Our mission at Proteon is to Harness the Potential of Bacteriophages to Revolutionize Animal Health and Food Safety

Prof. Jaroslaw Dastych
CEO, Proteon Pharmaceuticals
HPAI - LPAI - IBD - ND
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- Rice DOC

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Aviagen India Strengthens Team with Appointment of New Business Manager

Ramakrishna Balasubramanian will drive customer-centric growth through experience and dedication

Aviagen® India proudly introduces Ramakrishna Balasubramanian as its new Business Manager. With a remarkable record of knowledge and proficiency, Balasubramanian will help ensure the success of Aviagen India and its valued customers. He takes over from previous Business Manager Marc Scott, who has led the India team over the past five years in establishing a solid foundation for the growth and success of Aviagen and its esteemed customer base.

With more than 25 years of poultry experience, including 13 years at Aviagen India and Hy-Line Layers, Balasubramanian has excelled across various positions, including administration, farming and operations, planning, sales, and customer service. He skillfully managed Hy-Line Layers’ profit and loss, production, planning, and customer support functions. His previous tenure in sales also saw a commendable expansion of Aviagen India’s customer base. His demonstrated ability to manage challenging situations will prove to be of value to the ever-growing Aviagen India business.

As Business Manager for India, Balasubramanian will spearhead Aviagen India’s operations, encompassing production, feed mill, and laboratory functions. Based in the Tamil Nadu region, his role involves financial, commercial, and production oversight. He will lead the execution of strategic plans, manage profit and loss, guide his team to ensure seamless implementation, ensure the needs of the customer base, maintain production and service excellence, and ensure compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements. Reporting to President of Aviagen Asia Peter Fisher, Balasubramanian will work closely with the Asia regional and global teams.

He is fluent in multiple languages, including English, Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu, and achieved a Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree from Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal, Tamil Nadu. Peter Fisher, President of Aviagen Asia, expressed his confidence in the new appointment, stating, “We are thrilled to welcome Ramakrishna and extend our best wishes as he undertakes this strategically vital role. With his dynamic, customer-focused approach, Ramakrishna is poised to lead our business in India to new heights of success and growth.”

Since 1923, Aviagen® has been a preferred global poultry breeding company with a mission to help its customers—the world’s chicken meat producers—supply sustainable, affordable and nutritious protein to their growing communities. Putting into practice its corporate value of “Breeding for Welfare and Sustainability,” Aviagen implements efficiencies that make commercial chicken production environmentally and socially responsible and economically beneficial to producers, while at the same time promoting bird performance, health and welfare.
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The Poultry Federation of India (PFI) assumes a pivotal role in advancing and safeguarding the vested interests of the poultry industry within the nation, since its inception in 1988. Constituting a comprehensive network of poultry farmers, producers, and stakeholders, PFI ardently dedicates itself to ensuring the progression, resilience, and well-being of the poultry sector. Recently, PFI orchestrated its 34th Annual General Meeting (AGM) and symposium at Hotel Alila Hyatt in Goa. This intellectually invigorating two-day session attracted over 500 delegates from across the globe. The inaugural session of Day 1 was graced by the esteemed presence of Dr. Davendra Hooda and Dr. Sujit Kulkarni, who were felicitated for their notable contributions. The proceedings commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, officiated by PFI President Ranpal Dhanda, PFI Secretary Mr. Ravinder S. Sandhu, Mr. Sanjeev Gupta (Vice President, Headquarters, PFI), and Mr. Ricky Thaper (Treasurer, PFI).

Mr. Dhanda extended a warm welcome to all the distinguished delegates attending the AGM. In his opening address, he underscored that a primary focus of PFI is advocacy for policies conducive to the poultry industry’s sustenance. This entails active engagement with governmental entities to address challenges, propose solutions, and foster a regulatory environment conducive to growth. PFI serves as a unified voice, articulating the concerns and aspirations of its members at both regional and national echelons. Mr. Dhanda emphasized the anticipated surge in the prices of Maize and Broken Rice in the imminent future, urging stakeholders to prioritize these concerns. He highlighted the challenges posed by recurring Avian Influenza outbreaks, urging Indian vaccine manufacturers to expedite production and regulatory processes. Additionally, Mr. Dhanda addressed the misinformation circulating on social media regarding chicken and eggs, urging a factual response to counteract such narratives. He called upon pharmaceutical associations associated with poultry, such as INFAH,
to actively respond to the Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) issue, both with governmental bodies and the public.

Mr. Ravinder Sandhu expounded on PFI’s activities over the preceding year, detailing achievements such as the implementation of Contract Farming Guidelines across eight states and initiatives to curb black marketing of Day-Old Chicks (DOC) and Soya. PFI members now participate in two committees of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) that standardize the quality of feed and equipment used in poultry farming. Moreover, a committee focused on increasing the consumption of chicken and eggs was formed, with results slated for evaluation in the coming year.

Mr. Ricky Thaper, the Treasurer of PFI, presented the financial accounts, with copies distributed to attending members. A vote of thanks was expressed by Mr. Sanjeev Gupta. The subsequent session featured Mr. Sudhir Malhotra, Founder of Interface Pharmaceutical, elucidating the benefits of immunotherapy, particularly in controlling High Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI), Newcastle Disease (ND), and Infectious Bursal Disease (IBD). Mr. Malhotra stressed the importance of maintaining bird immunity for positive outcomes. Dr. Silva delivered insights on the significance of Soybean Meal (SBM) in poultry feed, highlighting the competitive advantages of U.S.-sourced SBM. Dr. Rakesh Gupta of V.H Group presented an informative session on “Egg Peritonitis,” while Mr. Mahendra Garg discussed the benefits of Soya. Dr. Andreas from Germany delved into the topics of
“Innovation and Sustainability in the Poultry Industry.” The first day culminated with the felicitation of Poultry Media and Sponsors, marking a successful and intellectually enriching commencement of the symposium.

The second day’s proceedings commenced with a gracious welcome extended to the esteemed Chief Guest, Dr. Sanjeev Balyan, Minister of State, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Government of India. The ceremonial lighting of the lamp marked the initiation of the event, with dignitaries such as Dr. Balyan, Mr. O.P Choudhari, Dr. Pankaj Shukla, Mr. Ramesh Khatri, and officials from the Poultry Federation of India partaking in the auspicious ceremony. In his opening remarks, Mr. Ranpal Dhanda articulated that the door of the Animal Husbandry department stands perennially ajar for PFI. He emphasized the unwavering support of the Government of India and Shri Balyan for the Poultry farming community, lauding their bold initiatives for the advancement of Poultry Farming. Mr. Dhanda further implored the ministers to ensure that the policies devised for farmers, such as subsidies on Hatcheries and Feed mills, permeate to the numerous marginalized farmers harboring fervent aspirations for growth. Drawing attention to the crisis of skilled manpower in the Poultry sector, he urged the decentralization of skill-related courses through a new policy to benefit small-scale farmers.

