



Address: Terje Alfnes
P.O. Box 58, N-1431 Ås, Norway
Phone +47-64 97 37 41 Mob. 918 61 149
Fax +47-64 94 37 20
E-mail terje.alfnes@tine.no

N-1431 Ås, 02.11.2001

Dear colleagues,

IDF MILKING MACHINE INFORMATION - 6TH MAILING 2001

Hello again. After a break I hereby can inform you about some IDF- and IDF-related activities:

Minutes from SCFM meeting in Tänikon 12.06.2001

The minutes from the IDF Standing Committee on Farm Management (SCFM) meeting and a draft agenda for the next meeting are enclosed. I will especially draw your attention to the minutes' items:

- 5.3. The document «Quantitative recommendations for Milking Machines Installations for Small Ruminants» was agreed on. Until the IDF publishing is available, I think the Action Team leader Pierre Billon, France, on request will support you with the latest edition, e-mail: pierre.billon@inst-elevage.asso.fr.
- 5.4. With reference to ISO 5707 clause 16, it was agreed on a recommendations to be considered for the next revision of the ISO standard, in the meantime published by IDF under the title: "Guidelines for test of flow capacity of the milking unit". Also for this subject I think the Action Team leader, Pierre Billon, France, on request will support you with the latest edition.
- 5.6. I can inform you that the IDF initiated type test of vacuum gauges starts in these days at the Finish institute MTT/Vakola, and the results are expected before the next meeting in SCFM in March 2002.

A new Action Team on the subject "Calibration of measuring instruments" was agreed on with the members L. Innings (SE - leader), P Billon (FR) and T Alfnes (NO). The activity in this Action Team will support the work in the measuring instrument Action Team.

Odd Rønningen presented field results from levelling milkline with a new method in Norway from 2000 (see enclosed document). The results show a great need for more focus on the milkline slope, and also a need for clarification how to understand the ISO requirements. Shall e.g. the slope requirements be fulfilled at every metre or only as the average of every 5 metres?

- 5.12. There is a great interest and the work "Continuous monitoring of machine milking" is on schedule. Action Team leader is O. Rønningen, NO.
- 5.13. L. Jepsen, DK presented a proposal of "Good Manufacturing Practises for Milk Harvesting". It was recognized that the work done so far was very important, and that it should be published by IDF after reviewing in a new Task Force on Good Farming Practices.
8. D. Nosal, CH presented on the 11th of June measurements on vibration of stationary equipment in milking parlours. The results showed that the frequency and magnitude of vibration was higher than acceptable values for humans. Levels of uncomfotability to cows is not known. The measurements and

development of measuring equipment will continue, and depending on the results, this may be subject for a new clause when revising the ISO standards.

11. SCFM supported a proposal for a conference «100 years with liners and pulsators» at the IDF World Dairy Summit 2003 (8-12 September in Belgium). O. Rønningen, NO was appointed as chair of a Programme Committee.

ISO standards for milking machines (item 6)

Referring to our latest mailing of 25.05.2001, there were disappointingly few ISO votings in favour of starting new work on ISO standards for milking machines. For AMS 6 countries voted for starting the work (at least 5 is necessary), so it seems clear that this ISO work will start.

For revision of ISO 3918 only 5, and for 5707 and 6690 only 4 countries + IDF experts voted yes. One of the reasons for this results is that ISO only counts votes from the P-members, and e.g. active nations in previous ISO work on milking machines as Denmark and Norway is only O-members in ISO. Further the ISO secretary found the IDF "Survey of revising ISO standards 3918, 5707 and 6690" summarized 07.05.2001 (see IDF 5th mailing of 25.05.2001) so confusing that they announced not to distribute the document to the responsible ISO/TC 23 members(!). However, the ISO secretariat still advised the TC 123 members to vote for starting the revision. Voting deadline was 31st of October, so hopefully we know the results within short time.

Automatic milking system (AMS)

At the SCFM meeting (item 5.8) O. Lind, SE reported on the outcome of an EU meeting on the revision of the EU Hygiene Directive that took place on 29 May 2001. The majority of EU member states have rejected the present draft. A conclusion from that meeting was that the usage of automatic milking systems should not be allowed owing to the fact that visual inspection of milk was a mandatory requirement. It was however very clear that the use and further development of AMS will continue in many countries.

In connection with the SCFM meeting there was a work shop dealing with subject to be covered in the proposed new ISO standard on AMS. A summary from the work shop is expected.

On the 18th of June 2001 Nordic Dairy Associations' Committee for Milk Quality Issues (NMSM) held a seminar on future research on AMS. The seminar concentrated on issues not expected to be solved in the ongoing EU research project (2000-2004 - 11 projects in 6 countries). The seminar agreed on a long list of issues to be taken into consideration when future AMS research plans are made. The seminar summary is enclosed as a separate document.

New ICAR requirements for milk meters

Be aware that the SubCommittee Meters and Jars in International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR) has made a draft for a revised edition of "International agreement of recording practices, Section 11 - ICAR rules, standards and recommendations for testing, approval and checking milk recording devices". The SubCommittee intention is to finish the draft in February 2002 to get it approved in May next year. The draft can be found at the ICAR homepage on internet: <http://www.icar.org/>.

Personally I would like some parts of the proposal to be more distinct to serve as a convenient working tool for the member countries. I am sure you are welcome to send comments to the SubCommittee chairman Andrea Rosati, e-mail: Rosati.a@aia.it

Best wishes,

Terje Alfnes