



5 July 2002

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FARM MANAGEMENT

Meeting at Toronto (CA)

**18 March 2002, 15.00 – 18.00, and
19 March 2002, 09.00-13.00**

Minutes

By D Reinemann (US)

PRESENT:

Members: MD Rasmussen (DK) – Chair, D Reinemann (US) – Deputy Chair, T Alfnes (NO), M Beauséjour (CA), P Billon (FR), CJAM de Koning (NL), G Mein (AU), E Manninen (FI), F Sangiogi (IT),

By invitation: J Baines (GB), M Bjerring (DK), L Innings (SE), AH Ipema (NL), P. Justesen (DK), R Lancaster (CA), O Rønningen (NO), Y van de Vorst (NL)

Apologies: R Engelmann (CH), L Jepsen (DK), O Lind (SE), C Poupoulis (GR), A Schaap (NL), R Schmidt (DE), J Seifert (IDF Secretariat), G Verkerk (NZ)

1. Welcome, apologies, adoption of agenda

MD Rasmussen opened the business part of the meeting. A few apologies were received. The agenda was adopted. The chair announced that the current chair and vice chair were willing to serve for a second and final term of office of 2 years as stipulated by the IDF Rules of Order. He called for other nominations. No nominations were made.

2. Confirmation of minutes from the SC FM meeting in Tänikon on 12 June 2001

The revised draft minutes were adopted without modification.

3. Membership update

The chair indicated that attendance of the meeting was quite small given the number of committee members and only one apology was received. He solicited ideas to increase attendance at the committee meetings and activity on action units.

4. Administrative matters and messages from the IDF Headquarters:

The chair announced that the bulletin on quantitative requirement for milking small ruminants and clause 16 has been published.

Members have had some difficulties accessing the IDF Intranet. The bulletin on instruments for mechanical tests was to be posted on the IDF web page. The difficulties have not yet been worked out. T Alfnes (NO) requested clarification with regard to the Internet publication of the list of instruments for mechanical tests. An answer was needed from IDF in order to determine whether the new up-date should be printed or not.

Ⓟ Action: J Seifert, will see to getting the instruments bulletin posted on the IDF Web site and get a response from IDF on printing the updated version.

Response J Seifert:

Similar requests have also been received from other IDF Standing Committees. The IDF Secretariat has recently started working on a project for revamping the present IDF web-site to accommodate this kind of material to be available from the IDF homepage. Since it will still take some time to get this accomplished the following is proposed as an intermediary solution:

The revised list of instruments for mechanical tests can be up-loaded onto the IDF Intranet / SCFM folder under "Programme of Work" as soon as received from T Alfnes. SCFM members could be notified when this happens and they can then print a copy directly from the IDF Intranet whenever they like.

In addition, members should not hesitate to draw the Secretariat's attention to any Intranet problems. Brigid Rowan, Email: browan@fil-idf.org will assist with technical difficulties. Other issues will be recorded for consideration when the performance of the system is reviewed in August/September.

5. International organizations and IDF internal liaison reports

5.1 ISO/TC 23: P Billon (FR) revision of existing standards

P Billon reported that the inquiries to ISO indicated that there is no possibility to consider that IDF is a member of ISO. ISO issued memo N502 indicating that the revision of the ISO milking machine standard (5707) should wait until the work of the automatic milking standard is completed (June 2006). IDF was asked to review the existing standard and prepare a draft of revised standard and present this in 2004. The AMI standard may influence the revision of standards for milking machines.

5.2 ISO/TC 23: O. Lind (SE)

The reporter for this activity will be changed to L Innings as he chairs the ISO work to develop standards for Automatic Milking Installations (AMI). Innings reported that the ISO meeting went well. The agenda of the meeting was mainly to assign authors to draft proposals for sections of the standard. The ISO committee worked entirely from the minutes of the IDF workshop in Tanikon to develop the scope and sections of the standard. The initial drafts are expected by the end of May.

5.3 ICAR: P. Billon (FR)

Two devices have received conditional approval from ICAR. The Lely shuttle is waiting for information from the Dutch organization before being given final approval as a sampling device. The AFIFLOW 9000 has conditional approval as a milk meter. Westfalia has withdrawn tests on the modified metatron milk meter. The UW lab is waiting for milk meters to be supplied by TruTest to begin testing. The Dutch lab is testing the Delaval freeflow meter. An automatic sampling device is under test in Germany. A Prolion AMS milk sampler is also under test. The ICAR guideline is under revision and will be presented in May. The next meeting of ICAR is in Interlaken, Switzerland in May of 2002. Alfnes reported that it is difficult to follow what this group is doing and requested that better information exchange and asked how others may have input to the work of revision of the ICAR procedures. Billon responded that the milk meter section is only a small part of ICAR.

