ISSUE 67 2025

## 

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF

## ESSENTIAL OILS & AROMA TRADES



CONFERENCE **ANNOUNCEMENT** 

**GÖTEBORG SPEAKER** 



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## Welcome from the Conference Chair

Dear Delegates,

It is a privilege to welcome you to Göteborg, Sweden, from 14-18 September 2025 for the IFEAT Annual Conference, the foremost global gathering for the essential oils and aroma sector.

For nearly half a century, IFEAT has brought together the people who grow, create, analyse, trade and protect the ingredients that make the world smell and taste better. No other event offers quite the same depth of technical insight, breadth of business opportunity, or diversity of perspectives. Last year's record-breaking edition in Bangkok welcomed over 1,700 delegates from more than 60 countries, and all signs suggest that Göteborg will carry that momentum forward.

## Why Göteborg, and why now?

Our 2025 theme, The Nordic Nexus: Innovation & Sustainability, perfectly reflects the spirit of the region. Göteborg, a historical centre of maritime trade, is today one of the world's most climate-forward cities. It's a place that shows us how commercial ambition and environmental responsibility can thrive together.

The Conference programme has been designed with purpose. Over four carefully curated days, you will find inspiring keynotes, thought-provoking plenaries, and content tailored to inform action. The "Wonders of Wood" session will showcase Nordic ingredients and innovations. Productspecific spotlights on citrus, lavender and spices will explore sustainability in these vital supply chains. Our regulatory session, "Shaping the Future of Essential Oils in the EU", and our Scientific Platform update will keep you at the forefront of industry developments.

Alongside these, we are introducing a new workshop on Leadership for Sustainability, designed to help form the next generation of responsible industry leaders. The much-loved Flavours & Fragrances course returns to equip delegates with practical knowledge and fresh thinking.

We will also address vital cross-cutting issues: the strength and future of family businesses, evolving sustainable distillation techniques, fair labour practices, and the everimportant topic of payment terms.

But IFEAT is about more than just learning, it's about connection. Our dedicated Conference floor features lounges, exhibition booths, meeting tables, and private suites to ensure meaningful encounters throughout your stay. The Conference app helps you set up one-to-ones, identify potential partners, and make the most of your time on site.

New additions this year include a Members' Forum and the Meet & Connect gateway for prospective members. Whether you're reconnecting with long-time colleagues or forging new commercial alliances, there is no shortage of ways to expand your network.

Evenings offer their own unique experiences – from the Young IFEATians social to our exclusive members-only event at the iconic World of Volvo, and of course, a Closing Reception that promises to leave a lasting impression. In keeping with the Nordic way, we have also made

morning "Rise & Reflect" mindfulness sessions offer a restorative start to the day, while Swedish *fika* breaks and the on-site relaxation area provide breathing room between sessions.

space for balance and wellbeing. Our early-

Step outside Gothia Towers and you are just minutes from tram-lined boulevards, car-free islands, and a vibrant food scene. If you have time, arrive a day early or stay for Friday's special field trip to Borregaard, Norway, where you will witness circular bioproduction in action.

None of this would be possible without the generous support of our sponsors and Members, whose commitment and partnership help bring this event to life. IFEAT exists to promote a responsible, profitable and scientifically grounded industry. By joining us in Göteborg, you are strengthening that mission, bing to ensure our shared voice remains strong

and helping to ensure our shared voice remains strong and respected.  $\,$ 

I look forward to meeting you in September, and to working together on the opportunities, and the responsibilities, that define our sector today.

Welcome to the Nordic Nexus. Welcome to the IFEAT 2025 Göteborg Conference.

Warm regards,

### Zahra Osman Guelle

Chair of the IFEAT 2025 Göteborg Conference Committee



WELCOME



This is my wrap-up column! What an amazing ride for the past three years as Chair. It has been challenging, especially balancing all that is required between IFEAT and my own business. It has been rewarding – with the benefit of hindsight, even more rewarding than I expected. It's a great group of Directors and Staff, and a great family of IFEAT.

What we have achieved in these three years is beyond what I expected. All of the developments are team efforts – even when one person has a new idea that is viable, it is a team that makes it happen.

We are very fortunate with our successes. Now, after three years steering this ship, I can say without hesitation that those successes are built on both our vision and a great deal of intentional follow-through. We don't always get it 100% right, but we're close and we also keep adapting to do a better job.

And when it comes to successes, the significant ones are always highly collaborative.

## Some of the developments for me that are really exciting:

**Membership:** in the past three years the Membership of IFEAT has increased from 685 to 766 Member companies, as of the date of this writing. I believe the ongoing expansion of Membership is a result of both the success, growth and unique aspects of IFEAT Conferences, along with the increased activity of IFEAT in other areas.

**Socio-Economic work:** this has been a growing area for us this year, with new projects including:



## **IFEAT 2025 Sustainability Award**

A first-time award for IFEAT, this will be launched at the Göteborg Conference this year! A lot of work has gone into this, with discussions over an 18-month period before the work began. The purpose of the award is to recognise impactful environmental and social initiatives by IFEAT Member companies, providing them with recognition but also inspiring others to pursue sustainability measures. The sustainability consulting group Quantis was brought in to facilitate the process, and there are two categories of awards: companies with up to 250 employees and those with more than 250 employees. The jury is independent, comprising sustainability and industry experts. Our plan is that this becomes an annual award, further facilitating more and more sustainability projects in our industry.

## **Carbon Offsetting**

IFEAT has begun the process of assessing the carbon footprint of our Conferences, working with the company Green Future Project. Assessment for the 2023 Berlin Conference has already been done and a similar evaluation for the 2024 Conference in Bangkok is underway. With our Conferences and Study Tours, we already work internally to take additional steps to ensure the greatest level of sustainability in the event itself, including water stations whenever possible and reduction or elimination of printed promotional material. At the Conferences, further steps have been implemented that include sustainable sourcing, donation points for Delegate Gift Bags so they can be donated to appropriate nonprofit entities in the host countries, recyclable material signage wherever possible, and the reduction of food waste.

Now, in addition to these measures, we are looking at specific carbon offsetting projects. We are evaluating a range of nature-based projects that have been submitted by Green Future Project, Earthly, and the nonprofit group One Earth. Our review encompasses environmental integrity, industry relevance and regional biodiversity benefits. This is a very dynamic process and a great step forward for IFEAT!

## **NOTES FROM THE CHAIR**

## **Trade Committee**

From the Visioning Summit we held in 2023, a new Subcommittee on Trade was formed, which is now a fulltime Committee. This is a group that looks at new initiatives to further support the supply chains in our industry, as well as creating further partnerships with industry groups that can expand the work of IFEAT - potentially providing new activities or benefits for IFEAT Members. This is the Committee that picks up issues like standardisation of regulatory forms, especially for smaller producers. We continue to look at this issue, but the desire of larger companies to maintain their existing formats remains a challenge. On the issue of pricing and the need for downstream users to consider the increased burden on farmers and producers with regulatory and other issues, we are this year offering a session during the Conference entitled: 'Mind the Gap: Rethinking Payment Practices'. This session is being offered in response to requests to begin more open, broader discussions on pricing.



## Formalised Advocacy work

As the need grew to address growing regulatory pressure in Europe, IFEAT created the structure in 2023 to be actively involved in these issues, working both with consultants and the other industry associations to prevent unintended and unnecessary restrictions on the trade of safe, natural products.

More recently, IFEAT joined EFEO's launch of a Scientific Platform set up to compile data and testing to safeguard one of the successes achieved so far – the derogation related to the CLP revisions. This is really critical work that will happen over the next four years and IFEAT and EFEO are leading this effort. In addition, the group known as the G4 – comprised of IFEAT, EFEO, IFRA and IOFI – are active together in this space, working to coordinate their activities, including joint submissions on pressing regulatory matters and similar steps where the combined and consistent voice of the industry can have the most impact. This is working. A lot of time and effort goes into this area – but it's a great development for all of us!



## **IFEAT Study Tours**

While our Conferences are the events that draw together the larger IFEAT family, our Study Tours remain very popular. We work hard to find new venues that can offer delegates a chance to learn and network in a setting that provides in-depth information on harvesting, production and sustainability practices, along with other industry experiences in different parts of the world. Having planned one of these, I realise the tremendous work that goes into that planning over many months. This is a total team effort, but it is always led by an EC member that is willing to put in all the extra time to lead the group that creates this experience for delegates.



On 3 June, IFEAT and EFEO, in collaboration with our Brussels-based consultancy NOVE, convened a targeted expert workshop on the Essentiality of Essential Oils.







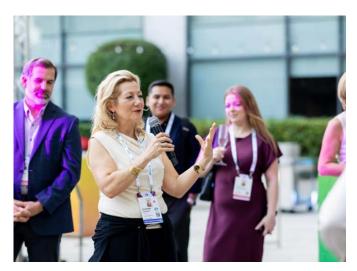
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## **NOTES FROM THE CHAIR**



## **Members' Forum**

At the Conference this year we have added into the schedule for the first time a Members' Forum. This came as a request from Members, but we realised as well that this can be a very good opportunity for conversations with and between Members on different aspects of IFEAT. If you haven't done it already, do add this session to your schedule in the Conference app, where you can also complete a short Members' survey and put forward your questions and comments to help steer the session – and the future of IFEAT!



## What makes IFEAT unique?

Recently I was triggered to think about what really makes IFEAT unique.

- **IFEAT leads with heart.** This is why it leads well. It is a sincere commitment to strengthen the industry in existing and new ways. It is sacrificial.
- Who leads IFEAT. Part of the essence of IFEAT is the nature of the people who lead it. I am so aware by this time of the sacrifices that each member of the Executive Committee makes in order to build IFEAT further. Directors are volunteers. They pay for all costs to attend EC meetings and any IFEAT events, hotels, flights etc. We joke that the one perk is that we get fed during those times!
- Why we are willing to lead. The question naturally arises
   why are we willing to do this? It's not about status, even though it is absolutely a privilege to lead an organisation

as amazing as IFEAT. The Executive Committee (EC) Members do this because we are committed to you, our IFEAT Members and the wider IFEAT community. People do this for the right reason – to serve. It isn't about ego or power – it is a genuine commitment. The IFEAT team of staff and consultants is very similar. All involved stay so inspired by the way that we are growing – that people do not mind putting in the extra time needed to keep raising the bar on what we do. They are committed. What I know – it would inspire anyone who was seeing this firsthand!

How we lead. We genuinely work tirelessly to create Conferences that can grow each year in attendance, allowing for more growth in our industry. The Conferences are a chance to see suppliers and clients, make new contacts, and develop new business. We love that we can provide you with the opportunity to build your businesses over those five days, but at the same time for all of us to have amazing, unique life experiences in a different part of the world each year, together with our colleagues and friends. This is not common!

## The IFEAT Family

I can say this as well – once the Conference rolls around, and we are there together with the majority of the IFEAT family – it is an incredible experience. The synergy is tangible. Take another look at the video highlights from the Bangkok Conference – this shows the energy and passion that are a part of our gathering together! We are there with you all and we experience together the magic that is IFEAT! Then it feels like it is all worthwhile.

For those of us who lead – this is the biggest part of what inspires us. The family. IFEAT is something different, special, unique.

I will miss seeing you here but I am excited about the next stages of IFEAT and of Geemon Korah's upcoming tenure. The next stage will bring new ideas and new activities – you all will also love being a part of these!

Keep well and keep in contact. Together, we will keep building up each other and our beloved industry!









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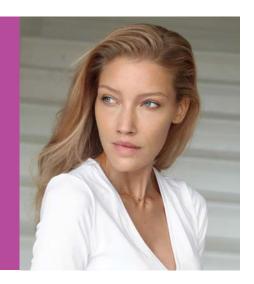
## **EDUCATION**

## **Best ICATS Student:**

## Sascha Schreiber

From Epistemic Curiosity to
 Scientific Innovation in Perfumery

Sascha Schrieber describes how the IFEAT-ICATS programme has formed the foundational reference for her exciting career in perfumery.



The ICATS Postgraduate Diploma programme marked a turning point in a path that began with interdisciplinary curiosity and an enduring engagement with scent as a cultural and scientific medium. Its rigorous foundation in physical and analytical chemistry, stereochemistry, and methods of analysis - coupled with exposure to industry standards and innovation strategy - provided the technical fluency and systems-thinking that became the basis for developing novel fragrance systems and patented methodologies. This direct progression from scientific training to field-defining invention demonstrates how core competencies in chemical analysis and process design can yield transformative applications in perfumery and beyond.

My final dissertation on intellectual property protection in perfumery became the seed for an ongoing investigation into the sui generis status of olfactory authorship, now extended through a scholarly paper submitted to The Journal of World Intellectual Property. These inquiries examined how originality in scent could be defined, measured, and defended, and established the theoretical framework for tools that safeguard creative integrity. This research progressed into applied innovation of a patented system pioneering the use of blockchain technology to secure creative authorship and provide verifiable credentialing in perfume creation - a first-of-itskind integration of decentralised cryptographic systems into fragrance IP protection. Collectively, these efforts have influenced both scientific and legal discourse on fragrance originality, shaping how authorship and creative rights are recognised within the industry.

