

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 75 (2009)
Heft: [10]

Nachruf: Obituary : Anton (Tony) Joseph Meier
Autor: [s.n.]

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: 18.01.2026

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

Living with the big bad alpine wolf

Recent wolf attacks on sheep have once again highlighted the sensitive issue of co-existence with the protected predator.

The number of wolves in Switzerland is expected to rise in the coming years. Yet critics of the current protection strategy say the wolf remains a taboo subject and greater transparency, monitoring and prevention is needed.



Since mid-May over 100 sheep have been slaughtered by wolves in cantons Valais, Bern, Fribourg and Lucerne. The Valais and Lucerne authorities this week said three wolves involved in these incidents could be shot.

Fifteen sheep were killed in an attack in the Dix Valley in canton Valais last weekend. The flock was in an enclosure and watched over by two mountain dogs and a donkey.

Wolves were driven out of Switzerland in the 19th century. They started to return about ten years ago from neighbouring Italy and have begun colonising again.

According to experts, there are around 200 wolves in the Alps, of which 150 live in France and 40 in Italy. In Switzerland seven wolves have been confirmed by DNA analysis, but it is thought there may be up to 20 - and the number is likely to rise.

Graubünden is one of the areas, along with Valais and Ticino, which has been most affected by the wolf's return. But since last year the alpine predator, which can travel up to 50 kilometres a day, has started migrating to cantons Vaud, Fribourg, Lucerne and Bern.

from swissinfo



Anton (Tony) Joseph Meier

Tony Meier was born in Würenlingen, Switzerland, on 6th June 1922, and emigrated to New Zealand at the age of two. The family lived in Dannevirke from 1924-1925, where his father, Julius Meier, worked as a chef in a hotel, and then moved to Napier in 1925, where they owned and operated a boarding house. A further move to Whakatane in 1927 began the Meier family's farming life, firstly on a leased farm, and a year later on their own farm, "Titoki Park".

In 1940, the Meier Family moved to the newly purchased farm at Matangi (near Hamilton), which was later named "Santis Lodge", after Tony's mother's birth place, under the Santis mountain in Switzerland. The horse stud was started in 1950 with the imported stallion "Oman", breeding and racing many successful horses.

Tony married his life long partner Marie Van den Heuvel in July 1954, and the couple had two sons.

From the early 1960's, they began breeding pedigree Jersey cattle, going on to hold 21 annual Santis Jersey cattle sales on the farm, and exporting cattle world-wide. The mid 1960's also saw the introduction of 2000 hens for the farm's poultry business.

Between 1969 and 1972, Tony and Marie nursed both of Tony's elderly parents at their home until their passing.

The Santis Jersey herd continued to be milked by Tony and Marie until Tony was 80 years old, and he never ceased seeing to his horses.

Tony passed away peacefully at home surrounded by his family, completing his extensive book of life on 29th August 2009. May he rest in peace.

Our condolences go to Marie Meier and family, from the Hamilton Swiss Club and the Swiss Society.

www.weatherstation.co.nz
weather stations, rain gauges, anemometers, outdoor watches & more

irox
the Swiss weather station brand!

Phone Carlo
09 435 3133

saxon
high quality optics

Canon
telescopes, binoculars, microscopes, accessories

www.telescopes.net.nz