5.4 CIGR : D. Reinemann (US)

There will be a joint meeting of CIGR and ASAE in July 2002 in Chicago IL. There will be a small session on milking machines and many presentations dealing with farm management.

5.5 IDF Standing Committee on Animal health : K. L. Smith (US)

Eric Hillerton reported from the SC on Animal Health. This SCAH met in Feb 2002 and reviewed the way the standing committee works and their interactions with IDF. The SCAH has about 40 members and many of these have never been seen at a committee meeting and have been inactive. IDF is reviewing committee membership with the national committees. The SC has three active work areas

1. Antibiotic use, dry cow treatment : article to be finalized in September 2002.
2. Economics of mastitis in dairy herds: article to be finalized in September 2002.
3. Requirement to monitor BSE and marketing of milk. Hillerton is heading this action team. This team will provide information to national committees on any change of status in these issues.
4. Johne's disease: article to be finalized in September 2002

The SCAH has made recommendations to the IDF PCC regarding the working of standing committees. These will be discussed with Richard Doyle. IDF has encouraged activities in developing countries. SCAH has suggested that developing countries need to be more involved in IDF to define their issues. They recommended that IDF develop a group of experts for access by developing nations. The next proposed IDF mastitis symposium is scheduled for 2005 in the Netherlands. The exact dates are still to be determined. The SC is coordinating their meeting with other events, Sept 2002 Paris, NMC 2003, World Dairy Summit in Durban South Africa 2004, possibility of Israel 2004.

5.6 IDF Standing Committee on Environment : F. Sangiorgi (IT)

A meeting was held in New Zealand but it was not possible to gather enough members to conduct business. The next meeting will occur in November 2002 in Brussels.

Note by J Seifert (IDF): Both SCs, SC Farm management and SC Environment are supposed to collaborate closely on the adopted new work on "Wastes from dairy farms: handling, treatment and disposal". The Action Team leader of the SCE is Prof. Cyrus Poupoulis from Greece.

5.7 IDF Standing Committee on Microbiological hygiene : L. Jepsen (DK)

No report

5.8 IDF Task Force on Good dairy farming practices: no report

Note by J Seifert (IDF): The most recent meeting of the TFGFP was held on 18 March 2002.

It was discussed that the TF should include Dairy in its name: TF on Good Dairy Farming Practices. The TF determined that there were 5 Primary Principles: animal hygiene, milk hygiene, animal feeding, animal welfare and the environment to be taken into account in the development of a guide. It also developed a statement describing the type of content required under each principle. The next TF meeting is scheduled to be held on Sunday, 22 September 2002, before Congrilaït.

6. Programme of Work

The chair clarified the working of the action teams. Action teams may do their work in what ever manner they choose. Proposals for new work items including recommendation for establishment of action teams should be submitted to IDF in the format of a new work item proposal for which a form sheet can be obtained from the IDF Secretariat. IDF National Committees will then vote on whether to proceed with this new work and they may propose members to the respective Action Team. This is a good way to get new active members on the standing committee. The Action Team then meets to confirm a target date and milestone dates which are to be incorporated into the IDF scope of work. The PCC must approve changes to the scope of work. The chair asked for reports from the action teams and especially if changes in schedules were required. Action teams should allow one month before

submission of 'C' level documents to IDF for review of documents by standing committees. Allow three months for 'A' level documents that must be reviewed by national committees. All documents/articles for publication by IDF should be submitted to Joerg Seifert. He will take care of the procedure and ensure circulation to the appropriate reviewers.

The Chair recommended that Action Teams present their work at a meeting of the standing committee before circulation so that the committee can provide comments that can be incorporated before the final draft is circulated. The members of the SC shall then have at least one month to comment on the final draft before a decision on the final content and publication shall be made at a meeting of the SCFM. There were concerns that waiting for a meeting may delay progress.

The chair and deputy chair propose that the following procedure is being used: After an AT has finished its work, the proposal for a publication is sent to the SCFM, which then have one month to respond with the following options:

1. Publication as it is
2. Publication with minor revision
3. Publication with major revision
4. Do not publish

In case of option 1 or 2 publication will proceed as scheduled (could be final in case of approval category C). For option 3 and 4 the problems will be explained at the next meeting and decisions made of publication procedure.

