

Arla Foods Board of Directors visits Brussels

We had the honour to host the Brussels meeting of the Arla Foods Board of Directors in our EDA premises. **Jan Toft Nørgaard**, the Chairman of the cooperative dairy group Arla Foods, **Peder Tuborgh**, Arla CEO and board members welcomed **Lukáš Víšek**, Member of cabinet of First Executive Vice-President **Frans Timmermans**, for a discussion on the Commission's priorities for the remaining mandate and the future of EU dairy.



Jan Toft Nørgaard, Chairman of the cooperative dairy group Arla Foods (left), Lukáš Víšek, Member of cabinet of Executive Vice-President Frans Timmermans and Peder Tuborgh, Arla CEO

"Arla Foods is owned by 8500 farmer owners from seven European countries and what the EU does and how it does is important for our cooperative. Being in Brussels was an opportunity to listen to the EU Commission and other decision makers' views on sustainable food production policy. We explained Arla Foods' commitment to achieve our sustainability targets and the actions we are taking across the value chain", explained Peder Tuborgh.

Dairy Matrix - Physicochemical Magic and Myths - Mini-symposium by FrieslandCampina

Extensive research indicates that dairy products are more than just a collection of nutrients. The product matrix plays a critical role in the digestion and delivery of nutrients and effects on human health. Understanding the physics and chemistry behind these products and processes is among the top research priorities for major European dairy companies such as FrieslandCampina, who is organising a mini-symposium FrieslandCampina on the Dairy Matrix: physicochemical magic and myths. Presentations will cover some of great works such as milk proteins by **Inge Gazi**, dairy nutritional and health by **Jan Geurts** and creation and digestion of dairy products by **Thom Huppertz**. The session will be introduced by **Margrethe Jonkman** and moderated by **Wil Van Loon**.

The event will be held on Tuesday June 13. It can be attended live at the FrieslandCampina Innovation Centre in Wageningen, The Netherlands but also online (registration required).

More information [here](#).

It's World Milk Day !

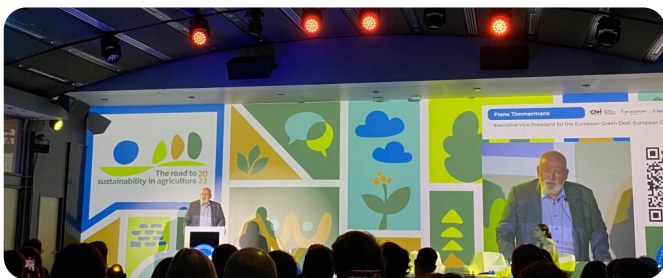
See the full tweet [here](#) !



The road to sustainability in agriculture 2023 CEJA Conference

Last week, the Road to sustainability in agriculture 2023 day, organised by the European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA), was the opportunity to celebrate progress, technological innovation and work of our European farmers to produce more sustainably through subjects such as nutrients in soils, new genomic techniques, animal welfare...

MEP **Roberta Metsola** (EPP, MT), the President of the European Parliament affirmed the duty of the EU and European agriculture to remain sovereign. European agriculture is a real asset and a strength. If it is to remain so, we must try to step over to political barriers because the future will be built together and not against each other. EU COM Executive Vice-President, **Frans Timmermans**, the man of the Green Deal, stressed the importance of creating sustainable agriculture: "We can't be locked in today". Addressing European farmers: "You are part of the solution and not part of the problem. Never forget that."



Frans Timmermans, EU COM Executive Vice-President, during his speech

EFSA's scientific colloquium on cell culture-derived foods and food ingredients

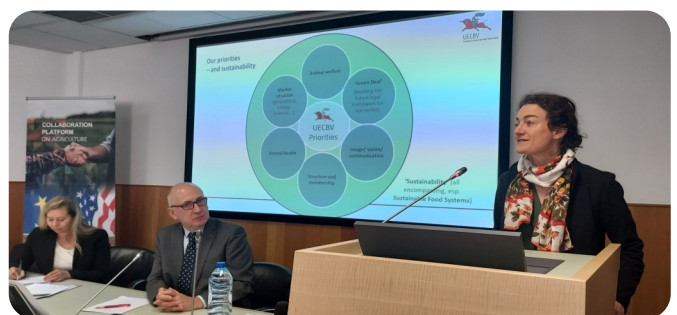
In light of the recent advances made in the field of new technological approaches and synthetic biology, EFSA organized a scientific colloquium on cell culture-derived foods and food ingredients. For its breakout sessions, **Julia Faure**, EDA Policy Officer, had the pleasure of participating as an expert in the

