

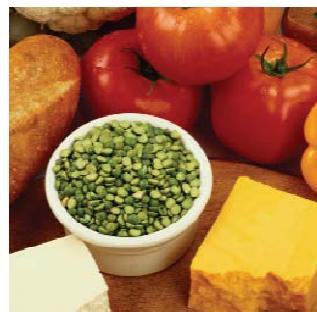


## EUROFIR COURSE ON PRODUCTION AND USE OF FOOD COMPOSITION DATA IN NUTRITION

FoodComp 2008, 6 – 17 October 2008  
in Bratislava, Slovakia

### Organised by

- VUP Food Research Institute, Slovakia
- WU Division of Human Nutrition, The Netherlands



## **Background**

Compilations of data on the nutritional composition of foods are essential tools for nutritionists, especially for those concerned with monitoring adequacy of dietary intake, for linking diet to health and disease, for planning and prescription, education, food security, and for trade, export and legislation. This requires the development and application of a unified, reliable and accessible pan-European food information resource, a principle objective of the European Food Information Resource Network (EuroFIR). In order to achieve its principal objectives, EuroFIR offers a training course on the production and use of food composition data in nutrition, Bratislava, October 2008 (FoodComp 2008).

## **Objectives of course**

The aim of FoodComp 2008 is to show how the quality and usefulness of food composition data is determined by the quality of the production of analytical data for nutrients in foods, and the compilation of these and other data into food composition tables and nutritional databases. Further aims of the course are: harmonizing of standards of data production & compilation, and to contribute to capacity building and strengthening of food composition activities. The course will be based on the philosophy that the preparation of nutritional databases requires close understanding of the needs of the users by both compilers and producers of analytical data. The course will show how this understanding can be achieved and the benefits that flow from the collaboration of users, analysts and compilers.

## **Course structure**

FoodComp 2008 will be structured around the second edition of the book 'Food Composition Data. Production, Management and Use', by Dr H. Greenfield and Professor D.A.T. Southgate. The course will cover: ways in which nutritional databases are used and how these determine the range of nutrients for which values are required; foods for which values are needed; choice and validation of analytical methods to give nutritionally relevant values; food and nutrient classification and stages in the production of a nutrient database. Participants will become familiar with rules for data documentation as well as structures for constructing computerised relational databases. Work forms used in the course comprise lectures, assignments, excursions, E-learning and project work in small groups.

## **Who should attend**

FoodComp 2008 is especially intended for participants from Central and Eastern European countries (both EuroFIR and non-EuroFIR partners) and from countries outside Europe especially North Africa/Middle East and Latin America, who are involved or start to become involved in nutritional database programmes as analysts and/or compilers. Users of nutritional databases who wish to have a better understanding of how databases are prepared and the constraints upon their use will also find the course useful.

## **Course content**

The major elements of the course are:

- Requirements and use of nutrient databases at different levels
- Steps in establishing a food composition database
- Selecting and establishing priorities for including foods, nutrients and other food components in databases
- Sampling of foods
- Methods of analysis: critical evaluation and choice of methods
- Data quality and evaluation
- Reviewing existing data
- Application of quality management system in compilation process
- Format and modes of expression
- Food nomenclature, classification and identification
- Recipe calculations
- Compilation of data
- Documentation and database management

## **Venue and duration**

FoodComp 2008 will be held at Hotel Barónka Bratislava, Slovak Republic from 6-17 October 2008.

## **Language**

The language of the course is English. Therefore, fluent English is essential.

## **Fees**

EuroFIR makes 20 fellowships available for selected candidates. The fellowships cover tuition fee, accommodation and meals from 5-18 October 2008 at Hotel Barónka, a copy of the course book and other course materials, and cost of travel. It does not cover medical and travel insurance, nor expenditures for visa.

## **How to apply**

All applicants should fill in the application form below and send it together with their curriculum vitae before 15 June 2008 to the Course Secretariat (see address below). Applicants are recommended to apply as soon as possible. The course directors plus a EuroFIR network member will do assessment of eligibility of the applicants. Accepted candidates for a fellowship will be listed on the EuroFIR website (<http://www.eurofir.net>) before 1 September 2008.

## **Advisory board**

- Hettie Schönfeldt, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa
- Paul Finglas, Institute of Food Research, Norwich, UK
- Mirjana Pavlovic, Institute for Medical Research, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
- Barbara Burlingame, FAO, Food and Nutrition Division, Rome, Italy

## **Course directors**

- Paul Hulshof, Division of Human Nutrition, Wageningen University, The Netherlands
- Janka Porubská, VUP Food Research Institute, Bratislava, Slovak Republic

## **Course Secretariat**

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## Application form

EuroFIR Course on the Production and Use of Food Composition Data in Nutrition, 6 – 17 October 2008, Bratislava, Slovak Republic. Applications can also be made by using the application form at EuroFIR public website: <http://www.eurofir.net> under the ‘training’ button.

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Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms

First name:

Family name:

Gender (please tick)  female  male

Date and place of birth:

Nationality:

Work address (including full name of organization):

Address for correspondence:

Telephone No:

Telefax No:

E-mail address:

EuroFIR Partner Acronym (if applicable):

EuroFIR Partner ID (if applicable):

I consider myself as a (please tick):

database compiler  analyst  database user  other, please specify:

Dietary requirements (e.g. vegetarian, other):

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Declaration and signature of candidate seeking admission.

I declare that the information given on this form and in the attached **curriculum vitae** is correct.

Date:

Name:

Please complete and return this form **before 15 June 2008** together with your curriculum vitae to: Course Secretariat FoodComp 2008 for registration, preferably electronically (see address above).

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Slovak Republic  
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[www.eurofir.net](http://www.eurofir.net)

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