

## NYHEDSKLIP 53

# Next Study Tour for Dairy Managers

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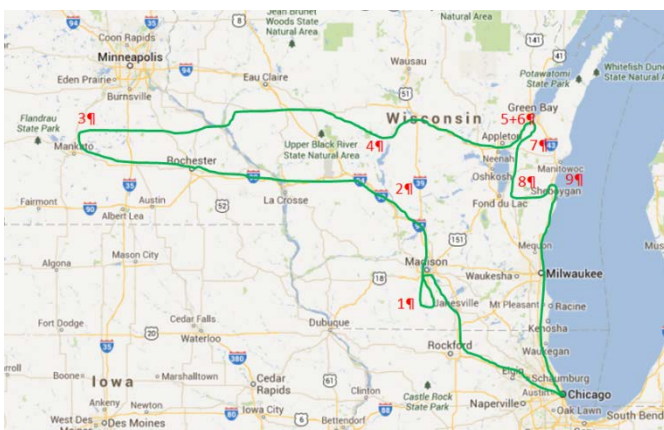
The next study tour goes to Wisconsin at the **1 October 2013 – 9 October 2013**. We have the possibility to go to World Dairy Expo with conference in leadership at the 1 October.

## Topics for the study tour and workshops

We want to inspire and take initiative to improve the skills for managers in dairy farms of large scale. Your farm is rapidly growing and it demands more and more expertise and leadership. The study tour and the workshops are specialized on a high level.

1. Practical leadership and motivation in large scale farming
2. Systematic management and protocols
3. Facility trends and innovation in large scale dairy farming

## Program



The program is for nine days. We will visit high productive dairy farms with 3-8000 cows. We have one and a half day with Juan Quezada, who is a tremendous leader on MilkSource, which have a production of 24.000 cows and 8.000 more to come. They have 350 employees and most of them

are Hispanic. They do a fantastic job in both leadership and management. We have seldom seen so many good cows in one space.

We talk with highly skilled and enthusiastic managers on all the farms. During the tour we arrange three-five workshops according to the main topics and the farm visits. We both have workshops with Juan Quezada about leadership and with the world famous Gordie Jones from Central Sands about management and protocols. We make a professional presentation and discussion, so you will have a high professional benefit.

## Participants

The participants can be a head of department, a manager or owner on a dairy farm in large scale or ready to go for a large scale. They have the responsibility of production and for other employees. They must have the interest in improving their skills and to contribute to the networking on the tour.

The tour language is English. If you are not well in English then you need to be more than one in the same language, so you can help each other with the translation. The tour guides speak Danish, English, German and Dutch.

We want to travel in small groups to ensure full benefit, so we go for between 10-12 participants.

## Small groups are effective



When we travel with Managers Study Tour we want to be a small group of 8-12 persons. It gives more effective learning and discussions with the managers on the farms. They all participate – both give and get.

We often take some ideas from the attendees and bring it in the program. We can do that because we drive in rented cars and are a small group. And it gives the possibility for the high level, we want to provide.

## Price

The price pro person is 19.500 DKr or 2.800 € for members of DFA and 22.000 DKr /2.950 € for others. The price includes:

- 7-9 farm visits in Northern USA. High productive dairy farms in large scale.
- 3 workshops according to the main topics.
- Professional networking with colleagues at the same level.

- Report and pictures from the tour
- Hotels in shared rooms (twin) and all meals.
- Transport in the USA.
- Tickets from the meeting European airport to USA.
- Admission to US (registration in ESTA)
- 2 tour guides with professional competences and experience with arranging tours in the US.

The price doesn't include;

- We give the possibility to go for World Dairy Expo with seminar in leadership at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct ("Building a strong management team"). This extra day will cost approx. 1200 DKr /160 €
- Transport to the starting point in a European int. airport, potential hotel costs here
- Single rooms
- Beverages and professional travel insurance

### Registration

As soon as possible: Please contact Susanne Pejstrup, tel. +45 3026 1500 or send a email to [sp@leanfarming.eu](mailto:sp@leanfarming.eu)

You can read more at [www.managersstudytours.com](http://www.managersstudytours.com)

## EU:

### 62 countries now have biofuels-friendly policies - GRFA

*Friday August 23 2013*

Biofuels-friendly policies are now in place in 62 countries across the world, with demand now over one million barrels a day, according to the Global Renewable Fuels Alliance (GRFA).

