



International Dairy Federation

## Standing Committee on Farm management

Meeting at Applied Research, Animal Sciences Group,

Wageningen UR, Runderweg 6, NL – 8219 PK Lelystad  
Wednesday, 24 March 2004, 10:00 – 15:00

1 June 2004

## Minutes

### BY MD RASMUSSEN (DK) AND DJ REINEMANN (US)

#### PRESENT:

**Members:** DJ Reinemann (US) – Chair, MD Rasmussen (DK) – Deputy Chair,  
T Alfnes (NO), P Billon (FR), L Degano (IT), H Francke (DE), D Homer (GB), V Hostens (BE), O Lind  
(SE), E Manninen (FI), D Ordolff (DE), O Rønningen (NO), LE Ruud (NO), S Saey (BE), F Sangiorgi (IT)  
**By invitation:** R Bouchard (CA), S Ijkema (NL), L Innings (SE), K Nyman (FI)  
**Also attended:** E Hopkin (IDF)

**Apologies:** J Baines (GB), M Beauséjour (CA), CJAM de Koning (NL), L Jepsen (DK), E Leloup (BE), M  
Madders (GB), G Mein (AU), M K Niyogi (IN), D Nosal (CH), J Page (US), A Schaap (NL), B Sonck (BE),  
M Woolford (NZ), G Verkerk (NZ)

#### 1. Welcome, apologies, adoption of agenda

D. Reinemann opened the meeting. Apologies were noted.

The agenda was adopted.

#### 2. Confirmation of minutes from the SCFM meeting in Brussels (BE), 13 September 2003

P Billon noted that his name was misspelled on the second page of the minutes. The minutes were then confirmed as drafted.

#### 3. Follow-up from PCC Plan of Work Prioritization, re-organization and re-structuring of the SCFM, consideration and adoption of new objectives

D Reinemann (US) opened the meeting by clarifying his view of the role of the SCFM chair is as liaison to the PCC. Given the extremely broad nature of the category “farm management”, the proposed structure of the SCFM is that chairs of subject matter action teams will initiate work items in their areas of professional interest and coordinate their completion. These action team chairs will report on the activities in their subject areas to the chair of the SCFM who will act as the liaison with the PCC. Chairs of subject matter action teams have been appointed as follows:

- **Dairy farming practices** T Morgan (UK)
- **Milking equipment and methods** D Reinemann (US)
- **Payment systems** M Beauséjour (CA)
- **Labour conditions on dairy farms** P Justesen (DK),
- **Sustainability** Open

A contact is needed to coordinate IDF activities with an industry group that has started a project on the sustainability of dairy production. D Homer (UK) will contact T Morgan (UK) concerning the leadership of the dairy farming practices AT for advice on who could lead the sustainability group. Another option is to combine the sustainability work items into the “Dairy farming practices” action team.

### Method of working

T Alfnes was concerned that members may not be motivated to attend meetings of the full SCFM but rather be interested in attending meetings of their action teams. E Hopkin explained that the action teams should continue with their detailed work and appoint chairs of subgroups whenever needed. A goal is to have a meeting of the full SCFM every 2 years with action teams meetings as they feel appropriate. Action teams should report to the chair of SCFM of progress and meeting dates should be made known to the full SCFM. National committees should ensure that the members that they appoint to the SCFM and its action teams are active and that the appropriate feedback is communicated from the SCFM back to the IDF National Committees. IDF Secretariat should encourage AT leaders and members to do so via the IDF Newsbrief.

E Hopkin clarified that AT Payment systems is the responsibility of SCFM and that Dairy farming production costs has been moved to SC Dairy policies and economics in coordination with International Farm Comparison Network. T Alfnes (NO) said that his colleague F Walland had suggested a new work on farm economics to M Beauséjour. This idea should be pursued by this action team.

