

AN(18)2047:2-ON/DA/sd

Brussels, 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018***DRAFT*****SOLUTIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF FARMING****10<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.****Linz, Austria****CONCEPT*****Session 1 – The importance of wildlife management for agriculture***

EU farmers and agri-cooperatives produce under the highest standards worldwide, in particular in terms of the environment and animal health and welfare. At the same, the sector is facing significant challenges affecting its sustainability. One of these challenges relates to the interaction between wildlife and livestock, which has led to the transmission of diseases, competition of resources and direct predation. Recent examples of this are African Swine Fever and Avian Influenza, together with increased pressure from large carnivores and other conflicting species.

This session will focus on solutions to reduce these conflicts and to ensure that the above-mentioned challenges do not jeopardise the viability of livestock farming in the future. New technologies and innovative approaches for livestock protection or the monitoring of wildlife populations play a key role here.

During the session, we aim to tackle the following questions:

- What are the obstacles to and solutions for reducing conflicts and enhancing the coexistence of wild and farm animals?
- What are the main areas for improving the interaction between wildlife and livestock production?
- How is it possible to balance legitimate social expectations with the economic impact of wildlife on animal health and welfare?
- What can the different actors/stakeholders do in favour of an integrated management approach?

***Session 2 – Smart business models for the future of farming***

Farmers and agri-cooperatives are already investing in and applying innovative solutions in order to compete in dynamic markets and respect the high EU standards, while also ensuring the high quality of EU produce and the sustainability of their businesses. Precision farming presents an opportunity but it needs to deliver results for the farming community in order to:

- Improve the use of resources (e.g. animal health and welfare, machinery, PPPs, fertilisers, etc.)
- Foster farming entrepreneurship, adapt business plans, respond to dynamic markets and consumer expectations, and inspire respect for the environment and rural communities
- Optimise the use of market-related tools, facilitating the sales and competitiveness of EU farmers on a global scale
- Decrease administrative and bureaucratic costs and enable science-based policies
- Help farmers to increase transparency and negotiate a better position in the value chain

- Provide better and more prosperous living conditions for rural communities

The uptake of new technologies remains below what is expected. EU farmers and agri-cooperatives can contribute here by improving understanding of how precision farming can serve the multi-functionality of EU agricultural and food systems. Moreover, EU farmers and agri-cooperatives can help determine what is missing in order to close the gaps. This session will serve as a platform to discuss how various policies and tools can help farmers to remain at the heart of the business plans they choose to apply on their farms, opting for the precision farming techniques that they consider most fit for purpose.

- How can farmers and agri-cooperatives use innovative tools and technologies to improve their market reward while also using their resources more efficiently?
- In which disruptive technologies (precision farming) should farmers and agri-cooperatives invest in order to adapt their business plans to the next decade?

## DRAFT PROGRAMME

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Coffee and registration

2:00 – 2:10 p.m. Opening words by [REDACTED] Copa and Cogeca

### ***Session 1 – The importance of wildlife management for agriculture***

**Moderator:** [REDACTED], ENRD [REDACTED]

2:10 – 2:15 p.m. Introduction by the moderator

2:15 – 3:00 p.m. **Panel debate 1: “The role of wildlife in animal health and welfare”**

**Setting the scene:** Bernard Van Goethem, Director, European Commission, DG SANTE

**Panellists:**

[REDACTED], European Federation for Animal Health and Sanitary Security – FESASS  
Bernard Van Goethem, Director, European Commission, DG SANTE  
[REDACTED] Copa-Cogeca Working Party on Animal Health and Welfare

3:00 – 3:50 p.m. **Panel debate 2: “Large carnivores – conservation success and source of conflicts”**

**Setting the scene:** [REDACTED] Copa-Cogeca Working Party on Sheepmeat

**Panellists:**

[REDACTED] Institute of Wildlife Biology and Game Management at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU)  
[REDACTED], International Union for Conservation of Nature – IUCN  
[REDACTED] Copa-Cogeca Working Party on Sheepmeat