The industry has grown significantly in recent years, with governments embracing biofuels "in every corner of the world," says the GRFA, which represents over 60% of global renewable fuel production.

The federation has created a new Interactive World Biofuels Map showing current targets and mandates - including those in several African countries as well as the EU's current aim of sourcing 10% of transport fuel from renewable sources, notably biofuels.

However, the EU is set to revise its previously-agreed policy, with the European Parliament and Council now assessing controversial proposals to cap the contribution of 'conventional' food crop-based biofuels to 5%. Sustainability criteria for bioenergy sources are also being hotly disputed. One of the latest countries to adopt a mandate is India, notes the GRFA, with the current target of 5% ethanol content set to increase to 10% once production capacity is in place. The country has the goal of sourcing 20% of energy from biofuels by 2017.

Biofuels production and policies are no longer limited to the United States and Brazil, but have spread to numerous countries that are struggling to reduce GHG emissions and reduce their reliance on crude imports.

## Germany:

### German grain harvest higher despite floods

23.08.2013

Germany, Europe's second-biggest grain producer after France, reported a 3.0-percent increase in its harvest this year, despite the bad weather and flooding, data showed on Thursday.

The German farmers' association DBV calculated that this year's grain harvest amounted to 46.8 million tonnes, an increase of 3.0 percent of the previous year.

The unusually long and cold winter meant that crop development was delayed by between two and four weeks, depending on the region. But the good weather from June helped counteract this.

The rapeseed harvest was up 17 percent at 5.6 million tonnes,

The situation for vegetables and fruit was more mixed, with the apple and strawberries down.

With potatoes, where Germany is Europe's leading producer, farmers were pessimistic, The harvest looked unlikely to attain 10 million tonnes, compared with 10.6 million tonnes last year.

Parts of Germany, particularly in the east of the country, were hit by catastrophic flooding at the beginning of June.

*Source: Black Sea Grain*

## Latvia:

### WAGES IN LATVIA RISING FOR THIRD YEAR

Average wages in Latvia have increased for the third year in a row when measured on an annual basis, the Latvian Central Statistical Board (CSP) has announced. During the first quarter of 2013 in comparison to the same period last year, gross wages rose by 4.2% (from LVL 466 to 486) – up by 4.4% in the public sector (from LVL 488 to 510) and by 4.3% in the private sector (from LVL 453 to 472). In the government sector, the increase was 5.1% (from LVL 446 to 469).

Net wages during Q1 were at an average of LVL 350, or 72% of the pre-tax sum. The proportion of the taxes increased by one percentage point as the residential income tax rate was dropped from 25% to 24% on January 1, 2013. The increase in net wages on the year surpassed the increase in consumer prices (0.4%) by 4.8%.

## Ukraine:

### Ukraine drops live cattle export duty

Thursday August 22 2013

Ukraine will drop the export duty on live cattle and hides to 5% from the current 25% in an attempt to improve beef production and exports.

"In order to support the livestock industry and domestic producers, the government at its meeting yesterday supported an initiative from the Agrarian Policy and Food Ministry in relation to minimize the taxes on the export of live cattle and hides from 25% to 5% of the customs value," farm minister Mykola Prysiachniuk told Ukrinform.

He added: "The export duty led to the fact that producers were not interested in supplying products abroad. And due to the fact that the purchase price of beef on the domestic market does not reimburse the cost of its production, the commodity producer was losing interest in the production. Now the situation may be reversed."

Prysiachniuk believes Ukraine can become a major exporter of beef in the future.

*Source: Agrar Europe*

## Russia:

### YUGAGRO 2013, November 26-29, Krasnodar

#### 20. International Trade Show for Agriculture and Animal Husbandry

YUGAGRO is the largest trade fair for agricultural industries and the most important meeting point of the agricultural industry after harvesting season in South Russia. All important agricultural brands are represented at the exhibition, 574 companies from 27 countries used the agricultural forum in 2012 to showcase their technologies and solutions for a modern and efficient agriculture. YUGAGRO attracts business professionals from all surrounding regions. With more than 12,000 visitors in 2012 it once again underlined its significance as important agrarian event and biggest show of agricultural technologies in Southern Russia.