This research-led path continued through participation within the L'Oréal-Chaire Beauté(s) programme at the Université Paris Sciences et Lettres, a scientific ecosystem dedicated to advancing the science of beauty through interdisciplinary collaboration, leading to recruitment by L'Oréal Research & Innovation as a fragrance development engineer. The programme reinforced the dynamic interplay between fundamental research and industrial application, demonstrating how academic–industry partnerships can directly accelerate commercial innovation.

Currently serving as Director of Global Product Development, Fragrance & Innovation at The Estée Lauder Companies, I lead the scientific and strategic development of the group's French luxury fragrance cluster. This involves integrating creative formulation with regulatory foresight, technical complexity, and market-readiness – ensuring that innovation aligns with both brand vision and evolving compliance frameworks.

The competencies shaped in the ICATS programme have directly informed original scientific contributions now represented in multiple patents pending, encompassing bioadaptive scent delivery platforms, neurocosmetic fragrance technologies, and frameworks that merge intellectual property safeguards with sustainability verification in perfumery. One such development, the White

Biotech Fragrance Framework™ proposes a novel methodology to evaluate and certify molecules and fragrances produced via white biotechnology. The framework now being evaluated for industry adoption, incorporates sourcing integrity, environmental impact, toxicological compatibility, and metadata traceability to address the rising demand for credible, regulation-aligned sustainability systems.

These developments are carried forward through Green Science x Beauty Futures™, an independent platform dedicated to future-forward fragrance design and scientific innovation. Through this platform, research outputs are advanced and translated into tools, certification models, and knowledgesharing initiatives aimed at shaping the next generation of sustainable perfumery.

Throughout this entire trajectory, the IFEAT-ICATS programme has remained a foundational reference – not only in terms of technical knowledge, but also in cultivating a mindset oriented toward long-term stewardship, scientific contribution, and cross-sectoral dialogue. Its influence is reflected in the leadership roles held, the technologies developed, and the frameworks designed to support a new era of perfumery defined by transparency, sustainability, and creative protection.

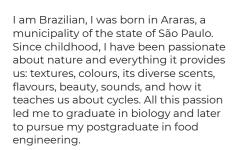


## **IFEAT Best Student:**

## **Marina Périco**

Reading Flavourist Training
 Course 2025:

I am honoured to share a little about my journey and also about the Flavourist Training Course at the University of Reading, for which I have the privilege of winning the 2025 IFEAT Best Student Award.



Thirteen years ago, I started my journey at Carlos Cramer Brazil, a Chilean multinational in the flavour and fragrance sector. I started my career as a laboratory assistant, working in the samples and application department; from there, I began to fall in love with the world of flavours, with how combinations of raw materials form incredible, different tastes. I gradually earned my place until I reached the position of flavourist, and for seven years I have performed this role with pride and dedication.

and good practices in flavour creation, among other relevant subjects for this profession. The course combined theory and practice with technical excellence, a high-level faculty, and participants from various parts of the world.

The international environment was an important differential. Being in a classroom with professionals from different countries broadened my vision of the flavourist's role on the global stage and the different forms of creation around the world. Realising the richness in cultural diversity was incredible. The exchange of experiences and information is something I will carry with me as part of my growth.

In the last week, each student developed two flavours. My creations were a pineapple flavour with a sweet, fruity sensory profile, a slight sulfury and acidic background; and a green apple flavour with a sweet, fruity, green



the proposals presented, was gratifying and an important personal and professional achievement.

More than just improving skills, this experience confirmed something I have been building throughout my career: how much the flavourist's work requires versatility, knowledge, creativity, resilience, and sensitivity. Our work is technical, but also strategic.

Being able to participate in the IFEAT Conference in Sweden to receive the title of best student of 2025 represents, for me, recognition and a new starting point. It's a chance to exchange knowledge and share my experiences. My journey so far has been built with curiosity, creativity, and persistence. And I still continue with the same enthusiasm as when I started: seeking to learn, collaborate, and transform ideas into valuable sensory solutions. I am grateful to Carlos Cramer for their support and trust in my work. Representing Brazil in this achievement is a source of great pride and joy. After three weeks of the course, I can say that I returned stronger, with more knowledge, and, above all, confident in all the creations I will yet develop and that I can reach increasingly high places.

Believe in your potential and start with what you have and where you are – your resilience and your heart will take you to unimaginable places!





In June 2025, I had the opportunity to attend the flavourist course in Reading, UK. It was three intense weeks, with classes from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, where I was able to immerse myself in important topics such as raw materials, reaction flavours, legislation,

profile, a touch of green apple skin, and acidic notes. Being able to put everything I learned in these three weeks into practice and create the flavours that led me to win this award and also receive positive feedback, such as being balanced and consistent with



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ABSOLUTES



Mark Engelholm

Matias Rönnqvist

The authors would like to thank Jisha Das and Peter Greenhalgh for their assistance with planning, data collection, writing, and proofreading of the report. Valuable contributions were also provided by colleagues from Nordic Caraway. Comments welcome at pgifeat@yahoo.co.uk and secadmin\_coordinator@ifeat.org. Photographs courtesy of Nordic Caraway.

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 IFEAT SER Overview

The International Federation of Essential Oils and Aroma Trades (IFEAT) Socio-economic Reports (SERs) provide stakeholders with valuable, evidence-based insights into essential oil supply chains. These reports examine production and market dynamics alongside socio-economic benefits, environmental implications, and broader sustainability considerations. In doing so, they support responsible sourcing, informed decision-making, and long-term planning across the fragrance, flavour, and aromatherapy industries.

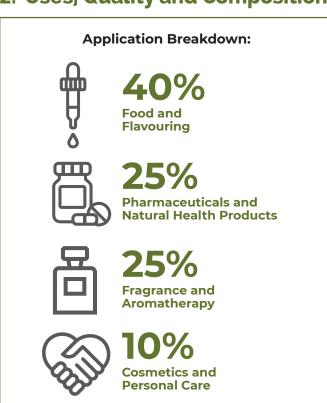
## 1.2 History of Caraway

Caraway (Carum carvi L.) has a story that stretches back over five millennia, archaeological findings indicating its use in Europe and Asia over 5,000 years. Initially valued for its digestive and medicinal properties, it became deeply embedded in European culinary traditions. Today, caraway remains prized for its distinctive flavour, aromatic profile, and health benefits, straddling both traditional uses and modern applications.

## 1.3 Varieties and Botanical Characteristics

As a member of the Apiaceae family, caraway is sometimes mistaken for related spices like cumin and fennel, though its crescent-shaped seeds and warm, citrusy aroma set it apart. Finnish caraway varieties, in particular, are celebrated for their high essential oil content, attributed to the country's extended daylight hours during the growing season.

## 2. Uses, Quality and Composition



### 2.1 Uses

Caraway oil has diverse applications across the food, flavour, fragrance, and pharmaceutical industries. In European cuisine, caraway is an essential seasoning for rye bread, sauerkraut, cheeses, sausages, and traditional spirits such as akvavit and kummel. Beyond the kitchen, it is increasingly used in herbal remedies, dietary supplements, cosmetics, and oral care products. Scientific research supports its long-recognised therapeutic value, with demonstrated antimicrobial, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, carminative, and spasmolytic effects. These properties underpin its inclusion in pharmaceutical formulations such as Enteroplant® and Iberogast®. In agriculture, nanoemulsion-based herbicides highlight its potential as an environmentally sustainable crop protection agent.

## 2.2 Quality

**CAS #** 8000-42-8

**FEMA** 2238

**EINECS** 288-921-6

PRINCIPLE CONSTITUENTS
D-Carvone

REFRACTIVE INDEX

1.4840 - 1.4880 @ 20C

**SPECIFIC GRAVITY** 0.9000 - 0.9100 @ 25C

## **APPEARANCE**Pale Yellow Liquid

## PART OF PLANT

Seed

## **EXTRACTION METHOD**

Steam Distillation

The quality of caraway essential oil is defined by its high carvone (50–70%) and limonene (20–30%) content, with Finnish oils particularly valued for their consistency and rich olfactory profile. Carvone contributes significantly to the oil's sensory appeal and therapeutic effects, while minor constituents such as carveol and dihydrocarveol add aromatic depth.

Minor constituents such as carveol and dihydrocarveol contribute aromatic complexity. Variability in composition is influenced by environmental factors, cultivation practices, and seed maturity.

## 2.3 Adulteration and Agricultural Residues

Though not widespread, adulteration with synthetic carvone and limonene can occur. Authenticity is verified through GC–MS and chiral analysis. Proper post-harvest drying and storage are critical to maintaining oil purity.

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## 3. Cultivation and Agronomy

Caraway thrives in light-to-medium textured soils with good drainage. In Finland, the crop follows a biennial growth cycle, with root establishment in the first year and flowering in the second. Sowing typically occurs in early spring or late summer.



Caraway field in full flower during early summer – Dense white umbels cover the crop as it enters its seed-producing phase.



**Caraway field at the pre-harvest stage** – Mature, brown seedheads signalling harvest readiness.



**Caraway plants emerging from winter dormancy** – Spring growth begins after the snow melts, and the crop will be ready for harvest by late July or early August.



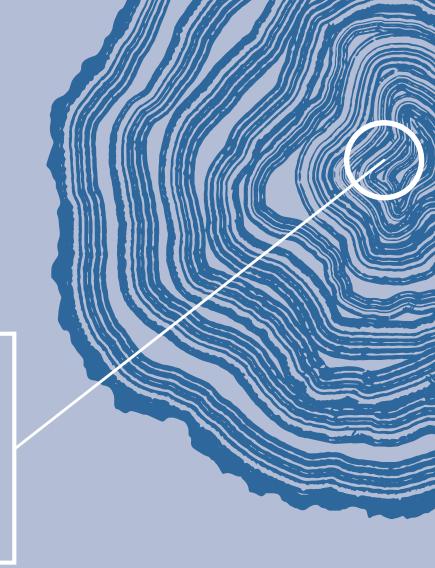
Long-distance view of a caraway field in late summer – The foliage remains green even as the seeds continue to ripen.



**Second-year caraway plants ready for harvest** – The crop establishes in year one and produces seed in year two, when it is cut and collected.



Harvesting caraway - The machinery cuts and threshes the mature seed heads, minimising losses and ensuring efficient collection.



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Caraway is typically sown at a rate of 20 kg per hectare, with average yields ranging from 600 to 800 kg/ha, though actual output can fluctuate significantly - from total crop failure to yields as high as 2,000 kg/ha. The crop is sensitive to various agronomic and climatic factors, and consistent production requires careful management. Finnish farmers adopt a five-year rotation cycle, often intercropping with cereals and legumes to support soil health and reduce pest incidence. Insect pressure from pests such as the Depressaria daucella (Moth) and Lygus rugulipennis, the European tarnished plant bug be severe, necessitating integrated pest management (IPM) strategies that combine rotation, intercropping, and the encouragement of natural predators. While these methods help limit chemical use, insecticides are still needed during high-pressure periods, and the industry continues to seek an expanded portfolio of approved plant protection products for caraway.



The black-coloured head of a Depressaria daucella caterpillar can be seen in this caraway flower.



Caraway plant with a Lygus rugulipennis – These sap-feeding insects can damage flowers and developing seeds, highlighting the importance of pest monitoring and ecological control measures.

## 3.1 Drying and handling

16

Post-harvest drying using grain dryers is common in Finland, mitigating mycotoxin risks and enhancing oil quality by reducing aldehyde levels. Mechanisation plays a significant role in both sowing and harvesting, helping to ensure consistency and reduce labour dependency. Modern harvesting machinery also helps to minimise seed losses and maintain quality during collection.

Storage of harvested seeds for several months is a common practice, enabling flexibility in scheduling distillation batches throughout the year. This logistical advantage allows processors to balance market demand, optimise energy use, and ensure continuous production.



Farmers unload caraway at the red unloading bay before it enters the central dryer, where warm air dries the crop and cool air prepares it for storage.

Farmers bring harvested caraway seeds to drying facilities where trailers are emptied at an unloading point. The seeds then pass through a central dryer heated by oil or gas, which circulates air at approximately 40 °C for two to three hours. An elevator recirculates the seed through the dryer until it reaches the desired moisture content. A final hour of ambient-temperature air (around 15–20 °C) cools the seed before storage.

## 4. Cultivation, Processing and Markets



Finland highlighted to indicate that caraway cultivation is distributed across multiple regions nationwide.

## 4.1 Producing Countries

Finland is the world's leading producer of caraway seed and essential oil, with an annual oil output of 20–25 tonnes – accounting for around 70% of global supply. Egypt, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, and the Czech Republic are notable producers, though their oil yields have declined due to climatic and market challenges. Caraway cultivation in Finland spans multiple regions, with concentrations in Ostrobothnia and nearby areas.