3:50 – 4:00 p.m. **Concluding remarks** by the moderator

4:00 – 4:10 p.m. Coffee break

### ***Session 2 – Smart business models for the future of farming***

**Moderator:** [REDACTED], cereal farmer, [REDACTED] Copa-Cogeca Working Party on Cereals and Oilseeds

4:10 – 4:20 p.m. Introduction by the moderator

4:20 – 5:05 p.m. **Panel debate 1: “New technologies in the agri-food sector”**

**Setting the scene:** [REDACTED], IOF2020 “Ecosystem Development”  
[REDACTED] *Internet of Food and Farm 2020 (IoF2020)*

**Panellists:**

[REDACTED] Chamber of Agriculture of Upper Austria

5:05 – 5:50 p.m.

**Panel debate 2: "Reflections on disruptive new business ideas and new talent"**

**Setting the scene:** - *Future Farming by Robotics*  
Engineering Tractors Global, AGCO Corporation

**Panellists:**

ECPA  
Ivars d'Urgell Cooperative (tbc)  
CEMA (tbc)

5:50 – 6.00 p.m.

**Concluding remarks** by the moderator

6:00 p.m.

**End of session**

## **CONGRESS OF EUROPEAN FARMERS 2018**

### **TECHNICAL VISITS**

**12<sup>th</sup> October 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Organised by LKÖ and ÖRV**

#### **TECHNICAL VISIT A: DIVERSIFICATION – NEW INCOME POSSIBILITIES ON FARMS**

Direct marketing, farm tourism and educational programs are just some examples for additional income possibilities on farms. We will visit two agricultural holdings, which developed their own business model to stay fully employed on their own holdings.

Background information about the educational and administrative support by the Agricultural Chamber of Upper Austria will be supplied by Chamber employees attending the visit.



#### **TECHNICAL VISIT B: PORK PRODUCTION AND AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING**

Animal welfare is a main topic for the Austrian agriculture, especially in the pork sector. A recently finished project explored new housing systems for breeding sows to minimize the confinement of sows as well as the mortality of piglets. Seeing this new housing system in action will be the first topic of the visit.

The second station will be the agricultural machinery producer Pöttinger in Grieskirchen. Pöttinger is one of Europe's leading companies in grassland, tillage and seed drill technology.



## **TECHNICAL VISIT C: DAIRY AND BEEF PRODUCTION**

Dairy and beef production is the leading branch of Austrian agriculture. The Austrian dairy producers need highly specialized strategies to compete with much bigger farming holdings on the common European market.

By visiting two agricultural holdings with different management strategies, we will explore the whole spectrum of Austrian dairy production and the important role of education and constant enhancement of farming techniques.



The visits will include lunch and have a cost of 35€/person.

Additional and more detailed information will be provided at a later stage.

***DRAFT***

**CONGRESS OF EUROPEAN FARMERS 2018  
FEEDING EUROPE'S FUTURE  
10-11-12<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
Linz, Austria**

**SCOPE**

A number of strategic debates impacting the future of the EU and its policies will continue throughout the current year and all the way up to the next European elections (tentative date 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> May 2019). Among these, the future budget of the Union (MFF) as well as the future CAP are very relevant.

Other on-going processes such as Brexit and international bilateral trade negotiations will also play a decisive role in the political discussions.

With these in mind, the Congress aims to look at how the challenges affecting the EU and, in particular, the agricultural sector can be turned into opportunities to deliver more sustainable, competitive and economically viable European agriculture.

The role of European agriculture in a global context, be it in terms of environmental and climate commitments, innovation or trade, will also be discussed.

Farmers are the first producers of food. They seek to provide European consumers with safe, secure and high-quality food at affordable prices, whilst also helping to improve the EU's environmental status and contributing to growth and jobs.

