

Newsletter ^{1/02}

European Federation of City Farms

Kinderboerderijen

City Farms and
Community Gardens

*Fermes d' Animation
Educatives*

4H-garder

4H-Farms



*Kinder-, Jeugd- en
Gezinsboerderijen*

Fermes d'Enfants

*Jugendfarmen, Kinderbauernhöfe,
Aktivspielplätze*

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News from the Board

E-mail your E-mail Address!!

If your city farm has an e-mail address, you can receive the EFCF-newsletter and other important information directly. Send your cityfarms name, region, country and e-mail address to efcf@vgc.be

Link up the EFCF Website

Does your city farm have a World Wide Web site? E-mail EFCF with your Website address and we will link it to the EFCF Website <http://efcf.vgc.br>

General Meeting 2002

Friday evening 2.3.01 - Delegates meeting

Introductions and information exchange, setting a revised agenda for the Saturday and Sunday, followed by socialising



Present:

Danielle Marvel	Federation Belge francophone des fermes d'animation
Karl van den Brande	member of the Federatie Kinder- Jeugd- en Gezinsboerderijen
Willem Labeun	Chair of the Federatie Kinder-, Jeugd- en Gezinsboerderijen
Hans-Jorge Lange	German BdJA
Oliver Ginsberg	German BdJA
Rijk Scheer	Stichting Kinderboerderijen Nederland
Alex Frank	4H FNG, Norway
Inger Synnove Vaader	4H FNG, Norway

Ana Coushina Caveiro

Luisa Tavoea

Jeremy Iles

John Wheldon

Marc De Staercke

Pauline Wolters

Mike Primarolo

Qunat Pedajura des divais, Portugal

ditto

FCCFG, UK

ditto.

Board

Board

Board

Apologies for absence:
France, Italy, Sweden

1. Minutes of General Meeting, 2001

Agreed

2. Matters arising from the Minutes

Discussion on Conferences

- Rotterdam Conference, May/June 2002. 40 places booked to date. Programme as published on the EFCF website. Those who have not yet sent in their booking forms are requested to do so as soon as possible.
- 2003 Conference: Letter from Lisboa requesting carrying out Conference in 2004 not 2003 due to political changes.
- Following discussion agreed Lisboa Conference will be in 2004, but planning with EFCF needs to start now to avoid any other changes.
- UK and Norway agreed to explore whether it was possible to carry out anything international in 2003.
- UK and Norway to confirm their proposals at Rotterdam Conference.



Discussion on contact and communication.
Alex (Norway) to contact Sweden and Denmark (6-7 farms in Denmark under 4H).

3. Federation Updates

Portugal - working on setting up a National Federation and hope to continue their 'Scarecrow' festival in October.

Norway - 45 farms but not much has happened with their association; plan to try harder. The Norwegian Government is supporting 'green' school, including visits to farms etc.

Flemish Federation - has been renewed
With the help of the Flemish Government a new working group has been started with all other educational farms
New hygiene regulations on milk products, in Belgium.

Franco-Belge Federation - The Federation has carried out training for members, including basketmaking, accounts and conflict resolution.

Danielle attended a week conference in Paris on sustainability (1200 delegates) - 'How to make environmental education a sustainable ideas' 20th anniversary of Mouscron.
New hygiene regulations on milk products, in Belgium.

France GIFAE - the general assembly took place this year in Avignon on the specific subject of the role of City Farms in the method of "insertion". Four ministerial delegates worked there with the members of the GIFAE: Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Education and Ministry of the Youth & Sport. Since January 2002 a new delegate comes to make his contribution in the social domain. He represents the Ministry of Justice. In 2002 should be adopted new hygiene rule which concern the transformation of foodstuffs in a pedagogical purpose. This rule would bring more specific elements to farms in the European legislation current (texts of 1995 and 1998). Its about the guide of the good practices of food and dietary hygiene.

BdJA Germany - contacts with Poland and currently planning a study tour: new information on the importance of 'open working' for children and young people.
Pilot project of Nature Kinder Gardens for 3-6 year olds.
Looking at ways of arranging day care systems.
Promotion work of new City Farms.
New quarterly magazine - published March, June, September and December.

Government evaluating education on farms - following representations by the Bund, City Farms are now included in the process.

Pilot project in Berlin for car-free living area and City Farm - still no decision.

Work camp in Hanover, 1st-18th July 2002

UK -FCFCG - Although foot & mouth created a number of problems for city farms, the Federation was able to raise substantial money to support closed city farms.
Prince Charles has become a Patron of City Farms in the UK.

The Federation is in dialogue with 2 Government Ministers and their departments.

The 'Growing Schools' project has 700,000 Euro: innovation fund to pilot innovative work.

Talking with the Countryside Agency to explore further partnership working.

The Federation has a good, strong, outward-looking board with 6 fulltime and 7 part time staff, working mainly in England. Hope to fund staff in Scotland, Wales and Ireland in near future. The staff are further supported by sessional field workers, City Farms supported, to help other City Farms and Community Gardens.

As part of working with community managed land projects, the Federation is supporting work with Allotment groups. Recently a staff member and City Farmer attended a conference in Dublin, Ireland, to look at developing City Farms and similar land based projects.