#### Krasnodar Region

With 55% of the worlds available arable land Russia provides of excellent conditions for agriculture. The black soil in Southern Russia (Voronezh, Belgorod, Rostov at Don, Krasnodar, Volgograd), in particular, guarantees high crop yields every year. In 2012, for example, Russia saw a high corn harvest.

However, a lot of the high crop yields cannot be properly processed or stored as the Russian agricultural industries lacks sufficient equipment. Much of the technologies and equipment used is outdated so that a good portion of the harvest rots away. Instead, Russia has to heavily rely on imports; almost 60% of the annual consumption has to be imported from abroad. The Russian government takes this as a cause to render assistance and provide subsidies to erect greenhouses. For example, the Russian supermarket chain Magnit is planning to erect a 200 ha greenhouse complex for 67,000 to. of produce in Krasnodar region.

The lack of equipment along with the government's move to decrease dependence of imports provides very good opportunities for international producers of agricultural technologies and equipment.

Source: Friederike Arnz, Project Manager, Yugagro

## Asia:

### Taiwan:

#### Bananas used in development of PRRS vaccine

**The National Taiwan University reported that it has developed transgenic bananas to vaccinate swine against Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome Virus (PRRSV), also known as blue ear pig disease.**



Professor Huang Pung-ling of the NTU Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture and professor Jeng Chian-ren, director of the NTU Graduate Institute of Molecular and Comparative Pathobiology headed the research team. With this new oral vaccine, Huang said that “Pigs can eat the vaccine as raw food. It is extremely convenient and there is no risk of secondary infection or attenuation of vaccine proteins in the cooking process.”

In the industry, current PPRS vaccines are seen as limited and not effective. “After feeding the pigs with 50g of banana leaves from the transgenic banana plants, three times at a two-week interval, the serum and tissue viral loads dropped,” Huang said.

### **Genetic engineering**

According to media reports, genetic engineering technology was used to transfer genetic material of the virus to the banana chromosome. The banana functions as a bioreactor, resulting in a vegetable oral vaccine. "Patents have already been secured in Taiwan, the US and mainland China," Huang said.

### **PPRS on the continents**

Europe, United States and Asia have all been faced with PRRS – in Asia Taiwan, Vietnam, China have all been affected over the decades since the 1980s. With researchers globally working to find a cure for the disease. Recently the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) confirmed that India has reported PRRS for the first time.

PPRS causes reproductive failure in breeding stock and respiratory tract illness in young pigs. Initially referred to as "mystery swine disease" and "mystery reproductive syndrome," it was first reported in 1987 in North America and Central Europe. The disease costs the United States swine industry around \$600 million annually. (*Wikipedia*)

Source: [Pig Progress](#))

## **China:**

### **Chinese demand set to transform global lamb market**

**Wednesday August 21 2013**

Dramatic increases in the amount of sheepmeat imported by China are transforming the dynamics of global markets - opening up new opportunities to exporters and potentially reducing the risks of oversupply.

Data for the first half of this year shows China strengthening its position as the world's largest importer of sheepmeat - now bringing in more than France and the UK combined.

China first emerged as the world's top buyer in 2012, when imports reached some 124 000t - up 50% on the previous year.

The first six months of this year has seen a further acceleration in demand, with Chinese sheepmeat imports surging to 133 000t - more than double the 58 000t imported in January-June 2012.

China currently buys sheepmeat from just three countries - New Zealand, Australia and Uruguay. Of these New Zealand supplies around two thirds of total shipments, with Australia accounting for a further 30% and Uruguay only supplying around 2%.

But by absorbing a growing share of world supplies, China's growing appetite for sheepmeat has big implications for the rest of the world market.

*Source: Agrar Europe*

## **Boehringer Ingelheim: AH business in Asia**

Pharmaceutical company **Boehringer Ingelheim**, in partnership with **Taizhou China Medical City** in Jiangsu Province, China, held a ceremony for a veterinary vaccine manufacturing plant at the **China Medical City (Taizhou China Medicine High-Tech Development Zone)**.



The joint venture, with investment totaling €58 million, will become a manufacturer of veterinary vaccines in Asia upon its completion. The facility is expected to complete construction in June 2015 and to create about 200 job opportunities.

