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## Retirement Villages – for horses

The Foundation for the Horse is a refuge for horses, ponies and donkeys. Some 170 animals live in the foundation's three "homes" in Le Roselet, Jeanbrenin and Maison Rouge. They live out their days in the meadows of the Jura mountains.



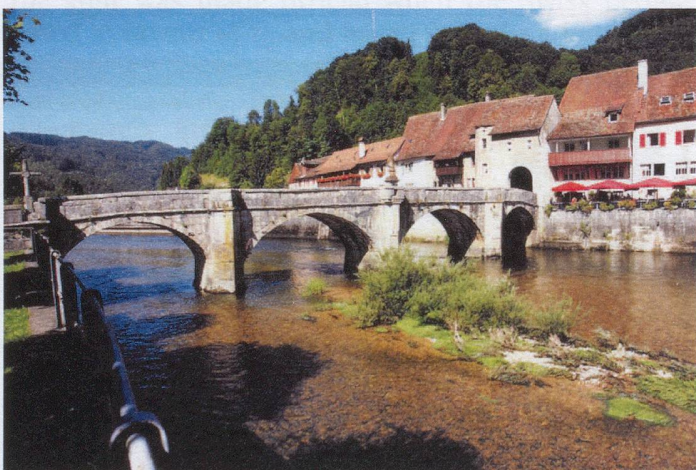
Retirement home for horses and donkeys at Le Roselet

*The Foundation states:* Die Stiftung für das Pferd nimmt alte Pferde, Ponys und Esel in ihren drei Heimen Le Roselet, Le Jeanbrenin und Maison Rouge auf und bietet ihnen einen genussreichen Lebensabend auf weiten Juraweiden, in der Herde und doch im Schutz und unter der Obhut des Menschen.

## Saint Ursanne

Saint Ursanne (population approximately 1,000) is a city in the district of Porrentruy in the canton of Jura which has preserved its medieval character. The city contains many historical curiosities, including collegiate churches, a cloister, ruins of a castle, and a hermitage. The River Doubs forms a loop by Saint-Ursanne before flowing into France. The city is famous for the medieval festival which it organizes each summer.

Its name refers to Saint Ursicinus, a seventh century monk who built a monastery here.



Saint Ursanne on the river Doubs

## Gentiana lutea

Up to the middle of last century digging for the roots of the yellow gentian was a laborious way of earning a few extra francs in the Jura.

*Gentiana lutea* (Great Yellow Gentian) is a species of gentian native to the mountain of central and southern Europe. Other names include 'Yellow Gentian', 'Bitter Root', 'Bitterwort', 'Centiyane', and 'Genciana'. It is a herbaceous perennial plant, growing to 1-2 m tall, with broad to elliptic leaves 10-30 cm long and 4-12 cm broad. The flowers are yellow. It grows in grassy alpine and sub-alpine pastures, usually on calcareous soils.



Great Yellow Gentian

It is remarkable for the intensely bitter properties residing in the root and every part of the plant, hence they are valuable tonic medicines. The root is the principal vegetable bitter employed in medicine, though the roots of several other species are said to be equally efficacious. Before the introduction of hops, Gentian, with many other bitter herbs, was used occasionally in brewing. It is a principal ingredient in Angostura bitters.

The medicinal parts are the dried, underground parts of the plant and the fresh, above-ground parts. The root, which can be over 5 cm thick and has few branches, is harvested in the autumn and dried for later use. It is quite likely that the roots of plants that have not flowered are the richest in medicinal properties.

Gentian root has a long history of use as a herbal bitter in the treatment of digestive disorders and is an ingredient of many proprietary medicines. It contains some of the most bitter compounds known and is used as a scientific basis for measuring bitterness.

from Wikipedia



Flowerhead and seed

## A Cantonal Holiday!

Bern has Zibelemärit, Zürich has Sechseläuten, Basel has Fasnacht – and Jura has Jura Independence Day. If you feel solidarity with their struggle for independence and feel like celebrating that the establishment of the Republic and Canton of the Jura has been achieved, celebrate with the Jura on 23 June.