



IDF PRESS RELEASE

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SCIENTISTS MAKE HEADWAY ON MASTITIS IN "FRIEND OR FOE" DEBATE

Scientists are making significant progress with research into the prevalent microorganisms that can cause subclinical mastitis in dairy herds, according to the International Dairy Federation (IDF).

Some of the bacteria that help make salami taste better are also being featured in research into animal health.

Scientists investigating some of these microorganisms, the coagulase-negative staphylococci (CNS), are developing a greater understanding of their role as opportunistic pathogens or their opportunities and limitations as starter cultures.

The IDF's annual [animal health report](#) includes updates on latest research developments and has revealed that the use of whole genome sequencing is proving important in identifying the characteristics of these mastitis-related bacteria and how they adapt to different habitats.

The authors of the analysis, Dr Ylva Persson, of the Swedish National Veterinary Institute and Växa Sverige, and Dr María Sánchez Mainar of the IDF, say that CNS play an important double role. They can lead to subclinical mastitis but also have features that if applied correctly can benefit animal health and food safety.

Dr Sánchez Mainar said: *“This is a fairly recent area of research and there are scientists around the world who are rapidly discovering more about CNS. They are involved in a fast-moving debate on the issue and there are reasons to believe that greater understanding of the potential of CNS can benefit both mastitis research and the quality and safety of animal-derived foods.”*

The full publication on animal health can be accessed [here](#).



Download Animal Health Report

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