



## **Öko-Test's evaluation criteria fail to recognize the realities and complexity of food production**

(in German: “Bewertungskriterien von Öko-Test verkennen Realitäten und Komplexität der Lebensmittelherstellung”)

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[This article](#) from the German Association of the grain, milling, and starch industry, concerns the testing of oat flakes performed by Öko-Test, a German “Consumer Reports”-style magazine.

Here is the abstract: “We all want to eat healthy and balanced. This is why test magazines such as Stiftung Warentest and Öko-Test regularly scrutinize food. A large test of wheat and spelt flours appeared in the September issue of Öko-Test magazine, and now a test of oat flakes appears in the October issue. As evidently is necessary in such tests, there must be winners and losers, despite the fact that all tested products adhere to the same high safety standards of German and European food legislation. How can that be? And how meaningful and fair are such tests and test criteria anyway? What is certain is that the results have far-reaching consequences: for the public's understanding of risks, for the food itself, for the environment, and for private companies.”

(N.B.: most newer browsers will give you the option of having the original German text translated into English.)