

Message of the Director General

COALITIONS, PARTNERSHIPS AND NEW MEMBERS OF IDF HEAD OFFICE TEAM

The constant need to provide more efficient platforms and fora for discussion and performance on strategic issues for the industry, and ultimately be influential in support of its mission has and will lead IDF to get involved in more horizontal and cross sectorial work with other organizations. This kind of multidisciplinary cooperation will develop, even with new partners who are not traditional friends of our industry.

This new approach of bringing together more stakeholders from new or different sources allows not only to get access to additional expertise and speed of action, but also to contribute to significant progress in terms of achievement of projects and, last but not least, acceptance by decision makers in charge of regulations or other norms applicable to our sector. In the organization of technical workshops, fora of industry leaders, roundtables and other “satellite” events, IDF allows for new opportunities of invitations which, when followed by enlarged participation, enable better promotion of outcomes with more impact and influence globally.

In today’s times of financial constraints, it is crucial to demonstrate how important IDF is to the industry and organizations, which usually cannot do everything by themselves. The added value provided by such coalitions and partnerships is important, and most often IDF is the dynamic leader like for numerous diversified projects in many areas of work such as standards, environment, broader sustainability, nutrition and in the elaboration of guidelines, best practices, etc...

The above can be illustrated for example by the successful IDF technical workshop “Towards a standard methodology for water footprint in the dairy sector” (more details on the event to be found inside this issue) of which the organization was coordinated this month in Brussels by Stanislav Jas. In this context, I am also happy to announce that Stanislav will now get involved and take over the coordination of assistance provided by the IDF Head Office in the areas of “Farm Management” and “Animal Health & Welfare” on top of his continued work in the area of environmental sustainability.

As reported in the previous edition of the Newsbrief, 2012 has started in a very dynamic way at the IDF Head Office with the arrival in January of our new colleagues who are all present on the picture as shown in this issue:

- Henriette Christiansen, joining as “Office Manager”;
- Laurence Rycken, joining as “Nutrition Officer”;
- Sarah Tricot, our new trainee, mainly involved in translation tasks.

These new improvements should contribute to another fruitful year of collaboration together.

Christian Robert

IDF Director General



IDF GOVERNANCE

Highlights of the IDF Board meeting in January 2012

The IDF Board met in Brussels for from 24-26 January for a review of the key projects for 2012.

Among the highlights of the meeting worth mentioning are:

The evaluation of the IDF WDS 2011 in Parma was discussed. A review of several aspects of the organization of the WDS 2012 was examined with the Organizing Committee of South Africa via a telephone conference, including the Forum of Dairy Leaders and the importance of the participation of farmers.

The IDF Head Office project for a manual of best practices including guidance and templates for the organization of IDF Events and Summits has been confirmed by the Board. It has been decided to seek the assistance of some IDF NC Secretaries for the elaboration of the manual that will help host countries in the organization of future events.

Following SPCC Parma meeting outcome the Board has decided to nominate Stanislav Jaš, IDF Environment & Sustainability Officer, as IDF representative to the FAO Project Steering Group of the now formally launched new FAO Multi-Stakeholder Partnership on “Benchmarking and monitoring the environmental performance of livestock supply chains”.

The next edition of the IDF World Dairy Situation report will benefit from new improvements. Additional provision of data that would be accessible by IDF members is foreseen (statistical data, ...). Possible contributions from additional sources are being investigated in order to discuss the new project at the next meeting in June.

The organization of the IDF Innovation Awards will be suspended temporarily for one year in order to collect new insight and optimize the planning of the Awards. This can be achieved via a review of IDF expectations and benefits as well as by a survey among previous winners about the concrete benefits for participants. The opportunity of the up-coming meeting of the SC Marketing in Seoul in March 2012 will be used to further discuss the project.

Several countries are experiencing difficulties and are in arrears of payment of IDF membership fees. The Board has decided that they will be formally asked to find a solution to pay all outstanding debts to IDF by the time of the IDF WDS Yokohama/JP 2013.

