

Author information:

Cristina P. Rodríguez Torres is from Ecuador and obtained her bachelor degree in Nutrition Science in Argentina. At the present, she is studying a master program in Germany, called International Food Business and Consumer Studies at University of Kassel. She has experience in the field of clinic nutrition and food management, especially in catering services and hospitals in South America. Her aspiration for the moment is to complement her knowledge abroad in the food business sector, with focus on food technology, quality management and organic food system.

The Farmer and his Prince



Photo credit: Denkmal Film Verhaag

Director and Producer : Bertram Verhaag

Production year: 2013

Length: 84 Minutes

Production company: Denkmal Film Verhaag, Germany

Distributors: Barnsteiner-Film (Germany), Denkmal Film Verhaag (World-wide) (DVD)

A film review by AZADEH FARAJPUR-JAVAZMI

Industrial agriculture is the main driver of climate change, loss of biodiversity, soil degradation and water pollution. Organic agriculture takes a long-term approach towards sustainability, food security and

human health. Organic agriculture recognizes the multi functionality of agriculture, like maintaining a prosperous environment, fertile soil and pure water while producing healthy food to feed the world.

"Der Bauer und sein Prinz - The Farmer and His Prince", a 84 minutes colorful and harmonious movie, has been produced in 2013 by Bertram Verhaag . His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and his farm manager David Wilson are the most prominent actors in this documentary. Bertram Verhaag, born 1944 in Poland, has been filming documentaries for over 30 years and he is one of the few filmmakers, who are consequently, persisting and sustainably engaged exclusively in

A long time before the word "sustainability" was used , His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales realised the importance of organic agricultural practices, but he was still uncertain about the right way. After seeing the 'best practices' that Prof. Dr. Vogtmann from Kassel University showed him, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales decided to adopt these approaches in his own farm. "Duchy Home Farm" was converted to organic agriculture to encourage farmers to give up using poisons and

Photo credit: Denkmal Film Verhaag



"I call him 'my friend who is the peasant Prince', because I think he thrives most on the land. His heart and soul is totally with the Earth."

Dr. Vandana Shiva

scientific, environmental and social subjects. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales born 1948 in England, is the eldest child and heir apparent of Her Majesty the Queen. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has sought to raise world awareness of the dangers facing the natural environment, such as climate change. As an environmentalist, he was awarded numerous awards and recognition from environmental groups around the world. He is the owner of Duchy Home Farm.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has a vision: he wants the world to be fed by organic agriculture. To make his vision come true, he and his charismatic farm manager David Wilson have been pursuing this goal for the last 30 years. Bertram Verhaag followed them for more than five years and portrays this unique collaboration with impressive images. "Der Bauer und sein Prinz- The Farmer and His Prince" illustrates interesting insights of the cooperation between His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and his farm manager. Well-balanced and peaceful nature impressions and landscapes give an additional detailed insight in the principles and operation of organic agriculture.

to cultivate their land in harmony with nature. This example was and is a story of success, and farmers from all over the country travel to the Duchy Home Farm to see and learn the principles of organic farming and how to convert their own farms.

As well, this documentary demands viewers to rethink our way of treating nature and animals. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and Wilson demonstrate the importance of healing the environment and ecosystem of regional farms. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales tries to elaborate the crucial role of natural resources on people's life. "His nails will always have a little dirt underneath" commented Dr. Vandana Shiva towards His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. Dr. Shiva believes that he is a prince who has the soil integrated in his physical being as well as his soul. Human beings are part of the nature which they exploit to increase yield for human consumption. However, spectators cannot only take from nature without an appropriate service in return. Almost extinct animals have to be recovered in the regional fields to increase biodiversity.

Another important function of this movie is to raise social awareness of the importance of small scale farmers, who are driven away from their land. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales illustrates the urgent need to incline the development and the protection of small scale farms. Small scale farmers live in rural areas and are more vulnerable due to fluctuating local market prices. Due to a low quality of infrastructures in rural areas, the local agricultural prices would be affected. The consequences are poverty among farmers. In conclusion, "Der Bauer und sein Prinz-

Farmer and His Prince" gives interesting insights in the cooperation between His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and his farm manager David Wilson. Peaceful and harmonic nature impressions support the central message, to reform agricultural practices and to maintain an intact environment in order to cope with big challenges like climatic change and feeding a growing global population. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales is presented in an entirely new light, which forces the viewers to throw all prejudices towards him and organic agriculture overboard.



Photo credit: Denkmal Film Verhaag

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Azadeh Farajpour-Javazmi is from Iran and completed her Bachelor Studies in Agricultural Engineering in Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman, Iran. In her Bachelor thesis research, she conducted an interesting research study about Microbial Proteins that has been reviewed the procedures of producing, the effect of microbial proteins on food digestively in ruminants and procedures of increasing. Currently she is pursuing her Master studies in Sustainable International Agriculture from University of Kassel and Göttingen University, Germany.