A. Reports of Action Teams

6.1 Action Team on Vacuum measurement during milking: *MD Rasmussen (DK)*

A draft will be ready for circulation to the SCFM by 30 April 2002. The action team requests comments by 15 May 2002 and will present a final draft to IDF by 30 June 2002.

⌘ Action: J Seifert, inform the PCC, Deadline: 30 June 2002

6.2 Action Team on Performance during milking: *MD Rasmussen (DK)*

The action team met and decided to narrow the scope of the work and will focus efforts on a document on speed and completeness of milking with a draft for circulation for Feb 2003 and a final draft in December 2003. An intermediate step will be an overview of a wider range of performance tests with a collection of references. Part of this work, evaluation of teat condition, has been done by the teat club international. Papers presented at the AABP will be circulated to the action unit on continuous monitoring.

6.3 Action Team on Cleaning of Milking Machines: *D Reinemann (US)*

A draft is ready for circulation to the SCFM and will be submitted to IDF for circulation with the same target dates as item 6.1.

6.4 Action Team on Instruments for mechanical tests: *T Alfnes (NO)*

With reference to the latest edition of the IDF programme of Work (1 August 2001), T. Alfnes stressed that he would not gather data on milking slope and vacuum fluctuations related to differences in bulk milk cell counts and cleaning problems. He also reported that work is continuing in Switzerland on reducing vibrations in milking parlours. Several members of the committee expressed concerns about considering vibrations in milking parlours as part of a standard as there has been insufficient evidence to suggest that they have any influence on milking performance. It was suggested that the SCFM could provide some guidance on the type of research that would be required to consider the issues of vibrations in milking parlours. The committee has developed methods for testing of vacuum gages. Tests of 3 gages have been performed in Finland. The committee is reviewing the instrument list with a target date of November 2002 for a next revision. Efforts are continuing to get the bulletin posted on the IDF

web page. The committee recommended that news continue to be distributed to the mailing list.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding the need for standards for variable speed vacuum pumps and noise levels. It was recommended that these items might be taken up by an action team to develop guidelines for noise reduction rather than as standards. The opening of this work will await closure of some of the current AT's, but may initially be handled by the coming group for ISO-revision (see item 6.13).

Note by IDF Secretariat: Obviously, an action is missing from the minutes. The SCFM is requested to clarify at its next meeting how to handle this proposal.

6.5 Action Team on Calibration of measuring instruments **L Innings (SE)**

L. Innings reported that there has been limited progress and the action team met to redefine the objectives of the action team. There are 2 parts to the question the first deals with regular calibration to ensure that instruments used in the field have not changed. Innings asked if committee members could provide existing protocols for instrument calibration. The group will collect all available documents and prepare guidelines. The second task is calibration as a type test (to verify that instruments and specifications are testing the correct parameters, i.e. those parameters that have a direct influence on milking performance). As an example for pulsation testers, is 4 kPa the correct deviation for measuring pulsation characteristics, that 5 pulsation cycles is the correct number to use for pulsation testing, etc. The target date is to coincide with the next revision of the ISO standards (Nov 2004). The product will be a bulletin rather than a section of the ISO standard.

6.6 Action Team on Evolution in Automatic Milking, milk quality, animal health, farm management: **O Lind (SE)**

K de Koning (NL) reported that the ISO committee TC 23 has met in Frankfurt in February. The work done in Tanikon at the IDF workshop has formed the framework for the ISO standard and was extremely valuable in expediting the ISO meeting. A brief summary of progress in several countries was given: Netherlands now has 425 farms using AMS, Demark has 160 farms that are all in the self monitoring program, Italy has 15 farms and the US has 7 farms. There are generally slightly higher bacteria counts and no difference in somatic cell counts. There is some concern about antibiotic violations in Denmark. A risk analysis done in Netherlands indicated that the risk for antibiotic residues should be lower for automatic milking systems than for conventional milking systems. The deadline for final reports on the EU project has been moved to March 2003.

Note by J Seifert(IDF): In consultation with the IDF National Committee of the UK and the Action Team leader it has been proposed to add Mr. John Baines (GB) as a new member to the Action Team. Mr. Baines has been added tentatively to the Action Team pending final confirmation of the SCFM with endorsement of these minutes.

