

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 73 (2007)
Heft: [9]

Artikel: Zibelemärit in Bern
Autor: [s.n.]
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-944361>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 02.04.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

Zibelemärit in Bern

On the fourth Monday in November, the upper part of the Old City of Bern between the railway station and the Bundesplatz, the square facing the Parliament buildings, is transformed into a huge market.

rants to do takeoffs on events which have occurred during the past year. Satirical leaflets also appear on the streets at this time.

The Zibelemärit, or onion market, is all that remains of a 14-day autumn market (Martin-Mas) held

built from the farming areas into the city.

Whatever the historical truth may be – if you happen to be in Bern on the fourth Monday in November you will enjoy the atmosphere and the little works of art created with humble onions. For the less traditionally minded punters, there are also peppermint onions and marzipan onions for sale...

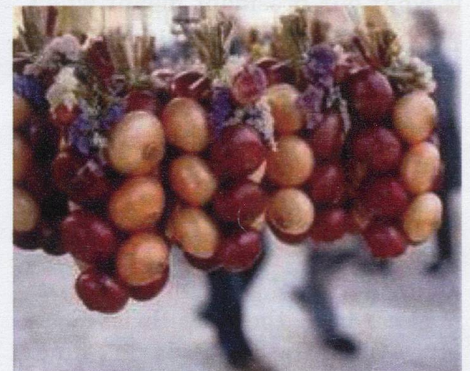


Market stalls in front of the Bundeshaus in Bern

At hundreds of stalls, farmers from roundabout, especially from the lake region of Canton Fribourg, sell their plaited strings of onions, over 100 tons worth, along with other winter vegetables, fruit and nuts. The market vendors also offer their usual merchandise for sale. In the afternoon and evening, after school is out and working hours are over, the carnival spirit enters into the proceedings: There are confetti battles, people dressed in disguise, and small groups who appear as jesters in the restau-

as far back as the fifteenth century. A frequently heard tale dates the Zibelemärit back to the city fire in 1405. The farmers from the region who helped with the tidying up were given the right to sell their products in the city. The first autumn market, however, was held only in 1439, and in any case vegetables were already offered for sale at the weekly market.

The first documented mention of onions appeared only in the middle of the nineteenth century, at the time a railway line was being



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editorial/President's report	2
Bodensee Bulletin	3
Club News	4-6
Children's page	7
Bericht über Alpwirtschaft und Käsen	8+9
Obituary/Gotthard tunnel	10
Ch makes all the difference/Recipe	11
Interview with the ambassador	12+13
Chocolate sauce blocks Autobahn/News	14
Understanding the Swiss/Congratulations to Molly	15
Via Ferrata	16