



Conference programme XXII EURAGRI Members Conference 2008 Research Centre Foulum

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

European agriculture and European agricultural research is met with new challenges and opportunities. This relates to agricultural production in a global context, rising energy costs and a changing climate. It comprises scientific matters and new technologies as well as organizational matters. In this context, an open dialogue within the European scientific community, with society at large and with users of research results is of great importance. Likewise, it is of great importance that developments are planned with the aim of sustainability – taking economic, environmental and social aspects into consideration.

The XXII EURAGRI Members Conference will address these complex issues. The conference will invite to dialogue and discussions in a combination of plenary sessions, panel discussions and theme sessions with discussions in break-out groups.

EURAGRI



WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

17:00-21:00 Registration at the Golf Hotel, Viborg

18:00 **Welcome Reception**, Golf Salonen, Viborg

THURSDAY 18 SEPTEMBER, Research Centre Foulum

8:30 Bus departure from the hotel to Foulum

9:00-9:30 **Coffee**

9:30-12:30 **Opening Session**

9:30-10:15 Welcome by EURAGRI President Mr. Niels Gøtke, The Directorate for Food, Fisheries and Agri Business
Opening addresses by Pro-rector Mr. Søren Frandsen, Aarhus University and Dean Just Jensen, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences.

10:15-12:15 **Theme Session I: Pan-European agricultural research - where to go?**
Tight research budgets, national as well as European, demand clear strategic focus, optimised research programmes and priorities.
Chair: Vice-president Michel Dodet, INRA.

10:15-10:45 **Plenary session**

- Presentation of the suggestions of the informal council of Ministers of Research on competitiveness "Food research and new face of agricultural roadmap" and reflections on consequences for EURAGRI.
- Reaction by the European Commission, DG Research.

10:45-11:45 **Break-out sessions**

11:45-12:15 **Reports from break-out sessions and plenary discussion**

12:15-13:15 **Lunch**

13:15-14:45 **Theme Session II: New Technologies and their Integration in Agricultural Sciences**
Chair: Stefano Bisoffi, National Council of Agricultural Research

Research and development of new technologies such as nanotechnology, biotechnology and information and communication technology is taking place in many laboratories globally. Agricultural research and production can benefit from these generic technologies by interacting with the relevant scientific disciplines, also taking ethical aspects and public perception into account.

- Nanotechnology in relation to agriculture and food research.
- Biotechnology integrated in agricultural and food sciences.
- Information and communication technology in agriculture.

14:45-16:15 **Visit at Agro Business Park A/S**

16:15-17:45

- **Animal welfare research in Europe.**
- **Production of Food and Energy in a changing climate.**

Chair: Stefano Bisoffi, National Council of Agricultural Research
Two major themes within agricultural production which are subject to great public awareness are animal welfare as well as food and energy production in a changing climate. Two key note presentations aim to give an overview of European research in the respective areas.

18:00 Bus shuttle to hotel

19:00 **Conference Dinner at the Golf Hotel**

FRIDAY 19 SEPTEMBER, Research Centre Foulum

- 8:30 Bus departure from the hotel to Foulum
- 9:00-12:15 **Theme Session III: Innovation in agricultural knowledge systems.**
Chair: Programme Director of Technology Research Markku Järvenpää, MTT Agrifood Research
- Results from agricultural research should be brought into practical use in agricultural production and companies. Technology transfer and innovation in the sector now takes place in many different ways.
- 9:00-10:30 **Plenary session**
- Overview of the Danish agricultural advisory system.
 - Overview of the agricultural advisory systems in the new member states.
 - Innovation in agriculture, driving forces.
- 10:30-11:30 **Break-out sessions**
- 11:30-11:45 **Reports from break-out sessions and plenary discussion**
- 11:45-13:30 **Panel I: Recent developments in the organisation of national agricultural research in Europe.**
Chair: Fons Werrij, former secretary general EURAGRI.
- The organisation of agricultural research is under steady change in Europe. This implies the merging of institutes and in some cases also merging of universities and institutes. This panel discussion will give an overview of the present situation and developments in some of the member countries.
- Panel: Representatives from France, Romania, Germany, The Netherlands, and Finland.
- 13:30-14:30 **Lunch**
- 14:30-16:00 **General Assembly**
- 16:00-18:00 **Guided Tour, research facilities at Foulum**
- The Faculty of Agricultural Sciences has five research centres in Denmark. Activities at Foulum include research in animal husbandry and plant production together with interdisciplinary research in food quality, food technology, ecology, animal welfare, etc.
- 18:15 Bus shuttle to hotel
- 19:00-20:30 **Guided walking tour of Viborg old town center**
This walk will take you through the old parts of the city, e.g. to the place where people paid homage to the king, the cathedral and some of the narrow old streets. Enjoy the city and its history with the experienced Viborg guides, who know all there is to know about Viborg.

SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

- 8:30 Departure from hotel to 'Årstiderne' ("The Seasons"), Barritskov
- On the busses there will be oral presentations of the International Centre for Research in Organic Food and Farming (ICROFS) and of 'Aarstiderne', which is the largest box scheme company in the DK. 'Aarstiderne' is delivering organic produce to the doorsteps of app. 35,000 Danish households. The company employs 110 people, and it provides a sales channel for several organic farmers.
- 10:00 **Guided tour with Thomas Harttung, chairman and co-founder owner of 'Årstiderne'.**
- 12:30 **Organic lunch at Årstiderne**
- 14:00 **Departure to Airports**
15:00 Arrival Billund
16:00 Arrival Karup