The specific responsibilities of the SCFM and its action teams were discussed further. The initiation of work items is the responsibility of the national committees and by the action team members, representing the needs and interests of dairy producers and processors in their countries. The members present supported this structure for the SCFM. Each member was asked to encourage their national committees to appoint active members. The AT chairs should be present at the SCFM meetings or at least supply a written report on activities in their subject areas. These verbal or written reports will be forwarded from the SCFM chair to the PCC. The SCFM should plan its meetings 1-2 years in advance so that the action teams can plan accordingly. D Reinemann expressed his willingness to assume the role of SCFM chair under these conditions.

The SCFM took note that in other parts of IDF small groups handling individual items of work within an Action Team were known as 'project groups'.

#### *P Actions*

- *AT Payment systems: E Hopkin (IDF) will contact M Beausejour (CA) about progress on payment systems (See 5.9, below) and on the farm economics proposal.*
- *AT Labour conditions: D Ordolff (DE) and B Sonck (BE) provide literature to Justesen*
- *AT Sustainability: D Homer will ask T Morgan for advice in appointing a chair of the AT*
- *E Hopkin (IDF): Encourage all member countries to nominate new AT members by message in IDF Newsbrief*
- *D Reinemann (US): Co-ordinate meetings of SCFM and AT for the next 1-2 years.*

## **4. International organizations and IDF internal liaison reports**

### 4.1 ISO/TC 23 – standards for milking machines, general

France removed P Billon as a delegate to ISO (due to finances) but he will continue as an IDF representative. Revision of the current standards is running parallel to development of standards for AMS. The SCFM will request ISO to confirmation of the working schedule since it was unclear if revision of current standards had been formally initiated. L Innings reported on progress in the revision and announced that the next meeting of the ISO committee will be held in Sweden in September 2004.

*P Action: E Hopkin (IDF) will ask R Thesslin (ISO) for a working schedule for revision of the ISO-standards for milking machines (3318, 5707, 6690)*

### 4.2 ISO/TC 23/WG1 specific on Automatic Milking Systems

L Innings reported from the meeting that took place in Lelystad prior to the SCFM meeting. The

minutes of the meeting will be circulated to all members in due course. A new draft proposal may be expected for the end of the year. The next meetings will take place in Tumba (SE) on 1-2 September 2004 and in Orlando (US) 20-21 January 2005 in connection with the NMC annual meeting.

#### 4.3 ICAR – milk recording

P Billon reported that there was no activity since the last SCFM meeting. The next meeting of ICAR will be in Tunisia in May 2004. ICAR proposed to have a joint meeting with the IDF milking machine action team in September 2005, in Nitra, Slovakia.

#### 4.4 Internal IDF liaisons

Written report

Waste from dairy farms: There was a request for SCFM to take over the work on Dairy Farm Waste from SC Environment, but this was not considered. F Sangiorgi suggested that we wait to review the results of this work which is to be completed by end 2004 before planning a course of action.

⇒ *Action: E Hopkin will contact C Poupoulis and F Sangiorgi to determine the status of this project and about material already available and/or work in hand*

### **5. Programme of Work**

#### **A. DAIRY FARMING PRACTICES**

No report.

#### **B. MILKING EQUIPMENT AND METHODS**

##### **5.1 Action Team on Performance during milking**

D Reinemann reported that the paper has been revised and references added (110). There is an additional comprehensive literature list on the UW website ([www.uwex.edu/uwmrii](http://www.uwex.edu/uwmrii)). Evaluation sheets were not included in the paper but will be available at the website. The paper is ready for publication but will be circulated for approval. Only minor comments can be accepted or a total disapproval within 19 April 2004. D Reinemann asked if a group would support him in keeping the literature list on milking related issues updated at the website. The AT on milking machines is asked to send recent (last year) references to D Reinemann. There is no new project group formed at this stage. New target date: end May 2004

⇒ *Action: Reinemann to circulate draft bulletin of comments received by the end of April 2004:*

*Amend text forwarded to Secretariat by end May 2004:*

##### **5.2 Action Team on Reliability of measurements of milking machines**

L Innings (SE) reported that no progress has been made and due to other assignments Innings would like to resign as chair. No new chair volunteered but this should be solved before the next meeting. Innings will serve as chair until a new is found. A new target date of November 2005 was proposed.