Dr. Pankaj Shukla expounded upon the imperative need for courses fostering skilled labor development in Poultry. Mr. Vijay Sardana cautioned the audience about the impending Feed
availability challenges stemming from the ethanol policy, elucidating that the Poultry sector now competes with the ethanol/petroleum industry. He advocated for a new Feed Policy to mitigate the repercussions of increasing MSP on crucial ingredients.

Dr. O.P Chaudhary, in his address, commended the Poultry Industry for its pivotal role in eradicating malnutrition in India. Subsequently, the unveiling of the new logo of PFI added a symbolic touch to the proceedings.

Dr. Sanjeev Balyan, the Chief Guest, emphasized key issues such as Feed & Fodder Policy, soaring Feed prices, integration guidelines, and skill development for Indian Poultry. Dr. Balyan applauded the resilience of the Indian Poultry Industry in the face of numerous challenges. Simultaneously, he issued a stern warning to Integrators, urging compliance with guidelines to rectify wrongful practices reported in some places. Responding to a query from Kisaan Tak News Channel, PFI President Mr. Dhanda expressed distress over the injustice faced by farmers in integration with companies, highlighting their lack of awareness of policies and the ensuing vicious cycle. The session concluded with closing remarks from Mr. Ranpal Dhanda and a vote of thanks from Mr. Sandhu. Following a break, Dr.Lipi Sabarwal elucidated on the Government of India’s schemes for Poultry, and Dr. Sudheer Balchandra Rukadikar conducted an extensive session on “Poultry Vaccination - Where are we now and what needs to be done.” Mr. O.P Singh, M.D – HUVE Pharma (SEA) Pune, captivated the audience with his presentation on the “Need for Promotion and Marketing for Chicken Promotion.” He stressed the urgency of promoting chicken uniformly across all states in India, citing the paradoxical scenario in vegetarian-dominated states like Rajasthan and Gujarat. Mr. Singh advocated for unconventional approaches to increase per capita consumption, manage consumer transition sentiments, establish robust communication networks, and enhance transparency in farming and processing setups.

A panel discussion organized by PFI, live-screened at Kisaan Tak Channel, featured prominent figures such as Dr. O.P Chaudhary, Mr. Mohan Reddy, Mr. Suresh Deora, Dr. Shirish Nigam, Mr. Ranpal Dhanda, Mr. Chakradhar Rao, and Dr. Ajit Ranade. The hour-long discussion delved into various commercial and non-commercial facets of the Indian Poultry Industry. The program concluded with a vote of thanks from Mr. Ricky Thaper.
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On 11th to 15th September 2023 in Raipur, Karnal, Hyderabad, Coimbatore and Bangalore, Venky’s India LTD organized the grand series of seminars. The resource person for the Seminar was Dr. Joscep Garcia, Global technical lead for toxins solutions at agrimprove an International expert on Mycotoxins from M/s Special Nutrient Inc, USA and who has experience of more than 40 years in the same field.

The topic of seminars was on “Multiple toxins challenges in feed and its solutions”

The Seminar was well attended by field Veterinary consultants, Layer farmers, Breeder Farmers and local integrators from various cities and towns of Raipur, Karnal, Hyderabad, Coimbatore and Bangalore. For the Raipur Seminar Dr. Vishwas Sagajkar (DGM Marketing) welcomed the guests. In Inaugural speech Dr. Vishwas Sagajkar (DGM Marketing) gave brief regarding Dr. Joscep Garcia work experience. And then the speaker Dr. Joscep Garcia started his presentation. And finally the presentation was summarized by Dr. Vishwas Sagajkar (DGM Marketing) for Karnal Mr. H.S Padda (DGM North) welcomed the guest and Mr. Sashi Bhushan gave inaugural speech to Audience in Karnal Followed by Dr. Vishwas Sagajkar (DGM Marketing) gave brief regarding Dr. Joscep Garcia work experience. And then the speaker Dr. Joscep Garcia started his presentation. And finally the presentation was summarized by Dr. Vishwas Sagajkar (DGM Marketing) for Coimbatore Meeting Mr. Deepak Khosla (GM Marketing) welcomed the guest and gave inaugural speech to Audience in Coimbatore Followed by Dr. Vishwas Sagajkar (DGM Marketing) gave brief regarding Dr. Joscep Garcia work experience. And then the speaker Dr. Joscep Garcia started his presentation. And finally the presentation was summarized by Dr. Baburaj (DGM Marketing). For Bangalore Meeting Mr. Deepak Khosla (GM Marketing) welcomed the guest and gave inaugural speech
to Audience in Bangalore Followed by Dr. Vishwas Sagajkar (DGM Marketing) gave brief regarding Dr. Joscep Garcia work experience. And then the speaker Dr. Joscep Garcia Started his presentation. And finally the presentation was summarized by Dr. Baburaj (DGM Marketing).

And then Dr. Joscep Garcia started with his presentations “Multiple toxins challenges in feed and its solutions”. At the start of his presentation, Dr. Joscep Garcia showed some of the Photographs of the PM lesion due to mycotoxicity. Which gave the clear cut idea to the audience about different lesions to different organs by different mycotoxins. Then slowly he shifted the audience towards updates of Endotoxins in poultry and its importance in poultry. In his presentation topic what he touched was Endotoxins disrupt gut health in poultry. Endotoxins, also known as lipopolysaccharides (LPS), are part of the outer membrane of the cell wall of all gram-negative bacteria (e.g. E. coli, Salmonella, Shigella, Pseudomonas, among others) that are released from bacterial cell wall by shedding or through bacterial lysis. Gram-negative bacteria are part of poultry animals’ microbiota; thus, there are always LPS in the intestine. Under eubiosis, this does not affect animals negatively because intestinal epithelial cells are poorly responsive to LPS when stimulated from the apical side.

Dr. Joscep Garcia also reminded about the critical role of immunosuppression caused by Mycotoxins and its role in Vaccine failure. He emphasized that one should be very careful while selecting a Toxin Binder as some agent such as activated charcoal if included in Toxin Binder may have deleterious effects as activated charcoal also binds nutrients such as vitamins and minerals from the feed. Biobantox Plus takes care of Mycotoxins, Endotoxins & Pesticides.
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In this exclusive interview, we sit down with Professor Jaroslaw Dastych, Founder and CEO of Proteon Pharmaceuticals, a leading biotechnology company specializing in bacteriophages. Professor Dastych shares his insights into the innovative world of bacteriophage-based solutions for animal health, addressing regulatory challenges, ethical considerations, and the company’s commitment to sustainable practices in the global poultry industry.

