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Dear colleagues,

IDF MILKING MACHINE INFORMATION - 2ND MAILING 2001

The IDF Standing Committee Farm Management (SCFM) met in Brussels 25. January 2001. The final minutes from the meeting are expected at the end of this month. So far we will draw your attention to:

Quantitative requirements for milking installations for small ruminants

As enclosure to our mail of 08.01.2001, we sent you the proposal for Quantitative milking machine requirements for small ruminants. The goal of the document is to propose requirements which take into account the physiology of small ruminants, the need of producing high milk quality and special routines used for these animals in the different countries where they are kept. The objectives for the recommendations are to be published by IDF. In due course, they are intended for submission to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for incorporation in the ISO standards for milking machines.

The draft will be presented and discussed with manufacturer in a workshop during the agricultural show (SIMA) in Paris 23 February. If you are interested to participate in the meeting and not received any invitation, please contact Pierre Billon.

You are invited to comments the draft directly to the chairman of Action Team 6 in Farm Management Pierre Billon **not later than 15 March 2001**, e-mail: pierre.billon@inst-elevage.asso.fr. The draft is intended to be approved by the IDF SCFM in June 2001.

Revision of ISO standards of 1996

It is expected that ISO in November 2001 will call for a periodical review of the ISO standards of milking machines of 1996. The need for revision and supplements, and how to handle the work in a practical way, will be discussed in the next meeting of Farm Management, and Action Team 9 will prepare a list of issues that should be revised.

Therefore, please send your suggestions for revision of the existing ISO standards for milking machines **not later than 30 April 2001** by e-mail to :terje.alfnes@tine.no. We will prefer the following information:

1. Reference to number and name in the existing standards ISO 3918, 5707 and/or 6690.
2. What and why to change.

If possible:

3. Reference to existing knowledge, eventual what need for further examinations.

New IDF work and next Farm Management meeting

The National Committees has approved to start a new work "The need and possibilities for continuous monitoring of milking machines". The work will be carried out in Action Team 16 with Mr. Odd Rømingen, Norway as chairman (e-mail: odd.ronninge@tine.no). The 15 members of the action team will have their first meeting in Tänikon in Switzerland the day before the meeting in Farm Management 12 June 2001.

The day after the Farm Management meeting, there will be a workshop in Tänikon on "Performance requirements and testing of automatic milking systems". This will be the "official" starting point for working out a new ISO standard for milking robots.

IDF milking machine mailing list

This informal IDF mailing list was temporary started in 1999 to give information to interested people of the milking machine work in IDF. The plan is to consider the need and eventual the form for this mailing information when the new IDF electronic information system (internet and intranet) is running. Due to great problems the IDF secretariat just have cancelled the contract with the company developing the intranet, and therefore more or less has to start from the beginning again. Meanwhile we will go on with this simple information by e-mail.

As both my English language and my time are limited, you can't expect neither good writings nor good regularity as far as I will be the editor of this informal milking machine information. In 1999 we sent you three mailings, in 2000 two mailings (15.05.2000 and 21.12.2000, the last one faulty marked as number 1 2000). The first mailing this year was sent you 08.01.2001. As most of you recognized, I had great problems to come through with the mail in December last year. The main reason was the enclosures that were to heavy for many of you, but also because there seemed to be some (temporary?) problems with some of your servers or local machines.

With nearly 60 addresses on our mailing list, the happening before Christmas showed us that there are great weaknesses in this information system, at least with my knowledge to use it. And I have to apologize not to be able to offer you as good service as I should. When e-mails don't go through to you, I try sometimes to inform you by post. However, my capacity for such service is very limited.

Therefore, please **inform me when you change your e-mail address**, and don't hesitate to **contact me if the IDF milking machine information fail to appear** for a long time. And further, you are still free to **invite other people** to be put on our IDF mailing list. But remember, in addition to a correct e-mail address, we also need the **postal address, phone number and the fax number** as back up if/when the e-mail communication fails.

Greetings from
Terje Alfnes