WHAT IS KEY FOR EFFICIENT FARM MANAGEMENT?
Dear EDF members, partners and friends,

Management is not only a key activity on our dairy farms, but also a success factor for its development and sustainable success.

But what exactly is “successful farm management”? If you ask 10 people, what comprises “management”, I think you will receive 10 different answers.

We probably have the same variety within our EDF farm profiles as among our “EDF manager profiles”; some will spend most of their time in the office, others in the milking parlour or on the tractor. We call ourselves breeders, farmers, managers, leaders, directors (and soon CEO’s?), and I hope that all our different backgrounds, conditions/requirements and perspectives on what “successful management” is, will bring inspiring discussions.

Take the opportunity to join our 2017 EDF Congress in Prague to find inspiration in cow and herd management, as well as human resource and risk management. Bring home good ideas to improve the management of your farm and yourself as a manager.

On behalf of the Czech EDF Congress Committee and EDF Europe, we warmly welcome you to our 2017 EDF Congress,

Katrine Lecornu, EDF President
WHAT IS KEY FOR EFFICIENT FARM MANAGEMENT?
– PROGRAM OVERVIEW

TUESDAY 27 JUNE 2017

11:00–14:00
Congress registration

12:00
Official start of the Congress

12:00–14:00
Social gathering

14:00–14:10
Welcome Address, Katrine Lecornu, EDF President and Josef Diviš, President EDF Czech Republic

14:10–14:40
Czech EDF Farmer’s Cost of Production Figures: A Focus on High Output by Steffi Wille-Sonk, EDF and Czech dairy farmers

14:40–15:10
Development and Perspectives of Livestock Production in the Czech Republic by Ing. Jiri Sír – Deputy Minister of Agricultural Commodities, Foreign Relations and Organic Farming Section

15:10–15:40
Management of Reproduction in Czech Dairy Herds by MVDr. Jiri Davidek, Veterinarian and Advisor

15:40–16:30
Coffee break

16:30–17:15
Perfectioning Barns for Management and Comfort by Teun Sleurink, Dairytuner B.V

17:15–18:00
From a Farmers Point of View: How to Handle Increasing Requests for Animal Welfare and Sustainability? Prof. Dr. Folkhard Isermeyer, President Thünen Institute

18:00–18:15
General Introductions by Judit Kühl, EDF

19:00
Welcome Dinner at the University

WEDNESDAY 28 JUNE 2017

08:00–18:00
Farm visit and workshop on farm: Findings on CoP Figures by EDF STAR

Farm visit and presentation on farm: A Farm Advisors Solution to Dairy Farm Challenges

19:00
Breeders Party at Hotel Na Farmě

THURSDAY 29 JUNE 2017

07:30–14:00
Farm visit. Lunch on farm

14:00–14:30
Coffee break

14:30–15:00
EDF Benchmark 2017: What Characterizes Farm Economics in the Previous Season? Steffi Wille-Sonk, EDF

15:00–15:45
Welcome to the World of Free Markets by Joe Spader, President DairyVisor, Inc.

15:45–16:15
Take home messages from the 2017 EDF Congress: What Are Your Key Impressions? Steffi Wille-Sonk and others

16:15–17:30
EDF General Assembly

19:00
Gala Dinner at Municipal House, City Centre of Prague (black tie / semi formal)
WHAT WE CAN EXPECT DURING THE FARM VISITS

A total of 8 EDF farms will be visited, of which every participant will visit four during the Congress. The farm sizes are ranging from 65 cows to 1150 cows. The farms milk both Holstein Frisian and Fleckvieh and achieve milk yields between 8,700 kg and 12,100 kg of milk per cow and year.

Not all farms are in close proximity to Prague that is why each participant will have to expect longer bus rides. To make your trip as pleasant as possible, we have prepared an interesting program for you.

COP WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION

Each delegate takes part in one on-farm workshop managed by the members of EDF STAR which will take about 2 hours in total. What are we going to do? Together we will analyze and discuss the CoP results of one of the farms that you will visit. In a common session after a tour of the farm, we will show you how the KPIs of the Cost of Production Comparison are analyzed and interpreted on the example of the visited farm. Then you have the chance to compare your own KPIs with those of the farm if you have provided your farm data for this year’s CoP analysis. To enable you to prepare for the workshop, delegates with own CoP results will receive a farm-individual handout one week in advance.

After the common part of the workshop, you will work in small groups of 5 to 6 persons on important KPIs and aspects while having another walk around the farm. Your time in each group will be guided by a "task list". The findings/conclusions and questions of the group session will be picked up in the plenary session on Thursday again.
**Beauty of Bohemian - Moravian Highlands**

**Post congress tour**

**Friday 30. 6. 2017**

**Program**
Start - 8am CZU Prague  
ZDV Novoveselko, Nové Veselí – dairy farm  
Lunch  
Pilgrimage Church of St. John of Nepomuk of Zelená Hora, UNESCO’s World Heritage List  
Return to Prague approximately at 5pm

**Price**: 50 EUR person (transport, guided tour, entrance fee, lunch included). Register in advance to reserve your place for the Post congress tour at EDFaccommodation@gmail.com. Payment before trip in the bus.

