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Lukas Bertschinger is Agroscope's Delegate for National and International Research Cooperations. Agroscope represents the Swiss national public agri-food sector research. Educated as an agronomist with an awarded PhD from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) at Zürich, he worked as a plant pathologist and plant breeder at CGIAR centers in Peru and Mexico. Returned to Europe, he assumed various positions for Agroscope as a scientist in horticulture, R&D leader and manager and on boards of several national and international R&D institutions, networks and platforms. With more than 30 years of research leadership in Latin America, Africa and Switzerland, Bertschinger has developed knowledge, methods and products as plant scientist, while integrating several disciplines to achieve sustainable science-based problem solutions for the agri-food sector. As research director, program manager, scientific quality manager and member and chairperson of boards of directors, he is driven by his leadership values and visions, being respect, a truly sustainable development of agricultural and food systems and institutions, and a high quality of research procedures and their results. He is applying an interdisciplinary, holistic systems view aiming at added value and impact. With an ample and multidisciplinary publication record encompassing peer-reviewed, technical and popular publications, he is currently engaged in strengthening R&D institutions' research collaboration strategy, career development capacity, and creating new forms of public-private collaboration to meet the needs of today's social environment. Bertschinger teaches a masters course in horticulture at ETH Zürich. He is a long-standing member of the International Society for Horticulture (ISHS) and has co-organized several ISHS symposia.