

# WORLD DRAFT CATTLE SYMPOSIUM



**MARCH 8 - 10, 2024**

## Preliminary Hourly Schedule

*Version Date: January 9, 2023*

*All times listed are Central European Time (CET)*

## MARCH 8TH, 2024 - LIVE, VIRTUAL, AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

*Live Location: Museumszentrum Lorsch, Paul-Schnitzer-Saal, Nibelungenstrasse 35, 64653 Lorsch  
(Back entrance, follow the signs)*

### 7:30-8:30 AM

Registration open for on-site participants (will remain open throughout the day)

### 8:30 AM:

Live and Virtual sessions start. *Virtual Zoom link will be sent to Virtual Registrants*

### Introduction

- 8:30-8:35 AM  
Welcoming Words by Kirsten Worms, *Director of the State Administration of Palaces and Gardens Hesse*
- 8:35-8:45 AM  
Introduction by Claus Kropp, *Conference Organiser*
- 8:45-8:50 AM  
Patron Statement 1 (Wendell Berry; will be read to the audience)
- 8:50-8:55 AM  
Patron Statement 2 (Tanja Busse; *live*)
- 8:55-9:00 AM  
Patron Statement 3 (Helena Norberg-Hodge; *virtual*)
- 9:00-9:05 AM  
Patron Statement 4 (Chris Smaje; *virtual*)

### Session 1: A valuable look into the past – creating relevance for today

9:05-9:35 AM

**KEYNOTE 1 Barbara Corson (USA)**, "Cattle and Community: why we need both"

9:35-9:45 AM

**Coffee break** (10 minutes; coffee, tea, cake, baking goods from local bakery)

### Session 1: Section 1: Archaeology / Osteology

- 9:45-10:00 AM  
Phoebe Liu, *University of Sheffield, (UK)*, "In Search of Draught cattle: an identification method"

**Time Zone Reminders for March 8th Virtual :**  
British GMT: 1 hour behind CET  
North American EST: 6 hours behind CET  
North American PST: 9 hours behind CET  
Indian IST: 4.5 hours ahead of CET  
Sydney AEDT: 10 hours ahead of CET  
China CST: 7 hours ahead of CET  
[Your Time Zone Lookup link](#)

- 10:00-10:15 AM  
Minghao Lin, *Shanghai Jiao Tong University, (China)*, "The early history of cattle traction in North China through diverse lines of evidence"
- 10:15-10:30 AM  
Fabienne Pigiere, *Royal Holloway University of London, (UK)*, "Investigating pathologies in wild bovids to assess pathological indicators of traction"
- 10:30-10:45 AM  
Audrey Crabbé, *University of Groningen, (Netherlands)*, "Ploughing through Pathologies: Traction related bone deformations in cattle as indices of political economies in early empires, Hittite Anatolia as a case study"
- 10:45-11:00 AM  
Claus Kropp, *Open-Air Lab Lauresham, (Germany)*, "Connecting the dots: Interdisciplinary Draft Cattle Research and Experimental Archaeology"

**11:00-11:15 AM**

**Coffee break** (15 minutes; coffee, tea, cake, baking goods from local bakery)

**Session 1: Section 2: History, Museum Collections and Archives**

- 11:15-11:30 AM  
William G. Clarence-Smith, *SOAS University of London, (UK)*, "Draught Animals in Balkan transport, c1300-1914"
- 11:30-11:45 AM  
Debra Reid, *Curator of Agriculture and the Environment, The Henry Ford, (USA)*, "Bovine Yokes and Collars in Museum Collections"
- 11:45 AM -12:00 PM  
Barbara Sosič, Inja Smerdel, Gregor Kos, Žiga Rehar, *Slovene Ethnographic Museum, (Slovenia)*, "Curating and Preserving the Cultural Heritage of Oxen and Yokes in Slovenia"
- 12:00-12:15 PM  
Cozette Griffin-Kremer, *Associate Researcher, Centre de recherches bretonne et celtique, UBO Brest, (France)*, "Paths of Transmission: Using Draft Cattle and Recording Skills"

**12:15 PM – 1 PM**

**Lunch Break** (served by a local caterer)

**Session 1: Section 3: (Archaeological) Open-Air Museums and Living History Farms**

- 1:00 – 1:15 PM  
Pete Watson, *Director: Howell Living History Farm, Mercer County Park Commission, (USA)*, "Towards a culture of training and curating skills. The role of Living History Farms"
- 1:15 – 1:30 PM  
Fokko Bloema, *Archaeon, (Netherlands)*, "Draft Cattle and Public Engagement in Open-Air Museums"

