International Symposium on

Enterococci in Foods. Functional and Safety Aspects

30-31 May 2002
Berlin - Germany

European Commission
Project FAIR-CT97-3078
In collaboration with the BgVV
INVITATION

Enterococci occur and grow in a variety of fermented foods. The presence of enterococci in food products has long been considered as an indication of poor sanitary conditions during production and processing. On the other hand, fermented foods containing enterococci have a long history of safe use. It is also claimed that enterococci play an important role in the development of the organoleptic properties of the fermented foods. Furthermore, many enterococcal strains have interesting biotechnological traits, such as bacteriocin production, and functional properties such as probiotic features.

The last few years however, this view is changing because of the increasing incidence of enterococci in nosocomial infections, and the widespread occurrence of antibiotic-resistant enterococci, especially in hospital environments. Many studies have consistently found vancomycin resistant enterococci in clinical human samples, in animal samples as well as in foods.

Over the past four years, the European Commission has funded the project “Enterococci in Food Fermentations. Functional and Safety Aspects” (FAIR-CT97-3078). The project generated new data on enterococci in respect to physiology, typing, taxonomy, as well as aspects of functionality, safety and technological performance. It seemed therefore timely to organize an International Symposium concerning the actual knowledge on enterococci in foods.

We cordially invite you to attend this Symposium, which is organized under the auspices of the Food and Agro-Industrial Research (FAIR) Programme of the European Commission, and hosted by the Federal Institute for Health Protection of Consumers and Veterinary Medicine (BvL), Berlin. The Symposium aims to present the most recent developments on the functional and safety aspects on enterococci, by bringing together scientists, and R&D and production managers of food and pharmaceutical industries from all over the world.

George Kalantzopoulos  
Co-ordinator of the FAIR-CT97-3078 Project

Dieter Arnold  
Acting Director of the BvL

Günter Klein  
Local Organizing Committee
**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

W. Holzapfel, Chairman  
K. Kersters, Vice-chairman  
T. Cogan  
F. Dellaglio  
L. De Vuyst  
C. Franz  
G. Giraffa  
G. Kalantzopoulos  
I. Klare  
G. Klein  
A. Lombardi  
M. Stiles  
J. Swings  

Federal Research Centre for Nutrition, Germany  
University of Gent, Belgium  
Teagasc, Fermoy, Ireland  
Università degli Studi di Verona, Italy  
Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Belgium  
Federal Research Centre for Nutrition, Germany  
Istituto Sperimentale Lattiero Caseario, Italy  
Agricultural University of Athens, Greece  
Robert Koch Institute, Germany  
Federal Institute for Health Protection of Consumers and Veterinary Medicine, Germany  
Veneto Agricoltura, Italy  
University of Alberta, Canada  
University of Gent, Belgium

**ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

G. Kalantzopoulos, Chairman  
G. Klein, Vice-Chairman  
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European Commission  
Teagasc, Fermoy, Ireland  
Università degli Studi di Verona, Italy  
Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Belgium  
Federal Research Center for Nutrition, Germany  
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Veneto Agricoltura, Italy  
University of Gent, Belgium  
Agricultural University of Athens, Greece

**MAJOR TOPICS**

- Ecology, Taxonomy and Physiology of Enterococci
- Functionality of Enterococci in Foods
- Functionality of Enterococci in the GI Tract
- Safety Aspects of Enterococci
Thursday, 30 May 2002

08:00 - 09:30 Registration and poster set up

09:30 - 09:45 Opening ceremony
Welcome by Prof. G. Kalantzopoulos, Coordinator of the FAIR-CT97-3078 project
Welcome by Prof. D. Arnold, Acting Director of the BgVV
Welcome by Dr. L. Breslin, European Commission

09:45 - 10:30 General Overview Lecture on Enterococci
W. Holzapfel, Federal Research Centre for Nutrition, Germany

10:30 - 12:30 Session 1 Ecology, Taxonomy and Physiology of Enterococci

10:30 - 11:15 Ecology, Taxonomy and Physiology of Enterococci
K.H. Schleifer, TU Muenchen, Germany and G. Klein, BgVV, Germany

11:15 - 11:45 Coffee break and poster viewing

11:45 - 12:30 Oral presentations

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 - 17:00 Session 2 Functionality of Enterococci in Foods

14:00 - 14:45 Functionality of Enterococci in dairy products
G. Giraffa, Istituto Sperimentale Lattiero Caseario, Italy

14:45 - 15:30 Functionality of Enterococci in meat products
M. Hugas, Meat Technology Center-CeRTA, Spain

