



IDFB APPROVES CONTENT DOUBLE TESTING IN EDINBURGH MEETING

Edinburgh Scotland hosted the Annual 2007 IDFB Meeting

The International Down and Feather Bureau (IDFB) held its annual meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, June 3-6, 2007.

Edinburgh Castle served as the backdrop to a successful IDFB meeting in the Hotel Caledonia.

IDFB Technical Meeting

Mr Yao Chen conducted the TC meeting. Topics included:

Content Double Testing

Europe and Japan require double testing. Research reports show the improved accuracy of double testing. The TC voted to approve double tested for content analysis

Specie Double Testing

The TC voted not to require double testing for specie analysis. Additional research will be done during the next year.

Excessive Landfowl

Products with excessive landfowl have increased in the past 3 years. Labs and member companies will be given help to identify landfowl. The lab workshop included training on landfowl identification.

Testing of Down/Poly Blends

CIQ Xiaoshan presented a new test method for separating down blended with polyester and other non-down fills.

Chemical test methods for separation already exist under ISO, EN and Japan standards.

IDFB will provide the test method for combining the standard IDFB content tests with chemical separation of the fills.

Isotope Technology Update

A report on careful prepared samples from United Feather showed mixed results. Some samples could be clearly identified. Other mixed samples had no identifiable isotope signature.

A couché sample had very unusual results. Isotope-type technology may be useful for couché. Additional research will be required.

Lab Certification Process

The requirements for laboratory certification have been clarified and strengthened. Certified labs should be able to complete all IDFB testing methods.

Also, passing certification will require reasonable test results in Specie, Fill Power, Oxygen and Turbidity in addition to the normal Content Analysis.

IDFB FACTS

- IDFB was founded in 1952
- IDFB has members in more than 25 countries.
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2008 IDFB Meeting planned for Italy

IDFB will hold its next annual meeting in June 2008 in Italy.

IDFB Supervisory Board Meeting Reports

Japan Market - Down & Feather Products

- Mr Hiroshi Aso, Japan Down Products Corp. Assoc.
- Economic problems slow sales..
- New Jacket Labeling Laws for 2008

China Feather and Down Market

- Ms. Yao Xiaoman, Vice Chairman CFDA
- more finished product exports, less bulk down.
- Large increase in jackets, sleeping bag exports.
- Increase in goose/duck flocks since 2004.
- CDFIA will concentrate on improving quality of Chinese exports during 2008

USA Down & Feather Market Report

- Brandon Palmer, United Feather
- Bedding products are an \$8.5 Billion industry.
- Discount retailers sell 40% of USA bedding.

European Down and Feather Market

- Jürgen Habertag, Vice President, IDFB
- Market is a challenge and requires new ideas.

Taiwan Down and Feather Market

- Duck and Geese Flocks have increased
- Export Market remains strong.
- Emphasis on Testing and Quality in 2008
- Export Rank: China, USA, Vietnam, Japan, UK

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