Finally, the IDF Board will recommend changes to the IDF Constitution and Rules of Order to be considered at the General Assembly in Cape Town, South Africa.

PROGRAMME OF WORK

IDF Science and Programme Coordination Committee (SPCC)

Main highlights of the SPCC teleconference on 19 January 2012:

IDF strategy on issue management

The IDF Head Office will prepare a brief note explaining how the envisaged process of issue management should work, accompanied with a couple of examples from different areas. This will be circulated to Chairs and followed-up during up-coming SC meetings.

Profiling of IDF experts for IDF working bodies

The meeting participants felt that the challenge in some IDF working areas was lack of active engagement in the work rather than lack of qualification/ right profile of experts to match the needs of the IDF work program. It was agreed to continue the consultation with SCs keeping in mind that, as reported in Parma, it will be left to individual SCs to decide which, and how to apply any of the options identified in the revised Appendix to the President's discussion paper.

Stakeholder surveys

The survey questionnaire on hygiene and food safety will be circulated to IDF members most likely before the end of March 2012 with results expected to be available for the SPCC meeting of May 2012.

A draft survey questionnaire relating to dairy science and technology should be ready for discussion at the next SPCC physical meeting in May 2012.

Identification of the top 5 priorities of interest for communication to dairy leaders

The meeting identified areas of improvement for future IDF Leadersbriefs and agreed to revisit the broader issue of current top priorities for IDF communication at the next meeting.

Benefits of dairying: preparation of a series of IDF factsheets

The preparation of fact sheets on *Economic Benefits of Dairying* and *Nutritional importance of dairying* is progressing according to plan. SCFM leadership and IDF Head Office shall assist particularly with regard to making progress in the area of *Milk production as key driver of sustainable rural development*.

IDF Fund for financing collaborative trials to validate IDF/ISO methods

The IDF DG clarified that extra funds obtained through the on-going IDF partnership/sponsorship programme were needed to fill-in gaps in the IDF regular budget owing to non-payment of membership fees of some IDF members. It was mentioned earlier that ISO may be willing to contribute to IDF/ISO validation studies, which is still to be confirmed.

Date and place of next physical meeting of the SPCC: Brussels on 26 May 2011

IDF Technical Workshop on Water footprint in the dairy sector

The IDF workshop “Towards a Standard Methodology for Water Footprint in the Dairy Sector” was held in Brussels on 14 and 15 February 2012 under the leadership of the IDF SCENV Action team (AT) on Water footprint. The workshop successfully supported the IDF overarching mission in allowing the dairy sector globally to appreciate the environmental impact of milk production and processing.

The workshop attracted 40 experts from the dairy industry and academia including leading researchers and representatives of relevant working groups within the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). They came together with the purpose to identify, describe and assess the context, main issues and methodologies behind water footprinting with relevance to the dairy sector.

The first day was marked by 12 prominent presentations focusing on the overview of current major international methods to estimate water footprint and on examples of water footprint calculations in dairy from various parts of the world. In addition, experience from a different industry branch- the forest fibre industry - has been offered.

The second day led to a very constructive wrap-up discussion. It enabled the participants and the IDF AT leaders to fully appreciate the challenges and issues stemming from the methodologies. It highlighted *inter alia* the need to use the same terminological language, the need for consistency (e.g. building on the previous LCA approach chosen in carbon footprint), the importance of working according to agreed principles and the crucial role of communication around this fairly complex topic.

The workshop was a starting point to launch a targeted work in specific areas of water footprinting. Six topical working groups have been created to undertake additional research addressing the following issues: review of the IDF Guide on Carbon Footprint and transfer of key elements to the work of water footprint group, definitions, data aspects, impact assessment, water footprint calculation examples and communication aspects.

