

Three EU Countries Face Levies For Exceeding Milk Quotas; EU Production 7% Below Quota Volumes

Brussels, Belgium—Denmark, the Netherlands, and Cyprus were the only European Union (EU) member states which exceeded their milk quotas in the 2009/2010 quota year, triggering superlevy fines for a total of 19 million euros, according to provisional figures published today by the European Commission.

This compares with the 99 million euros triggered last year and 340 million euros the previous year.

Following the increase in quotas agreed to under the 2008 Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Health Check, Italian milk production finished within quota for the first time, as global EU production finished some 7 percent below global quota volumes, compared with the 4.2 percent margin in the 2008/09 quota year (April-March).

"Although these figures confirm that Italy has finally managed to stay within its quota, the 2009/2010 quota year will only be remembered for the particularly difficult market situation witnessed in so many member states," commented Dacian Ciolos, EU commissioner for agriculture and rural development.

Altogether, these three countries accounted for an overrun of 70,000 tons of their national quotas. The Netherlands and Denmark exceeded their "deliveries" quota by 0.4 percent, and Cyprus by 0.3 percent, triggering fines of 13.03 million euros, 5.68 million euros and 125,000 euros, respectively.

The Netherlands also overran its direct sales quota by some 2,268 tons, resulting in a further levy on direct sales of 631,000 euros.

Based on member state annual declarations, the other 24 EU member states were within their quotas.

Although decisions in 2008 increased the scope for production considerably in 2009/2010, an increase in deliveries was only registered in 10 member states: Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Spain, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria and Finland.

In fact, global EU deliveries were down 0.6 percent, reflecting the difficult market situation, with a decline of more than 2 percent in 11 member states.

After fat correction, deliveries in 15 EU member states were at least 10 percent below their national quota: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom. **CR**

NCCIA Honors Three Suppliers With Honorary Membership



The North Central Cheese Industries Association recognized the distinguished service of three people with the association's Honorary Membership award. In the above photo (from left to right) are John Nelson, Nelson-Jameson; Patty Behrends, accepting on behalf of her late husband, Peter Behrends, Tetra Pak CPS, and Bob Leete of DSM Food Specialties.

Brookings, SD—The North Central Cheese Industries Association (NCCIA) recognized three members with the Honorary Membership in the association here earlier this month.

Pete Behrends, Bob Leete and John Nelson were cited for their distinguished service to the industry.

In receiving his award, John Nelson, of Nelson-Jameson, said the North Central Cheese Industries Association was one of the "best bang for your buck" associations there was in the industry.

Leete, of DSM Food Specialties was particularly honored to receive the award. He said the association had some of the finest people he had ever met.

Receiving his award posthumously, Pete Behrends, general manager of Tetra Pak CPS, received special recognition. Introduced by Craig Linz of Tetra Pak CPS, Behrends' award was accepted by his wife Patty.

Patty Behrends congratulated her late husband and told the audience how much the cheese industry meant to her husband.

Behrends spent 15 years at Tetra Pak CPS.

He passed away on May 6, 2009 after a "courageous battle with cancer," Linz said.

The three join 42 previous members who have received the Honorary Membership in the association's 59 years of serving members in the region.

Jana Foods Subsidiary Acquires Brands From Webeco Foods

Secaucus, NJ—Jana Foods, LLC, has announced this week, that its subsidiary, Gayo Azul Dairy Corp, LLC, has acquired the Gayo Azul, El Holandes and Dutch Morning brands from Webeco Foods, Inc., Doral, FL.

Jana Foods also announced that it

has retained Luis Teijero and Filena Fernandez to continue to help manage this business.

Founded in 1995, Jana Foods is an importer and marketer of cheese and other dairy products from the Netherlands, Australia, Denmark, New Zealand and other countries.

For more information on the brand purchase, visit www.janafoods.com.

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