## 4.2 Processing Methods and Derivatives

Caraway seeds are cleaned, sorted, and distilled at the sole caraway oil production site in Närpes, Finland. The following series of images illustrates the processing infrastructure – from raw seed intake to oil rectification.



Second-class caraway seeds ready for processing



Seed intake, feed system, and top of distillers – Seeds are delivered in large containers or bulk bags and transferred into the feed unit. From there, a pneumatic system conveys the material through stainless-steel pipes directly into the distillers, located in a separate section of the facility. At the upper level, the feed system ensures the continuous transfer of seeds into the distillers for steam distillation.



**Bottom discharge of distillers** – Post-distillation, spent seed material is discharged through bottom hatches into mobile containers. These containers are then transported to a separate district heating plant.

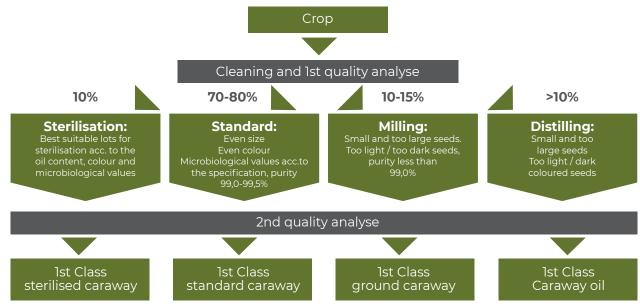


Cooling and condensation system – The separation unit located adjacent to the distillers features a two-stage cooling system. Vapours first pass through a primary condenser and then a heat exchanger, enabling recovery and reuse of approximately 15% of the thermal energy.



**Fractional distillation and rectification** – The final stage of the process involves fractional distillation in glass collection chambers. This allows for separation of specific compounds such as d-carvone and d-limonene, ensuring consistency and high purity for specialised end uses.

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Processing flow chart showing the second-grade seeds being used for distillation

Once sorted, caraway seeds are conveyed into the distillation chambers. Each steam distillation cycle lasts 8–9 hours and is powered entirely by electricity — often sourced from renewable energy during low-demand periods. Seeds that do not meet market specifications for sale as whole seed — typically referred to as second-class seeds — are used for standard oil production, yielding between 2–4% essential oil.

Higher-grade seeds are distilled separately in small batches to produce pharmaceutical-grade oil, which must meet stringent quality standards. Importantly, all seeds are utilised in the process, ensuring minimal waste across the value chain.

For premium applications, supercritical  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  extraction is employed, offering high purity and selectivity. Organic caraway oil production remains limited due to higher costs and pest management challenges, though demand continues to grow among certified organic buyers. Variations in oil colour — from pale yellow to light brown — and sedimentation during storage are addressed through meticulous filtration and decantation, ensuring product clarity and quality consistency before shipment.

## 4.3 Market Dynamics

Approximately 90% of Finland's caraway production is sold as whole seed, primarily for the food and spice sectors. Only around 10% is processed into oil. Seed prices in recent years have ranged between €0.80 and €3.50 per kilogram, with an average closer to €2.00/kg. Oil is typically produced from batches of lower priced seed that do not meet market specifications for sale as whole seed. These lowergrade batches are distilled rather than discarded, with the resulting oil priced between €40 and €50 per kilogram. Pharmaceutical-grade oil requires higher-quality raw material and commands a higher price point.

One of the largest players in the sector exports 40% to Europe, 30% to Asia, and 30% to the United States.

Despite a good harvest, continued strong demand globally has tightened supply and led to a modest rise in oil prices, with buyers keen to secure forward contracts.



Whole and milled caraway seeds, packed in 25 kg units as shown here, form the mainstay of the business – Supplying global markets in the food, spice, and baking sectors.



## Celebrating 75 years

and three generations as a family-owned and fiercely-independent steward, producer, and innovator of the highest quality natural materials for the flavor and fragrance industry.

## BERJÉ

## 5. Producing Countries– Detailed View

## 5.1 Finland

With 18,000–28,000 hectares under cultivation, Finland leads global production, supporting around 1,000 farms. The country's unique climatic conditions, advanced drying infrastructure, and post-glacial land uplift contribute to high yields and exceptional oil quality. Spent biomass from distillation is used in municipal heating, exemplifying a zerowaste model. The government provides financial support to agriculture including caraway.

## **5.2 Other European Countries**

Austria, Hungary, the Netherlands, Poland, and the Czech Republic produce caraway primarily for seeds, with limited oil production.

## 5.3 Egypt

Remains a key exporter of caraway seed, with production concentrated in the governorates of Kafr El Sheikh, Dakahlia, Beheira, and Fayoum — Kafr El Sheikh consistently leading in planted area and output. While caraway oil is produced in Egypt, volumes remain small, estimated at around 1 tonne annually. Producers note that domestic demand for caraway oil is limited, despite the availability of raw material in larger quantities and the capacity to scale production if required.

Government statistics indicate significant fluctuations in Egypt's caraway cultivation area between 2018 and 2024. After peaking at approximately 8,483 hectares (ha) in 2018, the area under cultivation dropped sharply by over 50% to 3,896 ha in 2020. A recovery followed in 2021 (4,542 ha), a slight dip in 2022 (3,611 ha), and then a sharp expansion, with cultivation doubling by 2023. In 2024, the planted area reached approximately 12,692 ha — the highest within the period. Despite shifts in planting area, average yields have steadily improved, rising from 1.041 tonnes per ha in 2020 to 1.232 tonnes per ha by 2024. This suggests the adoption of better agronomic practices or more favourable growing conditions in recent years.

## 5.4 India

Caraway is cultivated on a small scale in regions such as Kashmir, Himachal and Uttarakhand, though commercial oil production has not yet been established.

## 5.5 Other Regions

The Baltic States, Central Asia, and Saskatchewan (Canada) are exploring caraway cultivation, with a focus on regenerative practices.

## 6. Regulatory and Certification Framework

Caraway oil is listed as a flavouring under EU Regulation (EC) No. 1334/2008 and is GRAS-certified in the United States. Organic, halal, and kosher certifications are increasingly sought after by international buyers.

The regulatory environment in Finland and other EU countries includes strict guidelines on the use of herbicides and pesticides, which impacts farming practices. Compliance with integrated pest management (IPM) protocols and residue limits is essential for both domestic and export markets. Regulatory scrutiny on agricultural inputs influences farmers' choices and cultivation methods.

Government support for caraway farmers includes advisory services, and financial incentives such as cultivation subsidies. In some cases, farmers enter into agreements with processors where prices are agreed upon after harvest, often supplemented by additional payments in the spring season based on market performance. This model provides farmers with a degree of income security while allowing flexibility to respond to market fluctuations.

## 7. Socio-Economic Impact

Caraway supports over 1,000 contract farmers in Finland, in addition to factory workers, drivers, and logistics providers. Farmers receive certified propagation seeds and agronomic guidance. Pricing is market-driven, based on trust rather than fixed contracts

In Egypt and Eastern Europe, caraway cultivation plays an important role in sustaining smallholder livelihoods. It provides supplementary income and seasonal employment, complementing other crops in diversified farming systems, helping smallholder farmers spread economic risk and maintain soil productivity. In Egypt women are often involved in post-harvest sorting and drying of seeds, providing seasonal income and contributing to gender-inclusive employment.

Caraway's value-added potential – such as essential oil distillation, artisanal packaging, and cosmetic applications – offers additional income streams for rural entrepreneurs.



A caraway-growing family on their farm during harvest – Family-run operations are the backbone of caraway production, underpinning local livelihoods and traditions.



**Truck dedicated exclusively to caraway transportation** – Part of a local value chain that supports over 1,000 growers, workers, and communities.

## 8. Environmental Sustainability

## 8.1 Biodiversity and Soil Health

Caraway enhances biodiversity, suppresses weeds naturally, and improves soil structure. Its deep root system sequesters approximately 2.3 times more carbon than wheat. Intercropping with barley or clover supports nutrient cycling and agroecological balance.



**Caraway plant roots in autumn** – The deep root system enhances soil structure and fertility.

## 8.2 Climate Adaptation

Warming trends have slightly extended Finland's growing season. The country's post-glacial uplift creates new arable land annually. Research into climate-resilient varieties and sustainable practices is ongoing. Renewable energy usage in drying and distillation processes further enhances sustainability.



**Caraway root system and an earthworm** – Highlighting how the crop's deep roots and soil fauna work together to aerate the soil and recycle nutrients.

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Organic cultivation remains niche due to high costs and pest management challenges, though some farmers are experimenting with organic methods supported by industry and research initiatives promoting agroecological practices.

As the 2025 caraway season draws to a close, Finnish fields are nearing full maturity. June marks the peak of flowering, with vibrant stands stretching across the Nordic landscape — an encouraging sign for a strong harvest. The outlook for 2025 remains favourable, with growers anticipating optimal weather to ensure high seed quality at harvest in early August.

While climate change remains a global concern, its effects are highly localised. In the Nordic region, cool night temperatures continue to be the main factor influencing crop development, rather than excessive heat. This highlights how climate shifts impact growing regions differently depending on latitude and microclimates.

As harvest nears, producers finalise seed deliveries ahead of Finland's midsummer break — a period that marks both cultural celebration and the culmination of the caraway growing cycle under near-continuous daylight.

## 8.3 Renewable Energy

The caraway oil distillation facility operates primarily on renewable energy, with a significant portion of its power supplied by an on-site solar park. This installation generates close to 1 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) annually, contributing substantially to reduced reliance on fossil fuels. By aligning energy usage with off-peak grid periods and investing in on-site generation, the facility has lowered its carbon footprint while enhancing energy resilience. This renewable infrastructure supports broader sustainability goals in both production and processing.



Rows of solar panels stretch across the site, powering the facility with clean energy and reflecting a long-term commitment to sustainable production.

## 9. Some Concluding Comments

Caraway is a high-impact, low-volume crop with significant historical, cultural, and economic value. Its essential oil, known for its distinct sensory and health benefits, serves growing markets across food, wellness, and pharmaceuticals.

Finland leads global production, supported by advanced agronomic practices, sustainability initiatives, and strong cooperative models. Other regions are expanding cultivation but face infrastructure and quality challenges.

Caraway's socio-economic significance, environmental contributions, and market potential position it as a resilient crop with promising prospects for sustainable development.



The distillation facility in Närpes features rooftop solar panels and operates primarily on renewable energy – A key step towards reducing the environmental footprint of caraway oil production



## 10. Glossary

- Biennial: A plant that completes its lifecycle over two growing seasons, flowering and producing seeds in the second year.
- · Carminative: A substance that helps relieve flatulence.
- Chiral Analysis: Differentiates natural vs synthetic enantiomers.
- Crop Rotation: A farming technique involving the sequential planting of different crops to maintain soil health and reduce pest cycles.
- Essential Oil: A concentrated, hydrophobic liquid containing volatile aroma compounds from plants.
- GC-MS (Gas Chromatography–Mass Spectrometry):
   An analytical method combining gas chromatography and mass spectrometry to identify substances within a test sample.
- GRAS (Generally Recognised As Safe): A designation by the US FDA indicating that a substance is considered safe for use in food.
- Intercropping: The cultivation of two or more crops in proximity for mutual benefit, such as pest control or soil enrichment.
- Spasmolytic: An agent that suppresses muscle spasms.
- Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> Extraction: A high-end technique using carbon dioxide at elevated pressures to extract pure essential oils without heat or solvents.
- **Umbel:** A type of inflorescence in which the individual flower stalks (pedicels) arise from a common point, forming a flat-topped or rounded cluster; characteristic of the carrot family (*Apiaceae*)
- Volatile Compounds: Aromatic chemicals that easily evaporate at room temperature and contribute to the scent or flavour of essential oils.

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For centuries, India has been a global leader in jasmine cultivation, traditionally used for religious offerings, festive decorations, or ornamental art such as woven garlands for women's hair. Over the last two decades, Indian jasmine has gained increasing value in the global perfume industry as a sought-after commercial ingredient, with a steady presence in some of the world's most iconic fragrances. Both Jasminum sambac and Jasminum grandiflorum are cultivated as raw materials across Southeast India, particularly in the state of Tamil Nadu.

But how can sustainability become a driver of business growth? What are the key considerations when aspiring to produce jasmine more sustainably? I asked these questions to several stakeholders.

"From an economic perspective, the Indian jasmine market is already well established, and demand remains high," said Dominique Roques, a former head of procurement at dsm-firmenich. "The market is looking to source its naturals from companies that put value at the source. Companies with strong responsible sourcing profiles and significant achievements at farm level are gaining increasing market recognition and are the ones to succeed in the long run."

Key factors for long-term sustainability include a holistic approach to the jasmine supply chain, starting with ethical sourcing and extending to environmentally conscious decision-making. These efforts must preserve soil health, conserve energy and water use, and promote more resource-efficient production methods.

