



AN INTERLABORATORY COLLABORATIVE STUDY VALIDATES AN INTERNATIONAL METHOD FOR THE DETERMINATION OF MILK FAT PURITY IN MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS

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Brussels, 20 April 2009 - Adulteration with cheaper fats of milkfat naturally present in pure milk products is not a new problem but the methods of analysis available to detect adulteration and determine its extent have only been sufficiently sensitive to carry out the task satisfactorily relatively recently.

Milk fat is a very complex mixture of several thousands of triglycerides (TG), and the addition of vegetable fats and especially of animal fats to milk fat is not easy to detect.

A new draft International standard for the determination of Milk Fat Purity in Milk and Milk Products by Analysis of Triglycerides by liquid gas chromatography has been produced by IDF and ISO (ISO 17678 | IDF 202).

This issue of the Bulletin of the IDF* unveils the results of international collaborative studies organized to validate this method.

The main emphasis of this new IDF publication is on a detailed report on the performance of the method and statistical evaluation of the full international collaborative study. It also gives a short summary on the verification of global applicability, the specified scope of application and the analytical advances of the triglyceride (TG) method to determine milk fat purity.

"The need to improve quality and safety of milk and milk products must be matched by the availability of new methods to facilitate the work of the analysts and to allow a much more rapid release of the food. We aim to secure a leading role for the IDF in this area jointly with ISO." said Christian Robert, IDF Director General.

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Note to editors:

- The International Dairy Federation is the pre-eminent source of scientific and technical expertise for all stakeholders in the dairy chain.
- Membership covers 56 countries and is growing; IDF accounts for about **85%** of the world's total milk production.

* Bulletin of the IDF n° 434/2009 "Gas-Liquid Chromatographic Method for the Determination of Milk Fat Purity in Milk and Milk Products by Analysis of Triglycerides - Draft international standard ISO 17678 | IDF 202". It can be ordered via the IDF Website at <http://www.fil-idf.org>