Each expert group should work towards preparing its findings by the end of May 2012. The findings will be then compiled in order to prepare a draft IDF guide. Work progress will be presented at the conference on Sustainability and Green Economy during the World Dairy Summit in Cape Town on 7 November 2012. Approval and publication of the standard methodology in an IDF Bulletin will occur in early 2013.

Experts interested in actively contributing to the work are welcome to join any of the six working groups.

Workshop presentations are available on the IDF Intranet (folder IDF Documents/Standing Committees and TF/SCENV/Environment/Water Footprint).

For more information, please contact the IDF Action team leader Marcin Preidl (M.Preidl@vdm-deutschland.de) or Stanislav Jaš from IDF Head Office (Sjas@fil-idf.org).

COLLABORATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Sixth Session of the *Ad Hoc* Intergovernmental Codex Task Force on Animal Feeding (TFAF) took place in Berne, Switzerland, from 20 to 24 February 2012.

The previous five sessions of TFAF were held between 2000 and 2004 with active participation of IDF. They had resulted in the finalization and subsequent Codex adoption of a Codex Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding. The Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) decided in 2011 to re-activate TFAF with the mandate to develop guidelines on the application of risk assessment for feed and to develop a prioritized list of hazards in feed ingredients and feed additives for governmental use.

IDF had submitted comments in writing prior to the 6th session and has made an active contribution to the debate. IDF input was closely coordinated with partner organizations representing the feed industry (FEFAC – the European Feed Manufacturers' Federation and IFIF – International Feed Industry Federation). There was also a high level of interaction during the meeting with our traditional partner organizations on the governmental side, FAO and OIE, and various Codex member delegates.

The meeting advanced the proposed Codex draft ***Guidelines on Application of Risk Assessment for Feed*** for CAC adoption at Step 5. The Guidelines address only hazards in animal feed that enter the food chain via dietary exposure of food-producing animals and transfer into their edible products. These include all hazards in feed that impacted on human health, biological hazards and radionuclides are included. The guidelines are intended for governmental application of risk assessment methodologies. Aspects related to animal

health and welfare are outside the scope of Codex and are not addressed with this document.

The Task Force agreed that the document on ***Prioritised list of hazards in feed*** would only focus on the prioritization of hazard in feed and on guidance on how governments could use these criteria. The Task Force agreed to return the renamed proposed draft “Guidance for use by governments in prioritizing the national feed hazards” to Step 2 for redrafting by an electronic working group (eWG), for circulation for comments at Step 3 and further consideration at its next session. IDF will participate with the eWG.

The next 7th session of TFAF will be held in Switzerland in early 2013.

IDF PUBLICATIONS

The Bulletin of the month

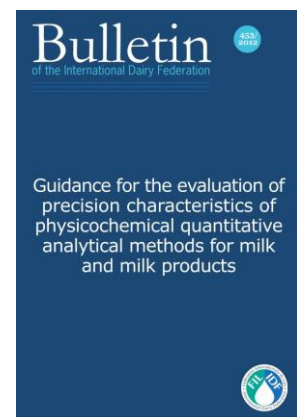
The Bulletin of IDF n°453/2012 *Guidance for the evaluation of precision characteristics of physicochemical quantitative analytical methods for milk and milk products*

Precision data are an essential element in a standardized analytical method in order for those who use the results of the analyses to know the limits of the information they are getting.

The use of interlaboratory collaborative studies to determine precision characteristics formed the subject of a protocol by the US Association of Analytical Agricultural Chemists (now AOAC International). In 1963 IDF established joint group of experts with ISO and AOAC on statistics of analytical data which, in due course, prepared IDF Standard 135. The practical guidance for analysts working on milk and milk products now appears in this new issue of the Bulletin of IDF.

This guidance provides practical information for the organization of collaborative studies and for the calculation and presentation of precision parameters of standard test methods

The Guide to Good Dairy Farming Practice (2011) is now available in **Spanish**. It can be downloaded on the IDF Website: <http://www.idfcheeseus2012.com>



***Food fermentations: Microorganisms with technological beneficial use
Update of the IDF Bulletin 377 (2002)***

As part of its commitment to food safety, IDF has revisited the previous 2002 IDF inventory of microorganisms with technological beneficial use in food fermentations, which has become a reference for food cultures in practical use in the past ten years, but needed an update due to the growing scientific evidence and evolution of taxonomy.

