ditor: Álvaro Ruiz



#18 / 2021

2 December

Connect to the world of dairy

New CAP: there we go!

Last Tuesday 23 November the new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) was adopted by the European Parliament with a huge majority.

Our congratulations go to the chair of the Agricultural Committee, MEP Norbert Lins (EPP, DE), and the rapporteurs MEP Peter Jahr (EPP, DE), MEP Ulrike Müller (Renew, DE) and MEP Eric Andrieu (S&D, FR) for their committed work over the past years as well as to the EU Council rotating Presidencies that made the agreement possible.

The new CAP creates the needed momentum and shows flexibility by delivering a policy model capable of mobilizing synergies to integrate the European agricultural sector into the European Green Deal ambitions.

We are looking forward to working together with all EU institutions and stakeholders towards the smooth implementation of the new CAP in the times to come. We are fully committed to the European Green Deal objectives, and we are ready to strengthen the resilience of our dairy supply chain so that it can continue successfully delivering excellent dairy quality for regional, European, and international markets in a competitive and market-oriented environment.

Check out here our press release!



MTK Dairy Conference

Hyvinkää, Finland

Asko Miettinen, the chair of the MTK dairy section, welcomed Minna-Mari Kaila, the Director General of the Finish ministry of Agriculture, Teppo Pöllänen, economic director of the OP financial group and EDA secretary Alexander Anton at the annual conference of the MTK Dairy section in South Finland.

"The Finish dairy sector is quite unique in the European lactosphère, not only by its geographical and climate situation, but also in terms of structure and innovation. And it is a vibrant part of our industry – with a clear Valio climate commitment by 2035 and a focus on animal welfare and quality," highlighted Alexander Anton.



dairy cooperatives conference in Hyvinkää today @AskoMiettinen @MTKKry @marjukkama and @raulialbert at MTK Dairy Coop Conference with # minister @JariLeppa -animal welfare, sustainability @Valio_Ltd and national strategic CAP plans - Finnish dairy is a frontrunner!







The Future of EU dairying at EDA

Last 17th of November 15 master students from Kiel University (Germany) discussed at and with EDA the future of dairy farming.

Prof Holger D. Thiele and Prof Martin Braatz organized a high-level program for their students' visit to Brussels, including meetings with Carlos Martin-Ovilo (G3 / E3 DG AGRI), Willi Schulz-Greve (A1 / G1 DG AGRI), MEP Niclas Herbst (EPP, DE), Peter Wehrheim (DG Research) and Andreas Schneider, from the cabinet of EU Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski.

"The energy and passion of the students from Kiel University is impressive. Discussing the realities of their (dairy) farms, their concerns and their projects with high level civil servants of the European Commission is for sure an added value for both sides," congratulated EDA secretary general Alexander Anton.







A brand-new mozzarella factory in the heart of Wallonia

Last 16th of November, Solarec / Laiterie des Ardennes' CEO **Louis Ska** celebrated the opening of their brand-new mozzarella factory in Baudour (Belgium) with Wallonia's Vice-President **Willy Borsus**.

With an annual capacity of 32.000 tons of cheese, the opening of the new factory represents a milestone in the strategy of the dairy company focusing on diversification and adding value for farmers.

Mozzarella is with no doubt a promising dairy product for the future, loved and enjoyed by millions of consumers all around the world!



Solarec/Laiterie des Ardennes' CEO Louis Ska during the inauguration of the new mozzarella factory



EDA & CIAA: Cheese trade back on track

EDA Secretary General **Alexander Anton** and **Daniel Schnyder**, President of the Cheese Importers Association of America (CIAA), exchanged recently on the improved EU-U.S. cheese trade landscape.

"This year we have seen that the EU and the U.S. not only removed unjustified tariffs on dairy after a long quarrel on aircraft subsidies, but that they also agreed on a solution in their dispute over U.S. steel and aluminium tariffs. The latter might have invoked a new round of retaliatory tariffs," stated **Daniel Schnyder**.

"It is good to see that the U.S. has taken back its position as our main non-European export market for cheese, and I am convinced that our regular exchanges with the CIAA are helping us to strengthen our trade relationship," expressed **Alexander Anton**.



DG Agri Outlook Conference 'Fit for 2030':

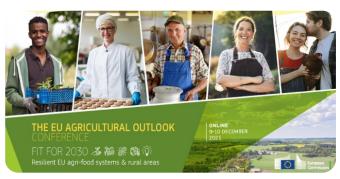
9 and 10 December 2021

The registrations for this year's digital edition of the landmark event of DG AGRI are now open – register **here!**

EU Commissioner **Janusz Wojciechowski** will open the conference with a highlight on the future CAP.