**Question:** Can you please tell us something about you and Proteon Pharmaceuticals?

**Professor Jaroslaw Dastych:** I am Jaroslaw Dastych, the Founder and CEO of Proteon Pharmaceuticals. I have spent over two decades dedicated to research in the fields of immunology, toxicology and molecular biology. My passion for understanding the intricacies of the microbial world led me to establish Proteon Pharmaceuticals in 2008.

Proteon Pharmaceuticals is a pioneering biotechnology company specializing in bacteriophages. Bacteriophages are naturally occurring viruses that specifically target and eliminate bacterial pathogens, making them a promising alternative to antibiotics. Our mission at Proteon is to harness the potential of bacteriophages to revolutionize animal health and food safety.

**Question:** Bacteriophages are relatively new to the pharmaceutical market, especially in Indian Poultry Industry. How do you navigate the complex regulatory landscape for veterinary pharmaceuticals, especially when dealing with novel therapeutic agents like phages? How do you ensure the safety of your bacteriophage products for both animals and humans, considering the potential transfer of phages from treated animals to consumers?

**Professor Jaroslaw Dastych:** Navigating the regulatory landscape for novel solutions like bacteriophages is indeed a complex endeavor. We work closely with regulatory authorities in various regions to ensure compliance and safety. Our products undergo rigorous testing and validation to meet the highest safety and efficacy standards, with the entire product range adhering strictly to ISO 9001 standards, and manufacturing conducted in a GLP (Good Laboratory Practices) certified laboratories. Safety of one of the first Proteon’s phage products was approved by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

Regarding the transfer of phages from treated animals to consumers, we prioritize safety and ethical considerations. We thoroughly investigate our products in development phase and then test in pre-clinical studies and clinical trials to determine their safety and efficacy in animals. We have also completed multiple studies proving no negative impact of our products on animal and human microbiome. Moreover, implementation of strict quality control measures and high manufacturing...
standards guarantee the consistency and purity of bacteriophage products. Ensuring that every batch meets safety and efficacy criteria is crucial.

**Question:** How do you address the issue of bacteriophage specificity?

**Professor Jaroslaw Dastych:** Our approach to addressing the issue of bacteriophage specificity combines the advantages of their natural specificity while also harnessing the potential for broader spectrum action. On one hand, bacteriophages are renowned for their specificity, which is a significant advantage. We tailor our bacteriophage cocktails to target specific bacterial pathogens and defined strains responsible for diseases in animals. This precision ensures that our products are highly effective while minimizing disruption to the natural microbiota. Each product is carefully crafted to address particular pathogens, providing a targeted and efficient solution. On the other hand, while we keep our products strain-specific, we build cocktails from phages that have complementary action. This approach allows us to widen the spectrum of sensitive strains within a given pathogen category. By combining bacteriophages that target different aspects of the same pathogen or have varying host range specificity, we increase the chances of effectively combating a range of strains within that pathogen category.

Moreover, this approach opens up possibilities for future product development. We can explore the creation of cocktails that target multiple pathogens simultaneously. By carefully selecting and combining phages with complementary actions and specificities, we can develop products that address complex infections involving multiple bacterial species.

**Question:** Bacteriophages are known for their strain specificity. How do you maintain consistency and scalability in the production of phage-based products while dealing with potential variations in phage-host interactions? Can you provide insights into your manufacturing process and quality control mechanisms to ensure that each batch of products is potent and reliable?

**Professor Jaroslaw Dastych:** Indeed, phage production is a biological process and each production cycle may result in slightly different concentration of phages in the intermediate product. However, I would not say that maintaining consistency between batches is a major issue for our production. While preparing the final cocktail we make sure that we use stable bacteriophages strains and the production process of each component is well optimized. Quality control is paramount, and each batch undergoes rigorous testing to ensure potency and reliability. We perform multiple control tests, for example genetic confirmation of presence of each component, microbiological purity check or confirmation of the final phage concentration. Our manufacturing process combines cutting-edge technologies with stringent quality control measures, adhering strictly to previously mentioned ISO 9001 standards.

**Question:** Bacteriophages are natural organisms or we can say Viruses that target bacteria or replicate only in bacterial Cells. How do you address ethical concerns about the potential impact of introducing high concentrations of phages into animal ecosystems and the possible unintended consequences on microbiota? In what ways does your company prioritize ethical animal treatment while administering bacteriophage therapies?

**Professor Jaroslaw Dastych:** Ethical animal treatment is a fundamental principle at Proteon Pharmaceuticals. We recognize the importance of preserving the natural microbiota and ecosystem. Our bacteriophage solutions are carefully designed to target only specific bacterial pathogens. Furthermore, due to their entirely natural composition and their specific interaction with bacterial cells, they pose no adverse effects on animal health or welfare. Importantly, their administration does not result in the presence of any residual chemical residues.

Our commitment to ethical animal treatment extends to our research and development processes. We
continuously assess our products to ensure they uphold the highest standards of animal welfare while effectively preventing diseases.

**Question:** Antibiotic resistance is a growing global concern. Other than that, the selection of the candidate phage and delivery of the phage to the site of infection are a few limitations phage therapy has encountered. How do you envision your bacteriophage products contributing to a more sustainable and resilient animal health industry in the long run? How do you plan to adapt and evolve your products to stay effective over time?

**Professor Jaroslaw Dastych:** Addressing antibiotic resistance is a paramount concern, and bacteriophages offer a sustainable solution. Our products reduce the reliance on antibiotics in animal farming, mitigating the risk of resistance. The specific targeting of pathogens minimizes the need for unnecessary broad-spectrum antibiotics use, promoting a more sustainable and resilient animal health industry.

To stay effective over time, we are conducting ongoing research and development. We continuously explore new phage candidates, work on optimizing delivery methods, and adapt to emerging challenges. Our goal is to lead the way in developing innovative and evolving bacteriophage products that address the evolving needs of animal health.

**Question:** BAFACOL™; the premium poultry product of Proteon, can provide the same efficacy in the Indian Subcontinent as it provides in Europe? When we go through the basic requirement of this product, it should be kept between 2 deg. Celsius to 10 deg. Celsius, whereas the water pH is to be maintained between 5 to 8; More than 90% Indian Poultry Population is raised in open houses and clean water availability is always a challenge here. What’s your take on this?

**Professor Jaroslaw Dastych:** Ensuring the efficacy of our products in diverse regions is a priority for Proteon Pharmaceuticals. We recognize the unique challenges in different environments, such as those in the Indian Subcontinent. Our teams work diligently to adapt our products to local conditions.

Regarding BAFACOL™, we are actively researching and developing solutions that can withstand a broader range of environmental conditions, including high temperature and water pH variations, although the range of pH from 5 to 8 does not seem to be prohibitively narrow. Our goal is to provide effective bacteriophage solutions that can benefit poultry farmers in the Indian Subcontinent and other regions. To support farmers in eliminating on-farm animal health challenges, our veterinarians share their knowledge and educate on how to use our products best to ensure effective disease prevention. Currently, after the stability tests in different conditions are completed, we are preparing a new instruction and we can confidently recommend storing the product outside the cold chain for several days. This will be for sure helpful for our customers in India.