**Session 2: Facing realities and finding solutions**

1:30-2:00 PM

**KEYNOTE 2: Paul Starkey (UK)**, "Appreciating working cattle worldwide, their cultural heritage and their future importance"

**Session 2: Section 1: Case Studies**

- 2:00-2:15 PM  
Boniface Okumu, *Oxen Clinic Uganda, Survey Northern Uganda*
- 2:15-2:30 PM  
Vlad Dumitrescu, *Photographer, (Romania)*, Ioana Baskerville, *Romanian Academy, Survey Romania*
- 2:30-2:45 PM  
Simataa Joseph, *Farmer / Conservationist, (Namibia)*, Survey Namibia

**2:45-3:00 PM**

**Coffee break** (15 minutes; coffee, tea, cake, baking goods from local bakery)

- 3:00 – 3:15 PM  
D.K.Sadana, M. Din, S. Das, M. Shrivastava and T. Motilal, *ILSI and RRAN/WASSAN (India)*, "Challenges in reinvigorating draft animal power in India, and some opportunities"
- 3:15-3:30 PM  
M. Din, M. Srivastava, S. Das, T. Motilal, *Revitalizing Rainfed Agriculture Network / Watershed Support Services & Activity Network (India)*, "Present Status of Draught Animal Power and their Utilisation in Rainfed Regions of India"

- 3:30-3:45 PM  
Kevin Cunningham, *Shakefork Community Farm, (USA)*, “Oxen-powered vegetable growing and market gardening”
- 3:45-4:00 PM  
Raymundo Vento Tielves PhD., Félix Ponce Ceballo PhD., Joel Pacheco Escobar MSc., Andrés Loreto Díaz Pita MSc, (*Cuba*), “The use of animal traction in Pinar del Río Province, Cuba”
- 4:00-4:15 PM  
Eamonn McDonagh, *Vegetable Farmer, (Ireland)*, “Agriculture and market gardening with draft cattle in Ireland”

#### 4:15-4:30 PM

**Coffee break** (15 minutes; coffee, tea, cake, baking goods from local bakery)

## Session 2: Section 2: New Concepts

4:30-5:00 PM

**KEYNOTE 3: Jim Slining (USA)**, “Forcing Resilient Models of Agriculture through Draft Animal Power”

- 5:00-5:15 PM  
Tim Harrigan, (*USA*), “The Role of Draft Animals in an Agroecological Approach to Appropriate Scale Mechanization”
- 5:15-5:30 PM  
Antonio Perrone, (*Italy*), “Draft Animal Power versus Photovoltaic: a Technical and Economic Comparison”
- 5:30-5:45 PM  
Paul Schmit, *Schaff mat Päerd, (Luxembourg)*, “New animal-drawn machine concepts for future-oriented agriculture”
- 5:45-6:00 PM  
Wolfgang Ehmeier, *Farmer, (Austria)*, “The use of animal traction in an operational context”

#### 6:00-6:15 PM

**Coffee break** (15 minutes; coffee, tea, cake, baking goods from local bakery)

## Session 2: Section 3: Changing the Public Perception

- 6:15-6:30 PM  
Ruth Burke, *Assistant Professor of Art, (USA)*, “Domestic Rewilding (A Living Land Acknowledgement)”
- 6:30 – 6:45 PM  
Lynn Miller, Editor: *Small Farmers Journal, (USA)*, “A Prayer for Oxen. Working cattle held both as revered and essential”

#### 6:45-6:55 PM

**Concluding remarks of Day 1:** Claus Kropp

#### 7:30 PM

**Optional Conference Dinner** at the “Back- und Brauhaus” (‘Bakery and Brewhouse’) restaurant, Lorsch. (*Advanced registration with the conference committee required to guarantee your place.*)

Serves all food options: omnivore, vegetarian, vegan, traditional, regional, and seasonal options. Serves all types of drinks including non-alcoholic, beer, and spirits. Mid-priced: pay on your own. <https://back-und-brauhaus.de/lorsch>

# MARCH 9TH, 2024

## LIVE PRACTICAL WORKSHOPS / DEMONSTRATIONS

(Map of locations will be available soon. There is no virtual access. Coffee, tea, cake and local baking goods will be served throughout the morning directly on site)

### 8:00-9:00 AM

**Registration opens** (will remain open throughout the day)

Location: Visitor Centre Freilichtlabor Lauresham, Im Klosterfeld 10-15, 64653 Lorsch

