



IDF Press Release



International Dairy Federation

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IDF PROMOTES GOOD DAIRY FARMING PRACTICES TO ACHIEVE QUALITY AND SAFETY OF MILK

Brussels, 7 September 2007 - The development of sustainable management systems is now a high priority everywhere as social and environmental aspects of milk production are of increasing importance to both consumers and producers. Good practices at farm level with regard to animal health, milking hygiene, animal feeding and water, animal welfare and the environment are essential tools to ensure that the needs of the food industry and ultimately the expectations of the consumer can be met.

"Using the expertise of the previous IDF/FAO Task Force on Good Dairy Farming Practices, the IDF aims to put in place a framework for producers to self-regulate their business. It comprises a comprehensive toolkit to improve quality assurance at farm level enabling dairy farmers to better respond to market incentives, to add value and to adopt new farming methods. The success will be measured by the rate at which socially and environmentally accepted practices in dairy farming will be implemented and become recognized by the consumer." said Christian Robert, IDF Director General.

Following the publication of a joint FAO/IDF Guide to Good Dairy Practices in 2004, IDF has now taken the initiative for a next step forward by developing an IDF Guide to Good Animal Welfare in Dairy Production setting key considerations relating to provision for animal welfare of dairying animals. The two guides will complement each other in a view to improving quality and hygiene standards in all countries.

"Good Dairy Farming Practices related to Primary Production of Milk and Farm Management" is the new Bulletin of IDF n°418/2007. It can be ordered in electronic form via the IDF website at <http://www.fil-idf.org>

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Note to editors:

"Founded in 1903, The International Dairy Federation represents the dairy sector worldwide by providing the best global source of scientific expertise and knowledge in support of the development and promotion of quality milk and dairy products to deliver consumers with nutrition, health and well-being."