The scope of the current list has been widened to microorganisms with a role in fermentations in a wider range of food matrices (dairy, meat, fish, vegetables, cereals, beverages, and vinegar) and in traditional food products worldwide. It also takes into account the latest changes in microbial taxonomy.

The scientific rationale to establish the inventory was endorsed by a dedicated Task Force of the International Dairy Federation (IDF), in collaboration with the European Food and Feed Cultures Association (EFFCA). It is published in the official journal of the International Committee on Food Microbiology and Hygiene - ICFMH - of the International Union of Microbial Societies - IUMS -, **International Journal of Food Microbiology**.

It is available on the IDF Website with free access granted by IDF:

[Working Areas / Hygiene & Safety / Articles](#)

Nutrition and Health Aspects of Lactose and its Derivatives : State of the Science

A special Issue of the International Dairy Journal

The role that the milk sugar lactose and its derivatives plays in the human diet is often misunderstood, underestimated and undervalued. Lactose is far more than a source of dietary energy. The effect of lactose on calcium absorption and the physiological aspects of



lactose derivatives are presented in this special issue.

This issue also examines the host aspects of lactose intolerance, lactase persistence in Europe, and the technological aspects of lactose-free dairy products.

A review of the cariogenicity of lactose with specific reference to childhood dental caries is also included in the publication.

This work is the result of the collaboration of the Standing Committee on Nutrition and Health and the Standing Committee on Dairy Science and Technology.

This Special Issue is available online at www.sciencedirect.com

GUIDE TO GOOD DAIRY FARMING PRACTICE

The joint IDF/FAO Guide to Good Dairy farming Practice (2011) is now available in Spanish. It can be downloaded on the IDF Website at:

www.fil-idf.org/Files/media/IDF.ORG/Publications/Freeofcharge/Guide-to-Good-Dairy-Farming-Practice-ES.pdf

The French version will be available soon.

IDF EVENTS



Explore, Exchange, Encourage....

Join us at the 6th IDF Cheese Ripening & Technology Symposium, May 21-24, 2012 at the Monona Terrace, Madison, Wisconsin!

This three-day symposium includes 12 keynote speakers from 5 different countries, 30 oral presentations as well as a daily poster session; plus an optional day of technical tours.

With a strong tradition, this symposium, which brings together more than 300 scientists and researchers from around the globe every four years, offers dairy industry members a chance to discover and discuss innovative technologies and scientific findings related to topics such as: proteolysis, lipolysis, microbial ecology, cheese metabolism/catabolism, cheesemaking technologies, membrane technology, material science, oral processing, sensory evaluation, cheese safety, gene expression, probiotics and prebiotics, and nutrigenomics.

“This is an excellent chance for the cheese industry and institutes to interact with colleagues from around the world while being exposed to the latest science from the best cheese scientists in the world.” commented Rusty Bishop, Schreiber Foods, and Chair of the U.S. Program Committee.

For more program details visit the Symposium website: www.idfcheeseus2012.com

IDF/INRA International Symposium on Spray Dried Dairy Products **19-21 June 2012, St.Malo, France**



The event aims at bringing together research and industry leaders to share ideas and information about new developments in two complementary fields of science and technology – the manufacture of dairy powders and the functionality of these products as food ingredients.

For more information on the Symposium, visit <https://colloque4.inra.fr/sddp2012>.

IDF World Dairy Summit

4-8 November 2012, Cape Town, South Africa



Come join us to the IDF World Dairy Summit – the world's primary leading edge dairy event and most important gathering of and for dairy specialists and decision-makers in all dairy related fields.

Make sure to visit www.wds2012.com for detailed information. The latest brochure is also available for download on the website.