

Dear IAG members, dear colleagues,

After the highly successful and inspiring leadership of IAG by Geneviève (Genny) Frick, following in her footsteps is both a great honor and an undeniable challenge. It marks an important milestone for our association. I will do my best to continue her work and to uphold the strong reputation IAG has built under her guidance.

Allow me to briefly introduce myself. I graduated from the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Zagreb, where I also obtained my PhD degree.

Since 2001, I have been employed at the Croatian Veterinary Institute in Zagreb, working in the Laboratory for Feed Microbiology, which is the National Reference Laboratory for processed animal proteins. I have been an IAG member since 2009, and in 2021 I joined the IAG Board.

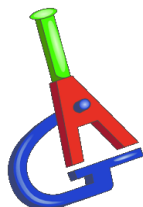
As another year comes to an end, it is time to reflect on our achievements and begin planning for the future.

In 2025, IAG organized three proficiency tests focused on processed animal proteins in collaboration with the Walloon Agricultural Research Centre. LUFA Nord-West prepared the one for feed composition materials, and AGES the one for botanical impurities and forbidden materials.

This year, Agroscope in Fribourg kindly hosted our annual meeting. Over nearly three days, we enjoyed an excellent program of engaging lectures, productive discussions, and valuable exchanges, complemented by meaningful social events. The meeting proved both professionally enriching and personally rewarding.

Shortly after the annual meeting, we elected a new board member following Genny's leaving. We are pleased to welcome Laura Draack (LUFA Nord-West, Oldenburg, Germany) to the board. In addition, I assumed the position of President of IAG.

Looking ahead to 2026, we plan to organize three further proficiency tests, again focusing on processed animal proteins, feed composition and botanical impurities and forbidden materials. We are also currently preparing our next annual meeting, which will feature an exciting and highly relevant workshop on the detection of plant seeds and poisonous plants. The event will



be organized by LTZ Augustenberg (Karlsruhe, Germany). Further details - including confirmed dates - will follow in upcoming newsletters.

We are optimistic that IAG will soon have its own bank account, a step that will greatly simplify our financial administration.

To increase the visibility of our association, we have launched an IAG profile on LinkedIn and it is planned to do so on ResearchGate (links will be shared shortly).

I warmly encourage all members and friends of IAG to share ideas, ask questions, provide feedback, and openly engage with the board. Your input is vital as we shape the future of our association together.

I hope that with your support and cooperative spirit, all our plans will come to fruition.

Finally, I wish each and every one of you a successful, healthy, and happy New Year 2026.

With my best regards, see you in Karlsruhe in June 2026

Yours sincerely

Manuela Zadavec, the new IAG president