

(1) The *Master-Thesis* shall show that the candidate is able to work independently on a problem in the field of Organic Food Chain Management with the help of scientific methods and within a fixed period of time. The thesis consists of a written part (paper) and an oral part (defence).

(2) A student shall register for the *Master-Thesis* at the beginning of the fourth semester at the latest; otherwise it is graded "*fail*" (F; 0 *grade-points*) unless the candidate cannot be held responsible for the failure to comply with the deadline. If this is the case, registration must be done immediately after the reasons for the failure to comply with the deadline elapse and at a date which the examination board shall fix.

(3) The *Master-Thesis* can be issued and supervised by professors, university lecturers, external lecturers, academic assistants and assistants with authority to hold examinations.

(4) The candidate may choose a topic of a subject field of compulsory or elective modules which he/she attended. The candidate shall have the opportunity to suggest a topic. The chairman of the examination board shall be

responsible that the candidate receives a topic within a month of application.

(5) The topic shall be determined in a way which allows the candidate to write the thesis within a period of six months after the issue date of the topic. Students may reject the topic once and within the first two months only. In exceptional and justified circumstances, the period of time may be extended by three months at most if the supervising person agrees.

(6) The candidate shall apply for the issuing of the thesis at the examination office. Topic and date of issue shall be recorded by the supervising person at the examination office. The *Master- Thesis* shall be written in English. Following an application specifying valid reasons, the examination board may allow the writing of the thesis in another language if the examiners agree in writing beforehand.

§ 18 Handing in and assessment of the *Master-Thesis*

(1) Two bound copies of the *Master-Thesis* shall be handed in to the examination office within the agreed time limit. The candidate shall include a statement declaring that he/she authored the thesis on his/her own without the use of sources and aids other than those mentioned in the thesis. All parts of the thesis which are cited literally, in a rough summary from a publication or any other secondary material must be acknowledged. Moreover, the candidate shall confirm that the thesis was not written for another course as part of an examination.

(2) The thesis shall be assessed by two examiners. One of the examiners shall be the person who issued the topic. The other examiner shall be appointed by the examination board at the suggestion of the first examiner. § 17, Section 3 apply accordingly. One of the examiners must be a professor. If the *Master-Thesis* is written outside the University of Hohenheim, the first examiner must be a member of the University of Hohenheim.

(3) The assessment procedure shall not exceed four weeks. The examination board shall inform the candidate of the result.

(4) The grade shall be the arithmetic average of the two assessments. In case there is a difference of more than one grade point, the examination board shall appoint a third examiner who shall determine the grade with suggestions from the first and second examiner.

(5) If the candidate fails to hand in the thesis within the agreed time limit, the thesis shall be graded "*fail*" (F, 0 *grade points*).

(6) If the written part of the *Master-Thesis* is graded "failed", it may be repeated with a new topic. Issuing of the topic must be applied for within one month at the latest after the announcement of the result at the examination office. If the student fails to comply with this deadline, the claim for examination expires unless the candidate cannot be held responsible for the failure to comply with the deadline. The candidate may reject the topic within the period mentioned in § 17, Section 5 if he/she has not done so when writing the first thesis.

§ 19 Defence and grading of the *Master-Thesis*

(1) If the thesis was graded with at least "pass" (D; 1.0 *grade points*), the student shall defend the essential arguments, results and methods of the thesis in a colloquium with the examiners (§ 17, Section 2) within three weeks after receiving the results.

(2) The defence shall last a minimum of 30 minutes and a maximum of 45 minutes. The examination board shall fix the date with the agreement of the examiners. The examiners shall determine the grade mutually. § 20, Section 4 is applied accordingly.

(3) The overall grade of the *Master-Thesis* is determined by the average of the grades of the thesis and the colloquium. The written thesis carries a weight of three quarters of the overall grade while that of the colloquium a quarter. The *Master-Thesis* shall be considered passed if both the written thesis and the defence are graded "pass" (D; 1.0 *grade-points*) at the very least.

(4) The defence may be repeated once within 3 months if it was graded "fail".

§ 20 Assessment of examinations, determination of grades

(1) The assessment of examinations shall be in grades and *grade-points*. The respective examiner shall determine the grades.

(2) The following grades shall be used:

A (<i>very good</i>)	= excellent performance;
B (<i>good</i>)	= Results that are significantly above average of the requirements;
C (<i>medium</i>)	= Results that satisfy average requirements;
D (<i>pass</i>)	= Results that still satisfy the requirements despite poor performance;
F (<i>fail</i>)	= Results that fail to satisfy the requirements due to considerably poor performance.