**Question:** What are the main competitive advantages of Proteon’s bacteriophage products over other emerging alternatives in the animal health sector, such as probiotics or immune-modulating agents? How do you plan to stay ahead of potential competitors who might also be researching and producing bacteriophage-based solutions?

**Professor Jaroslaw Dastych:** The main competitive advantage of Proteon’s bacteriophage products lies in their precision and efficacy. Unlike broad-spectrum alternatives, our products specifically target bacterial pathogens, leaving beneficial microbiota untouched. This precision minimizes disruption and promotes animal health. To stay ahead, we invest heavily in research and development. Our unwavering commitment to advancing the field of bacteriophage products has led to opening a ground-breaking Center for Bacteriophage Biotechnology at the end of June 2023, which holds substantial promise in advancing the field of bacteriophage research and its applications. We continuously innovate and expand our product portfolio, having at the moment five more phage-based solutions in our pipeline. Our multidisciplinary approach, cutting-edge technology, and commitment to excellence ensure that Proteon Pharmaceuticals remains a world leader in bacteriophage-based solutions for animal health.
Question: How do you plan to make your bacteriophage products accessible and affordable to the farmers in India and in different parts of the world, especially in regions with varying economic conditions and healthcare infrastructures? What strategies do you have in place to address the unique challenges and opportunities in different international markets?

Professor Jaroslaw Dastych: Proteon Pharmaceuticals is dedicated to making bacteriophage products accessible and affordable to farmers worldwide. We understand the diverse economic conditions and healthcare infrastructures in different regions.

Our strategies include local partnerships, collaborations, and tailored product offerings to address specific market needs. We work closely with local stakeholders to ensure that our solutions are accessible to farmers, regardless of their location or economic conditions.

Question: Your Message to the Indian Poultry Industry?

Professor Jaroslaw Dastych: To the Indian Poultry Industry, I would like to convey that Proteon Pharmaceuticals is committed to supporting your efforts to enhance animal health and food safety. We understand the unique challenges you face and are actively working to develop bacteriophage solutions that are effective, adaptable, and tailored to your specific needs. Together, we can promote sustainable and ethical practices in poultry farming that will increase productivity while safeguarding the health of animals and consumers alike.
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*The indicated performance improvement refers to the data generated in controlled field trial involving male birds (Vencobb 430) in an experiment lasting for 35 days.*

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**The key to total gut integrity**
Farmers to Approach Supreme Court against India-U.S. Deal on Poultry

Ranpal Dhanda, President PFI

Reduced import duty on produce and relaxed norms will affect farmers and traders here, they say.

As India and the United States decided to end disputes over the import of poultry products and to reduce import tariffs on apples, almonds, chickpeas and lentils, farmers and traders associations have raised an alarm. They fear that the new agreements, signed when U.S. delegations headed by President Joe Biden were here for the G-20 meetings, will harm the interests of farmers and small and medium industries in the poultry sector.

There are concerns that the deal would allow for chicken legs and liver (not popular in the U.S.) to be dumped in our country, and that meat and bone meal poultry feed made of beef and pork would be used for the poultry (a widespread practice in the U.S.). Talking to Poultry Federation of India’s president Ranpal Dhanda said his organisation will move the Supreme Court against the unilateral decision of the Union Government. “This agreement is against the interest of poultry farmers in the country. Tonnes of chicken legs will now be imported, rather dumped, into our country. We are also keen to know if the U.S. authorities will certify that pork or beef are not used in the poultry feed. Beef and pork consumption is a sensitive issue in the country,” he said. Mr. Dhanda said the Centre is allowing big American companies to make profits at the cost of small and medium poultry outlets in the country.

“They should protect the farmers here, not the American companies,” he added. United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai had announced that both countries have agreed to resolve their last outstanding dispute at the World Trade Organisation and India has agreed to reduce tariffs on certain U.S. products, including frozen turkey, frozen duck, blueberries and cranberries (fresh or frozen or dried or processed). “These tariff cuts will expand economic opportunities for U.S. agricultural producers in a critical market and help bring more U.S. products to customers in India,” she had said. K.V. Biju, national coordinator of Rashtriya Kisan Mahasangh, said India had also agreed to reduce tariffs on chickpeas, lentils, almonds, walnuts, and apples. “The Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non Political) had sent a letter to Prime Minister and Commerce Minister requesting them to stop decreasing import duty. We had urged them to increase import duty. But we expected the Narendra Modi-led government will surrender farmers interest at the G-20 summit,” he said. Mr. Biju added that taking away the restrictions on the import of apples, almonds and pulses will harm the interests of farmers in Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. “By going back from earlier stand adopted at the WTO, the Centre is cheating other countries who fought with India on U.S. subsidies,” he said.
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- Reinforces the immune system

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W.: www.trouwnutrition.in
Mycotoxicosis is a term used to describe a variety of illnesses that are caused by exposure to mycotoxins, which are toxic substances produced by certain types of fungi. Poultry is particularly susceptible to mycotoxicosis, as they are often fed diets that contain a variety of grains and other ingredients that may be contaminated with mycotoxins.

Multiple mycotoxicosis in poultry refers to the presence of two or more different mycotoxins in the same feed or feed ingredient, which can lead to more severe and complex symptoms. The symptoms of mycotoxicosis in poultry can vary depending on the type and severity of the toxin exposure. Some of the most common symptoms include decreased feed intake, reduced growth, poor egg production, decreased immunity, and even death in severe cases. When multiple mycotoxins are present, the symptoms may be more severe and may include a range of different effects on the birds' health and performance.

Preventing multiple mycotoxicosis in poultry and livestock requires careful management of feed and feed ingredients. This may include regularly testing feed for mycotoxin contamination, storing feed in appropriate conditions to prevent fungal growth, and avoiding the use of ingredients that are known to be high-risk for mycotoxins. In cases where mycotoxicosis is suspected, it is important to work with a veterinarian to diagnose the problem and develop a treatment plan that is appropriate for the specific types of mycotoxins present. The most important mycotoxins that are called Big 6 are Aflatoxin, Ochratoxin, T2 toxin, Fumonisins, DON and Zearalenone.

Emerging mycotoxins are a group of newly discovered or less commonly known toxins produced by fungi that can contaminate crops, food, and feed. Research on emerging mycotoxins is important because they can pose potential risks to human and animal health and their occurrence and levels are not currently regulated or monitored in many countries. Some examples of emerging mycotoxins are Sterigmatocystin; Enniatin B; Roquefortine C.

