

# A source of technical competence

THE ASSOCIATION OF CEREAL RESEARCH AND THE CEREAL AND FAT ANALYSIS INSTITUTE IN DETMOLD SUPPORT THE BAKING INDUSTRY NOT ONLY BY EXAMINING RAW MATERIALS BUT ALSO THROUGH SPECIAL ADVANCED TRAINING EVENTS



++ figure 1

The AGF organises a wide range of national and international conferences for the baking industry

**+** The Arbeitsgemeinschaft Getreideforschung e. V. (Association of Cereal Research, AGF) from Detmold, Germany, is a scientific-technical association founded in 1946. Currently there are approx. 430 member companies from the milling, baking, baking agents, starch, pasta, foodstuffs, machinery and plant breeding areas organized in this association, as well as institutes, federations and publishing houses. The AGF also has its own lecture theatre which is used for various conferences including the Bakery Technology Conference. This is accompanied by an exhibition of machines and equipment held in the AGF's own exhibition hall. Various other seminars and advanced training events are also offered, e.g. the Detmold Baking Manager, Cereals Technology Seminar, Laboratory Methods Seminar and the Seminar for Innovations in International Featured Standards (IFS). Private individuals and legal entities can become members, and so can companies and non-corporate societies. The Association is managed by the Executive Board, currently consisting of the President (Dr. Götz Kröner, Ibbenbüren) and four Vice-presidents (Dipl.-oec.-troph. Udo Heckelmann, Werne; Alfred Heyl, Bad Langensalza; Heribert Kamm, Bochum and Dr. Meinolf G. Lindhauer, Detmold).

## Service and consultancy

In 2003 the AGF founded a subsidiary company, the Detmolder Institut für Getreide- und Fettanalytik GmbH (Detmold

Institute for Cereal and Fat Analysis, DIGeFa). The AGF has broken new ground with this limited company, and offers its members and other companies from the cereals area the opportunity to have studies of cereals and flour carried out in Detmold. The DIGeFa's range of services comprises the analysis of cereals and flour and also rheology. Residues investigations and nutrient value analyses are also carried out together with qualified cooperation partners. The DIGeFa also organizes inter-comparison studies for numerous laboratories and businesses in Germany and Europe. This involves sending out cereals and flour and collecting and statistically evaluating the analysis data, which can finally be compared with that from other participants. The DIGeFa with its background knowledge acts as an advisor in this process.

Consultancy, training and further education in the area of hygiene as well as HACCP and QM concepts are another focus of the work. This involves offering customized advice sessions when introducing management systems (in accordance with the International Featured Standard – Food (IFS)). The DIGeFa is also happy to audit its clients' suppliers. The DIGeFa possesses the knowledge needed to assess the companies due to its extensive consultancy in cereals trading and with mills and bakeries.

Tobias Schuhmacher, the AGF's Chief Executive Officer, is available to answer any of your questions via email at [schuhmacher@agf-detmold.de](mailto:schuhmacher@agf-detmold.de). +++

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