discussions on precision fermentation. These breakout sessions aim at gathering scientific knowledge to collect the latest scientific developments and the most up-to-date risk assessment to set the proper standards for the safety evaluation of these new types of food and food ingredients. Additionally, they allow for an active exchange on the foreseeable technological challenges and safety aspects of such novel foods to be able to tackle them, should they arise. Although cell culture-derived foods are still germinal in the EU, many novel food applications on cell culture-derived foods are expected to be filed within the coming months and years for their pre-market authorizations. With dairy proteins being now obtained from microorganisms via precision fermentation, EDA will continue to participate in this scientific exchange to help ensure the highest possible safety standards for our consumers across the EU.

USDA & DG AGRI - transatlantic dialogue on livestock sustainability

The head of DG AGRI International / Americas, **Luis Carazo Jimenez** and the lead of the agri-food department of the U.S. mission to the EU, **Elisa Fertig** invited us to a transatlantic dialogue on the sustainability efforts in the U.S. and EU cattle & beef supply chains.

Hélène Simonin, the deputy secretary general of the European Livestock and Meat Trades Union, UECBV, presented the European approach, highlighting inter alia the PEF projects (Product Environmental Footprint) where the European lactosphere is a leading example.



Elisa Fertig, U.S. Mission to the EU (left), Luis Carazo Jimenez, DG AGRI, and Hélène Simonin, Deputy Secretary General of The European Livestock and Meat Trades Union

EDA Trade Day 2023

On May 24, we had hosted our annual EDA Trade Day which focused on the current international trading landscape for milk and dairy. The day was organized as a dialogue between high-level speakers from the European Commission, from representatives from some of our main trading partners and around 30 of our EDA trade experts.

The day got a flying start after **Lise Andreasen Høyer**, the chair of our EDA Trade TF, welcomed our keynote speaker **John A. Clarke**, Director International at DG Agri setting the scene with a comprehensive overview on the (dairy) trade topics on the European agenda, both from a political and from an economic perspective. With his experience, his commitment and his energy, Director John A. Clarke really highlighted the excellence of the EU COM services. We continued with internal discussions on a range of current SPS issues before briefly touching on the announced Target Operating Model (TOM) for UK borders. Our discussion of the TOM, which sets out a plan to deliver the UK Government's Border Strategy 2025, will be the subject of a Q&A session we will be hosting in June in co-operation with the **UK Mission to the EU**.



John Clarke, Director International at DG Agri (left), Lise Andreasen Høyer and Béranger Guyonnet EDA TEC Co-chairs

The second part of the Trade Day offered members the opportunity to directly engage with our international trading partners, as we welcomed **Erin Tomkinson**, Counsellor for Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry at the Australian Mission to the EU – a well-timed dialogue with a AUS – EU FTA in the last steps of negotiations. Erin Tomkins underlined the important FTA points for Australia and the Australian dairy sector. **Arief Rachman**, Agriculture Attaché at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Brussels, outlined the progress of the ongoing EU – Indonesia FTA negotiations and also delivered an insight into the specificities of the Indonesian (halal) labelling scheme.



Lise Andreasen Høyer, EDA TEC Co-chair/Trade TF chair (left) and Erin Tomkinson, Counsellor for Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry at the Australian Mission to the EU



Laurens van Delft, EDA Director Trade & Economics (left), Arief Rachman, Agriculture Attaché at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Brussels and Alexander Anton, EDA Secretary General

EU dairy trade, full steam ahead!

The main highlight of our EDA Trade Day was shared optimism, underlined by the fact that European trade in agricultural products is booming since 2022 was again a great year. The EU was for the tenth year in a row the biggest exporter in agri-food products, dairy remains one of the flagship sectors when it comes to economic performance. EU dairy contributed a stunning 17 billion euro to the EU's positive trade surplus. The consensus during our Trade Day was then marked by a positive attitude towards international trade and the need to keep trade barriers to a minimum. Good trade arrangements in combination with the guaranteed high quality of EU dairy products and global demographic developments will ensure a bright future for our EU dairy sector.

The notion of sustainability has entered and taken root in the international trading realm: it is there to stay. The upcoming challenge will be the support of EU milk production, since we see that more sustainable production comes at a price, be it a financial cost or reduced productivity. There is a need to convince trading partners that sustainable production is in the global interest. There seems to be a risk that commitments by third countries within the sustainability chapters may be traded off against EU market access concession.