3D Approach to Mitigate Mycotoxin Risk: TOXO-XL is part of the mycotoxin risk management programme that helps identify, reduce, and monitor the risk of mycotoxins in raw materials and complete feed.

TOXO® XL is based on 3 pillars of protection:
1. Mycotoxin binding
2. Gut wall protection
3. Immuno modulation
1. **Mycotoxin Binding:** The high quality smectites binds with the polar mycotoxins and reduces their bioavailability in the animal body (Big 6 - Aflatoxin, Ochratoxin, T2 toxin, Fumonisins, DON and Zearalenone). Recent studies on emerging mycotoxin binding -like Sterigmatocystin; Enniatin B; Roquefortine C shows excellent binding at pH 3 and 6.

Aokin (Germany)-0.2% sample at pH 3.0 and 6.5(1000 ppb Sterigmatocystin;1000 ppb Enniatin B;1000 ppb Roquefortine C)

**Endotoxin (LPS Binding):** Lipopolysaccharides (LPS) are large molecules consisting of a lipid and a polysaccharide that are bacterial toxins. They are composed of an O-antigen, an outer core, and an inner core all joined by covalent bonds, and are found in the outer membrane of Gram-negative bacteria. Today, the term endotoxin is often used synonymously with LPS.

- LPS symptoms include reduced feed intake, increased intestinal permeability, hepatic necrosis, and increased morbidity.
- LPS reduces mycotoxin (e.g. DON) elimination rate and therefore lengthens mycotoxins exposure to animals.

Toxo range of products can effectively bind with LPS at pH 3 and 7 ensuring better intestinal health.

2. **Gut wall protection:** Toxo-XL ensures better gut wall protection due to glucose biopolymers present as active component. It actively reinforces gut integrity.

Toxo XL Support for gut integrity through specific glucose biopolymers, reinforcing enterocyte tight junction protein complexes, which are damaged by inflammation during mycotoxin exposure.

3. **Immunomodulation:** β-glucans in the second yeast cell wall modulate immunity through macrophage activation.
Effect on Antibody Titre Against NCD & IBD: 
Toxo XL can elicit better immune response in challenged groups. When in Positive Control (PC) the ND and IBD titres are decreased, inclusion of Toxo XL in PC was able to mitigate the negative effects of mycotoxins.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>NDV titres, log 10</th>
<th>IBDV titres, log 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PC</td>
<td>1.36*</td>
<td>1.07*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOxo-XL1</td>
<td>0.96*</td>
<td>0.51*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOxo-XL2</td>
<td>1.13*</td>
<td>0.39*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEM</td>
<td>0.04</td>
<td>0.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Toxo-XL mitigated this atrophy, which may help to maintain the laying performance.

- Mycotoxins (PC) significantly impaired egg-laying rate and FCR (vs. NC)
- TOxo-XL-1 increased egg-laying rate by +4.80% and reduced FCR by -0.17 (vs. PC)
- TOxo-XL-2 increased egg-laying rate by +6.89% and reduced FCR by -0.25 (vs. PC)

**Hatchability:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NC</th>
<th>PC</th>
<th>TOxo-XL-1</th>
<th>TOxo-XL-2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Settable eggs (%)</td>
<td>86.3</td>
<td>84.2</td>
<td>83.9</td>
<td>86.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fertility of settable eggs (%)</td>
<td>94.6</td>
<td>91.2</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>94.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatch of fertilized eggs (%)</td>
<td>88.5</td>
<td>84.9</td>
<td>86.2</td>
<td>89.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatch of total produced eggs (%)</td>
<td>72.9</td>
<td>66.8</td>
<td>68.6</td>
<td>79.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settable eggs* (%)</td>
<td>87.5</td>
<td>87.2</td>
<td>87.7</td>
<td>85.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fertility of settable eggs* (%)</td>
<td>95.6</td>
<td>93.8</td>
<td>94.5</td>
<td>94.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatch of fertilized eggs* (%)</td>
<td>89.1</td>
<td>86.6</td>
<td>87.9</td>
<td>90.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hatch of total produced eggs* (%)</td>
<td>75.5</td>
<td>67.4</td>
<td>68.7</td>
<td>73.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Effects of Multiple Mycotoxins in Breeders:**

Mycotoxins can negatively impact a diversity of indices that are necessary for the success of breeder and hatchery production: fertility, eggshell quality, efficiency of vaccine response and quality of the progeny.

Toxo-XL has shown to counteract the negative effects of multiple mycotoxin challenge in breeders. Breeders are long living birds with constant production stress. Even low levels of mycotoxins in their diets can make them susceptible to chronic mycotoxicosis which can hamper production and health.

**Effects of Toxo XL In organ health in Breeders:**

- Mycotoxins (PC) significantly reduced the egg hatchability at week 8 (vs. NC)
- TOxo-XL 1 improved the egg hatchability by 2.6% (vs. PC) TOxo-XL 2 improved the egg hatchability by 6.3% (vs. PC)

Broiler Breeders are sensitive to multiple mycotoxins and are prone to chronic mycotoxicosis. The extensive in vivo studies document the positive effects of TOxo-XL on health and performance of broiler breeder hens exposed to multiple mycotoxins.

Inclusion of Toxo-XL in Mycotoxin Risk management program can ensure organ health, improve performance by improving laying % and hatchability % which are negatively impacted by multiple mycotoxin challenges.

It is impossible to have one silver bullet to bind and eliminate all mycotoxins, emerging mycotoxins and counteract the immunosuppression caused by synergies and interactions of multiple mycotoxins. Hence, producers need to look at more integrated and holistic approach to counter multiple mycotoxin challenge.

3-D approach gives a more rational, scientific approach to negate the detrimental effects of multiple mycotoxin challenges in poultry and livestock production.
Mr. Marc Fesneau, Minister of Agriculture, France inaugurated this 37th SPACE Exhibition, a major highlight for the entire Poultry, Aqua, Dairy & Livestock farming with 1207 exhibitors from 39 different countries. More than 1,00,000 French and International visitors from over 110 countries visited this important livestock exhibition over the three days.

Mr. Marcel DENIEUL, President of SPACE said that Exhibitors at SPACE2023 unanimously praised the quality of contacts they had with visitors during the three days’ event. Mr. DENIEUL said SPACE is here to give its exhibitors the chance to present their products and solutions to its visitors and visitors will therefore be able to discover new products and existing solutions, compare the various options available, get advice from experts to help them to make the right choices and plan their investments with all the information they need at their fingertips.

Valerie Drezet-Humez, Chief of Representation for the European Commission in France while visiting SPACE 2023 interacted on free-trade policies with the representatives of the agricultural professionals at a time where geopolitical stability can be worrying. She encouraged the poultry, dairy and aqua farmers to talk openly about the current and recent advance in farming. It will be most important to secure the generation turnover we need.