**Contact**: Radomír Andrýs  
FIDES AGRO, spol. s r.o., Šardice č.p. 709, 696 13,  
Tel.: +420 731 506 375, e-mail: andrys@fidesagro.cz

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**ZDV Novoveselko, Nove Veselí** is one of the biggest dairy farm in Czech Republic. The farm is located approximately 7 km away from Žďár nad Sázavou, the heart of Bohemian-Moravian Highlands. ZDV Novoveselko operates 1 000 ha of agricultural land, 800 ha of arable land and 200 ha of grassland and has 50 employees. Main plants are corn, wheat, barley, triticale, clover as feedstuff for animals. The farm has 845 dairy cows, Black Holstein, milk production is 11 900 l/cow/year, yearly production of farm is over 9,5 mil. liters of milk, average milk composition is 3,34 % protein, 3,72 % fat and 170 SC. The farm has also approximately 150 calves, 720 heifers and 125 fattening bulls.

**Pilgrimage Church of St. John of Nepomuk of Zelená Hora** is located in neighborhood of Žďár nad Sázavou. The design of the building was entrusted to famous architect Jan Blažej Santini-Aichel. Considering the period and the project to construct such a splendid building, they started to build the church at an unusual time, in the middle of the building season, on 13 August 1719. The church was dedicated to St. John of Nepomuk on 27 September 1722. The church at Zelená hora has become one of the most visited pilgrimage places and a place where a number of many splendid Baroque feasts has taken place. Authorities started to prepare documents allowing the inclusion of the church in UNESCO’s World Heritage List in 1994. UNESCO’s World Heritage Committee approved to include the pilgrimage church in the prestigious list at the end of 1994.

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**JUNE 29 & 30, 2017**
**TIME: 08:30**
**DURATION 4 HOURS**

Let’s get acquainted with this beautiful city!

We will start our tour on a bus that will take us to the city center. A professional and experienced guide will lead you on a walk through Prague’s four main historical areas and provide you with an introduction to the city’s history and culture. One of the highlights of the tour is the Prague Castle complex, including Saint Vitus Cathedral and a great view of the whole city. The Lesser Town (Mala Strana) has beautiful gardens as well as Baroque palaces and churches. Charles Bridge (Karluv most) leads to the Old Town (Stare Mesto), where you will find the Old Town Hall with its Astronomical Clock. From there, the tour will proceed to the Jewish Quarter and conclude on Wenceslas Square in the New Town (Nove Mesto).

**Price per person**: 400 CZK or 15 EUR  
Register in advance to reserve your place for the guided tour at EDFaccommodation@gmail.com.  
Participants must pay for the tour in advance in cash. Payments are due on 27 or 28 June to Lenka Kockova or Vojtech Kocek, the accommodations managers, who will be at the conference registration desk.

**BOOKING**: EDFACCOMMODATION@GMAIL.COM
GENERAL INFORMATION

Congress venue: Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, Study and Information Centre, Kamýcká 129, 165 00 Prague 6 – Suchdol, Czech Republic | Website: www.czu.cz.

Congress office: Judit Kühl, European Dairy Farmers e.V., Grüner Kamp 19–21, 24768 Rendsburg | Phone: +49 (0) 433 143 601 90, Mobile: +49 (0) 170 730 18 52, Fax: +49 (0) 433 143 601 91 | Email: congress2017@dairyfarmer.net, Website: www.dairyfarmer.net.

Congress coordination: Holstein Cattle Breeders Association of the Czech Republic | Contact: Ales Bychl, Email: bychl@holstein.cz, Website: www.holstein.cz.

Registration and registration fee: Congress attendance fees are listed on the “Congress registration form”, please go to http://www.dairyfarmer.net/activities/annual-edf-conference.html. All delegates are kindly requested to register before April 30th 2017. For online registration go to www.dairyfarmer.net/activities/annual-edf-conference.html.

Cancellation: No refund for cancellation after May 31st 2017.

Methods of payment: After we receive your registration form, we will send you an invoice/confirmation. Payment is possible via international bank transaction. Please use IBAN and BIC / SWIFT code for bank transaction. **We do not accept checks.** Your invoice must be paid before May 31st 2017.

Language: The language of the EDF Congress 2017 will be English.

Insurance: Please note that the organizers do not provide any insurance for EDF Congress delegates.

Policy agreement: By registering for the Congress, you agree that photos of you may be taken and may be published in any kind of EDF context.

Post-Tour: Please register for your choice of Post-Tour via EDFaccommodation@gmail.com. For any questions regarding the Post-Tour please contact Radomír Andrýs, Phone: +420 731 506 375, Email: andrys@fidesagro.cz.

Prague Guided Tour: Please register for your choice of Prague Guided Tour via EDFaccommodation@gmail.com. For any question, please contact Lenka Kockova, Mobile: +420 603 422 188 or Vojtech Kocék, Mobile: +420 739 233 674. Please be aware that the Prague Guided Tour on June 29th takes place at the same time as the farm visits. There is an additional tour on June 30th.

VISA: Visitors from EU-member states and the Schengen countries do not require an entry visa for Czech Republic. Congress delegates from non EU-member states are kindly requested to contact the local Czech embassy to check whether they need an entry visa for visiting Czech Republic or check www.mzv.cz/jnp/en/information_for_aliens/index.html.

Accommodation: Delegate have to book their own accommodation. The EDF 2017 Congress fee does not include accommodation costs. Hotel rooms have been reserved for delegates of the EDF Congress and must be booked not later than April 30th 2017. Please see travel and hotel information at the EDF website: www.dairyfarmer.net/activities/annual-edf-conference.html.

Emergency contact: In case of emergency, please contact: Lenka Kockova, Mobile: +420 603 422 188 or Vojtech Kocék, Mobile: +420 739 233 674.
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IN PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC

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