6.7 Action Team on Cluster Removers: Test for determination of switch point and delay time: **K de Koning (NL)**

K de Koning (NL) reported that the action team has identified some possibilities for test procedures and is proceeding to investigate these.

6.8 Action Team on Continuous Monitoring of Machine Milking: **O. Rønningen (NO)**

Rønningen reported that the action team could not decide if the work is proceeding or standing still. Information on the use of data from milking meters to monitor equipment and operator performance and various sensor based monitoring systems was reviewed. Work will proceed via email exchange and perhaps a meeting.

6.9 Payment systems for ex-farm milk *M Beauséjour (CA)*

M Beauséjour (CA) presented his report. The survey was circulated in May 2001. Data was received from 19 countries by November. This data was sent back to the national committees for validation and this process has been completed and publication is underway. The draft will be circulated to the SCFM for comments. The previous survey was completed by 26 countries of the about 40 IDF members. Fewer countries completed the survey than indicated interest when the work item was voted on. The intention is to expedite data collection electronically and methods to increase participation by more countries by identifying responsible persons in each country. Consideration is being given to the appropriate interval for updating this survey. The desire is to move to a web based reporting system with updates as desired by member countries and oversight to ensure a minimal update interval for all countries. In addition it is critical to have a personal contact between the organizer of this work and the local authorities reporting.

6.10 Dairy farming production costs: *[AT leader to be determined]*

This work item was voted on and is under direction of the SCFM. Mr. E Leloup (BE) should be asked to chair the action team. The national committees have nominated members. The action team is requested to present a scope of work and schedule at the next meeting.

⊃ Action: J Seifert (IDF) to confirm with E Leloup (BE), a report from the Action Team should be available one month prior to the next meeting of SCFM

B. New work items under consideration

6.11 Good Management Practices for Milk Harvesting: *L. Jepsen (DK)*

This work has been taken over by and IDF Task force so will not continue as an action item under the SCFM. The document on Good Manufacturing Practices for automatic milking was discussed at in the TF. They indicated that it was too specific for their purposes. The GMP was discussed at the ISO– TC23 committee meeting where it was considered an important document especially during the time in which the standards are being developed but also as an appendix to the final standard. Rasmussen discussed the possibility of publication of the GMP as an IDF document. Hopkin agreed that it would be useful. L. Jepsen should submit the GMP draft to IDF for circulation and comments and be published as an IDF Bulletin.

⊃ Action: L Jepsen to submit the final article to J Seifert, approval from IDF National Committees is needed prior to publication

6.12 Proposed new title: Milking characteristics of ruminants

The objective of this new work is to produce a bulletin giving data on the milking characteristics of species that are milked. The primary data will be an indication of the average and peak milk flow rates, teat dimensions and stimulation methods and requirements.

The action team members have been identified to investigate: Cross bred cows in Brazil, 11 breeds of cattle and 7 breeds of buffalo in common use in India, Milking camels in Israel, and Milking Reindeer in Finland. The document will also include a review of commonly milked species such as Holsteins (Steve Stewart, US) and Sheep and Goats (Billon, FR).

The team leader requested suggestions for other action team members and species of interest. The target dates are to produce a first draft by September 2003 final publication by November 2004. The chair of the SCFM recommended that this bulletin be categorized as an 'A' category document so that it is circulated to the entire IDF membership for information and review. We need to clarify with IDF if the national committees have voted approval of this work item and if any nominations from the national committees have been forwarded.

⊃ Action: D Reinemann, consider title of the activity (appropriateness of "exotic") and fill in and submit to the IDF Secretariat required form sheet for adoption of new work

Note by J Seifert (IDF): The information has been received and the formal procedure for adoption of a new work item has been initiated. It involves consultation with the IDF Programme Coordination Committee and voting by IDF National Committees.

6.13 Monitoring ISO work on revision of standards for machine milking: ***L Innings (SE)***
L Innings reported that ISO TC 23 is engaged in development of standards for automatic milking Installations. When this task is completed, this group will begin revision of the standards for milking machine installations. In order to expedite this process the IDF has been asked to review the Existing standards and present a revision in 2004. The proposed members of this action team are Innings (Chair) Alfnes, Mein, and Justesen. A letter will be circulated in April/May 2002 for suggested changes to the standards. A draft should be prepared in the summer 2004 for circulation in IDF. The product will be a report to ISO TC23. We need to check on whether a vote of IDF members is required to establish this action team.

