



## COST Action 923 Newsletter

30 August 2004  
Issue 1

### Welcome to COST Action 923, Issue No. 1!

It is a real pleasure to introduce this our first Newsletter that aims to be a communication 'tool' for everybody interested in this Action!

The newsletter will be published in the COST Action 923 public website at <http://www.sci.utu.fi/biokemia/cost923/> and a description possibility will be also made available for those who wish to receive it into their own mailbox directly.

I hope that this service will provide useful for spreading the research and results of the COST Action 923, and also in offering some information on what our network is doing before the official publications will become available. At the same time, I would like to request from our readers their contribution with any thoughts on what you would like to read from this newsletter in the future, please send me a note!

The next COST Action 923 Newsletter will come out in December 2004, and the deadline for submitting material there will be in 30 November 2004.

In the meanwhile, I would like to wish all the COST ACTION 923 members and partners good summer holidays and I hope to see most of you in Barcelona in October!

Best Regards, **Eva**

### Why COST Action 923?

The production of hen eggs is an important part of the agriculture production in the European Union Member States as well as in the Non-EU member states. Recently, egg researchers all over the world have identify the opportunity to combine traditional egg research with modern biotechnology and separation techniques. Today, there are networks of egg researchers in Europe, mainly organized by the World's Poultry Science Association, but they tend to concentrating on traditional areas of research. In previous and ongoing COST Actions relevant to the hen egg research, research topics such as egg production hygiene, animal diseases and overall animal welfare have been discussed (*i.e. COST Actions 97, 839, 840 and 846*). This COST Action complements existing COST Actions and by co-operation all Actions will benefit.

### What is the aim of COST Action 923?

The aim of the COST Action 923 is to link the multidisciplinary hen egg research being conducted in different European countries with the objective to finding novel uses for, and increase utilisation of novel hen egg products as (functional) food ingredients, and encourage the new non-food uses. These new ways of using hen eggs and their fractions should help to increase egg consumption and use, combating the effects of overproduction which is common in both the European Union Member States and the Non-EU member states in Europe.

This goal will be targeted by forming a network consisting of specialists from research bodies as well as from companies working in this field. In the network the research strengths of each participant will be joined, consequently increasing the skills and knowledge in the area of the network by combining overlapping data as well as expanding viewpoints by synergy.

The secondary objectives of the Action are to:

- develop practices and technologies for the fractionation of bio-active food ingredients from eggs and for the production of health-promoting egg products
- introduce and encourage a new non-food branch for the egg production plants
- slow and even stop the rapidly declining per capita consumption of eggs
- support the tendencies to improve the animal welfare, which is important for the production of high quality foods and ingredients
- reduce negative effects on the environment by intensifying the use of all parts of the hen eggs, and by developing new ovo-biotechnologies with respect to sustainable (agricultural) production

These objectives will be fulfilled by adopting knowledge from the research conducted in the participating laboratories and from the co-operative projects, which will be developed from this COST Action.

### Organisation

The Action consist of three Working Groups entitled:

- WG1: Food Use of Novel Egg Products and Fractions
- WG2: Non Food Use of Eggs
- WG3: New Techniques and Technologies for Fractionation, Analysis and Processing of Yolk, Albumen and Shell

WG 1 and WG 2 aim to find and develop novel uses for hen egg yolk and albumen and their fractions. WG 3 is a foundation for the other two WG's by providing

tools necessary in the production and development of novel egg products and fractions.

Common tasks for all three groups include:

- collecting the existing research data and reporting the status quo of *HiTech Egg (or modified eggs)* processing and production possibilities to the industrial partners and to public
- pinpointing possible industrial applications, which need further fundamental or basic study and recommending such research topics and research collaboration within and between WG's and their participants
- identifying the applications, which need technological development before industrialisation
- making suggestions for the WG 3 and its participants to find funding for research collaboration between WG 3 participants as well as with other relevant research parties
- recognising the themes, which with minor R&D effort, are suitable for industrialisation, and finding ways to transfer this knowledge and technology to the industrial partners

The COST Action 923 has a **Management Committee** (MC) responsible for the overall coordination of the Action that includes members from each Working Group. The MC members also represent associations such as WPSA (World's Poultry Science Association).

## Upcoming Meetings

**17<sup>th</sup> European Symposium on the Quality of Poultry Meat**

**11<sup>th</sup> European Symposium on the Quality of Eggs and Egg Products**

Date: 23-26.05.05

Place: Doorwerth, the Netherlands

Website: <http://www.eggmeat2005.nl>

General topics:

- Markets and emerging markets for poultry products
- Poultry products and human health functional foods health risk, xenobiotics, contaminants, allergies
- Safety throughout the entire production chain
- Consumer perception and behaviour
- Consequences of crisis (management)
- Tracking and tracing in the production chain

*Note:* Deadline for abstract submission: 1 December 2004

## Interesting Links

**COST Action 923 Website:**

[http://cost.cordis.lu/src/action\\_detail.cfm?action=923](http://cost.cordis.lu/src/action_detail.cfm?action=923)

**World's Poultry Science Association Website:**

<http://www.wpsa.com/wpsa2/>

**Turku University:**

<http://www.utu.fi/>

**Scottish Agricultural College:**

<http://www1.sac.ac.uk/>

**British Egg Information Service:**

<http://www.britegg.co.uk/>

**British Free Range Egg Producers Association:**

<http://www.bfrepa.co.uk/>

**US Poultry and Egg Association:**

<http://www.poultryegg.org/>

**American Egg Board:**

<http://www.aeb.org/>

**Folate enriched eggs – Univ Manitoba:**

<http://www.thepoultrysite.com/FeaturedArticle/FATopic.asp?AREA=Nutrition&Display=53>

**Lutein enriched eggs:**

<http://www.naturalproductsinsider.com/articles/481online07.html>

**Omega-3 enriched eggs:**

[http://www.eggs.ca/pdf/omega-3\\_e.pdf](http://www.eggs.ca/pdf/omega-3_e.pdf)

**Designer foods - Egg Products:**

<http://www.fass.org/fass01/pdfs/Shallo.pdf>

**Omega-3 eggs in Greece:**

<http://www.sci.utu.fi/biokemia/cost923/Greece-Yannakopoulos2910.pdf>

**Columbus eggs:**

<http://www.columbuseggs.com/>

## COLOPHON

**COST Action 923**

**Multidisciplinary Hen Egg Research**

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