



June 2020

Message from our Director General



You receive this latest edition of IDF World just after the close of the 20th anniversary of World Milk Day last week, which - in spite of the challenges posed by COVID-19 – looks to have been even more successful than last year.

In addition to IDF's [“Raise a glass”](#) event, an online celebration with our global experts, IDF's contributions included an article with Codex, and a new blog post from Piercristiano Brazzale, Chair of IDF's Science Programme Coordination Committee (SPCC), who acknowledges the role of scientists around the world for their continuous contributions to making milk and dairy foods safe.

I will take this opportunity to provide an update on the dairy sector and COVID-19. Our world has been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the dairy sector is no exception. Fortunately, around the world, both governments and consumers have recognized the necessity of the dairy sector and dairy products. Governments added the dairy sector on the list of essential services early on. Farmers, milk transport, processing

and distribution are continuing during the pandemic with clear directives to protect farmers and workers. Milk remains one of the top foods bought by people worldwide, thanks to its nutritious good value and role in home cooking traditions.

One of the biggest challenges we have faced so far has been the adaptation of production and processing facilities to the transformed demand. The fact that those changes happened all of the sudden have forced our sector to adapt quickly. I am proud of the resilience of our value chain. IDF has started to collect impacts and learnings from COVID-19 to contribute to the post crisis discussion on resilient Food Systems. In the meantime, visit our COVID-19 dairy resource centre on our [website](#).

On behalf of IDF, we hope you enjoy the read.

Caroline Emond
IDF Director General

News



IDF expert honored

Former IDF President, Dr Jeremy Hill has been appointed a *Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit* in the Queen's birthday honours list for services to dairy [Read article](#)



Celebrating the role of dairy science

"Making the world aware of the science behind the nutrition provided by dairy is a key part of what IDF does". Read our latest [blog post](#) by Piercristiano Brazzale, SPCC Chair



Serving the dairy sector with safe and quality milk

The article highlights IDF's contribution to Codex work in ensuring that correct standards and guidelines are implemented to deliver safe dairy. [Read article](#)



Reaffirming dairy's key role in global nutrition

In this time of crisis, our world needs the nourishment provided by livestock. IDF has recently contributed to two joint letters to ensure that this message is widely heard: [Joint Statement from the International Livestock Partnership on COVID-19](#) and the [Open Letter on the Value of Animal Agriculture](#)



IDF/ISO Virtual Analytical Week 2020

The outcomes of the IDF/ISO meetings successfully identified 11 new IDF/ISO standards and guidelines to be published in the next year. [Read in full](#)



The challenge of balancing milk supply

Why some farmers have had to discard raw milk during the COVID-19 pandemic [Read in full](#)



Ensuring dairy safety

IDF issued a statement about COVID-19 and the dairy sector with regard to safety and hygiene of dairy products and personnel. [Read in full](#)



Improving consistency in milk somatic cell counting

Joint IDF and ICAR initiative to improve consistency in milk somatic cell counting: Certified reference materials launched by EC Joint Research Centre. [Read in full](#)

Leap

LIVESTOCK ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP

Use of LEAP guidelines by the dairy sector

The [LEAP Secretariat](#) and IDF would like an overview of the use of LEAP guidelines by the dairy sector. The final goal is to get feedback from those who have implemented the LEAP guidelines (national organizations, at producer level, etc.) on their assessments. Does **your organization or country perform assessments based on [these guidelines](#)**? If you can help, please contact msanchezmainer@fil-idf.org

IDF Events



[Webinar on animal welfare](#)

IDF/ICAR will hold an open webinar on “Animal-based indicators to promote welfare in dairy cows” on 9 June 2020. Participation is free upon registration [here](#).

IDF Publications



[Dairy's role in supporting a healthy immune system](#)

Our newly published fact sheet supports science based evidence that dairy through its nutrient density supports a healthy immune system.



[Front of Pack Nutrition Labelling: Delivering meaningful public health outcomes](#)

This position paper outlines the IDF guiding principles to front of pack nutrition labelling (FOPNL) to enable consumers to make informed choices based on science-based nutrition information.