P Note and action: This activity would become new work in a formal sense. L Innings is requested to fill in and submit to the IDF Secretariat required information included in form sheet for adoption of new work, submit to J Seifert (IDF)

C. Additional proposals for new work and new Action Teams

A discussion erupted regarding standards for noise levels on the previous day. The chair asked the committee their opinion on starting an action team on this issue. Sangiorgi recommended including working environment and ergonomics of milking for consideration. Justesen indicated that work has begun by the Nordic group to investigate work environment for the milking process.

P Action: P Justesen was asked to give a report on this activity at the next meeting.

Beauséjour suggested that the chair and vice chair meet with the new IDF farm representative to discuss the scope of work of the SCFM to ways to encourage action items of interest to dairy farmers and to broaden the scope of activities. A farmer from Canada was asked what sort of items were of concern on his farm. The response was whether to put in a milking parlour or robotic milking machine when rebuilding his farm, and to expand the discussion of ergonomics to include the cow side as well as the operator side. ***Beauséjour*** suggested a survey of farm groups in the member counties to prioritize items of interest. Mein suggested that the primary responsibility for addressing the needs of the local dairy industry is primarily that of the member nations. These nations can take the information generated from groups such as this. The danger with groups such as SCFM is in losing focus and effectiveness. The chair encouraged the other members of the SCFM to propose work items of interest to them. ***Beauséjour*** encouraged that the members of SCFM take an active role in soliciting ideas and team members for action teams relating to the broad interests of farm management from their countries.

P Action: IDF Secretariat – PCC member Richard Doyle (CA) should be invited to the next meeting of the SCFM to discuss this issue further

7. Up-date on forthcoming IDF publications

Publications in process are payments for farm milk, vacuum measurements, and cleaning and sanitation. It would be desirable to put all of these documents in one bulletin if possible.

8. Research work, surveys and testing results

K. de Koning announced the 25-26 March 2004 as the dates of the next conference on automatic milking machines in the Netherlands. The Netherlands has developed a national testing procedure for automatic milking machines. This will be circulated to the SCFM.

9. Preparations of programme for conference on « 100 years with liners and pulsators » at IDF World Dairy Summit in Brussels September 2003 – report by Chair of the Programme Committee, O Rønningen (NO)

The committee met and discussed the organization of the program. The program will have a short look at the history of liners and pulsation, a survey of present status and a look at future developments. The 4 major topic areas are Stimulation, Speed and Completeness of Milking, Liner properties, and Teat condition. Persons have been identified to coordinate situation papers and presentations for each of these topic areas. Details of venue, budget and registration are with the Belgian Organizing Committee and the IDF Secretariat.

Note by J Seifert (IDF): The proposed date for this conference is Friday, 12 September 2003.

10. Other business – Planning for IDF Symposium on Good farming practices and milk hygiene and safety to be held in South Africa in first half of 2004

The IDF Symposium on Good farming practices and milk hygiene and safety to be held in South Africa has been moved to 2004 (likely April or May). There were discussions about SCFM contributing to the program for the meeting. The chair invited committee comments on this. It was stressed that time conflict with the robotic milking conference to be held in the Netherlands on 25-26 March 2004, should be avoided. For more details on that conference see web-site:

<http://www.automaticmilking.nl/index.asp?news/news.asp>

Note by J Seifert (IDF): The issue of possible contribution from SCFM to the programme should be considered at the next meeting of SCFM when more information on the envisaged programme structure should be available.

11. Election of Chair and Deputy Chair

The first term of office for the present Chair and Deputy Chair had ended. Re-election for another two-year term of office was possible. Both experts have expressed their willingness to stand for re-election. The committee voted unanimously to re-elect the current officers.

12. Review of decisions

It was agreed to request input to the draft minutes that are to be circulated within a few days after the meeting.

13. Planning for next meeting(s)

The next meeting should take place at the new IDF headquarters in Brussels on 20 November 2002, 08:30– 17:00 and followed by the ISO TC 23 meeting on 21 and 22 November. Action Team meetings should take place the day before the SCFM meeting (19 November, between 08:30 and 17:00).

The next following meeting is envisaged during the time of the next IDF World Dairy Summit in Brugge Belgium in September 2003.

Ⓔ Action: J Seifert (IDF) to co-ordinate planning and confirm to SCFM ASAP

Important Note: The draft agenda for the next meeting of the SCFM shall be circulated by the IDF Secretariat in September 2002.