



## Fenaco launches CO2 certificates for climate protection in dairy cows

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The validation of the climate protection programme UFA Swiss Climate Feed for dairy cows has been successfully completed. **This means that CO2 certificates can be offered for the newly launched methane-inhibiting mineral feed of the Fenaco subsidiary UFA from autumn 2022.** A reduction of several thousand tonnes of CO2 equivalents is expected for 2022. Farmers can contribute to climate protection with the new product. The product innovation was awarded an innovation prize by the Suisse Tier trade fair.

The Fenaco subsidiary UFA launched the mineral feed UFA 295 Biotin USCF (UFA Swiss Climate Feed) for dairy cows in May 2021. **It contains the natural preparation Agolin® Ruminant. According to scientific trials and field tests, the mixture of high-quality plant extracts improves the digestion of dairy cows and thus reduces methane emissions by about 10 percent.** The total reduction potential for dairy cows in Switzerland is several 100 000 tonnes of CO2 equivalents. "Our new mineral feed is widely accepted," says Paul Steiner, Chief Executive Officer at UFA. "The product is already being used on farms throughout Switzerland." The leading Swiss trade fair for livestock farming, Suisse Tier, awarded the product the special prize for commercial innovations 2021 as part of an innovation competition.

### CO2 certificates available from autumn 2022

The positive climate effect of the mineral feed has existed since its market launch. The first Fenaco CO2 certificates are expected to be available from autumn 2022. They will only be available once the emission reductions have been confirmed during monitoring by an independent testing agency. For 2022, Fenaco expects certificates for several thousand tonnes of CO2 equivalents.

**Farmers can obtain the climate-friendly mineral feed from UFA at no additional cost.** This is made possible by financial advance payments from Fenaco. The agricultural cooperative has the emission reduction resulting from feeding the climate-friendly feed converted into certificates and finally sells them on the voluntary market for CO2 certificates. The revenue is intended to cover the additional costs for Agolin's natural preparation and certification. "Of course, the farms can have the emission reductions certified themselves. But this effort is considerable," says Anita Schwegler, Head of Sustainability and Environment at Fenaco. "That's why we as a cooperative have made an upfront financial contribution to farmers to make an immediate contribution to climate protection."

The certification process for Fenaco's climate certificates was validated in the first quarter of 2022 by the TÜV technical monitoring association and supported by a consultancy firm. In addition to the detailed examination of all project documents, the validation also included discussions with several farmers on the correct handling of the feed.

If the certificates are well accepted by the market, UFA plans to fortify more feeds with Agolin's natural preparation under the USCF climate protection programme from the end of 2022.

### Farmers have a choice

In addition to Fenaco's CO2 certificates, farmers have other options open to them in dealing with the climate-friendly feed. They can purchase the certificates generated by Fenaco themselves, for example, in order to make their own farm CO2-neutral. In addition, they can alternatively purchase the feed UFA 296 Agolin at full cost including the additional costs for the natural preparation Agolin and have the emission reduction certified themselves or claim it under another climate programme.

### CO2 certificates from Fenaco in detail

The instrument of CO2 certificates serves to compensate for emissions that could not yet be prevented by other reduction measures. For example, the climate-neutral LANDI Küssnacht reduced its emissions with measures such as more efficient cooling and heating systems, photovoltaics and modern LED lighting. LANDI offsets the remaining CO2 emissions with CO2 certificates. Additional measures to further reduce emissions are planned.

The starting point for compensation with CO2 certificates are the farmers who feed their dairy cows the mineral feed UFA 295 Biotin USCF. **The associated reduction of methane during the digestion process can be calculated and converted into certificates that can be sold and purchased.** The farms give the rights to the certificates to fenaco in return for the additional costs incurred by the natural preparation. The latter has the project and the emission reductions achieved verified by an independent body in an annual monitoring report and sells the certificates to buyers who want to use the certificates to offset their own CO2 emissions. The purchase of certificates is open to all companies, and farmers can also purchase certificates in order to operate their businesses in a CO2-neutral manner.

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