

International Association of Feedingstuff Analysis (IAG) – Section Feedingstuff Microscopy

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Dear colleagues,

After an again very special year, it is with pleasure that I can send you the "End of Year Greetings" in the name of the IAG board.

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and with new perspectives for 2022.

Although COVID19 again has taken a very big part in all our concerns this year, we have a few subjects of satisfaction, not the least the participation in more and more on-line meetings which made it possible to continue our work and exchange opinions and experiences.

One topic of satisfaction was the On-line Annual Meeting on 7 and 8 September 2021.

The meeting was organized by our colleagues of Materlab from Nutreco in Boxmeer in the Netherlands. Most of us had gained experience in this kind of meetings and it allowed also members from far away to participate. In consequence, we had more than 60 participants and interesting presentations. We also introduced time-slots for prepared questions and concluded with a summary of the chat. At this occasion, I would like to thank the organizers, especially Jos Zegers, and the board members who greatly contributed to the meeting.

As usual, Ring (or Proficiency) Tests were presented and discussed, as well as several topics directly linked to our practical and daily work (new methods and new components / contaminants). The necessity of following Regulations and Quality Guidelines also are an important subjects which are well addressed in our Association. And finally, the future of our association was ensured: we elected 2 new board members, discussed our activities for 2022 and presented the new homepage.

One worry is the future of our Ring Tests. Year after year, Leo van Raamsdonk and WFSR has taken over the organization and evaluation of nearly all of our Ring Tests. As he will be retiring soon, we will have to find new (or old?) solutions for this most important activity of our association, - this is if we want to perpetuate our role as specialists, above all on the topics not treated by the EURL-AP, and also keep our offer up to non-official labs.

Following our annual meeting, all presentations and discussions, will be displayed on our homepage in a private intranet. The registration process to it will be explained by Roland Weiss. A Newsletter should come quite soon from our scientific officer Leo and the dates of our next meeting are 8 and 9 June 2022. That meeting, again planned in Boxmeer, should be made attractive by: -a practical microscopy workshop on the morning or the 8th, -and hopefully a hybrid meeting with video and in-person participation, if possible, for the 1,5 days of oral presentations and discussions.

With this, I want to end this short letter and send all the best wishes for good start in 2022 !

Yours sincerely

Geneviève Frick, IAG president