15:30 - 16:00 Coffee break and poster viewing

16:00 - 17:00 Oral presentations

17:00 - 18:30 Poster viewing

19:00 Reception
**Friday, 31 May 2002**

09:00 - 12:00  **Session 3  Functionality of enterococci in the GI Tract**

09:00 - 09:45  Normal gut flora structure and function  
*S. P. Borriello, Central Public Health Laboratory, United Kingdom*

09:45 - 10:30  Enterococci as probiotics. Chances and challenges  
*H. Goossens, University of Antwerp, Belgium*

10:30 - 11:00  Coffee break and poster viewing

11:00 - 12:00  Oral presentations

12:00 - 13:30  Lunch break

13:30 - 17:00  **Session 4  Safety Aspects of Enterococci**

13:30 - 14:15  Safety Aspects of Enterococci from the food point of view  
*M. Stiles, University of Alberta, Canada*

14:15 - 15:00  Safety Aspects of Enterococci from the medical point of view  
*F.H Kayser, University of Zurich, Switzerland*

15:00 - 15:30  Coffee break and poster viewing

15:30 - 16:30  Oral presentations

16:30 - 18:00  Round table / open forum

18:00 - 18:15  Closing ceremony

18:15 - 19:00  Press conference

20:00  Conference dinner
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Participants are required to pay a registration fee. Payment of the fee includes the participation in all meetings, coffee breaks, welcome reception and symposium dinner. Accommodation has to be paid separately. The accompanying persons' registration fees include the welcome reception and symposium dinner.

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<th>Registration and payment before 28 February 2002 (Euro)</th>
<th>Registration and payment after 1 March 2002 (Euro)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accompanying persons</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
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<td>150</td>
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</tbody>
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Note: No registration will be performed without prior payment

Banking Instructions

Please note that there will be no registration without payment. All bank charges have to be paid by participants themselves. Please add to your registration form a copy of your transfer receipt.

Payable to: Bundeskasse Berlin
Account no. 100 010 18
Bank code no. 100 000 00
Name of the bank: LZB Berlin-Brandenburg
Purpose: BgVV-ENT plus name of participant

Credit cards cannot be accepted. For collective transfers, names of participants and events in which they participate should be listed. A written confirmation of your registration and your hotel reservation (if applicable) will be sent to you.

Cancellation of Symposium Registration

Cancellation must be made in writing. If you cancel your registration before 28 February 2002 the registration fee will be refunded (bank charges deducted). In case of cancellation up to 15 April 2002 you will be charged 50% of the relevant registration fee. After 15 April fees cannot be refunded.

For further information please refer to: www.bgvv.de
and click “Veranstaltungen” or go to the English version and click “events”
All correspondence concerning registration and hotel reservation must be sent to the:

**ENTEROCOCCUS SYMPOSIUM SECRETARIAT**

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12277 Berlin, Germany
Tel: +49 30 8412 2207 - Fax: +49 30 8412 2951
E-mail: ec-symposium@bvgv.de

**CALL FOR POSTERS AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS**

Abstracts submitted for posters and oral presentations will be peer reviewed by the Scientific Committee. Abstracts must be submitted in English, preferably written in MS Word. Maximum one (1) page, format A4, typed in Arial 11 with single spacing, justified. Requested margins are: 2.5 cm left and right margin, 3 cm at the top and 2 cm at the bottom of the page. The title must be in bold; use an asterisk for the person who will give the presentation. Please send your abstract on a Diskette (3.5”) by mail and also by e-mail to the Symposium Secretariat: ec-symposium@bvgv.de.
Submission deadline: 28 February 2002
Oral presentations: 10 minutes. Overhead projector, slide projector, beamer-computer for powerpoint-presentations are available
Preparation of posters: Standard poster size is 110 cm (width) by 150 cm (height).

**General Information**

The Symposium will take place from Thursday 30 to Friday 31 May 2002, at the Federal Institute for Health Protection of Consumers and Veterinary Medicine, Diedersdorfer Weg 1, 12277 Berlin, Germany

**Public Transport**
Bus X83, 183, X11, 111, 172
S-Bahn S2 - Buckower Chaussee
(see map below)

**Conference Language**

**English**

**ACCOMMODATION**

**Hotel Reservation**
A number of hotel rooms at reduced rates are reserved till 31 March 2002.

**Transfer**
A free shuttle service will be organized from the contracted hotels to the congress venue and social events and back to your hotel, starting Thursday morning till Friday evening.
SCIENTIFIC SECRETARIAT

(For registration and hotel reservation see symposium secretariat and separate registration form!)

G. Klein
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