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Date: 10.07.2025

**Location: Karacabey
Borsa/Bursa-Türkiye**

09:30 – 10:00: Welcome Coffee & Introduction to the Workshop (Dr. Arzu PEKER)

Content: Welcome participants, provide workshop materials, introduce the partners, and give an overview of the workshop objectives and schedule.

10:00-10:15: Speech of Nejat DEVECİ (Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bursa Province Cattle Breeders Association)

10:15 – 10:35: Session 1: Mastitis: Best Milking Practices, Prevention Of Inflammations and Their Early Detection

Instructor: Italian Expert (Dr. Angela COSTA)

Content: Presentation on the key risk factors for mastitis at the milking stage, including improper milking routines, equipment hygiene, and environmental conditions. The internationally recognized best practices for teat preparation, milking machine maintenance, and post-milking hygiene to reduce infection risks. Early detection methods, such as observation of milk consistency and udder health indicators, can be also covered. (You can decide the content for sure)

Interactive Segment: Participants can analyze photos and short videos showing both correct and incorrect milking practices. Through guided discussion, they can be invited to identify mistakes, suggest improvements, and reflect on how these practices could influence mastitis prevention on their own farms.?? (You can decide the content for sure)

10:35 – 10:55: Session 2 – Colostrum Management: the key to lifelong calf health and farm productivity

Instructor: Italian Expert (Dr. Angela COSTA)

Content: Overview of the biological function of colostrum in providing passive immunity, the window of gut closure, risk factors for failure of passive transfer (FPT), and the long-term impacts of early life immunity on calf growth, disease resistance, and future milk production. (You can decide the content for sure)

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Interactive Segment: Evaluation of case studies on FPT and reflection on best practices to improve calf health and optimize farm productivity. (You can decide the content for sure)

10:55- 11:15: Session 3: Nutritional Strategies for Managing the Heat-Stressed Dairy Cow

Instructor: Turkish Expert (Prof. Dr. Özge SIZMAZ)

Content: Presentation on the physiological impacts of heat stress on dairy cows, including reduced feed intake, metabolic disturbances, and decreased milk production. The session introduces key nutritional strategies such as adjusting energy density, optimizing fiber and starch balance, increasing water and electrolyte availability, and supplementing with specific feed additives (e.g., antioxidants, buffers) to support rumen health and maintain productivity under heat stress conditions. (You can decide the content for sure)

Interactive Segment: Participants review a set of ration examples for cows under different levels of heat stress. They can share their experiences on feed management during hot seasons and reflect on the role of nutrition in minimizing production losses. (You can decide the content for sure)

11.15 AM- 11:30 AM: Coffee Break

11:30- 11:50: Session 4: Effects of Management Strategies on Animal Welfare and Productivity Under Heat Stress

Instructor: Italian Expert (Barbara Merlo)

Content: Presentation on how heat stress impacts cow behavior, welfare indicators (e.g., panting, lying time, feed intake), and production performance. The practical management strategies such as providing shade, improving barn ventilation, using fans and sprinklers, and adjusting handling routines to reduce heat load. The link between improved animal comfort and sustained milk production can be emphasized with scientific and field-based evidence. (You can decide the content for sure)

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Interactive Segment: Participants can review farm case studies illustrating different heat stress management practices. They can discuss the welfare and productivity outcomes observed in each case, compare them to their own farm experiences, and reflect on feasible improvements they could implement in their specific production systems. (You can decide the content for sure)

11:50- 12:10: Session 5: How to Use Sensors to Improve Heat Detection and Reproductive Management Under Heat Stress Conditions

Instructor: Italian Expert (Barbara Merlo)

Content: Presentation on the role of activity and rumination sensors in detecting heat (oestrus) in dairy cows, explaining how these technologies track behavioral changes such as increased movement, mounting activity, or reduced feed intake. The presentation can also cover how to interpret sensor data, common challenges (e.g., false positives), and how integrating sensor alerts with visual observation and farm records can optimize reproductive management. In addition, the negative effects of heat stress on fertility, including reduced expression of heat signs, lower conception rates, and early embryonic losses can be addressed. (You can decide the content for sure)

Interactive Segment: Participants can be shown examples of sensor data reports and alerts. (You can decide the content for sure)

12:10- 12:30: Session 6: Agricultural practices in dairy agroecosystems for better environmental preservation.

Instructor: Sarah Saad (Unilasalle)

Context: Presentation on the environmental impact of the practices adopted by dairy farmers including poor manure management that cause water and air pollution, overgrazing that leads to soil erosion, loss of biodiversity and high-water need to produce feed crops like corn and alfalfa. Following an introduction to sustainable practices such as multi-cropping, minimal or no pesticide use, focusing on soil health by soil testing, practicing water conservation and sustainable irrigation and manure management like proper composting techniques transform manure into valuable fertilizer, enhancing soil health and reducing pollution.

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Interactive segment: Participants review case studies on sustainable farms that adopt environmentally friendly practices showcasing that the profit isn't negatively affected. Evaluating the perception of the farmers on sustainable farming by a questionnaire that will be distributed to them during our discussion.

12:30 – 12:50: Session 7: Management and Control Strategies of Bovine Brucellosis and FMD in Dairy Herds and Risk Factors (requested by Association in Friday meeting)

Instructor: Turkish Expert Dr. Serdar SIZMAZ

Content: Theoretical overview of bovine brucellosis and foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) as major infectious threats in dairy production. The disease transmission pathways, herd-level risk factors such as animal movements and biosecurity gaps, and highlights national and farm-level control measures including vaccination, surveillance, test-and-cull strategies, and farm biosecurity protocols. (You can decide the content for sure)

Interactive Segment: Discussion on tailored management actions to reduce risks and farmers can share their experiences with vaccination, disease control programs, and regulatory compliance in the region. (You can decide the content for sure)

12:50- 13:00: Closing Remarks Dr. Arzu PEKER, Nejat DEVECİ (Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bursa Province Cattle Breeders Association)

13:00-13:30: Quick Lunch (Snack)

13:30- 14:15: Short visit of Nejat Deveci's farm in Karacabey.

14:15: 15:00: Going back to Bursa City centre.