



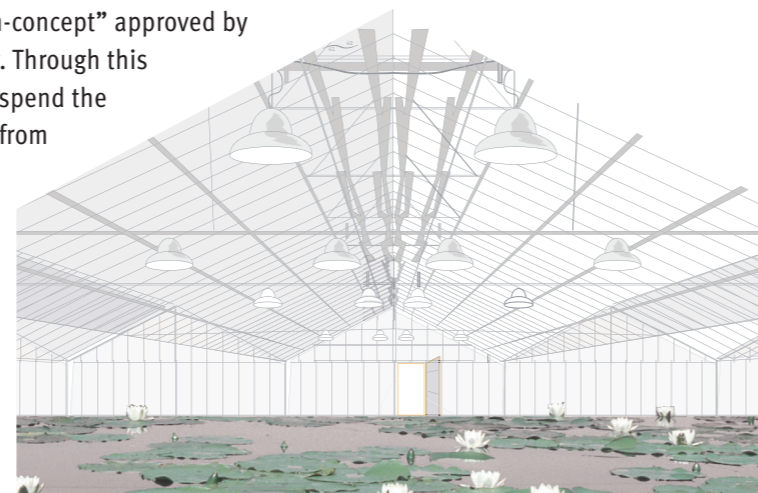
Breeding of leeches in Biebertal

The bbez operates 70 ponds, 8 greenhouses, halls and laboratories for breeding and caring of the leeches. After the hatching of the baby leeches from cocoons, we feed and care for them until they reach therapeutic size. In quarantine tanks they are observed and monitored microbiologically. To provide an optimal environment for the animals, we work with experts from a wide range of disciplines (aquarists, microbiologists, ecologists, biologists, etc.). Therefore the expertise of the bbez team is certainly unique.



A vital and healthy leech is the ideal partner for adjunctive therapy

We keep and breed our leeches under conditions as similar as possible to their natural environment. The more vital a leech is, the better it can help the patient during therapy. After treatment, the leeches must not be used again for therapeutic purposes. As we feel a moral obligation towards the animals, we have developed a “return-concept” approved by the supervisory authority. Through this return-concept, they can spend the rest of their lives distant from the company site in our so-called “retirement ponds”.

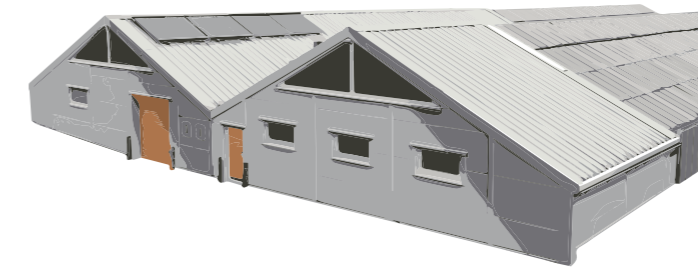


A visit to the leeches

We would be happy to show you where our leeches grow up and the effort involved in caring for these sensitive animals. Give us a call or send us an email to blutegel@blutegel.de to arrange an appointment for a visit. You can hear about the biology of the animals and how we try to create a habitat close to nature. We will happily try to answer any questions that may arise around this interesting animal.

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The Biebertal leech farm



Medirud® Leeches

Living animals. Active ingredient: leeches for medical use. Areas of application: dermal application in adults. For the treatment of mild to moderate pain such as in arthrosis, regional pain syndrome or tendon irritation (tennis elbow) as well as for venous stasis after surgical procedures, for external haemorrhoids and tinnitus. Use only by doctors or alternative practitioners with appropriate knowledge of leech therapy and after careful consideration of existing comparative therapies. For risks and side effects, please read the package insert and consult your physician or pharmacist. As of January 2025, Biebertaler Blutegelzucht GmbH, 35444 Biebertal



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THE HEALER
FROM THE POND

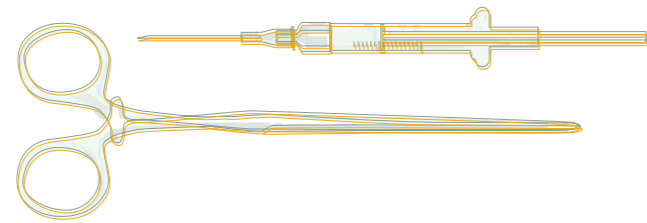
BIEBERTALER BLUTEGELZUCHT



Leeches in ancient times

The healing effects of leeches were probably already known in the Stone Age. In written records, they appear among the Persians, Egyptians, Greeks and Indians. Of course, our ancestors had different ideas about their healing powers, our modern knowledge of their therapeutic ingredients is far more differentiated, and we keep learning! It is now widely known and professionally documented by studies that they can help for certain illnesses.

Leeches as medicine



Today, leeches have the status of a medicinal product and are therefore subject to state supervision in terms of their manufacturing and distribution. Whereas their effect was previously attributed solely to bloodletting, modern analytical methods have shown that during a leech bite a large number of active substances is released through the saliva into the wound. This cocktail is optimally balanced. Some of the active substances are also produced synthetically and used therapeutically, but the balanced substance composition in its totality in the leech saliva is unique.

Areas of application for leeches

Due to the active ingredients in their saliva, leeches are increasingly in the focus of medical studies. Medical leeches can be particularly helpful in painful inflammatory processes of the joints.

Medirud® leeches are used for

- > Mild to moderate chronic pain, such as
 - Osteoarthritis,
 - Regional pain syndrome,
 - Tendinitis and tenosynovitis (e.g. tennis elbow, golf arm),
- > Venous congestion after surgery
- > External haemorrhoids
- > Tinnitus

Treatment procedure

A treatment with leeches usually lasts 30 to 90 minutes. In many cases, one session is sufficient. The therapist places the leeches in the correct position and after biting they release the active substances with their saliva. They let go spontaneously after sucking their meal of blood. Blood may continue to flow from the wound for several hours, which is a desired reaction of the body to the active ingredients. The therapeutic effect may occur during the treatment or shortly afterwards.

Treatment with leeches requires expertise and should therefore be carried out by an experienced alternative practitioner or a doctor.

Are you looking for a therapist?

To find a therapist in Germany who works with leeches, visit our website www.blutegel.de. Under the heading “Behandlung Therapeutensuche” you can find a nearby therapist by entering your postal code.