Jasmine fields are located in rural areas, and to be successful in rural areas, companies should commit to employee empowerment. Employee empowerment is a key business driver for long term success, but it can only

happen if the overall infrastructure and educational environment are conducive to employee empowerment.

A case in point for rural area development is a new jasmine producer founded in 2024. Aditya Ramanujam, the Managing Partner of Amitié Fleur explains how, for five generations, his family has run businesses rooted in service to society including rural area developments. "Our sustainability awareness comes from clients in other family businesses in the automotive and optical lens industries. This knowledge became



Amitié Fleur supports its employees beyond the picking season of April to September.

Amitié Fleur

## **SUSTAINABILITY**





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foundational. We laterally transferred it when we diversified into jasmine production in our adopted home base near rural Sholingur in Tamil Nadu, around three hours west of Chennai."

Located in the jasmine fields of rural Sholingur, the company is deeply committed to employee empowerment, particularly of women pickers. From April to September, Jasminum sambac is harvested, largely by women. "A key question for us as employers was: how do we support our employees in the off-season, when there's no harvesting?" The answer was to go beyond employment, by creating yearround initiatives that support education, healthcare, and skill development for rural families

It incorporates several corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes with targeted activities beyond seasonal flower plucking. These include, among others, a tailoring unit, sanitary napkin production, dairy farming with cattle support, and a Nutri Blend Unit that produces Sattu Mav – a nutritious health mix to promote a balanced diet for children. Each initiative aims to maintain working hours, enhance financial independence, and strengthen the local economy.

Additionally, a vermicompost production unit helps reduce waste and optimise fertiliser use, preserving soil health by minimising chemical inputs. A separate unit produces *Panchagavya*, a traditional organic fertiliser that supports sustainable agricultural practices, making the entire jasmine ecosystem greener and more resilient.

Historically, Sholingur was known as a temple town, sustained by agriculture. But over the decades, with the arrival



Women working in Amitié Fleur's vermicompost production unit.

of the school and a hospital built in 2015, the town has undergone a transformation.

"What is your biggest dream?" I asked a woman working in the vermicompost unit. "Good education for my children," she replied. Today, with solid infrastructure and a growing pool of skilled people, Sholingur and its surrounding areas are ready to support sustainable jasmine production at scale.

Sustainable companies comply with all government wage regulations, and child labour is strictly prohibited, thanks to strong schooling systems and abundant local labour for flower picking.

Currently, the company cultivates jasmine on family-owned land, starting with 35 acres and adding an additional 40 acres for jasmine farming. Their ambition is to expand what they call the "garden flower" concept, an in-house cultivation that allows for close

monitoring of soil, water, and growing conditions while enabling CSR programmes to flourish. However, volumes are not yet sufficient, and they also procure flowers from the open market to meet production targets. This is referred to as the "market flower" concept.

The aim is to improve traceability and transparency within this supply chain. The long-term vision is to expand in-house jasmine cultivation and better align with applicable national and international regulations such as the Indian Biodiversity Act or the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR). Although jasmine is not explicitly listed in the EUDR annexes, high standards and full traceability are the preferred option. Being aware and proactive about compliance - whether it's environmental or social legislation, biodiversity laws or the EUDR - the frontrunner companies plan with foresight and resilience.

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World-wide distribution of essential oils, aroma chemicals, natural molecules and our own production of F&F ingredients.



### **SUSTAINABILITY**

"International customers expect their suppliers of natural raw materials to meet ever-higher environmental and social sustainability standards." said Bhuvana Nageshwaran, Creative Director at Ultra International and the co-chair of the FICCI-IFRA India Task Force on Fragrances. "The Biological Diversity Act, 2023 marks a major reform aimed at strengthening biodiversity governance in India. With a renewed focus on ease of compliance, conservation, and sustainability use, the Act has now been further simplified and operationalised through the Biodiversity Rules, 2024 making it easier for stakeholders to understand and adopt. As an industry, we promote virtual knowledge exchange sessions on this legislation through eminent speakers like Dr B. Balaji, IFS Secretary National Biodiversity Authority," added Nageshwaran.

Other sustainability commitments include carbon management of production facilities and operations to optimise resource efficiency while minimising risks. Amitié Fleur, for example, is now adding solar panels to its extraction facility to become more energy independent and to diversify energy sources. Accordingly, the company has applied for ISO 9001, ISO 14001, and ISO 45001 certifications. Participation in various external audit and verification schemes are important sustainability considerations as they validate company efforts and lend credibility to improved performance in the different business areas.

The Union for Ethical BioTrade (UEBT) for instance certifies that a company's natural ingredients are following good practices and standards. In 2024, UEBT assessed the general risks linked to social and environmental practices in jasmine supply chains in India. This approach covered risks at the country and supply chain levels, looking at issues such as conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, human rights, living wages, and community wellbeing.

The results are published in the Responsible Sourcing Risk Profile – Jasmine in India. "The report can be used as a resource by any company that seeks to better understand supply chain risks for due diligence purposes or strengthen its sustainability business case". said Maria Julia Oliva, Director of Policy and Sector Transformation of UEBT. Supported by the German Due Diligence Fund, the document is freely available.

Further in 2024, the Indian Chamber of Commerce FICCI Taskforce on Fragrances conducted a two-day programme entitled "Journey to Sustainable Jasmine Cultivation and Processing: Farmers, Scientists, and Processors Awareness Meet and Capacity Building" in Mettupalayam, Tamil Nadu. The primary focus was to understand the issues and challenges of farmers and the local industries and promote responsible and sustainable farming practices in jasmine cultivation and processing. The FICCI taskforce organised this programme in collaboration with the Central Institute for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants CSIR-CIMAP with the

support of Ultra International and the International Fragrance Association (IFRA). "Awareness and dialogue are important steps for collective action in sustainable jasmine production," said Dr Praboth Kumar, director of CSIR-CIMAP Lucknow. This programme saw the participation of 150 attendees, bringing together more than 120 farmers, research scientists, industry leaders and senior FICCI officials in one platform. Various industry issues were discussed, including the importance of the IFRA Green Chemistry Compass tool for the industry.

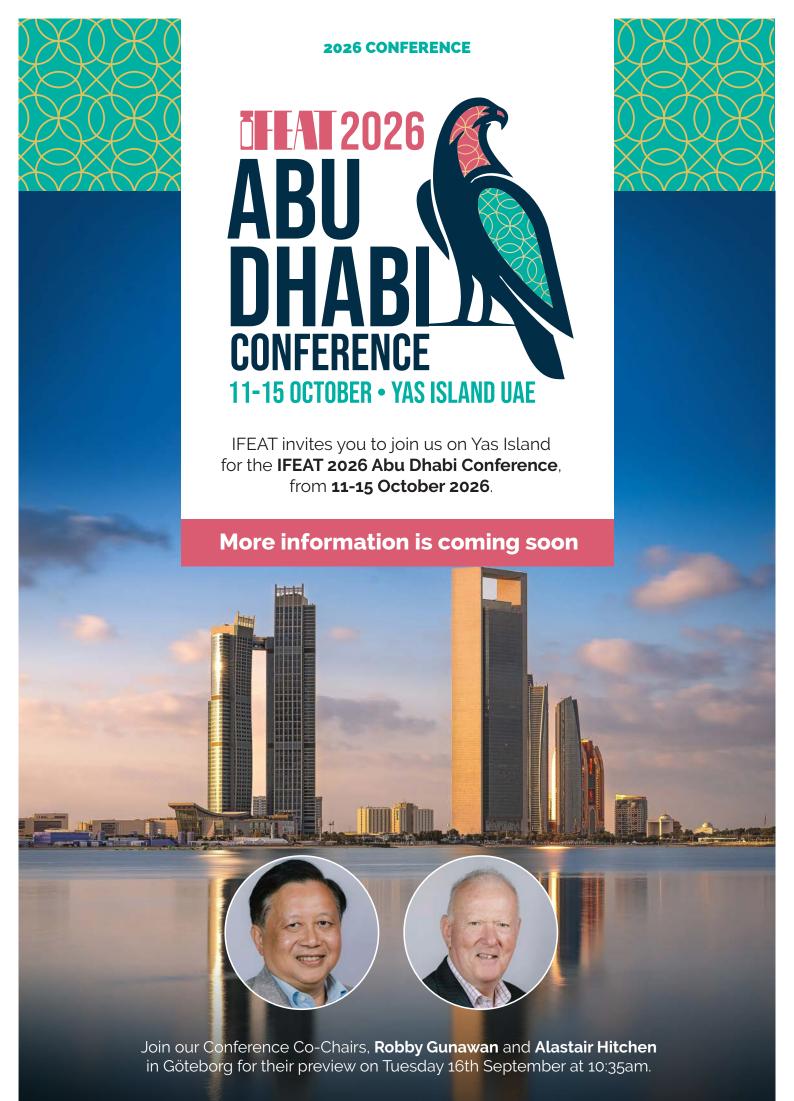
The programme further explored ways for a collaborative environment and for future initiatives. Efforts at the individual company level and collective action across the industry and among stakeholders are becoming essential components in the roadmap toward sustainable operations in India's jasmine supply chain. The progress already made is impressive.

Just as lavender is the scent of France, jasmine is the soul of India. The jasmine supply chain in India remains crucial to the global fragrance industry as a hub for essential raw materials and ingredients. The efforts made on the ground are commendable and are moving in the right direction. The world wants naturals, but not at the cost of ethics, ecosystems, or equity. In today's transparent world, where technologies can trace ingredients from field to bottle, the responsibility is clear. We must source consciously, act responsibly, and lead boldly into a more sustainable future.





Over the last two decades, Indian jasmine has gained increasing value in the global perfume industry



## **Conference Host**



Caterina Rolfsdotter-Jansson

Catarina Rolfsdotter-Jansson is an expert moderator and TV host, initiated lecturer and devoted workshop leader facilitating sustainable development in many aspects and arenas. Her work is based on her journalistic profession and a lifelong passion for making the planet a better place.

Catarina hosts broadcasts for millions of viewers on the channel We Don't Have Time and moderates for the EU Commission, UNESCO, the Swedish Government, UNDP, local municipalities, corporations and universities.

She has been an EU Climate Pact Ambassador since 2024 and a Forbes Contributor since 2025. She is content director and program host for A Sustainable Tomorrow and was chairman of the independent think tank Global Utmaning (Global Challenge) 2020-2023. Catarina lectures internationally about sustainability and is a TED-X speaker.

Catarina was awarded Region Skåne's Honorary Environmental Award 2019 for her 25 years of engagement in environmental issues and is ranked among the 100 most influential people when it comes to sustainability in Sweden according to Aktuell Hållbarhet 2021, 2022 and 2023. Catarina offers her long experience in the field of sustainability as an expert advisor to CSOs and as a board member.

## **Conference Chair**



Zahra Osman-Guelle

Zahra Osman Guelle is the co-owner and director of neo botanika (Somaliland) and Neo Gr. Limited (UK) – a dynamic duo of sister companies specialising in Somali aromatic, medicinal, and cosmetic botanical treasures. From frankincense to myrrh and opoponax, these enterprises are on a mission to keep ancient traditions alive while paving the way for a sustainable future. Since their inception, Zahra and her brothers have been crafting supply chains that are as ethical as they are aromatic, empowering harvesters and customers alike.

Zahra's passion for philanthropy runs as deep as a frankincense resin well. Armed with a BSc in Agricultural Economics and a Master's in Agricultural Development from the University of Reading, UK, she has spent her career transforming economic opportunities for rural communities. Before joining the family business, she roamed the globe with the United Nations, delivering development and humanitarian aid – because saving the world is just another day at the office!

When she's not working on supply chains or advocating for sustainable development, Zahra enjoys travel, hiking, meeting people and learning new things. An active member of the essential oils and aromas community, Zahra joined IFEAT's Executive Committee in 2017 and previously served as Chair of the Socio-Economic Committee. She is now Chair of the IFEAT 2025 Göteborg Conference, where she's bringing Nordic flair to the global stage.

## The Sustainability Collaborative

Rise & Reflect series (Daily, 7am-8:30am) Lunchtime Sustainability Dialogue series (Monday 15th, Wednesday 17th, and Thursday 18th, 13:00-13:45pm) Workshop: Leadership for Sustainability Future-Fit Your Business & Yourself: (Tuesday 16th, 14:00-17:00pm)

This year, we introduce the morning "Rise & Reflect" sessions – a unique addition designed to set a rejuvenating and empowering tone for each Conference day.

Led by expert facilitators Stanley Nyoni and Daniela Tablado of the Sustainability Collaborative, this series will blend leadership insights and practical tools to inspire attendees to embrace sustainable and innovative leadership. It reflects the Conference's theme by connecting personal growth to global sustainability.

They will also be running three free-to-attend Lunchtime Sustainability Dialogue workshop sessions, entitled:

- · Self-Awareness in Action (Monday 15th)
- Collaborative Communities & Trust Building (Wednesday 17th)
- · Resilience and Communication Tools (Thursday 18th)

Plus a workshop entitled Leadership for Sustainability: Future-Fit Your Business & Yourself on Thursday afternoon. Visit the Conference website to purchase your place on this workshop.



