

Improving the safety and quality of milk

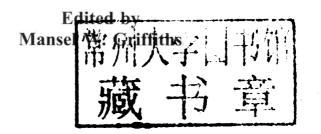
Volume 2: Improving quality in milk products

Edited by Mansel W. Griffiths



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Improving the safety and quality of milk

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Preface

Since I first started my career in dairy research at the now defunct Hannah Research Institute in 1974, the dairy industry worldwide has faced many changes. With regard to food safety, it has witnessed the emergence of foodborne pathogens not previously associated with dairy products, such as Listeria monocytogenes and Escherichia coli O157:H7 along with the introduction of preventive food safety management systems (HACCP) to limit the impact of these pathogens. This year has seen the publication of the sequence of the entire cow genome, a feat that opens up innumerable possibilities. The use of this information will allow us, for example, to improve production costs through identification of traits related to feed conversion, to produce milk with specific characteristics and to impact animal welfare by selection of animals with increased disease resistance. These are just a few of the benefits the industry may reap. With more research it is also becoming apparent that milk and milk products are not the nutritional minefield that many would have us believe, in fact dairy products possess bioactive components that show substantial promise for health promotion.

It is the intent of this book to provide up-to-date coverage of several facets related to the production and processing of safe, wholesome and nutritious dairy products, not only from bovine milk but also from other domesticated ruminants. The first volume includes chapters related to milk safety and quality and focuses on the microbiological and chemical safety of raw milk and technologies for analyzing and processing milk. In the second volume, nutritional, sensory and sustainability issues are addressed as well as those associated with other milk-producing mammals and specific milk products.

I would like to thank all the contributing authors for their hard work and patience in waiting for edits. I would particularly like to acknowledge the

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contribution of Dr Richard Robinson, who sadly died during the production of this book. Dr Robinson was well known by all in the dairy industry for his research and the many books he edited.

On a personal note I would like to thank my wife, Susan, for her understanding and support, my two daughters, Megan and Bethan, and their respective husbands, Darren and Eric, and my four grandchildren, Rhys, Emma, Sophie and Evan, for keeping me young at heart.

I would also like to thank Dairy Farmers of Ontario for all the support they have given me over the last 20 years.

To all the readers of this book, I hope you learn from it and that it makes you realize that the proper production and processing of milk is complex and is carried out by professional and dedicated farmers and processors.

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