



MW Berchtesgadener Land

WTO is still alive.

What about the DDA?



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The Doha Development Agenda was born in Qatar, at the 4th Ministerial Conference of the WTO, in November 2001. Successor of the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) WTO members agreed to launch new negotiations, with development at the heart of the agenda and on three main pillars as regards agriculture: internal support, market access and export competition.

14 years and six Ministerial Conferences later, one of the pillars is finally concluded, the one on export competition.

Indeed, at the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference that took place in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015, as far as Agriculture is concerned, the main outcome for the European Dairy sector is on Export Competition.

The export refunds are a subsidy covering the difference between prices on the world market for certain agricultural products, including milk and dairy products and – in our case - prices for those products on the Union market. It permitted the European products to be competitive on the world market.

Export refunds are now part of the history for the European Union. Developed countries have indeed agreed to eliminate their remaining scheduled export subsidy entitlement. The only exception is for those WTO members who have notified using the subsidies in one of the last three years. This is the case for Norway, Switzerland and Canada. This is not the case for the European Union who

have set the export refunds at zero in July 2011. Since then, under the new Single Common Organisation legislation, export refunds would only be reactivated as support measure in case of crisis.

Apart from export subsidies, WTO members also agreed to discipline other forms of export support. It is Export Credits that will be, at the end of the implementation period, subject to a maximum repayment term of 18 months as well as a commitment regarding State Trading Enterprises whereby Members shall ensure that agricultural exporting state trading enterprises do not operate in a manner that circumvents any other disciplines. Members also agreed to discipline the way Food Aid is operated.

The Nairobi package confirms the end of the single undertaking approach that was fundamental in our view, meaning that nothing would be agreed until everything is agreed on three main sectors: Agriculture (AMA), market access for on-agricultural products (NAMA) and services, and within AMA, internal support, market access and export competition. Let us hope that where it is easy to control that no export refunds are used, it might prove to be more difficult to judge the level of discipline for the other form of export support.

WTO members have up to the summer to reflect on the process forward. Reporting the General Council on 24 February, the chair of the Trade Negotiations Committee pleaded for WTO members to “deepen their dialogue with each other” on the steps forward.

The outcome of the Nairobi Ministerial Conference is welcome to counter those who questioned the survival of the WTO process or even institution.

Is the DDA still alive? This remains to be seen. The world has dramatically changed since Doha. Market access is one of the key objectives of the multitude of bilateral or regional free trade agreements already implemented or currently being negotiated around the world. Internal support is a very sensitive issue, both for some developed or developing countries.

Brügger uses Duosmart series Coveris

Brügger, a German family-owned business and one of the leading regional cereal companies, has chosen Coveris with its DuoSmart solution for the packaging of a new product offering. The DuoSmart series combines the functionality of polymers with the advantageous characteristics of paper.

In Poland, Brügger's porridges are sold in leading retail chains in thirteen different flavors, each with varicolored packaging. The instant muesli products for the German market are available in four individual designs and flavours.

Coveris' thermoformed DuoSmart PP cups are 95 mm in diameter and wrapped in a high-quality paper banderole. The banderole is decorated through offset printing on both sides. Additional printing space for legal information or EAN codes is provided through its paper bottom base. coverisrigid.com

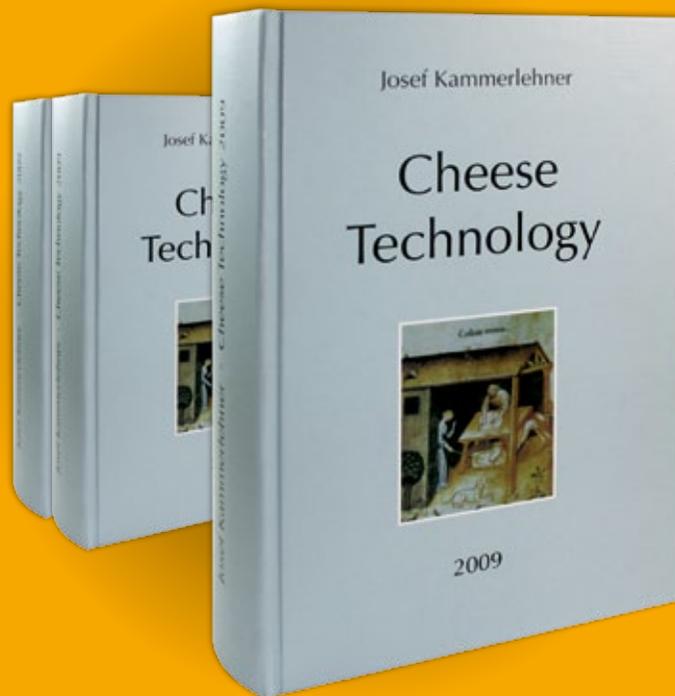


Hot Instant Porridges DuoSmart Cup for the Polish Market (photo: Coveris)

200 units installed worldwide Claranor

Claranor has just installed its 200th packaging material sterilisation unit worldwide. The company's technology is based on pulsed light, a clean-tech process that utilizes short duration pulses of intense, broad-spectrum light for the sterilization of packaging surfaces. All kinds of germs, even spores, are immediately killed. The technology called „Cleantech“ uses no water or chemicals, is cost and energy efficient.

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The book's 9 chapters are arranged into:

- **General overview**
- **Raw material and additives for the production for various types of cheese**
- **Varieties of the respective cheese types as well as their manufacturing processes (incl. quality, shelf life, etc.)**
- **Packaging of the various cheese types**
- **Influences on quality, quality assurance**
- **Description of defects and hints for solving quality issues.**

Apart from the diversity of traditional cheese making, new scientific insights and economic methods for production of cheese and cheese products are covered.

Josef Kammerlehner, Cheese Technology, ISBN: 978-3-00-021038-9, 930 pages, €168.00 (incl. postage). Order at: B&L MedienGesellschaft mbH & Co. KG, Hanna Stenzel, Max-Volmer-Str. 28, 40724 Hilden/Germany or at moproweb.de, "Shop".