For a more detailed grade the following grades are allowed:

A-	<i>very good</i>
B+, B-	<i>good</i>
C+, C-	<i>medium</i>
D+	<i>pass</i>

(3) The grades are assigned to the following *grade-points*:

A	=	4.0
A-	=	3.7
B+	=	3.3
B	=	3.0
B-	=	2.7
C+	=	2.3
C	=	2.0
C-	=	1.7
D+	=	1.3
D	=	1.0
F	=	0

(4) An examination is passed if it is graded "pass" (D; 1.) at the least. If an examination consists of several partial examinations according to §16, grade points of the module are determined from the average of the weighed grade points according to § 11, Section 7. The result shall be rounded up to the next grade point according to Section 3.

§ 21 Credits, *credit points* and overall grade

(1) On account of the workloads there can be six *credits* for every module and 30 *credits* for the *Master-Thesis*. Credits shall be multiplied

with the respective grade points in order to determine *credit-points*. All *credit-points* obtained in the modules and the *Master-Thesis* are summed up in order to determine the overall result of the "Master of Science" examination. A passed "Master of Science" examination is graded with 120 *credit points* at the least and 480 *credit-points* at the most.

(2) To determine the overall grade, the *grade point average* (GPA) shall be determined. The *grade point average* shall be determined with the average of the *grade-points* obtained in the examinations of the modules and the *Master-Thesis* according to § 11, Section 1, Articles 1 and 2. Only the first decimal point shall be considered when determining the *grade point average*. It shall be mathematically rounded up.

(3) The *total grade* of *grade point average* of a passed "Master of Science" examination is:

between 4.0 und 3.5 = *Very good*

between 3.4 und 2.5 = *Good*

between 2.4 und 1.5 = *Medium*

between 1.4 und 1.0 = *Pass*

§ 22 Passing and failing the "Master of Science" examination

(1) The "Master of Science" examination is considered passed if,

1. examinations of all compulsory and elective modules and the *Master-Thesis* are graded "pass" (D; 1.0 *grade-points*) at the least;

2. the sum of 120 *credit-points* is obtained according to § 21, Section 1 at the least.

(2) Modules which were taken additionally according to § 11, Section 6 do not influence the overall grade.

(3) If the candidate did not pass a module examination or partial performance, he/she shall be notified by the examination office if and to what extent and in which period of time the examination or partial performance may be repeated.

(4) If the candidate did not pass the "Master of Science" examination, he/she shall receive a written confirmation and a certificate according to § 24, Section 2 at the request of the student.

§ 23 Repetition of "Master of Science" examination, deadlines

(1) The "Master of Science" examination may be repeated twice for the failed modules. A third repetition of an examination is not possible. If a student fails the examinations and the resit of examinations he/she shall lose the claim for examination.

(2) Repetition of a failed examination should take place in the next possible examination period, whereby the examination for a compulsory module must be passed in the second examination period of the fourth semester at the latest; the examination for an elective module must be passed by the second examination period in the sixth semester at the latest. The possibilities and deadlines for repetition shall be clearly indicated upon notification of the grades. Should a student fail to comply with the deadlines, the right to sit examinations shall expire unless the candidate cannot be held responsible for the failure. § 12, Section 3, Articles 2-6 apply accordingly.

(3) § 18, Section 6 and § 13, Sections 1-3 shall be applied for the repetition of the written part of the *Master-Thesis*. § 19, Section 4 shall apply for the repetition of the defence of the *Master-Thesis*.

§ 24 Transcript

(1) A transcript of the passed "Master of Science" examination shall be issued immediately. The transcript shall contain the names of the modules and the topic of the *Master-Thesis* including the obtained grades, *grade-points* and *credit-points* as well as the *grade point average*, *total grade* and *credit-points* that were obtained in total. Any additional examined modules shall also be included in the grades mentioned in Article 2 as an examination but shall not affect the overall grade according to § 21, Section 1 and 2. The transcript is to be signed by the chairman of the examination board. It shall be issued in English and in German on request.

(2) If the "Master of Science" examination has not been passed or is considered failed, the examination office shall inform the candidate about it in writing including all legal remedy instructions. At the request and upon

presentation of the respective proof and the leaving certificate the candidate shall be provided with a confirmation in writing of the examination performances obtained including *grade points* und *grades* as well as the examinations which have to be done in order to complete the "Master of Science" examination. It shall be evident on the transcript that the "Master of Science" examination has not been passed.