T Alfnes (NO) mentioned the new generation of testing equipment that would affect testing practice. It was agreed to defer discussion until the revision of ISO Standards was completed (about 1 year's time).

##### **5.3 Action Team on Evolution in Automatic Milking, milk quality, animal health, farm management**

O Lind (SE) reported that the estimated number of farms using AMS is 2237 distributed across 17 countries. The installation rate is increasing and is now about 900 units per year. Some of the important activities carried out are the EU-project and the symposium, ISO-standards, modification of the EU Hygiene Directive, and Good Manufacturing Practices for AMS. Following these actions it should be possible to draft our Bulletin. The outline of the paper and suggestions for authors were presented. The target date was revised to November 2004.

#### **5.4 Action Team on Cluster Removers: Test for determination of switch point and delay time**

CJAM de Koning (NL) had informed M Rasmussen (DK) on progress. A report is almost ready for circulation within the Action Team. The target date was confirmed as November 2004

#### **5.5 Action Team on Continuous Monitoring of Machine Milking:**

S Saey (BE) reported that the project has started in Belgium and O. Rønningen (NO) declared that the project group is ready to review the outcome of the Belgian work. It is still realistic to have a draft ready by the stated target date of November 2004.

#### **5.6 Milk flow characteristics and teat dimensions of various machine milked animals**

D Reinemann (US) reported that the group has 10 team members. A draft publication is scheduled for the target date of August 2004. Some of the work has already been presented at the symposium on liners and pulsators.

#### **5.7 Revision of ISO standards for milking machines**

L Innings (SE) told that the group is active and prepare and support the ISO-work heavily. Additionally, the group acts as a reference group for ISO. The IDF part of the work is finished by now. T Alfnes raised the question if a project group should gather information of how the ISO-standards are used in the different countries. The project group will evaluate the need for continuation of such work.

The target date should be moved to the end of 2005 in order to support the ISO-group.

#### **5.8 New Work Item Proposal on Protocol for liners' testing: O Rønningen (NO)**

O Rønningen proposed not to start new work at this stage until some of the other project groups are done.

T Alfnes asked how the milking machine mailing list should be continued at his retirement. The chair asked Alfnes to give a recommendation of a new leader of this work.

P Billon stressed that work in the field of testing during milking is being carried out in France as well as in several other European countries (The Netherlands, Belgium, and possibly other countries). It appears that the methodology used differs from country to country and, in the worst interpretation, may lead to advice that is often very far from actual needs of dairy farmers. It was proposed that SCFM should consider to start new work on this topic with the aim of harmonizing the methods applied at a worldwide level. A new action team could be created in order to look into the different methods and to consider development of an official IDF methodology for achieving and interpreting results and measurements.

*⇒ Action: P Billon and O Rønningen to draft a proposal for new IDF work using the official form sheet that is available from the IDF Secretariat. It shall be considered at the next meeting of the SCFM prior to moving forward for evaluation and vote by IDF National Committees.*

### **C Payment systems**

#### **5.9 Payment systems for ex-farm milk: IDF Secretariat**

The work has been approved with 24 countries voting for it and none against. The AT is lead by M Beauséjour (CA) and there are 8 nominated members of the AT. The SCFM accepted the appointed members. New target date for completion of the work is set ultimo 2004 and should preferably be published on the internet.

*Note: M Beauséjour reports that work on the new compilation of data has already started.*

### **D Labour conditions on dairy farms**

#### **5.10 New Work Item Proposal on Working conditions and welfare of man in future dairy farming: P Justesen (DK)**

No report was received. D Ordolff (DE) informed that a German group dealing with this subject

could be approached and asked to contribute to the IDF-work.

⇒ *Action: D Ordolf will make the contact.*

**E Sustainability**

No chair is appointed at this stage, see item 3.

**6. Up-date / review of forthcoming IDF publications**

Our proceeding of Conference at the World Dairy Summit 2003 on “100 years with liners and pulsators” is now being printed and will be send out shortly.

The final version of “Performance during milking” will be ready in May 2004 for publication.

