

Dairy Flash

connect to the world of dairy



The latest news from the world of dairy

31 March 2015 – the end of the milk quota regime

“The end of the milk quota is one more step towards market orientation of the Common Agricultural Policy. A step that has been prepared for in a political process that started in 2003. The dairy sector, dairy farmers and their milk processing companies, are also prepared for this step”, says Alexander Anton, Secretary-General of EDA.

In our today's PRESS RELEASE, EDA highlights the profoundly favourable prospects for dairy on the medium and long term.

[EDA press release](#)

Dairy Report presented in the Committee on Agriculture

A week after MEP James Nicholson discussed the ideas of his report on the “prospects for the EU dairy sector – review of the implementation of the dairy package” at the EDA Dairy Policy Conference (see Dairy Flash 22), he presented his report to the European Parliament Committee on Agriculture on 24 March

While the report was broadly welcomed, some MEPs commented a.o. on the need for more support the less favoured areas, supply management in times of crisis, the need to tackle the food chain as a whole, the level of intervention prices.

Taking the floor, the Commission appreciated Mr Nicholson's report which they found very balanced. The two challenges for the dairy sector were pointed out: volatility and the need to rely more and more on the world market. The Commission also stressed that the right market signals must arrive to producers as it would be useless to produce more if we cannot export.

Since MEP M. McGuinness will tackle the supply chain issue, especially the relation with retailers in a specific report, MEP Nicholson did not include a paragraph on this issue in his report. The deadline for amendments for the so-called Nicholson report is set on 30 March; the vote in the European Parliament's Committee on Agriculture is scheduled for 5 May.

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Commissioner Hogan: “No major milk production increase “

At his press conference (“**A new CAP for more growth: the end of milk quotas**”) on 26 March, Commissioner Hogan said that he is not expecting a major increase in milk production in the future as the production already increased in 2014. Answering concerns about producers in remote areas, he restated that specific measures under the Rural Development schemes are available and that it is the decision of the Member state to use them. On the request of an organisation representing a minority of milk farmers to have a “follow-up regime” after the quota, Phil Hogan said that the Commission is not going to reintroduce supply management but would rather let to the sector the opportunity to grow, underlining that we are now on the road for market orientation and not looking backwards to other options.

period beginning on 1 April 2014 takes place in three yearly instalments without interest. The Commission implementing regulation 2015/517 has been published on 27th March.

Protection of dairy designations: Belgian court reinforces consumer protection

The Belgian judges of the Court of Appeal have reinforced the consumer protection against misleading information: in its definitive ruling the Court decided that soy based products cannot bear the designation ‘yoghurt’.

“Consumers are entitled to get correct information and not misleading information”, welcomed Renaat Debergh, managing director of the Belgian Dairy Association BCZ-CBL the court decision.

[Press release in EN](#)
[Press release in NL](#)
[Press release in FR](#)

Easing the payment of the superlevy for the last quota year

A dozen countries are expected to exceed their quota for the 2014/2015 season. Given the current milk market situation, the Commission has proposed that Member States may decide that the payment of the amount due related to the 12-month

2015 EDA Dairy Policy Conference & Annual Cheese Buffet

On 18 March 2015, we organised our conference “**EU Dairy Policy for the 21st Century**” in Brussels, followed by the ASSIFONTE / EDA Cheese Buffet. Pictures are now [online on our website](#).

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14 – 16 October 2015: EDA Annual Convention and EDA World Dairy Forum in Edinburgh / UK

“2015 – A New Start for EU Dairy”
the website for our 2015 Annual Convention and World Dairy Forum is now online, check out & register as of 01 April 2015 (early bird registrations until 30 June 2015: www.eda2015.eu)



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