

**Martina Gerken**

Georg August University Goettingen

Department of Animal Sciences

Albrecht Thaer Weg 3

37075 Goettingen, Germany

Phone: ++49 (0)551- 39 5603/ Fax: ++49 (0)551- 39 5587

E-mail: [mgerken@gwdg.de](mailto:mgerken@gwdg.de)

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**Employment**

**Professor Ecology of Livestock Production** 1993-Present  
Georg August University Goettingen, Department of Animal Sciences, Germany

**Academic assistant/ Assistant professor** 1987-1993

**Research associate** 1977-1987

Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms University Bonn, Germany

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**Education**

**Habilitation in Small animal breeding and ethology** 1991

Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms University Bonn, Germany

Thesis: *Antagonistic relations between behavioural and productive traits in poultry*

**PhD.** 1983

Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms University Bonn, Germany

Thesis: *Studies on the genetic basis and modification of behavioural traits in poultry, conducted in a selection experiment on dustbathing behaviour in Japanese quail (Coturnix coturnix Japonica)*. Major Advisor: Prof. Dr. J. Petersen

**Agricultural engineer (Dipl.Ing. agr), specialization in Animal Sciences** 1973-1977

Rheinische Friedrich Wilhelms University Bonn, Germany

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**Research focus**

The focus is on systematic and interdisciplinary research. Scientific hypotheses are tested comparatively across different animal species. Research fields are applied animal ethology including physiological aspects using non-invasive methods and behavioural genetics. In the research field of animal ethology the focus is on learning and cognition (horses) and emotional states (pigs). Results are used to develop species-appropriate and environmentally friendly animal husbandry systems. One further main research program is the adaptation of farm animals to their environment and includes aspects of thermoregulation (llamas, sheep, poultry), water intake and water metabolism (llamas, sheep, goats, poultry), ecological efficiency in different farm animals (poultry), energetic costs for locomotion (llamas, alpacas) and physiological seasonal adjustments (horses).

***Other:***

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- Chairperson of the Working Group 9 „Welfare“ der World’s Poultry Science Association, WPSA (1997-2005)
- Member of expert groups of the Ministry of Agriculture, Germany (1991-1997):
  - Expert group „Welfare in poultry meat production (broiler)“
  - Expert group „Welfare in poultry meat production (ducks and turkeys)“
  - Expert group “Recommendations for keeping of laying hens in floor housing and range systems” (Ministry of Lower Saxony)
- Member of Working Group „Animal Fibre” within the EAAP
- International memberships: WPSA; Poultry Science Organisation (USA); International society for applied ethology (ISAE);