Stanley Nyoni

Stanley Nyoni is a master facilitator and trainer of sustainability and leadership development. He has over twenty years of experience supporting executives in companies in Europe, Asia and Africa to design and implement processes for participatory leadership and team synergy, as well as integrate sustainability into their core business.

He specialises in cultural and personal development using methods and approaches at the interface of science and spirituality that develop self-awareness leading to trusting relationships, which is essential for high performing teams and overall sustainability. Stanley has a special presence and wisdom that enables safe spaces for collaboration.



Daniela Tablado

Daniela is a space holder, inner work facilitator with experience in individual mentoring and group facilitation.

She is a certified Meditation
Teacher by Sounds True, the
Awareness Training Institute,
and the University of California
at Berkeley's Greater Good
Science Center. She has
trained under world-renowned
mindfulness teachers and clinical

psychologists, Jack Kornfield and Tara Brach.

## **Monday September 15th**

### 9:45 - 10:40

## Keynote 1: The Post Global World - Reinventing the Trade and The Multinational Firm

Ten years in a couple of months. The first part of 2025 was like a time machine. It's particularly clear now, in retrospect. Developments that were slowly underway came much faster than expected.

A new world order is born. Welcome to the age of oligons, man-made oracles and massinnovation.



Dr Kjell A. Nordström

Dr Kjell A. Nordström is one of the world's most sought-after lecturers. An expert on multinational organisations, Nordström has helped companies – and, indeed, entire societies – to navigate periods of growth and crisis since the 1990s. His mastery of his craft, sharp eye for detail and deep experience infuse his keynotes and leave few in his audiences unaffected. Dr. Nordström is a prolific writer, in his seventh book, Momentum (2023), co-written with Per Schlingmann, he examines how the world has been affected by the pandemic, the climate crisis and the war in Ukraine. His stance: we are in the middle of a historic moment where citizens, co-workers and capital all expect something new – and the consequences will be all-encompassing.

### 11:00 - 11:20

## **Keynote 2: Regenerative vs Extractive Economy - The Benefits**

Dr Anders Wijkman's speech will give priority to the bigger picture – the need for society at large to move away from linear production in favour of resource efficiency and circularity.

The main reason is that material extraction and processing generate 60% of greenhouse gases and cause 90% of ecosystem decline and biodiversity loss.

By focusing on regenerative instead of purely extractive practices a lot can be gained. The pressure on ecosystems will be greatly reduced and in many sectors – agriculture is a prominent example – regenerative practices will help store carbon, improve soil quality, improve biodiversity and increase yields. A win-win-win situation.

The same situation can be found in many practices applied by the essential oil industry.

Resource efficiency and circularity – coupled to sufficiency in terms of material consumption is the only way possible if we want to maintain a liveable Earth.



Dr Anders Wijkman

Dr Anders Wijkman is a Swedish politician who was Member of the European Parliament from 1999 to 2009. As a member of the European Parliament, he focused on issues related to climate change, environment, development cooperation and humanitarian affairs. He is a member of the Christian Democrats, part of the European People's Party - European Democrats group.

He sat on the European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety. He was also a substitute for the Committee on Development, a member of the delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, and a substitute for the delegation for relations with the United States.

Anders has been a member of the Swedish parliament, secretary general of the Swedish Red Cross, and president of the International Red Cross Disaster Relief Commission. Dr Anders Wijkman is Co-President of Club of Rome and the Tällberg Foundation, and is a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. He is also a councillor for the World Future Council.

## 11:25 - 11:45 Sustainable Supply Chain Management

As in every other sector, the fragrance, essential oils, and natural extracts sectors have both environmental and social impacts across their supply chains. Ethical sourcing and codes of conduct with material innovation are key aspects of what to do. Ambitious corporate sustainability strategies that span entire value chains, sustainability leadership, supply chain transformation, and the sharing of best practices are key elements of how to create change.

This presentation builds a case for why sustainability matters for businesses and makes clear what the role of businesses is in advancing environmental and social responsibility.



Pia Heidenmark Cook

Pia Heidenmark Cook enjoys a portfolio career, dividing her time between board, senior advisory and keynote speaking roles mainly across Europe and North America. She serves as non-executive director on corporate boards across healthcare (Bupa), materials innovation (Origin Materials) and restaurants (MAX Burgers), and chairs the advisory board of the professional services company The DO Group. She is also Senior Advisor to the private equity company Eurazeo's Planetary Boundaries Impact Fund, and to Teneo (CEO Advisory Firm).

Pia worked at IKEA/Ingka Group for 13 years – the last five years (2017-2021) as Chief Sustainability Officer. At IKEA she led the development and implementation of the IKEA People and Planet Positive strategy. During this time, IKEA ranked in the top three most sustainable brands and managed to decouple carbon dioxide emissions from its commercial growth across the value chain. Pia has worked with sustainability topics since 1996, across academia, consulting, and business.

Her first book, "Embedding Sustainability" (Kogan Page, 2024) was published in July 2024. She mentors young professional women. She is also a frequent keynote speaker/lecturer on sustainability and business transformation, and has been recognised for her TED talk, "How IKEA is Growing Business Whilst Shrinking Emissions". In 2023, she was named Top 20 Sustainability Voices by the CEO Magazine and received the Global 50 Women in Sustainability Awards by SustainabilityX® Magazine. Pia was named top 10 female leaders in sustainability by WBCSD in 2018, and top 5 influencers on climate change agend

## 11:50 - 12:10 Strategic Partnerships in Leading Sustainability

Global demand across the essential oil and fragrance sector continues to rise while producers, manufacturers, distributors, and retailers face pressure to balance economic viability with sustainability and social responsibility. Leadership and strategic partnerships across the supply chain are critical to ensuring long-term industry resilience.

This presentation focuses on leadership practices that contribute to sustainability in the essential oils sector and provides practical frameworks that can be adopted by all stakeholders - from large-scale food and beverage operations to niche aromatherapy markets. This presentation will highlight successful strategies for fostering collaboration, transparency, ethical sourcing, and partnership models that engage stakeholders from growers to consumers.

Additionally, it will feature case studies on partnerships advancing sustainability across the sector, including the Sustainable Herbs Initiative, FairWild Foundation, Union for Ethical BioTrade (UEBT), and Certified B Corps®, all working to connect farmers, traders, manufacturers, standards, and educators to impact industry sustainability.

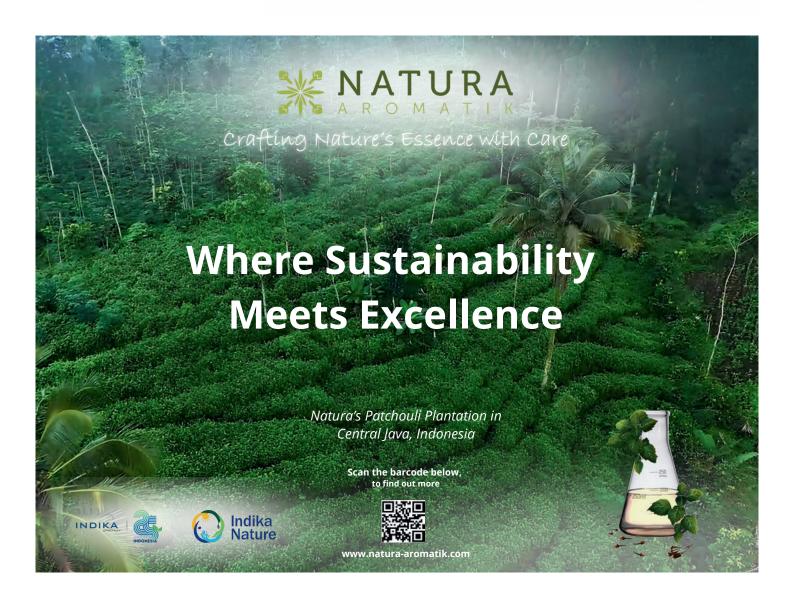


Tracey Abell

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Tracey Abell is President and CEO of American College of Healthcare Sciences (ACHS), a globally recognised leader in wellness education. Tracey has over 20 years of experience spanning higher education accreditation and compliance, programme development, and strategic partnerships. Under her leadership, ACHS is advancing education-driven strategies that promote sustainability across all operations including ethical sourcing. Tracey is engaged in advocating for partnerships and education across the supply chain in order to preserve access to these raw ingredients, particularly for small businesses and practitioners. ACHS's educational programs emphasise organic and pesticide-free essential oils and herbs to support healthy communities.





## 12:15 - 12:30 Beyond Sustainability: Redefining Responsibility in Business

In this talk, Brad Black aims to challenge the conventional understanding of sustainability. He believes its current focus often narrows to just our environmental impact, and he'll argue for a much broader perspective that truly encompasses People, Profit, Planet, and Purpose.

His goal is to open a vital conversation about making business decisions that genuinely align with our values. He contends that it simply makes sense for businesses to serve the people they impact and protect the planet we all share. Recognising that we all seek meaning, and knowing how much of our lives are spent at work, Brad will emphasise the critical importance of integrating these aspects into our professional endeavours.

Brad believes the term "sustainability" has, for many, become hollow. He'll invite the audience to explore what genuine responsibility means for our lives, our decisions, and the value we create for the greater good and our legacy.

The session will also feature audience participation, guiding individuals to discover "responsibility" within themselves and in their work. Brad will help clarify what responsible finance, operations, and sales truly look like. He'll also offer practical suggestions for the next steps in building, expanding, and maintaining a truly responsible business.

Finally, Brad will briefly touch on the history of business – how we arrived at our current state – and provide a contemporary view of what's working and what isn't, exploring why it's time for us to evolve.



Brad Black

Brad Black is Founder and Co-CEO of EO Products, an independently owned body care company in the USA. The company began in 1995, and currently has two aromatherapy brands, EO and Everyone for Everybody, which utilise many certified organic, gluten free and non-GMO ingredients. They have been a certified B Corp since 2011 and manufacture 95% of their items in their zero-waste facility in Marin County, California. They have always been guided by a strict credo around the principles that there was a need and a place for responsibly made natural, safe, and efficacious personal care products available for everybody.

## 14:00 - 17:00 Workshop: Flavour and Fragrance Ingredients: From Natural via Biosynthetic to Synthetics

Join industry expert, Dr Michael Zviely, for an exciting workshop where he delves into the world of flavour and fragrance ingredients. This comprehensive workshop aims to support attendees in gaining invaluable knowledge on the aroma building blocks and ingredients essential for planning and composing flavours and fragrances in the food & beverage and cosmetics industries. Join industry expert, Dr Michael Zviely, for an exciting workshop where he delves into the world of flavour and fragrance ingredients. This comprehensive workshop aims to support attendees in gaining invaluable knowledge on the aroma building blocks and ingredients essential for planning and composing flavours and fragrances in the food & beverage and cosmetics industries.



Dr. Michael Zviely

Michael Zviely obtained his PhD and completed his Post-Doc in Chemistry before leading a research group at the ICL Corporate R&D Institute for nearly a decade. Following this, he served as the Global VP for Research, Development, and Science at Frutarom (now IFF) for eleven years. He then spent three years in China as the CTO for Research and Development at O'Laughlin Corp, focusing on aroma chemicals, flavour and fragrance ingredients, botanical extracts, cooling agents, and UV sunscreen ingredients. Subsequently, he held a directorial position at SDA Spices and then served as the VP for Research and Development at Virdia Inc (now Stora Enso, Finland), specialising in lignocellulose-derived bio-materials for three years. Concurrently, he held a visiting Professorship at JiangNan University in China for five years and later became the VP for Business Development for aroma chemicals at Jiangsu GS in China. Dr Zviely has authored over 20 patents, contributed to more than 60 articles and chapters in various monographs, and delivered numerous speeches and presentations at both national and international events. Presently, Dr Zviely serves as a Co-Founder of Mamay Technologies, where he spearheads the development of a universal digitization method and system aimed at communicating flavours and fragrances through a numerical scale. Additionally, he holds the position of SVP for R&D at Glacier FoodTech (Resugar), an enterprise leveraging innovative technology to reshape the future of sweetening.

## 14:05 - 14:25 Cleantech Biovanillin

The world's most advanced biorefinery is co-producing specialty cellulose, microfibrillated cellulose, lignin performance chemicals, biovanillin and bioethanol in a cascading process where 94% of the incoming wood from certified forests is leaving the gates as sustainable bio-based products for the industrial markets. Using certified wood and mainly hydropower, the LCA for these products shows a very favourable environmental footprint. This presentation will share the historical evolution of this biorefinery concept, the cascading layout with focus on 100% bio-based biovanillin and microfibrillated cellulose (no mass balance) together with their LCA and environmental footprint. In addition, Borregaard's SBTi-approved plan for NetZero 2050, which will improve the environmental status of these products even further in the coming years, will be presented. The focus will be on the biovanillin and microfibrillated cellulose exemplifying the cascading biorefinery, the continuous improvement processes, sustainability and environmental impact and product properties.



