



Max Rubner Institute
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- education in Chemistry from the University of Stuttgart, Stuttgart, Germany
- Since February 1990: Research Scientist at the Federal Research Centre for Nutrition (and Food), Karlsruhe, Germany
- August 1990 – February 2008: Deputy Head of the Centre for Molecular Biology, Federal Research Centre for Nutrition (and Food), Karlsruhe, Germany
- March 2007 – February 2008: Guest Professor for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Department of Bioprocess Engineering, Federal University of Paraná, Curitiba, Brazil
- Since March 2008: Acting Head of the Department of Food Technology and Bioprocess Engineering, Max Rubner-Institute (Federal Research Institute of Nutrition and Food), Karlsruhe, Germany

Research interests:

- reduction of anti-nutrients in plant-based foods using enzymes
- purification, characterisation and over-expression of phytate-degrading enzymes, elucidation of their *in vivo* functions, studies of structure-function relationship of this class of enzymes, biotechnological application of phytate-degrading enzymes
- production of pure positional isomers of partially phosphorylated *myo*-inositol phosphate isomers for kinetic and food applications (functional foods) using enzyme-based bio-reactors
- development of qualitative and quantitative DNA-based detection methods for genetically modified food, feed and seeds, food-borne pathogens, mycotoxin producers, food allergens and food ingredients and contaminants
- safety assessment of genetically modified foods
- food nanotechnology, establishment of detection and characterization methods for engineered nanomaterials in food, migration of engineered nanomaterials from food contact materials into food, improved bioavailability by size reduction or encapsulation

The research activities resulted in 89 original papers in peer-reviewed journals, 32 book chapters and 173 abstracts or short papers in congress proceedings.

Memberships:

- Chair of the MRI Working Group on Food Nanotechnology
- Member of the NanoKommission, theme group 2 “Chances and risks of nanoscale products”
- Chair of the Senate Working Group “Synthetic Nanomaterials” of the Federal

Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMELV)

- Member of the DfG Working Group "Nanotoxicology"
- Member of the Wissenschaftlerkreis Grüne Gentechnik (Organization of Scientists to inform about Green Gene Technology)
- Member of the German Working Group "Development and Standardisation of molecular-biological methods in food analysis - detection of food-borne pathogens"