According to Ms. Ane Marie QUEMENER, General Commissioner of SPACE, in 37 years, SPACE has become an essential event for all. Created by the leaders of the agricultural organizations, it was designed to be a place to meet debate and exchange ideas, for all farming related professionals. Ms. Ane Marie QUEMENER added that the efforts and hard work by SPACE Team has given excellent results.

Ms. Cecile BERTHIER, International Press and Exhibitors Information, SPACE informed that Poultry, Dairy and Aqua farmers working in all types of animal production were able to enjoy the Expo. The top buyers program run by the Business France as a part of the “Export Begins in France” project had welcomed major International Delegates from China, Senegal, Togo, Egypt, Iran, Kenya, Angola, Saudi Arabia, India, Mexico, South America besides European Union.

SPACE 2023 developed the political dimension of discussions with livestock sector stakeholders. The French Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Marc Fesneau as well as various stake holders were able to speak and convey their messages to exhibitors and livestock farmers during SPACE. These visits
reinforce SPACE as a platform of expression and discussion to advance the major issues regarding the future of the livestock sectors.

According to Amandine LEROUX, International Development, SPACE, Exhibitors and International Visitors had access to International Club where they met and interacted with foreign delegates with the help of free interpreter and also seek advice from export development agencies.

The SPACE was again a springboard for employment and international trade thanks to the job-dating events organized by APECITA, and more than 400 Business to Business meetings organized by Enterprise Europe Network between exhibitors and international investors said Ms. Chloe LETELLIER, Communication Press, SPACE. For foreign visitors, visits to poultry, dairy & sheep farms and agro industrial facilities were rearranged. These tours were supported by ADEPTA and Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

While interacting with exhibitors, they rated SPACE as very high quality trade show. The animal presentations also boosted the appeal and quality of our event. A series of conferences, debates and seminars that took place during the three days gave this year event a new dimension, as poultry and livestock farmers were able to express their needs and expectations, in line with the ambition of the creators of SPACE.

All Indian delegates visiting SPACE Expo appreciated the arrangements at Expo by the organizers especially at the International Club which had all facilities of translators, business meetings and refreshments for the international visitors. The 37th edition of SPACE concluded with an excellent record in terms of discussions and contacts, based on trust, in a spirit of construction and progress. The 38th Edition of SPACE will be organized from September 17-19, 2024 in Rennes, France.
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- 25 Weeks Above 90%
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- Peak Weekly Production 96%

Batch Still Continuing

Sree Suryanarayayana P.F, Chitradurga, Karnataka
Mr. Prakashi M R
Achieved 153 HHE in 45 weeks
with 101 g feed intake/day

- Rs. 3.20
- Feed Cost/Egg
- @ Rs. 26/KG
- % Achievement 94%
- Cum Feed/Egg 123 g
- 17 Weeks Above 90%
- 24 Week Hit 90%
- Peak Weekly Production 96%

Batch Still Continuing

Vijaynagar Egg Farm, Bellary, Karnataka, Flock-3
Mr. Ashok Mandava
Achieved 189 HHE in 50 weeks
with 106 g feed intake/day

- Rs. 3.29
- Feed Cost/Egg
- @ Rs. 26.50/KG
- % Achievement 97%
- Cum Feed/Egg 124 g
- 23 Weeks Above 90%
- 26 Week Hit 90%
- Peak Weekly Production 95%

Batch Still Continuing

Vijaynagar Egg Farm, Bellary, Karnataka, Flock-4
Mr. Ashok Mandava
Achieved 173 HHE in 48 weeks
with 106 g feed intake/day

- Rs. 3.34
- Feed Cost/Egg
- @ Rs. 26.50/KG
- % Achievement 95%
- Cum Feed/Egg 126 g
- 23 Weeks Above 90%
- 25 Week Hit 90%
- Peak Weekly Production 95%

Batch Still Continuing

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The prestigious SIBA 2023 awards were held on September 14, 2023, in Dubai. The event was graced with eminent actors from Film fraternity and noted big Corporate entities. The guest of honor for the event was Mr. Venkaiah Naidu, former Vice President of India Mr. Venkaiah Naidu who had felicitated esteemed dignitaries for their immense contributions to Agricultural Industries.

It was a proud moment for all of us at Srinivasa Farms, Poultry & Agricultural communities as the living legend and founder of Srinivasa Farms Sri. Chitturi Jagapati Rao (Chairman-Srinivasa Farms) has been felicitated with Lifetime Achievement Award for his immense contributions to the Agricultural Industry at SIBA 2023. On behalf of Sri Chitturi Jagapathi Rao (Chairman-Srinivasa Farms) Mr. Chitturi Suresh Rayudu (MD & VC Srinivasa Farms) has received the prestigious SIBA 2023 at the event from Mr. Venkaiah Naidu.

We wish & pray the legacy of Sri. Chitturi Jagapathi Rao continues to inspire generations to come.

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Virbac Strengthens Position in Indian Animal Health Market through Acquisition of Globion

Virbac, a prominent player in the global animal health industry, has recently announced a significant agreement to acquire Globion, a leading specialist in poultry vaccines based in India. This strategic move is poised to enhance Virbac’s leadership in the Indian animal health market by expanding its poultry portfolio into the rapidly growing segment of avian vaccines.

Founded in 2005 as a joint venture between Suguna Group, a major Indian poultry conglomerate, and Lohmann Animal Health, a German specialist in poultry vaccines, Globion has emerged as a key player with robust know-how and expertise in the development, manufacturing, and commercialization of live and inactivated vaccines targeting a diverse range of avian pathogens.

Globion, headquartered in Hyderabad, operates with approximately 120 full-time employees and boasts industrial and R&D facilities. With an annual revenue of around ₹12 million, the company has been independently run by a professional team dedicated to advancing the field of avian health. Sébastien Huron, the CEO of Virbac Group, expressed enthusiasm about the acquisition, stating, “We are extremely pleased and honored to welcome the Globion team within our Virbac family. This acquisition illustrates our 2030 Virbac vision and ambition to grow through ‘programmatic’ M&A, investing in vaccines—a key strategic axis of development. It reinforces our leadership position in India, the world’s most populous country, and completes our portfolio targeting the dynamic and promising poultry market.” Huron further emphasized Virbac’s commitment to supporting the Globion team, providing them with additional resources to maximize their performance. He highlighted the shared ambition with Suguna and Globion teams to create long-term value for customers, drive innovation, and build a competitive portfolio of products supporting the poultry industry in India and beyond.

Soundararajan highlighted the transformation of Globion into a fast-growing poultry biologicals company, reaching over 1 billion rupees in revenues. He sees immense potential for Globion under Virbac’s ownership, leveraging Virbac’s long-term vision, infrastructure, and deep understanding of animal health in Indian and global markets. The founder of Suguna Group also affirmed their continued partnership, stating, “We will continue to remain a key customer of Globion/Virbac in the future, and our best wishes to both Globion/Virbac teams for continued success.”