Martin Lersch

Martin Lersch is an industrial chemist with more than 20 years of combined experience with research, innovation and commercialisation. He is currently CTO for Business Development and Biovanillin for Borregaard, Norway, with a focus on bringing innovations to the market.

## 14:30 - 14:50 Canadian Conifers: A Model in Circular Economy

The essential oil industry is under increasing pressure to balance efficient production with environmental responsibility. Over the last decade, circular economy principles have become a key way to reduce the industry's carbon footprint, proving that sustainability is about more than just refining how oils are extracted.

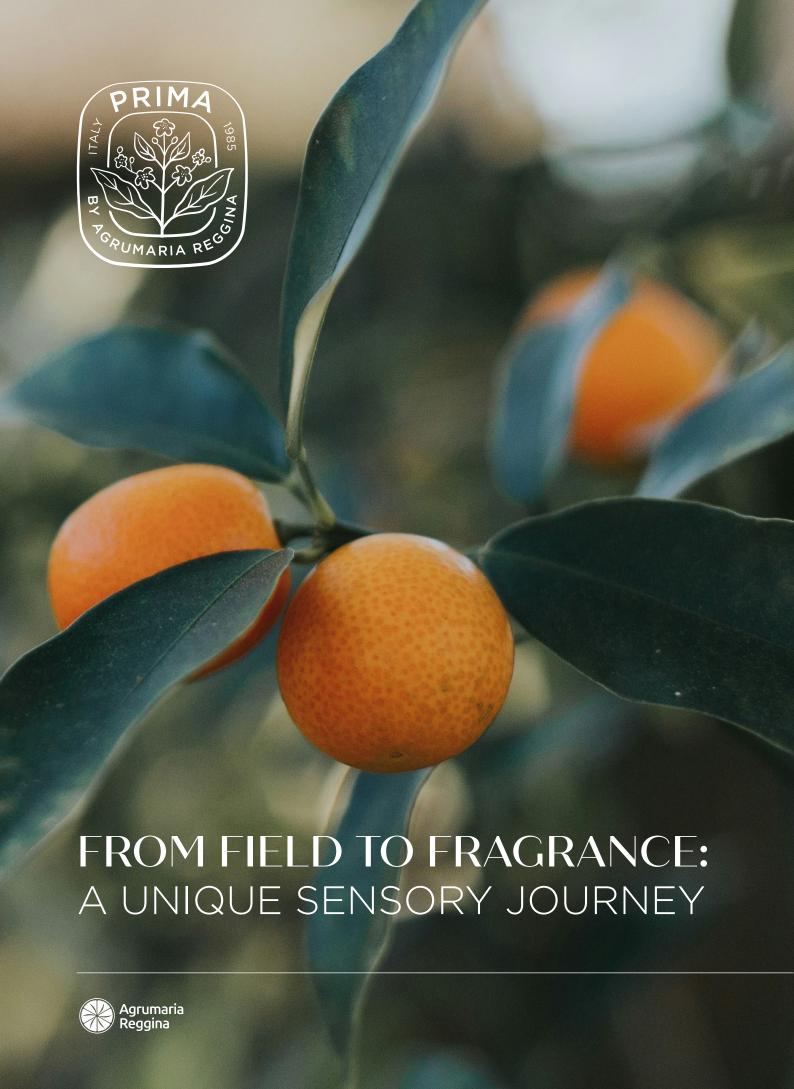
This talk looks at how a comprehensive, multi-pillar approach – which includes process innovation, responsible sourcing, human capital, knowledge transfer, and community-driven sustainability—has reshaped the essential oil sector. By combining low-carbon extraction methods, industrial symbiosis, and waste valorisation with social and economic sustainability efforts, key companies have successfully cut emissions by 60%, with a goal of 85% by 2030.



Jean-Claude Villeneuve

Jean-Claude Villeneuve, Ing. is the Founder and CEO of BoreA, a pioneering company in sustainable essential oil production based in Northern Quebec. With over a decade of expertise in circular economy strategies, he has developed innovative low-carbon extraction methods and integrated sustainability frameworks inspired by Nordic models.

A recognised leader in industrial symbiosis and resource optimisation, Jean-Claude has played a key role in advancing sustainable practices in the essential oil sector. Passionate about knowledge-sharing, he actively engages with industry professionals and future leaders to promote innovation in sustainable business models.



# PRIMA by Agrumaria Reggina The DNA of nature



We define our raw materials' DNA through three markers: unique aromatic structure, clear terroir expression, and natural intensity preserved from field to essence.



# 14:55 - 15:10 Icelandic Essential Oils

Hraundís is an essential oils distilling company located in the west of Iceland at Hvanneyri. All of the company's essential oils are 100% pure from Icelandic nature, mostly distilled from conifers. The needles and branches are hand-picked in forests that belong to the Icelandic forestry service, forest association or from forest farmers. At the heart of the operation is sustainability. Caring for and conserving the natural environment of Iceland is at the forefront of the company's action. Therefore, no trees are directly felled to enable production, with all produce coming as a byproduct of existing forest management operations such as thinning. It is also worth noting that no pesticides or harmful chemicals are used within Icelandic forestry practices. The distillery equipment she uses is homemade from stainless steel, old milk tanks and milk trunk pipes.



Hraundís Guðmundsdóttir

Hraundís Guðmundsdóttir is the owner and producer of the company Hraundís. She is an educated aromatherapist and forester from the Agricultural University of Hvanneyri. She ran a massage parlour in Reykholtsdalur for many years, where she mixed essential oils into massage oils to help people with various ailments.

She had the dream for many years to produce Icelandic essential oils. In January 2015, she went to Sedona, Arizona to study plant distillation and began distilling and selling Icelandic essential oils in the summer of 2015. She also produces various health products.

# 15:20 - 15:40 Responsible Alpine Forestry Products

The essential oil industry is at a turning point. Buyers demand purity, traceability, and sustainability, while producers face pressures on price, supply stability, and environmental impact. How can we reconcile these criteria and prepare for a future shaped by climate resilience, transparency, and zerowaste practices? This talk explores these challenges and presents Alpes Cambium's innovative model of transforming forestry residues into high-quality essential oils – a circular approach that aligns with market needs and sets a benchmark for sustainable sourcing.



Nicolas Blaser

Nicolas Blaser has over 20 years of experience in forest management. After co-founding Alpes Cambium in 2019, he successfully integrated sustainable forestry, circular economy principles, and upcycling into its business model to minimise environmental impact. Through innovation and long-term partnerships, he ensures that forests are managed responsibly for the benefit of both nature and people.

Recognised for his expertise, Nicolas has been invited to speak at industry events such as the British Essential Oils Association. He is a laureate of the French Tech. He has also contributed to discussions on sustainable forestry in media appearances.



Download the IFEAT Conference app here to schedule your plenary attendance, meetings and exhibitor visits!



# **Tuesday, September 16**

# 11:00 - 11:25 The IFEAT Medal Lecture

The IFEAT Medal Lecture honours an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the industry throughout their career. This year, the IFEAT Medal is awarded to Jean M. Mane.



Jean M. Mane

Jean M. Mane is a distinguished professional in the flavour and fragrance industry. He holds an impressive academic background with a B.S. in Chemistry from University Paris VI, an Ingénieur Civil des Mines from Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Mines de Paris, and a Master of Science from MIT. His career at the MANE Group spans from his start as a Research Chemist in 1976 to serving as President from 1995 to 2024, where he was instrumental in the company's growth as a leading designer and manufacturer of perfume compounds and flavours. Beyond his role at MANE, he has held significant leadership positions in international industry associations, including serving as President of the International Organization of the Flavor Industry (IOFI) and the European Flavour Association (EFFA), in addition to leading the SNIAA in France. A highly decorated individual, he is a Knight of the two major French nationwide Orders and has received numerous accolades for his professional achievements and entrepreneurial spirit, including the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award for France in 2011 and a Lifetime Achievement Award from AISEF in 2025. He is also recognised for his commitments to quality and environmental management, with the MANE Group being a signatory of key climate initiatives and a recipient of multiple awards for its corporate social responsibility.

# 11:30 - 12:30 Forum: Family Business in Focus – Navigating Transitions and Continuity

Did you know that many successful organisations within the International Federation of Essential Oils and Aroma Trades (IFEAT) are family businesses?

Join Kajsa Haag as she facilitates an important Family Business Forum in dialogue with a select group of family business members from within the IFEAT network. This session will showcase the unique advantages and challenges that family businesses face in the essential oils and aroma industries.



Dr. Kajsa Haag

Moderating this important session, Dr. Kajsa Haag is Associate Professor at Jönköping International Business School, Sweden.

She is a member of Europe's leading research centre for family business research, Centre for Family Entrepreneurship and Ownership (CeFEO). Kajsa is an expert on family business development through intra-family successions. Her research is published in several books and journal articles, and she frequently co-creates knowledge with business owners at seminars and workshops.

# Panellists:



Alan Brown
The Lebermuth
Company and
IFEAT Executive
Committee



**Kim Bleimann** Berjé



**Rovena Raymo** Simone Gatto



**Jean M. Mane** V. Mane Fils



John Nechupadom Plant Lipids and IFEAT Executive Committee



**Murat Yasa** Aromsa

# 14:05 - 14:10 Education Part 1: ICATS Report



Alan Brown

Alan S. Brown has served on the IFEAT Executive Committee since October 2019 and is Chair of the Education Committee. He is Chairman and an Owner at The Lebermuth Company in the USA; established in 1908. Lebermuth is a fourth-generation family-owned business. He graduated from Indiana University where he studied business with a concentration in business management and entrepreneurship. Alan began working at the firm in 1984. "In my more than 35 years working in the firm I have worked in nearly every department and have been honoured to study and work with some of the finest perfumers and essential oil experts in the world."

# 14:15 - 14:20 Education Part 2: University of Reading Flavourist Training Course Report



Marina Périco

Marina Périco graduated in Biology and postgraduated in Food Engineering. Thirteen years ago she began her journey at Carlos Cramer Brazil, working in the sampling and application sector. For the past seven years, she has been working as a flavourist, developing sweet and savory flavors for several market segments, both nationally and internationally. Following her report, Marina will receive the Best Student Award: University of Reading Flavourist Course.

# 14:25 - 14:30 Presentation of Student Medals



Sascha Schreiber

Sascha Schreiber is an internationally recognised leader in fragrance innovation, currently serving as Director of Global Product Development, Fragrance & Innovation at The Estée Lauder Companies Inc. In this executive role, she steers the strategic and scientific development of the company's French perfume cluster, bridging creative vision with technical excellence.

Her career began at L'Oréal's Research & Innovation division as a Fragrance Development Engineer, following participation in an interdisciplinary research ecosystem at Université Paris Sciences et Lettres within the prestigious L'Oréal-Chaire Beauté(s) programme.

Schreiber holds a Master's degree from the École Supérieure du Parfum et de la Cosmétique and a Postgraduate Diploma in the Business of Perfumery, awarded with distinction and the IFEAT Medal for Academic Excellence for her research on intellectual property protection in the perfume industry.

She is also the founder of Green Science x Beauty Futures, a US-based innovation platform pioneering the application of white biotechnology to fragrance creation. As the named inventor on multiple pending patents, her work spans bioadaptive scent delivery systems, neurocosmetics, and novel intellectual property frameworks – shaping the future of sustainable, science-driven perfumery.

# 14:35 - 14:40 Study Tour Report: Argentina 2025



**Martina Raymo** 

Martina Raymo has a degree in Chemical Engineering from Politecnico di Milano, Italy. She joined her family company, Simone Gatto, in 2021 as a Production Process Supervisor and is an expert in citrus processing. With her background in chemical engineering, she has developed a strong passion for high quality, 100% pure and natural citrus juices and essential oils. Martina is dedicated to the continuous improvement of all the processes that take place and belong to the citrus industry and her approach is always positive and goal oriented. Throughout her career, she has had the opportunity to work in the production field, further enhancing her skills and knowledge in all the steps of the process.

# Wednesday, September 17

09:35 - 10:40 and 11:00 - 11:40

# **Advocacy & Regulatory Session**

In this unmissable debate split over two morning sessions, Rebecca Lentini and Charles Laroche of NOVE will be joined by representatives of the European Parliament, the European Commission, the European Chemicals Agency, as well as producers of essential oils and industry stakeholders. They will discuss the EU regulatory framework impacting the sector, identifying opportunities and challenges.



Rebecca Lentini

Rebecca leads NOVE's sustainability team. Her policy areas of expertise include sustainability, critical raw materials, circular economy, industrial policy, waste, environmental health and safety, and occupational health and safety. Prior to joining NOVE, Rebecca assisted two Brussels-based trade associations in the mining sector, where she gained extensive knowledge and experience on raw materials. Rebecca holds a Master's Degree in Law.