**7. Any other business**

There was no other business.

**8. Review of decisions and actions**

To be done with the draft minutes to be circulated in due course.

### 9. Planning for next meetings

Action Team	Meeting dates	Meeting place	Events
SCFM	<i>Proposals</i> June 2005 June 2005	Uppsala Maastricht	EAAP IDF Mastitis symposium
Dairy Farming Practices	To be determined	To be determined	
Milking equipment and methods	17 and 19 January 2005 September 2005	Orlando, Florida (US) Nitra, Slovakia	NMC ann. Meet., ISO ICAR and milking symp.
Payment systems	To be determined	To be determined	
Labour conditions on dairy farms	To be determined	To be determined	
Sustainability	To be determined	To be determined	

The idea of meeting in Melbourne in November was not supported by the attendants. If some of the AT's plan on meeting Down Under a notice should be forwarded to the chair or vice chair.

### 10. Close

The Chair closed the meeting at 3:00 pm.

## Appendix 1

**Management overview of SCFM Project groups, 14 April 2004**  
(changes in membership since the previous meeting are highlighted in *italic and bold*)

<b>AT / Project group</b>	<b>Target date</b>	<b>Leader</b>	<b>Membership</b>
<i>AT Dairy farming practices</i>		T Morgan (UK)	
<i>AT Milking equipment and methods</i>		D Reinemann (US)	
Machine milking - Performance during milking	April 2004	M D Rasmussen (DK)	G Mein (AU), D Reinemann (US), J Baines (UK), E O'Callaghan (IE), F Neijenhuis (NL)
Reliability of measurement of milking machines	Nov. 2005	L Innings (SE)	T Alfnes (NO), P Billon (FR), E Manninen (FI), O Rønninge (NO), B Sonck (BE)
Machine milking - Evolution in automatic milking, milk quality, animal health, farm management	Nov. 2004	O Lind (SE)	J Baines (GB), K de Koning (NL), MD Rasmussen (DK), D Reinemann (US), TT Mottram (GB), AH Ipema (NL), H Hogeveen (NL), E Hllerton (GB)
Machine milking - Cluster removers: Test for determination of switch point and delay time	Nov. 2004	K de Koning (NL)	P Billon (FR), O Ronningen (NO), E Manninen (FI), L Innings (SE), M D Rasmussen (DK), D Reinemann (US)
Continuous monitoring of machine milking	Nov. 2004	O Rønningen (NO)	C Poupoulis (GR), L Innings (SE), K de Koning (NL), B Sonck (BE), D Nosal (CH), D Ordolff (DE), H Francke (DE), P Billon (FR), E O'Callaghan (IE), D Reinemann (US)
Milk flow characteristics and teat dimensions of various machine milked animals	Aug. 2004	D Reinemann (US)	T Alifakiotis (GR), P Billon (FR), D Costa (BR), R Bruckmaier (DE), E Manninen (FI), J Négrao (BR), D Nosal (CH), F Sangiori (IT), B Schulze Watenhorst (DE)
Monitoring ISO work on revision of standards for milking machines	Dec. 2005	L Innings (SE)	T Alfnes (NO), R Baines (GB), P Billon (FR), R Engelmann (CH), H Francke (DE), O Harty (IE), P Justesen (DK), E Manninen (FI), G Mein (AU), D Ordolff (DE), O Rønningen (NO), C Simonis (GR), B Sonck (BE), O Suhr (DE)
<i>AT Payment systems</i>		M Beauséjour (CA)	
<i>Payment systems for ex-farm milk</i>	<i>Dec. 2004</i>	<i>M Beauséjour (CA)</i>	<i>E Leloup (BE), NJ Nyborg (DK), ? (ES), M Beguin (FR), K Boyns (GB), S Kalit (HR), PVK Panicker (IN)</i>
<b>AT Labour conditions on dairy farms</b>		P Justesen (DK)	
Working conditions and welfare of man in future dairy farming		P Justesen (DK)	D Ordolff (DE), B Sonck (BE)
<b>Sustainability</b>		Open	