The National Turkey Federation and USA Poultry & Egg Export Council (USAPEEC) have praised India’s decision to eliminate the retaliatory tariff on US frozen whole turkeys and frozen turkey parts and to reduce the basic tariff on those products from 30% to 5%.

“The National Turkey Federation applauds the efforts by the US and Indian governments to significantly reduce the tariffs,” said Joel Brandenberger, president and CEO of National Turkey Federation. “This move creates an important new market for US turkey producers and will give Indians more affordable access to a nutritious, delicious protein.”

The new agreement reduced significant barriers to access the Indian market due to prohibitively high tariff rates and certain non-tariff barriers and will greatly benefit both nations. Prior to the new agreement, India maintained a 30% duty on US turkey products which overpriced the product for Indian consumers and prevented US exporters from participating in the fast-growing market. This new agreement will now allow US turkey growers to compete in the rapidly expanding market while providing Indian consumers with a high-quality and affordable source of protein, which is in high demand. The agreement also reduces to 5% from 30% the duty on duck imports from the US.
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ILDEX Indonesia 2023, the 6th edition of the international livestock, dairy, meat processing and aquaculture exposition in Indonesia, concluded with remarkable achievements, fostering innovation, knowledge-sharing, and global collaboration. Over three days, the event brought together over 8,901+ industry professionals, experts, and enthusiasts from 48+ countries, creating a vibrant platform to shape the future of livestock-aquaculture and demonstrating the synergy of the agriculture business at the conference.

Global Participation: With 8,901+ attendees hailing from more than 48 countries, ILDEX Indonesia 2023 lived up to its reputation as a truly international gathering of industry experts. This diverse blend of perspectives and expertise set the stage for cross-border collaboration and international business opportunities for the Livestock and Aquaculture markets. Exhibitor Showcase: Over 250+ leading brands from 30+ countries showcased their cutting-edge products, technologies, and solutions. This exhibition not only enhanced the brand image of participating companies, but also facilitated vital connections with potential clients and partners.

Educational Sessions: The event featured a robust program of 80+ educational sessions, providing attendees with unparalleled access to industry knowledge and insights. The seminar sessions covered a wide range of topics, addressing the evolving challenges and opportunities as well as sustainability initiatives for the livestock and feed sectors.

Influential Keynote Speakers: Over 50+ influential thought leaders delivered inspiring keynote addresses, igniting discussions and sparking new ideas. Their contributions added depth and value to the event, enriching the overall experience for attendees.

Expansive Exhibition Space: Spanning across 9,720+ sq.m., ILDEX Indonesia 2023 provided ample space for networking, business meetings, and discovering the latest innovations of the industry.
Hind Poultry one of the largest circulating monthly magazines on Poultry in India also put up its booth during this prestigious exhibition and attracted large number of visitors.

Monthly magazine Hind Poultry was distributed to all the targeted visitors from our booth.

Hind Poultry express its sincere thanks to all the visitors at our booth in ILDEX INDONESIA at JAKARTA.
"ILDEX is where a lot of our customers and stakeholders come together. We found that we could meet a lot of people and a lot of new partners here which motivated us to join the show. As one of the exhibitions in Indonesia, ILDEX has a really good reputation for very good quality customers and connections. Exhibiting here has enhanced our brand image. We tend to find out clients and international connections here which match our strategy." - Ms. Maureen Kalona Kandou, Head of Science & Innovation, Vaoksindo Indonesia part of JAPFA Group.

ILDEX Indonesia strategically targets niche markets, drawing hundreds of buyers to Indonesia to attend the show and to engage in business matchmaking with industry-leading brands. "This is my first time joining ILDEX Indonesia. I really enjoy the show. I hope everyone gets a chance to visit the show and walk through all of the booths to see the new innovations of the industry." - Mr. Jakkrin Taepaisitpong, Executive Vice President, Betagro Group.

"As a buyer in the livestock industry, I was looking for the latest innovations and networking opportunities. The exhibition was exceptionally well-organized, from registration to the exhibition layout. I was impressed by the wide range of exhibitors, showcasing cutting-edge technologies, products, and services related to the livestock and feed industries. It was a one-stop-shop for all my needs." - Ms. Chotika Choknitivet, Purchasing Manager, S.Thaicharoenporn Commercial "There were several seminar sessions at ILDEX Indonesia 2023 that specifically addressed the evolving challenges and opportunities of the livestock and feed sectors. Throughout ILDEX Indonesia 2023, there were many sessions and panels addressing sustainability in the livestock and feed sectors. These sessions provided valuable insights into adopting sustainable approaches in these industries. Our seminar sessions are designed to equip attendees with practical knowledge and strategies to navigate the evolving landscape of the livestock and feed sectors." - Ms. Panadda Kongma, Director - Agribusiness and Operations, VNU Asia Pacific. "This exhibition brought together people from different fields as well as industry stakeholders to brainstorm the new concepts of the industry. At ILDEX Indonesia, we hosted a conference on topics related to "cage-free eggs". There is a growing demand for cage-free eggs in Indonesia as well as Asia. We need to update our industry peers about these new trends. Overall, it was a very great exhibition for us to participate in." - Mr. Jayasimha Nuggehalli, Co-founder and COO, Global Food Partners. VNU Asia Pacific is proud to offer a robust platform for the livestock and aquaculture sectors in the Indonesian market. Looking ahead to 2024, the ILDEX Exhibition series will continue its journey with ILDEX Vietnam, scheduled for May 29-31, 2024, at the Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center (SECC) in Ho Chi Minh City. Following that, ILDEX Philippines will take place from August 28-30, 2024, at the SMX Convention Center in Manila. But that's not all! In March 2024, Bangkok will witness a unique international exhibition for Animal Health solutions, presented by VNU Asia Pacific and VNU Europe. Join us at Health & Nutrition Asia 2024, taking place from March 12-14, 2024, at the Bangkok International Trade & Exhibition Centre (BITEC) in Bangkok, Thailand.

We invite you to connect with us to seize the multitude of business opportunities that await. Contact us at ildex@vnuexhibitionsap.com or visit our official website and follow us on social media for the latest news updates, which are accessible on your mobile device. Your journey into the livestock and aquaculture industries begins here!
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The 37th edition of SPACE was held from Tuesday 12 to Thursday 14 September at the Rennes Exhibition Centre, featuring 1,207 exhibitors. Among them, 241 were exhibiting at SPACE for the first time and 365 were international companies from 39 different countries. These exhibitors welcomed 90,771 visitors, including 12,125 international visitors from 122 countries. Overall, these figures reflect a 23% increase in the number of international visitors, as well as a record number of countries represented.

