

JOURNAL OF CAMEL PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

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Cover Photo: Top (Left) Regression of symptoms of keratitis. Top (Centre) Dissected dorsal view of the camel's phalangeal region. Top (Right) Iris displaced forward towards the posterior corneal surface. Bottom (Left) Iris adhered to the posterior corneal surface (anterior synechia) with hyperechoic ciliary body. Bottom (Centre) Skin candidiasis. Bottom (Right) Hypermature cataract as with short, brush-like neovascularisation indicating severe deep keratitis.

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UAE EXPORT CAMEL MILK TO EU

The producers of 'Camelicious' milk, Emirates Industry for Camel Milk and Products (EICMP), have attained the approval of the European Commission to export camel milk products to European Union (EU) country, thus EICMP has become the first Middle Eastern milk product manufacturer certified for exporting its products to the EU. The list of companies allowed to export dairy products includes 27 other companies, all of which are European.

The European Commission's approval comes after inspections carried out in EICMP's camel milk production plants. The commission's approval also follows a review of the measures and procedures taken by the Ministry of Environment and Water, and Dubai Municipality pertaining to amending legislations and regulations related to manufacturing of milk products, as well as health and safety standards for food production. During the past five years, the company has attained the ISO 22000-2005 certificate, the risk management system, consulting European experts in the field of health and safety, training employees and investments into manufacturing and advanced food safety technologies.

Camel milk will soon be available in the EU following the announcement a group of German and Moroccan entrepreneurs have a struck deal to set up a base in the North African state to produce the milk and a range of spin-off products. Vitamol Camel Dairy and Products has been set up by Germans Malik Dakdaki and Martin Wilke and Moroccan Abdelkader Saoudi and the three partners plan to invest in the project. The milk, which will be sold under the brand name Vitamol, will be produced in a farm consisting of around more than 2,200 camels and pulverised and prepared for daily delivery to Europe at a plant set to be built on land in the Tangier Free Zone. The first shipment of camel milk is due to reach European shelves in mid 2013, co-founder Malik Dakdaki told Arabian Business.

The current issue of JCPR has an amalgamation of papers of all aspects of camels. The missionary David Livingstone explored camels in Tanzania and is well reported by Dr.R.T.Wilson. The *in vitro* differentiation of endothelial progenitor stem cells derived from peripheral blood of camel, cardiac biomarker troponin I in downer camels and polymorphism in *coa* and *spa* virulence genes in *S. aureus* are important contributions. A new study on camel milk for autism is another advantage of camel milk to human health. Papers on camel diseases are landmark in the current issue. These are related to mycoplasmosis, skin candidiasis, clostridial enterotoxemia, contagious lymphadenitis, camel pox, piroplasmosis and paratuberculosis. Use of microsatellite markers for molecular characterisation of kachchhi breeds, carotid lateralisation for repeated sampling and US guided portocentesis are new researches being done. Papers based on camel nutrition, anaesthesia, surgery, imaging and reproduction have added galore to the current issue.

Camel Publishing House wishes a happy new year to its readers.



(Dr. T.K. Gahlot)
Editor

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