Follow the event at **#FarmersCongress18**

**10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2018**

A workshop will be held in preparation for the Congress' main plenary session on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Location: Design Centre, Linz, Austria**

**Workshop: Solutions for the future of farming**

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|------------------|--|
| 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. | Coffee and registration  |
| 2:00 – 2:10 p.m. | Opening  |
| 2:10 – 4:00 p.m. | Session 1: “The importance of wildlife management for agriculture” |
| 4:00 – 4:10 p.m. | Coffee break   |
| 4:10 – 6:00 p.m. | Session 2: “Smart business models for the future of farming”       |
| <b>7:30 p.m.</b> | <b>Dinner cruise on the Danube river, Linz, Austria</b>            |

## 11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2018 – CONGRESS PLENARY

**Location: Design Centre, Linz, Austria**

- 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Coffee and registration
- 9:00 – 9:10 a.m. Welcoming address by:  
Thomas Stelzer, Governor of Upper Austria  
[REDACTED] Austrian Chamber of Agriculture  
[REDACTED] Austrian Raiffeisen Association
- 9:10 – 9:20 a.m. Opening speeches by [REDACTED] Copa [REDACTED] and by [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], Cogeca [REDACTED]
- 9:20 – 9:40 a.m. Keynote speech: Phil Hogan, European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development
- Panel session 1: Sustainability and the Common Agricultural Policy**  
**Moderator:** [REDACTED], BBC Rural Affairs [REDACTED] & Radio 4 Rural Affairs & Environment [REDACTED]
- 9:40 – 9:55 a.m. Elisabeth Köstinger, Austrian Minister for Sustainability and Tourism, President-in-office of the EU Agriculture Council
- 9:55 – 10:05 a.m. Czesław Adam Siekierski, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, European Parliament (tbc)
- 10:05 – 10:15 a.m. [REDACTED] OECD [REDACTED]
- 10:15 – 11:10 a.m. **Debate**
- 11:10 – 11:30 a.m. **Coffee break**
- 11:30 – 1:00 p.m. **Panel session 2: Agriculture and forestry and the EU's environment & climate ambitions**  
**Moderator:** [REDACTED] BBC Rural Affairs [REDACTED] & Radio 4 Rural Affairs & Environment [REDACTED]  
**Panel:** [REDACTED] Copa [REDACTED] Pierre Bascou, Director, DG AGRI, European Commission; [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] WWF European Policy Office
- 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. **Lunch**
- 2:30 – 2:40 p.m. Reporting back from the workshop by [REDACTED], Cogeca [REDACTED]
- 2:40 – 4:15 p.m. **Panel session 3: Trade and Brexit**  
**Moderator:** [REDACTED] BBC Rural Affairs [REDACTED] & Radio 4 Rural Affairs & Environment [REDACTED]  
**Panel:** [REDACTED] Copa [REDACTED] María Angeles Benítez Salas, DG AGRI Deputy Director-General; [REDACTED] NFU England & Wales
- 4:15 – 4:45 p.m. **Coffee break**



- 4:45 – 5:45 p.m.      **Panel session 4: Investment as a driver of competitiveness**  
**Moderator:** [REDACTED] BBC Rural Affairs [REDACTED] & Radio 4  
Rural Affairs & Environment [REDACTED]  
**Panel:** [REDACTED] Euralis [REDACTED] [REDACTED] CEJA [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Raiffeisenlandesbank Upper Austria
- 5:45 – 6:00 p.m.      Closing speeches by [REDACTED] Copa [REDACTED] and by [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Cogeca [REDACTED]
- 6:00 – 6:30 p.m.      Press conference
- 8:00 p.m.              **Gala dinner at the Monastery of the Canons Regular of St.  
Augustine’s Order at St. Florian**

**Interpretation** will be available throughout the Congress in English, French, German, Italian, Polish, and Spanish.

## **12<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2018 – TECHNICAL VISITS**

- 9:00 – 4:00 p.m.      Technical visits