(3) The transcript shall be dated on the day the last examination was passed.

§ 25 "Master of Science" certificate

(1) After the passing of the "Master of Science" examination, the candidate shall receive a bilingual (German and English) "Master of Science" certificate with the date on the certificate. The awarding of the Master of Science grade shall be certified on it.

(2) The "Master of Science" certificate shall be signed by the Dean of faculty of Agricultural Sciences. It will have the seal of Hohenheim University affixed.

Part Three Final provisions

§ 26 Invalidity of examinations

(1) If the candidate attempted to influence the outcome of an examination by deceit and if this becomes evident after the issue of the transcript, the examination board can subsequently correct the marks concerned and pronounce the examination as completely or partly failed.

(2) If a candidate did not meet the prerequisites of the admission to an examination without the intention of deception and if the examination board becomes aware of this after the issue of the certificate, this error shall be announced with the passing of the examination. If admission was obtained by intentional deceit, the examination board may declare the examination failed.

(3) The candidate has the opportunity to express his/her views before a decision is made.

(4) The incorrect examination result shall be retracted and replaced with an accurate or correct document. The "Master of Science" certificate may also be withdrawn if the examination was declared failed (F; 0 *grade-points*) on account of deception. A decision according to Sections 1, Article 2, Sentence 2 is

impossible after a period of five years following the issue date of the certificate.

§ 27 Access to examination files

After the examination procedure is over, the candidate may apply for access to the written examination records, the assessments made by the examiners and the respective examination minutes within a period of one year. The chairman of the examination board shall determine place and time of inspection.

§ 28 Coming into Effect

These examination regulations shall take effect from 1 October 2005.

Stuttgart, July 1 2005

Professor Dr. Hans-Peter Liebig
President

Identification of Modules (Code)

B + 0: specific for B.Sc.
M + 1: specific for M.Sc. Agricultural Sciences – Crop Sciences
M + 2: specific for M.Sc. Agricultural Sciences – Animal Sciences
M + 3: specific for M.Sc. Agricultural Sciences – Agricultural Economics
M + 4: specific for M.Sc. Agricultural Sciences – Agricultural Engineering
M + 5: specific for M.Sc. Agricultural Sciences, Food Security and Resource Management in the T a. S.
M + 6: specific for M.Sc. Agricultural Sciences – Soil Sciences
M + 7: specific for M.Sc. ENVIROFOOD
M + 8: specific for Master of Agribusiness (MAB)
M + 9: specific for Master OrganicFood

B.Sc.: **B**
 M.Sc.: **M**

A 0 0 0 0 XY

FG = compulsory for the graduate major
G = compulsory for all Bachelor students
VG = compulsory within the undergraduate major or compulsory according to the specific background (within MAB)
WG = elective module

B.Sc.: 1 to 6, majors Crop Sciences to Soil Sciences.
 M.Sc.: 0 to 4, specialisations within the major Crop Sciences

B.Sc. & M.Sc.: consecutive numbering

Lecture Periods

WS 06/07	Fac. A	First day:	(42. KW) Monday, 16.10.2006
		Last day:	(5. KW) Saturday, 03.02.2007
		End of Block B5	Tuesday, 27.02.2007
	Fac. N+ W	First day:	Monday, 16.10.2006
		Last day:	Saturday, 17.02.2007
SS 07	Fac. A	First day:	(14. KW) Monday, 02.04.2007
		Last day:	(27. KW) Saturday, 07.07.2007
		End of Block B10	Wednesday, 08.08.2007
	Fac. N+ W	First day:	Monday, 16.04.2007
		Last day:	Saturday, 21.07.2007

In the faculty of Agricultural Sciences Tuesday 29.05.07 is likely to be free of lectures!
The "Dies Academicus" (22.06.) will be free of lectures too!

Examination periods in winter semester 06/07

B.Sc. and M.Sc. period 1: calendar week 6 to 8

B.Sc. and M.Sc.: period 2: calendar week 12 to 14

Deadline for the registration for exams: see notice-board of examination office

Examination periods in summer semester 07

B.Sc. and M.Sc. period 1: calendar week 28 to 30

B.Sc. and M.Sc.: period 2: calendar week 40 to 41

Deadline for the registration for exams: see notice-board of examination office

A registration form is available at the examination office.

The exact dates of the module examinations are posted at the notice-board of the examination office or on the internet under: (<https://pruefungsamt.uni-hohenheim.de>).