EDA's CAP post-2027 Workshop - reflections on EU Dairy's strong commitment to the CAP

The chair of our EDA CAP TF, **Koert Verkerk** (FrieslandCampina), facilitated our EDA CAP post-2027 workshop last week: a brainstorming session to discuss our first ideas for paving the way for the CAP post-2027.

For 'setting the scene', we had the honor and pleasure to welcome **Gijs Schilthuis**, Head of Unit of Policy Perspectives at DG AGRI, who gave a comprehensive presentation and discussed with our members on the CAP. "While we are right now evaluating the implementation of the CAP 2023, we have already scheduled our "next steps" for the CAP-2027 – we will launch our consultation process after the summer break. That is why today's EDA CAP post-2027 workshop is really well timed", stated Gijs Schilthuis.



Gijs Schilthuis, Head of Unit of Policy Perspectives at DG AGRI (left) and Koert Verkerk, CAP Task Force Chair (FrieslandCampina)

AMA Milch Forum 2023 in Vienna

The 2023 edition of the Austrian agro-food marketing agency AMA Milch Forum focussed on the climate and global warming impact of dairy and the way to deliver our messages to the consumers.

"The limited agricultural land and the competition for this land are the top question for the future. For producing 1kg of plant-based food, we produce a total of 5 kg of biomass. Its best use is feed for (dairy) cows and ruminants", pointed out **Prof Dr Wilhelm Windisch** (TU Munich) in his excellent talk.

Kerstin Wriedt, CEO of the German Milk Marketing Initiative, showcased the avenues to reach the next generation of consumers and **Oliver Bartelt**, head of global communications at DMK, underpinned the strategic importance of a future proof communication strategy, also internally: "Companies don't change, it's the people who do the change".



Oliver Bartelt, head of global communication at DMK (left) and Alexander Anton, EDA Secretary General at the AMA Milchforum 2023 in Vienna

"Emmentaler" cannot be protected as a trademark in the Union

"The action is dismissed". The Judgment of the Court of First Instance in case T-2/21 declared in its Tenth Chamber on Wednesday 24 May that "Emmental" cannot be protected as a trademark and hence dismissed the request from the consorzio Emmental Switzerland. The European judges made it clear: it is impossible to protect the name "Emmental" since it is part of the common language description of a cheese type.

What's next? It is not over for the consorzio Emmentaler Switzerland, which could possibly take the next step by making use of the Geneva Act and appealing for the extension of Swiss protection of the Emmental PDO. Case to be followed up in the coming months and years...

See the [EDA Dairy Flash #8](#)

Bel Group goes low methane in Slovakia

After a testing period with the DSM-Firmenich Bovaer, feed additive, Bel is now starting to roll out this solution to its producers in Slovakia. Bovaer is able to cut 25% of methane emissions on farm. Its implementation to most Bel's dairy producers in Slovakia is expected to achieve a 400-ton methane emissions reduction each year. This is part of the solutions to contribute to the achievement of the EU climate targets.

European dairies are frontrunners at global level when it comes to climate action with climate neutrality commitments for 2050 and – with significant reductions of emissions already achieved in the last decades.

See our latest [EDA factsheet on emissions and nutrient cycles in dairy](#).



Hungarian dairy markets study presented in Brussels

Századvég Consultancy presented its most recent study on the Hungarian dairy sector in Brussels last week. As key panellist, **Bence Tóth**, policy assistant to DG AGRI Director-General **Wolfgang Bartscher**, used the opportunity to give a concise overview on the Brussels policy processes and the agri-food related legislative agenda of the EU Commission.

"With our latest study, we are in a position to bring the strengths and concerns of the Hungarian dairy sector to the European level. The outstanding panel discussion and the large online and live audience with representatives of the Hungarian Permanent Representation and DG AGRI services, show that there is a high interest in a science-based approach on the current status of the Hungarian dairy sector and the Hungarian consumer approach to milk and dairy products", concluded the CEO of Századvég Consultancy, **Kinga Kenyeres**.

For receiving the study, email to bp@brusselsconsulting.hu



Pál Belényesi, Brussels Consulting (left), Alexander Anton, EDA Secretary General, Kinga Kenyeres, CEO of Századvég, Dávid Kollár, Senior Research Director Századvég, and Bence Tóth from DG AGRI