From a dairy perspective, **Agnieszka Maliszewska** (Polish Chamber of Milk) will tackle the resilience of the dairy sector, EDA vice president **Peter Giørtz-Carlsen** (Arla Fods) will discuss the organic sectors' role and EDA board member **Frédéric Chausson** (SODIAAL) will share his analysis of the agricultural outlook for dairy.

"We have shared in a letter our high appreciation for the format and set up of this conference with DG AGRI director general Wolfgang Burtscher, urging him to take into account the potential impact of the Farm to Fork and the Biodiversity strategies for the overall outlook. Both strategies have been published back in May 2020 and we've seen quite some worrying studies being presented by different entities. We made it very clear: any 2021 messages on the state of play of EU agriculture in 2031 without including the major policy developments will be of very low added value and carry the risk of sending wrong signals to the policy and decision makers," noted EDA President Giuseppe Ambrosi.





DG SANTE updates stakeholders on next steps on SFS, Food Waste and FIC revision

Last week, EDA participated in the on-line DG SANTE Plenary meeting of the Advisory Group on the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health.

The meeting was chaired by **Natalie Chaze** (DG SANTE Director for Directorate D 'Food sustainability, international relations') and **Alexandra Nikolakopoulou** (DG SANTE Head of Unit D1 Farm o Fork Strategy).

The Advisory Group was an occasion to exchange with the European Commission on current topics of major importance to the food sector, e.g. impact assessment for the future legislative framework on Sustainable Food Systems, impact assessment on food waste as well revision of the Food Information to Consumers Regulation, including upcoming new rules on front of pack nutrition labelling, nutrient profiles, origin labelling and date marking.

The European Commission will be consulting stakeholders on new labelling rules as of mid-December 2021 and more in-depth stakeholders interviews are supposed to take place in early 2022.

EDA will continue following the consultation process to ensure that the views of the EU dairy sector is well represented.

EU Commission proposes regulation to halt global deforestation

The European Commission published in November its legislative proposal to tackle global deforestation linked to EU imports. The Regulation sets mandatory due diligence rules for operators placing commodities linked to deforestation on the EU market, with the aim to promote deforestation-free supply chains.

In this context, EDA is actively working with other stakeholders for the promotion of sustainable protein sourcing for feed, for instance through deforestation-free value chains for sustainable soy sourcing.

EDA has also conducted together with IFCN, the dairy research network, a study to understand the role of locally produced protein sources, like roughage, in the protein input to dairy cows in Europe. The results show that this sustainable type of fodder provides 70% of the protein in the diet of dairy cows and is almost entirely grown on farm (95%), representing a key aspect for the environmental and economic sustainability of the European dairy sector. Read here our EDA statement!





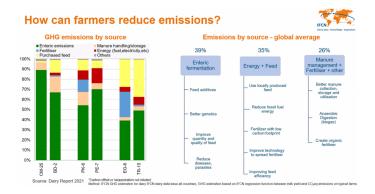
IFCN: global assessment of dairy emissions

One week after COP 26 in Glasgow and the target of 30% reduction of methane emission in agriculture by 2030, the 2nd IFCN Dairy Forum 2021 took place on 18th of November and was perfectly timed. Indeed, the main topic was the management of Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from dairy and solutions, especially for emerging dairy countries.

GHG emissions from dairy account for 2.2% of total emissions in the world. And emerging countries produce 75% of GHG in dairy sector (see the **EDA Dairy Flash #16**).

The question is how to reduce GHG in these countries. For that, **Alice Diepenbrock** (Lead Data & Quality) and **Milica Kocié** (Dairy Economist) from IFCN presented recommendations (see image below).

Not only farmers have to act to reduce GHG emissions, it's the whole dairy value chain which takes sustainable responsibility, from the farm to consumers passing by processing and financing.



New EU Soil Strategy and upcoming initiative on carbon farming

The new EU Soil Strategy for 2030 has been unveiled in November by the European Commission. It aims to set up a framework for protecting and restoring EU soils, which provide food, biomass and raw materials, amongst others.

As part of the initiative, the European Commission will table a dedicated legislative proposal on soil health by 2023 to reach the objectives of the strategy and achieve good soil health by 2050. Carbon farming is also considered one of the tools for increasing soil carbon content and enhance carbon sequestration. In this context, the Commission is expected to publish in December its communication on sustainable carbon cycles and to present in 2022 a legislative proposal on carbon removal certification.

Many existing projects at dairy farm level in Europe are aimed at enhancing carbon sequestration through developing reliable calculation methods and implementing carbon farming practices.

EDA has also worked with the European Commission on exchanging best practices and contributing to the analysis and mapping of carbon farming approaches across Europe. We believe that adequate incentive should be provided to farmers for facilitating the uptake of more climate friendly agricultural and forestry practices, while the production of ecosystem services, including safe nutritious food, is maintained. Check out our input to the European Commission.