The three-day Exhibition, which took place in a warm and positive atmosphere, reflects the healthy economic situation of the farming industry, but also its concerns regarding the future, as production volumes for beef, milk, pork and poultry are falling. At the same time, consumer demand for quality food at affordable prices has never been higher. The three days of intense activity were therefore more necessary than ever for all those involved in the dynamics of animal farming, to allow them to address these issues, to alert political leaders to this unprecedented situation and to reflect together on solutions for the future. Once again, SPACE exercised its role to the full as a high-quality event that is vital for the future of animal farming.

As the geopolitical context becomes increasingly unstable, it is essential that we do not develop a tendency to depend on third countries to fill our plates.

Innov’space

Innovation is one of the hallmarks of SPACE, and exhibitors’ enthusiasm for the Innov’space label remains undiminished. A total of 118 applications were submitted, and were rigorously examined by a jury of over 50 members. 37 companies were awarded one or two stars depending on the degree of interest for the farmer or end user. Four winners received the special three-star distinction: Kverneland Group France’s Pudama, which applies fertiliser to each individual seed; Leretrif Rossard Bâtiment’s Watt’N’Wall, which consists of prefabricated walls for pigsties equipped with a hydraulic network to heat part of the space; and finally Mastaplex’s Mastatest and Zoetis’s Vetscan MastiGram+, both of which diagnose mastitis quickly, so the animals affected can be treated more efficiently.

Energy as a major theme

This edition was also dedicated to energy. This central theme of SPACE was explored in numerous discussions, conferences and debates. It was the focus of the Espace for the Future organised by the Chambers of Agriculture. This area, which was redesigned for this year’s edition, provided SPACE visitors with all the necessary information to help them reduce their energy bills and diversify their activities around the opportunities offered by this market. Photovoltaics, wind power, methanisation, biomass... there are many avenues to explore and keeping informed is essential to maintain a profitable balance with the farm’s main production. At a time when strategic decisions need to be taken to meet the dual challenge of energy and food sovereignty, SPACE was a key opportunity to prepare for the future in this area. The new Experts’ Area within the Espace for the Future provided animal farmers with very practical and useful information on subjects such as fuel consumption, hydrogen, reducing energy consumption in buildings, the law on renewable energies, etc.
The World of Animal Farming, a record number of countries attended

SPACE attracted an unprecedented number of international visitors, with 122 countries represented by the 12,125 visitors who came to Brittany looking for solutions to help them develop or improve their farms. The many delegations from Africa (Benin, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, DRC, Senegal, Togo, etc.) confirmed their growing interest in the solutions presented at SPACE to help them achieve food sovereignty. BPI’s official participation alongside them encourages our companies to open up and develop their business in these new markets. Top buyers, invited to SPACE as part of Business France’s “Export Begins in France” programme, were fascinated by the diversity and quality of the products and services offered by SPACE exhibitors. These investors and leading companies in their own countries, came from Angola, Ethiopia, Kenya, Romania, Tunisia and Turkey to find new technologies in the fields of hygiene, health, genetics and breeding equipment at the Exhibition.

The European Association of Agricultural Journalists (ENAJ) also took part in this year’s edition and held its Annual General Meeting there.

Once again this year, the World of Animal Farming played to its full potential in Rennes, despite many professionals being unable to come due to visa refusals. This year saw an even greater number of such cases. A large number of applications were refused, particularly in India, Algeria, West Africa, etc., which has a significant impact on potential or existing business flows between France and the rest of the world.

The Youth Forum and the Tech’Agri Challenge

Once again this year, SPACE focused its attention on young people, highlighting the value of animal farming trades in order to further boost their attractiveness. The Youth Forum welcomed around a hundred students each day to discuss their concerns: the path to setting up a business, time devoted to holidays, income, the ability to maintain agriculture-related employment, internships, etc. A wall displaying job and internship offers, as well as a job dating event, also provided young visitors with concrete opportunities to build their future.

The first Tech’Agri Challenge by Innov’Space was organised this year. HND and engineering students from the agricultural and digital sectors reflected on and developed technical solutions to issues encountered by farmers (digital identification cards for cattle, automated headlocks for remote opening, etc.).

This new project, initiated by Bretagne Développement Innovation and Innozh and supported by SPACE, was a great success and demonstrated the skills of the new generation in coming up with innovative and practical solutions to improve working conditions for farmers.

The closing ceremony, organised for the first time by the Young Farmers of Brittany, was another great opportunity to bring together its members to enjoy a convivial evening.
Conferences

SPACE continues to offer its participants knowledge-rich content in the hundred or so conferences included in its programme. Together, these presentations are what make SPACE a unique platform for the development and progress of the animal farming industry. This dimension was confirmed once again this year.

The genetic showcase

SPACE is a unique showcase for dairy and suckler breed presentations and competitions. 500 cattle from 13 different breeds provided a continuous spectacle in the main ring during the three-day Exhibition. This year’s edition of the Genetics Show featured two major events: the National Charolais Breed Competition and the European Simmental Breed Challenge. Ten other inter-regional competitions and genetic presentations complemented the programme. The “Meat Excellence” beef cattle auction, dedicated entirely to suckler breeds, and the inter-breed “Genomic Elite Auction”, a unique event in Europe, dedicated to dairy and mixed breeds, were a great success. SPACE also featured a large number of sheep, with 120 animals from 10 different breeds. Competitions and the Sheep Olympics were held throughout the day, with 136 young learners taking part. For the second year running, the 32,000 litres of milk collected at SPACE will be donated to the Food Banks via SOLAAL, whose 10th anniversary we celebrated.

SPACE 2023: a political highlight for animal farming

SPACE’s key role in the start of the new agricultural policy season was further accentuated this year with the launch of the Exhibition by the French Minister for Agriculture and Food Sovereignty, Marc FESNEAU, the visit of Denise BAUER, Ambassador of the United States, the conference on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) by Véronique DREZET-HUMET, Head of Representation of the European Commission in France, followed by her tour of the Exhibition stands, and the meeting of the Agricultural Commission for the French Regions meeting chaired by Loïg CHESNAIS-GIRARD, President of the Brittany Region, who addressed young people with the following message: “Tomorrow you will be at the heart of Europe’s food strategy”. Ms Arooj MEHWISH RIZVI, Trade and Investment Counsellor at the Embassy of Pakistan in France, also met a number of people involved in cattle farming on behalf of her country, which is the world’s fourth-largest dairy producer.

The 37th edition of SPACE, with its abundance of opportunities to meet and share ideas, its highly committed exhibitors, its dynamic and enthusiastic visitors all keen to maintain and develop animal farming in our regions and around the world, was a fantastic platform for all these players to find the keys to feeding the world’s 10 billion people in the next 30 years, in an increasingly carbon-free economy.
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