**Charles Laroche** 

Charles Laroche brings impressive experience in business and European affairs to NOVE where he helps to design innovative public affairs campaigns on behalf of NOVE's clients. Charles joined the NOVE team in 2018. After spending 35 years in the private sector, primarily with Unilever, he is a specialist in engaging with the EU institutions and providing strategic advice in the management of trade associations.



**Christos Vasilakos** 

Christos Vasilakos is Head of Office to MEP Dimitrios Tsiodras in the European Parliament, where he leads work on major legislative files in environment, chemicals and energy, including the OSOA Package, the CLP Regulation, and methane reduction in the energy sector. He has over 25 years of professional experience, with more than 18 years in EU institutions, holding senior roles in the Parliament, Commission, Permanent Representation in the

Council of the EU and Greek government. As former Secretary General for Research and Technology of Greece, he also chaired the Competitiveness Council during the 2014 EU Presidency His career began in academia and research, including as Head of the Air Quality Group at NCSR 'Demokritos'. He holds a Ph.D. in chemistry and has published over 130 scientific papers. He is known for his political insight, stakeholder coordination, and commitment to advancing strategic EU priorities.



**Paul Ryan** 

Paul Ryan has been Head of Unit at the ECHA's Unit C.4 on Hazard Classification for the past four years, with an extensive career in various ECHA positions spanning over 15 years. He has a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Galway in Ireland with over three years of experience as a postdoctoral researcher. The Hazard Classification Unit manages tasks under the CLP Regulation and supports the opinion-making process for proposals

for harmonising the classification and labelling (CLH) of hazardous substances, the development of CLH dossiers via hazard screening and collaboration with Member States. The unit works closely with the Committee for Risk assessment (RAC), its Chair and secretariat to develop CLH opinions.

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**Joris Theewis** 

Joris Theewis joined IFF in May 2001 and is currently the VP, Head of Scent Regulatory Affairs. He holds a Master's Degree in Organic Chemistry from the University of Amsterdam. His extensive experience at IFF includes various roles in regulatory affairs, such as Hazard Communications and Chemical Registrations & Ingredient Defence, leading the EU REACH team, and currently leading Regulatory for the Scent Business Unit as a member of its Executive

Leadership Team. Outside of IFF, he is a board member of VOB and RIFM, and a member of the IFRA Executive Technical Committee, having formerly chaired the IFRA Risk Management TF and REACH TF.



**Philippe Soguel** 

Philippe Soguel founded Distillerie Bleu Provence in 1994. The company specialises in the traditional distillation and production of essential oils and aromatic products from Provence.

He is in charge of overall strategy and business management.

Philippe serves as the key point of contact between suppliers and clients, while also overseeing the development of new products.

# 11:45 - 12:30 Cracking the Code of Plant Extracts: The Business Side of Regulatory Classification

By December 2029, the European Commission must deliver a pivotal scientific report, potentially with legislative consequences, on substances containing more than one constituent (MOCS) derived from plants. This development could significantly reshape the regulatory environment for essential oils and other natural extracts within the EU, with far-reaching business implications. The EFEO-IFEAT Scientific Programme stands at the forefront of this challenge, advocating that essential oils, owing to their natural complexity and unique intrinsic properties, cannot be equated with synthetic mixtures of isolated components. Through an alliance of industry leaders, academic institutions, and scientific experts in toxicology, environmental fate, analytical chemistry, and regulatory policy, the program is generating high-quality, EU-aligned data to support sound, science-based classifications and defend the regulatory status of natural extracts. We are calling for targeted expertise and financial contributions; your participation can directly influence the scientific and regulatory outcomes that will define the future of natural substances in the EU market. Join us to discover how science meets regulation to protect the business of natural extracts and how your support can help lead the way.



Dr Jonathan Bonello

Dr Jonathan Bonello co-leads the IFEAT-EFEO Scientific Programme core team alongside Jocelyne Kurtz. Formerly Chief Scientific Officer at IFEAT, he plays a central role in driving scientific and regulatory advocacy for natural extracts and essential oils, particularly in response to the EU's evolving chemical legislation. With over 20 years in the flavour and fragrance industry, Dr Bonello has held senior global leadership roles, driving innovation, strategic partnerships, and cross-functional operations across natural and synthetic ingredients. He holds a PhD in Physical Chemistry from the University of Cambridge, is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, and a Member of the American Chemical Society.

# 14:00 - 15:30 Workshop: The EU & Essential Oils - A Beginner's Guide - NOVE

This free-to-attend workshop will provide participants with a general overview of the main actors and decision-making procedures within the EU Institutions. It will then focus on current and upcoming legislation impacting – or with the potential to impact – essential oils and other natural ingredients, offering insights into how these developments may affect the sector.



Rebecca Lentini



Charles Laroche

# 14:05 - 14:25 From Still to Sustainable: Evolving Methods in Essential Oil Distillation

In this presentation, Marco Valussi will analyse the primary challenges faced by distillers in ensuring the sustainability of their enterprises. His focus will be on the economic and environmental sustainability of the distillation processes and technologies, acknowledging that these aspects cannot be isolated from the broader context of harvesting, cultivation, packaging, and social sustainability.



Marco Valussi

Marco Valussi is a researcher and a clinical phytotherapist with specific expertise in essential oils; he works as a consultant for the distilling industry and as an educator and writer in herbal medicine and aromatherapy.

He studied Forestry Science in Italy and then gained a degree in Herbal Medicine (BSc. (Hons.)) in 1998 from Middlesex University, London, after obtaining a Diploma in Aromatherapy in 1995 from ITHMA

Since 1996, he has written more than 120 articles for different professional journals and magazines on different subjects related to medicinal and aromatic plants. He's the author of 16 scientific papers on the same subjects. In 2013, he published the second edition of his professional textbook on essential oil science, in 2017 an introductory text on the same subject, and in 2023 a collection of more than 400 aromatic plants monographs. Together with his colleagues Benoit Roger and Ann Harman, he's writing a textbook on distillation for Elsevier.

# 14:30 - 14:50 Sustainable Initiatives in the French Lavender Sector

Lavender is an iconic French crop, but it faces significant challenges from climate change, market volatility, and increasing regulatory and societal demands. To ensure its long-term sustainability, the lavender sector must continue evolving. Research programmes have been launched to protect plant survival against early dieback. To preserve soil, biodiversity, and ecosystems, the sector supports agroecological and integrated farming practices like inter-row plant cover, crop diversification, and a rational use of phytosanitary products. Environmental impact is further reduced by optimising energy efficiency, managing resources sustainably, valorising co-products from distillation, and minimising greenhouse gas emissions through new technologies.

The industry has effectively organised to advocate for producers, notably through the Interprofessional Committee of French Essential Oils (CIHEF) and cooperative models. A major challenge is promoting responsible business practices that ensure fair remuneration for producers. This includes long-term contracts based on production costs and quality certifications, such as UEBT and FFL, that guarantee ethical and sustainable sourcing and enhance the value of the offering.

Preserving the local economy is also vital, as lavender supports sectors like agriculture, but also beekeeping and tourism. Initiatives like promoting the Haute-Provence PDO label and advocating for the inclusion of lavender landscapes in the UNESCO World Heritage list are crucial for enhancing the crop's value and strengthening the regional economy. Through these initiatives, the lavender industry aims to ensure the crop's sustainability and its positive impact on the region and future generations. A collaborative approach between producers, local authorities, buyers, and consumers is key to securing sustainable growth.



**Ambre Pelissier** 

Graduating with a Master's in Strategic Marketing, Ambre Pelissier gained over 10 years of experience in the agri-food industry with large companies, holding various commercial roles. In 2022, she chose to apply her skills in sales, negotiation, and management to the SCA3P, France's leading cooperative for natural essential oils, which now brings together over 200 producers and markets approximately 400 tonnes of essential oils annually worldwide.

This experience allowed her to discover the world of perfumery and aromas while facing the current challenges of the agricultural sector. "I found real meaning in this profession, working within a small-scale, committed structure with strong values, which I am passionate about developing."

# 14:55 - 15:15 Pure, Potent, Nordic: The Caraway Revolution

Finland's agricultural practices thrive in the challenging environment between the 60<sup>th</sup> parallel north and the Arctic Circle. Despite a relatively small population, the country boasts extensive forestry and agricultural land. The climate presents notable hurdles, including significant temperature fluctuations and variable precipitation patterns. Finnish farmers cultivate a diverse range of crops and are also exploring forest plants for essential oil production. The core principle of "climate-smart farming" guides their approach, emphasising the adaptation of agricultural practices to the unique local environmental realities.



As Head of Agriculture at Nordic Caraway, Matias Rönnqvist directs agronomic strategy, farmer engagement, and crop management across the company's sourcing network. He maintains close ties with the farming community and ensures the highest standards in crop quality and sustainability. Matias is also an active farmer, managing a diverse rotation that includes cereals, peas, rapeseed, caraway, and coriander.

**Matias Rönnqvist** 

# 15:20 - 15:35 The Surge in Global Cardamom Prices: Indian Market Dynamics and Nordic Industry Implications

The global cardamom market has witnessed significant price hikes in recent years, with Indian cardamom experiencing an unprecedented surge in cost. This talk explores the key factors influencing the rising prices, including adverse weather conditions, growing global demand, supply chain disruptions, and production constraints. Special emphasis is placed on India's role as a leading cardamom producer and exporter, analysing how climate variability, rising agricultural costs, pesticide dependency, and market forces have contributed to this phenomenon. Additionally, this talk will examine the Nordic region's response to these market shifts, evaluating sustainable sourcing strategies, alternative aroma ingredients, and trade relations. The discussion highlights potential sustainable solutions, such as integrated pest management (IPM) and bio-based pest control, to mitigate pesticide-related challenges. Moreover, we'll consider whether global markets are prepared for sustained high prices and explores strategies to maintain affordability while promoting sustainability.



**Sunin Sunny** 

Sunin Sunny is the Co-Founder & CEO of Ecospice Ingredients Pvt Ltd., driving its global growth in essential oils and spice extracts. With Master's and Bachelor's degrees in Food Processing and Engineering, he has strong expertise in food technology, quality assurance, and innovation. His career began as an Operations Manager, gaining hands-on experience under the mentorship of his father, Mr. Sunny T.P., a veteran in essential oils and oleoresins manufacturing.

A seasoned entrepreneur, Sunin also specialises in medical cannabis. Proficient in GC, HPLC, spectrophotometry, and advanced quality testing, he ensures top-tier production standards. Under his leadership, Ecospice Ingredients is emerging as a major force in sustainable ingredient sourcing and manufacturing.

### 15:45 - 16:05

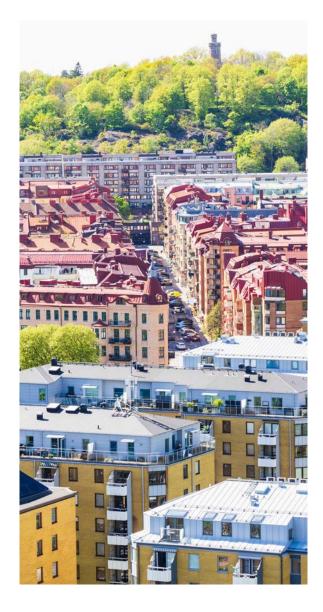
# Vietnamese Basil, Cassia, Pepper & Star Anise Production: Towards a 'Cleaner' and Resilient Value Chain

Vietnam is a significant global exporter of pepper, star anise, and basil essential oil. This presentation focuses on creating a DEHP-free value chain for Vietnamese spices. The presentation highlights DEHP contamination risks in essential oil production and outlines mitigation strategies for a sustainable and pristine supply chain. Collaboration is essential to transform these challenges into growth opportunities.



Nguyễn Khánh Hưng

Nguyễn Khánh Hưng, born in 1987, is an accomplished professional with a strong academic and research background. He earned a Master's Degree in Chemistry from Le Mans University in 2010 and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Rennes 1 University in 2013. He furthered his education with a Master's in Management from Toulouse School of Management in 2016. Proficient in French and with a good command of English, Hưng has held various research and management roles. His career includes positions at the University of Rennes, CNRS in Toulouse, and several pharmaceutical companies. In 2025, he joined Techvina as the Director of the R&D Center, contributing his expertise to the company's innovative projects





# Thursday, September 18

## 09:35 - 10:40 Citrus Roundtable

This important session will focus on the evolving landscape of sustainability across the citrus supply chain. Sustainability is more than a trend – it is a fundamental factor for everyone from producers to purchasers and beyond. Together this panel of four experts in the citrus market will explore how sustainability is interpreted, implemented and redefined across the citrus supply chain.