### Session 1: Starting the connection: cattle behaviour and training

- 9:00 – 10:00 AM  
Section 1: Observation of natural behaviour as the basis for the ongoing process of training and relationship, Main Speaker: Astrid Masson (Germany)  
Location: Meadow 1
- 10:00 – 11:00 AM  
Section 2: Options for Transfer in communication between people and cattle. Developing trust and respect, Main Speaker: Anne Wiltafsky (Germany)  
Location: Green Barn
- 11:00 – 12:00 AM  
Section 3: Sharing one language: use of body language, visual signs, whip and voice commands, Main Speaker: Drew Conroy (USA)  
Location: Green Barn

### 12:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Lunch break**, served by Bäckerei Drayss

### Session 2: Finding the right solutions

#### Session 2: Section 1: Yoke, Collar, Harness, Shoe

1:00 – 2:30 PM

**Expert panel with practical presentations, including yoke-making and blacksmithing of ox shoes**

*Speakers/Presenters include:*

Philippe Kuhlmann, *Farmer and Forester (France)*  
Claus Kropp, *Manager: Lauresham Open-Air Lab (Germany)*,  
Rolf Minhorst, *Animal Scientist and Ox-Collar expert (Germany)*  
Frank Trommer, *Blacksmith Master (Germany)*  
Boniface Okumu, *Oxen Clinic Uganda (Uganda)*  
Elke Treitinger, *Veterinarian (Germany)*  
Michel Nioulou / Gilles Pequignot, *Yoke Maker (France)*

Location: Lauresham Open-Air Laboratory, central square

#### Session 2: Section 2: Implements

2:30 – 4:00 PM

**Expert panel with practical demonstrations of various implements for agriculture, transport and forestry**

*Speakers/Presenters include:*

Paul Schmit, *Schaff mat Pæerd (Luxembourg)*  
Peter Herold, *Agricultural Engineer (Germany)*  
Pascal Durand, *farmer trainer (Prommata International)*

Location: Lauresham Open-Air Laboratory, agricultural fields / west meadow

#### Session 3: Biographies Written in Bone: How the Working Lives of Draft Cattle Affect the Skeleton

4:15 – 5:15 PM : Main speakers:

Matilda Holmes, *Archaeozoologist (England)*  
Barbara Corson, *ret. Veterinary Pathologist (USA)*  
Claus Kropp, *Manager: Open-Air Lab Lauresham (Germany)*

Location: Museumszentrum (shuttle service will be provided)

#### Session 4: Curating Collections: Past and Present Implements

Page 4 - World Draft Cattle Symposium, March 8-10, 2024

<https://kloster-lorsch.de/freilichtlabor/tagungen/world-draft-cattle-symposium>

5:15-6:15 PM : Main Speakers:  
Deb Reid, *The Henry Ford (USA)*  
Barbara Sosič, *SEM (Slovenia)*  
Pete Watson, *Howell Living History Farm (USA)*

6:15-6:30 PM

**Closing Remarks of Day 2:** Claus Kropp

*Location: Museumszentrum*

## Evening Event

7:30 PM

**Conference Reception and Exhibition Opening Event:** "Joch-Joug-Ayoko. A cultural history of the yoke through the millennia" . Small snacks and drinks provided.

*Location: Visitor Centre Freilichtlabor Lauresham, Im Klosterfeld 10-15, 64653 Lorsch (Shuttle Service available)*

# MARCH 10TH, 2024: FIELD DAY

*(Map of locations will be available soon. Meals and cold and warm beverages will be served throughout the day at the Visitor Centre)*

**8:00-9:00 AM**

**Registration open** *(will remain open throughout the day)*

*Location: Visitor centre Freilichtlabor Lauresham, Im Klosterfeld 10-15, 64653 Lorsch*

**9:00-11 AM**

**Demonstration: Logging with Draft Cattle**

*Location: Eastern Forest site*

Main Presenters:

Philippe Kuhlmann, *Farmer and Forester (France)*

Arne Oppermann, *Farmer and Ox-Logger (Germany)*

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

**Field Day and Open-Day at the Lauresham Open-Air Laboratory**

*Location: Lauresham Open-Air Laboratory*

*The public Field Day will include presentations of the following:*

Testing prototypes and new machinery

Cattle behaviour

Training techniques

Agriculture

Market gardening

Ox shoeing

Chain making

Historical Agriculture and Experimental Archaeology

Yoke making

1:00 -5:00 PM

**Silhouette portraiture** with a special Lauresham-themed farm background, Lauren Muney *(USA) (pay on your own)*

*Location: Lauresham Open-Air Laboratory*

**Guided Tours** *(Advance registration required to guarantee your place)*

**11:00 AM:** Lauresham Open-Air Laboratory for Experimental Archaeology

**2:00 PM:** UNESCO World Heritage Site Lorsch Abbey