Through this joint-venture, **Boehringer Ingelheim** is set to introduce leading **Animal Health** technology in China and to expedite the sector's development in the country. The manufacturing plant will mainly produce vaccines for swine and poultry diseases.

Lu Chunyun, Standing Committee member of Taizhou municipal government and president of China Medical City, said: "Boehringer Ingelheim is a leading player in the world's **Animal Health** sector, particularly in swine vaccines. China Medical City is the country's only national level medical high-tech development park. This co-operation is set to create synergy and a win-win situation."

"Boehringer Ingelheim's vision is to become a reliable partner of choice for China's animal breeders and to contribute to food safety in China," said Dr Hasenmaier. "The **Animal Health** business together with our other strategic pillars - Prescription Medicines, Consumer Healthcare, Biopharmaceuticals and Operations - will continue to bring more health to China."

*Source: Pig Progress*



# Africa:

## Momentum: Big potential in Kenya and Africa..

Finally companies are looking towards Africa because of the business potential and not with “*feel sorry for Africa eyes*”. And it is understandable.

Thinking about Africa we often recall images of undernourished children or women affected by AIDS and there is a common belief that the West can help these hopeless people by sending aid. However, a neglected African working class exists and there are ways of cooperation which are beneficial for both us and them. The good news is that the image of Africa is slowly changing and business opportunities are flourishing.

This is the approach that Momentum has preferred, having sustainability and transparency as its main values. Momentum Trust is a Danish NGO providing seed capital to African Farmers. Furthermore Momentum has established an office in Kenya dealing with agriculture projects in partnership with the Danish sister company, Elgon Consulting.

Momentum believes that improving the long neglected agriculture industry in Africa will lead to growth and development and be a market expansion for Danish players. The market is extensive for Danish companies and the farmers in Kenya are looking for more distribution channels. It is a win-win for both parties. Furthermore it is a fact that Sub-Saharan Africa is the last uncultivated land and will be the main provider of global food supply in the future.

Momentum is involved in a food security project in Siaya, a district in the West side of Kenya. Here smallholder farmers have an extensive source of good land to grow food and there is even sufficient rainfall for agricultural production. Nevertheless, the paradox is that those people go to bed hungry. Momentum Kenya intervenes by providing them with business skill training and with loans for pivotal seeds and fertilizers for the harvest season. Both aspects are very essential for higher yields and thus higher income for the farmers. It is Momentums vision to expand the market for the farmers for export and also to be the bridge for Danish Farmer companies who are looking to enter high growth market in Africa.

Momentum has reliable contacts among the farmers and farmer organizations in Kenya. Danish farmers can make profitable business by investing in the African farming enterprise.

Elgon Consulting facilitates the process by linking Kenyan and Danish stakeholders, and also by making a preliminary market research and offering a business strategy.

The hope is that the enlargement of this network as well as the empowerment of African entrepreneurs will significantly contribute to the creation of growing and sustainable economies in the African countries hence creating more business opportunities for the Danish agriculture stakeholders.

**Christian Høegh-Guldberg Hoff**  
*Founder & Managing Director*



Momentum is a Danish NGO (non governmental organisation), that create relations pure parts of Africa and social investors who want to invest in sustainable projects in Afrika.

# North America:

## USA:

### US farmland prices up by more than 25%

*Monday August 19 2013*

Farmland prices in key US crop regions surged more than 25% over the past 12 months as demand for land remains strong despite a decline in farm income, two Federal Reserve bank reports said.

Prices paid for irrigated cropland in a central US region that includes Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and Oklahoma jumped 25.2% from a year ago, according to a report by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.

The jump marks the ninth consecutive quarter in which irrigated cropland values have risen more than 20% year-on-year.

Non-irrigated cropland rose 18% from a year ago, while ranch land rose 14%, the report said. Gains were weaker for ranch land, particularly in Oklahoma and some mountain states, because persistent drought left pastures in poor condition.

In the Midwest and in some Mid-South states, including Arkansas and parts of Missouri, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois, prices for quality farmland rose 20.6% over the last year to US\$5 672 (€4 248) per acre on average, according to a report by the Federal Reserve Bank of St Louis.

However, average ranch or pastureland values for the Midwest and Mid-South district increased only about 1% to \$2 372/acre over the past year, the report said.

Source: [Agra Europe](#)