**Barbara Campisi** 

Moderating this session, Barbara Campisi is Co-CEO at Campisi Citrus, her family's company for four generations, where she manages the citrus essential oils department. She spent eight years in the UK to complete her studies. After obtaining the International Baccalaureate at TASIS, The American School in England, she attended Hult International Business School in London. She graduated with distinctions with a Bachelor of Business Administrations Major in Finance and a Master of Science in International Marketing. Her first internship was at an asset and wealth management company in Lugano, Switzerland. While her second experience in Antwerp, Belgium, allowed her to focus on political branding as a brand strategist. Growing up in a family that has been a key player in the citrus sector for decades, together with her innate passion for essential oils, led her to move back to her roots in Sicily, to take over this department of the company.

# Panellists:



**Gillian Bleiman** Berjé



**Andres Gonzalez** Vicente Trapani



Kristin Croonenberghs Citromil



# 11:00 - 11:20 Fair Labor Practices and Compliance Tools in Natural Ingredients Sourcing

As global demand intensifies, ensuring ethical labor practices across fragmented and informal agricultural supply chains has become a critical challenge. The Fair Labor Association's (FLA) Harvesting the Future initiative exemplifies a proactive, multi-stakeholder approach to advancing rights, strengthening due diligence, and building resilience in sourcing systems in sectors such as jasmine, cotton, and roses. By engaging local communities, companies, and governments, the programme addresses systemic issues like child labour, hazardous and exploitative conditions, and lack of access to grievance mechanisms and minimum wage protections. A cornerstone of FLA's strategy is joint remediation – a collaborative process where brands, businesses, suppliers, communities, farmers and workers co-develop actions that are sustainable, context-sensitive, and independently verifiable. Drawing from field experience, this session will showcase key tools developed by FLA, including participatory risk assessments, responsible recruitment practices, grievance mechanisms, child protection interventions, access-to-education initiatives, income and wage improvement strategies, and sector-specific frameworks for human rights due diligence (HRDD). This session will provide actionable strategies for embedding human rights due diligence into sourcing practices, helping businesses foster resilient, ethical supply chains that uphold responsible sourcing principles from source to shelf.



Burcu Kuğu

Burcu Kuğu is the Vice President of Innovation at the Fair Labor Association (FLA), overseeing programmes that drive supply chain innovation, remediation, and responsible sourcing in agriculture. She provides technical leadership across Asia, EMEA, and Latin America. Kuğu leads the global Harvesting the Future initiative, a multi-stakeholder effort for collaborative remediation. She has also managed a USDOL-ILAB project addressing child and forced labour risks. With expertise in capacity building, monitoring, and strategic planning, Kuğu advances FLA's global initiatives through research, training, and community-based programming. She holds a degree in communication science from Marmara University and is based in Istanbul, Türkiye.



# 11:25 - 12:00 From Commitment to Impact: Creating a Legacy Through Spanish Sustainable Supply Chains

# **Panellists:**



Ramon Fernandez Zalabi



**Eva Lluch** Lluch Essence



**Diana March** Eurofragance



Anna de las Heras Carles Creaf

# 12:05 - 12:30 Mind The Gap: Rethinking Payment Practices

Frustrated about never being paid on time? Want to gain some insights into why customers don't pay you promptly? Need to learn some tips that would help the situation to improve? This session will help you to understand what is really going on, the laws that are there to help you and the practical actions you can take to improve business cash flow.



**Brian Shanahan** 

Brian Shanahan is the leader and founder of Informita since 2012. Informita assists companies in the areas of working capital and procurement. Brian has worked with over three hundred clients in 42 countries across four continents since 1993. Brian is also the founder of TermsCheck.com, a service that allows you to compare customer and supplier payment terms with other companies' actual terms. In the media, Brian has been quoted many times in the financial press and is the author of five booklets.



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# NEW ITAL MEMBERS

# **Agriland France**

31 Rue de l'Assomption – 75016 Paris

France

Contact: Carine Nasra

Email: cnasra@tagpartners.fr

Web: agriland.fr/en

Agriland is a major integrated producer of rosemary antioxidants, rosemary essential oils and neroli. We offer tailor-made solutions to the food, beauty, aromatherapy, pharmaceutical and animal nutrition industries.

### **Arochem Ratlam Pvt Ltd**

454, Ram Bagh, Ratlam (MP) 457001 India AROME

Contact: Siddharth Patel

Email: siddharth@aromaworld.com

Web: aromaworld.com

Arochem is a very well-known entity in the world of fragrance industry in India. It was established more than five decades ago in 1969 and has been actively in operation since then.

# **Cassegrain Tea Tree Oil Pty Ltd**

270 Bill Hill Road, The Hatch, NSW 2444 Australia



Contacts: Claude Cassegrain / Thomas Cassegrain
Email: cc@catto.com.au / tcassegrain@catto.com.au

Web: cassegrainteatreeoil.com

Cassegrain Tea Tree Oil produces premium, sustainable tea tree oil, leveraging decades of expertise to serve cosmetics and therapeutic industries globally with high quality and reliability.

# Citrefine International Limited

Moorfield Road, Yeadon, LS19 7BN UK



Contact: Matthew Griffin

Email: matt.griffin@citrefine.com

Web: citrefine.com

Citrefine is a leader and trusted partner in the production of naturally sourced insect repellent products that are effective and safe for consumers and the planet.

# **Essenmex**

Bolivar 646, Col. Centro, San Luis Potosí, San Luis Potosi, Mexico C.P. 78000 Mexico



Contact: Perla Méndez

Email: Ventas.essenmex@gmail.com

Web: **No website** 

For the last 27 years Essenmex has been attending its customers' needs of garlic, onion and mustard oils as well as onion and garlic concentrated powders to its clients all over the world.

# **HG Chemical Group**

Av. Coatepec 520, Bdg. 20, Col. San Bartolome Coatepec, Huixquilucan, Estado de Mexico 52793

Mexico

Contacts: Fermin Beltran Zardain / Juan Carlos Campos

Chemical Group

Email: **fbeltran@hgchemical.mx**Email: **icampos@hgchemical.mx** 

Web: **hgchemical.mx** 

Mexican importer and distributor of high-quality aroma chemicals, essential oils, and solvents for the fragrance, flavour, and cosmetics industries.

# JiangXi JiaYuan Fragrance Co.,Ltd

BaiShui Road, Westen industrial park, Jishui County, Ji 'an City, Jiangxi Province 331600



Contact: Jason Yu

Email: jason\_yu@jiayuanfragrance.com

Web: jyfragrances.com

JiangXi JiaYuan Fragrance Co.,Ltd is a manufacturer of aroma chemicals. Its products are mainly used as raw materials for the fragrance industry.

K.K. Aromas

## K K Aromas

No 3, 3rd Main, Papu Cottage, Bangalore - 560004, Karnataka

Karnatak India

Contact: **Harishesh Jilla Krishna**Email: **harishesh@kkaromas.com** 

Web: kkaromas.com

K K Aromas is a trusted manufacturer of essential oils, blending tradition and innovation with 30 years of expertise to deliver pure, high-quality aromatic solutions.

# Kunshan Jinyu International Trading Co.,Ltd



Room 1613, Zhongyin Huilong Building, No 8, Suzhou Avenue West, Suzhou Industry Park, Suzhou China

Contact: Jack Zhong

Email: jackzhong@kunshanjinyu.com

Web: **kunshanjinyu.com** 

Kunshan Jinyu International Trading Co.,Ltd is a distributor of turpentine oil products and main distributor of ambroxane.

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# **NEW IFEAT MEMBERS**

# La Moraleja SA

Talcahuano 750 piso 9 (C1013AAP) **Buenos Aires** Argentina



Email: cfs@lidertrax.com

Fmail: mramirez@lamoraleja.com.ar

Web: lamoraleja.com.ar/en

La Moraleja S.A. is a prominent Argentine agro-industrial company, founded in 1978 by Angel Sanchis Perales. It is located in the province of Salta. With more than four decades of experience, it has established itself as one of the largest lemon producers and processors in the country and worldwide.

# **Laboratoire Puressentiel SA**

Avenue Molière 144, 1050 Bruxelles Belgium

Contact: Florence Pacchioni Borgniet Fmail: f.pacchioni@puressentiel.com

Web: uk.puressentiel.com

Puressentiel creates natural, effective health products from plant extracts, guided by values of nature, commitment, and performance, with strong CSR and B Corp dedication.

# Latin Lemon S.A.

Ruta Nacional 157 km 23, Bella Vista, Tucumán Argentina

Lucia Omodeo Contact:

Email: lomodeo@latinlemon.com.ar

Web: latinlemon.com.ar/en

A family company specialising in the packing of lemons for export and the citric industry.

## Mittal Aroma Essential Oils

C-2, Sector-6, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh 201 301 India

Contact: Pratham Mittal

Fmail: mittalaromas@gmail.com

Web: mittalaroma.com

We have developed a state-of-the-art infrastructure in 1988 which is well divided into various units such as processing unit, quality testing unit, R&D unit, and sales and marketing department.



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The Efficacy of Nature

# Plimon Global SL

Carrer Matar6, 2, 3rd floor, Edificio Plimon, Granollers, 08402, Barcelona Spain

Contact: **Ricard Lascorz** rlascorz@plimon.com Email: plimon.com/en Web:

Plimon produces and distributes raw materials. Based in Barcelona and Lleida (Spain), our F&F unit supplies essential oils and aromatic chemicals with expert support.

## **Robust Trade Links DMCC**

JLT:-Suite # G, 18th Floor, A.G. Tower (Cluster I), PO Box: 340826, JLT, Dubai UAE



Contacts: Sameer Chaturvedi / Sidharth Tekriwal grcuae@icloud.com/sidharth@gvi.co.id Email:

Web: kmgrobust.com

Robust Trade Links DMCC is a global sourcing, trading and processing company, specialising in premium essential oils and agricultural commodities with a commitment to quality, reliability, and sustainable partnerships.

# Shanghai Moistall Biotechnology Co.,Ltd.

Room 415 of Building 12, Jinxiu East Road 2777, Shanghai 201206

Contact: Sam Zhu

sales@moistall.com Fmail: Web: moistall.com

A distributor of essential oils and aroma chemicals.

# Sichuan Ingia Biosynthetic Co.,Ltd.

Building 8, No.269 Fenghuang Rd, Tianfu New District, Chengdu 610213 China

Contact: Linda Fang

Fmail: lindaf@scingia.com Web: scingia.com

A professional and reliable provider of EU natural food additives and aroma ingredients.

# **Sourcify Naturals**

Lobo de la Vega 397, Yerba Buena, Tucumán Argentina

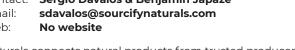
Contact: Sergio Davalos & Benjamin Japaze sdavalos@sourcifynaturals.com Fmail:

Web:

Naturals connects natural products from trusted producers with global markets, combining industry experience with a fresh approach to sourcing, logistics, and long-term partnerships.



INGIA BIO





# **NEW IFEAT MEMBERS**

### Sri Venkatesh Aromas

T-2/202, Mangolpuri Industrial Area, Phase – 1, Delhi - 110083 India



Contacts: Nikunj Kasera / Neha Kasera / Sakshi Gupta

Email: sales@svanaturals.com
Email: nehakasera@sivaorganics.com

Web: svanaturals.com

We are one of the oldest and most reputed companies in the industry, engaged in the manufacturing and exports of essential oils and allied products from India. We proudly export to over 50 countries worldwide.

# **Supreme Resources**

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5400 Laurel Springs Parkway Suite 1103 Suwanee, GA 30024 USA



Contacts: Geoffrey Kho / Sarah Ewing

Email: **GKhoAdmin@supremeresources.com**Email: **sewing@supremeresources.com** 

Web: supremeresources.com

Supreme Resources operates global raw material supply chains, providing predictability, visibility and reliable local support through its FTZs, Al-human-driven forecasting, and zero-carbon warehousing & delivery platforms.

### The Suzuki Menthol Co., Ltd

3-2-12 Minatojima Minamimachi, Chuo-ku, Kobe-shi, Hyogo 650-0047 Japan



Contact: Yoshio Noguchi

Email: y-noguchi@suzuki-menthol.com

Web: suzuki-menthol.com

Japanese manufacturer specialising in menthol crystals, peppermint oil, and food additives. Delivering natural ingredients worldwide with reliable quality.

# Zhejiang Zancheng Life Sciences Limited

Room 702, No.318, Huayua Gang Street, Gongshu District, Hangzhou, Zhejiang China



Contact: **Jenny** 

Email: jenny@zanchenglife.com

Web: zanchengsynbio.com and zanchenglife.com

Engaged in natural and synthetic ingredients, with flavours, fragrances, aromatics, cosmetics, feed and food additives. Production of green biological products from synthetic biology technology.

# Why become an Member?

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    - Conciliation Service
    - Discount on ICATS courses
      - Access to publications
         And more!

If you're a non-Member attending our Göteborg Conference, Join us for a welcome drink at the Prospective IFEAT Members Meet & Greet. on Thursday 18th September at 3pm at Imagine (Level 29, Tower 3).

The Meet & Greet will provide you with the opportunity to meet with members of the IFEAT Executive Committee as well as IFEAT staff and consultants, so you can ask any questions you may have about membership and find out how to apply.

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