Netherlands Federation

1. Seeking to have a director and staff similar to the UK model. Currently have a half-time secretary only. Board and the sub-committee ('Daily committee') are discussing what action to take.
2. Want to make a classification of Dutch City Farms working group that includes the Ministry of Agriculture.
3. Government has put money into Eco-Kids (11-12 year olds) to enable them to create green parks etc. in their communities.
4. A very strict hygiene code has been introduced for the Dutch city farms, which is not yet compulsory.

Discussion on helping the Netherlands Federation to get Dutch Government financial support for staffing their Federation. Jeremy (UK) to draft a letter requesting meeting with Dutch Government representatives during the Rotterdam Conference

4. Do the Federations want/need a EFCF?

- The benefits need to be very clear!
- Forward plans - with easy to do tasks for the EFCF
- Simple targets for EFCF and Feds.
- How Feds: can best contribute to EFCF
- Encourage each other to stay in touch regularly

Proposals

1. E-mail list, with 2 Fed: contacts and Board
2. Contact each other once a month!
3. Each Federation: to put EFCF news info in own national newsletters!
4. Individual City Farms to be able to get EFCF newsletter
5. Skills register - especially for people skilled in translation from any of the 12 major languages
6. Bringing people together (is key) - how can we do it?
 - European Voluntary Service - 6 month-1 year placements on City Farms in other countries.
 - Work camps
 - Other relevant activities

- Inviting people to your activities
 - Study tours
 - Training programmes
 - International youth camp for young people
7. Keep a record of international activities and publish in the Annual report and on the EFCF: website
 8. Reminder - to member Feds: to include a list of City Farm members and their locations on each Federations own website

Bluebooklet - urgent! Urgent! URGENT!

Pauline has still not had updates and corrections from some Federations for the new Bluebooklet, which is to be published for the Rotterdam Conference in May 2002.

5. International Open day

The Netherlands and a number of other countries organise an Annual Open Day - The Dutch proposed an International Open Day - theme: language in 2003. A discussion followed all agreed it is a good idea but there was no agreement on suitable date for all countries - therefore Netherlands to go ahead and others who can will join in.

6. Visits

The Board, with the co-operation of individual Farms involved, organised visits to other City Farms:

- Friday - self-directed to City Farm Parc Maximilien, Brussels
Self-directed to Het Neerhof, Dilbeek
- Saturday - 'Fetit Foriest' City Farm, Sint-Lambrechts-Woluwe
- Sunday - Ferme d'Uccle, Uccle, Brussels.

7. Some additional news

EUROPEAN LAUNCH OF "TELLUS", an educational kit on European Agriculture

On Tuesday, 19th February 2002 at the European Parliament in Brussels, CEJA (the European Council of Young Farmers) announced the official launch, in the 15 countries of the European Union, of the educational kit "Tellus". This project aims to raise the awareness of primary school children concerning European agriculture.

The Tellus kit explains the agricultural origin of products which are consumed or used in daily life, the great diversity of European agriculture and the realities of the farming world.

"Tellus" (which in Latin means 'Earth') is one of its kind. It has been created by the Young European Farmers in co-operation with teachers and representatives of the farming world in all Member States. The aim is to provide an introduction to European agriculture in the context of the school curriculum operated in these various countries, in a

way which will make learning enjoyable.

The project has been designed to be long-lasting, meaning that in the long term it will cover 5 million European children of around 10 years, over the next few years.

For additional information, please contact:

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Tel: +32 2 230 42 10
CEJA Fax: +32 2 280 18 05
Rue de la Science 23-25 Bte 11
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1030 Brussels

EFCF - Annual General Meeting 19. - 21. April 2002

1. Minutes of last AGM,

Minutes of 2001 AGM, as previously circulated - agreed as a true record.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

Membership fees: Danielle M requested a reduction in the Franco-Belge membership for 2002 as their Federation was small and has very little money. A discussion followed which resulted in the two following resolutions: To reduce the Franco-Belge fee by 50% in 2002. In future any Federation seeking a reduction in membership fees must apply to the Board, with reasons, at least 2 months prior to the AGM for circulation to members: Resolutions proposed by Hans, Bund and seconded by John, FCFCG, both past unanimously.

3. Annual Report and Accounts

Marc D.S., Chairman, presented the Annual Report (January to December 2001).

Matters arising: Hippotherapy Course, Board was very disappointed with the outcome - an exclusive academic meeting and a video. No real benefits for city farms. The EFCF has learned from this process and any future joint programmes should have clear contracts.

4. Accounts

The accounts were presented. Acceptance proposed by John (UK: FCFCG) and seconded by Alec (Norway). Agreed unanimously.

5. Appointment of Independent Examiner

Agreed to appoint independent examiners for 2002 from Norway, Germany and Netherlands.

Proposed Hans (Bund), seconded by Jeremy (FCFCG) and agreed unanimously.

6. Presentation of proposed 2002 budget and programme

Mike P. presented a 'limited programme' budget for 2002, which is to be revised at the first Board Meeting to take into account reductions in expected income, (see item 2).

7. Election of the Board

The board has three members, one has a further year to serve and two are due to stand down: Marc De Staercke and Pauline Wolters, both had been nominated to re-stand by the Belgian Federation. As there were no other nominations both Marc and Pauline were re-elected.

8. Board and working groups

Members agreed to operate a Board of three members during 2002. For 2002 the board consists of: Marc De Staercke, Pauline Wolters and Mike Primarolo

Close of AGM

Find more pictures of the AGM 2002 at <http://www.bdja.org/efcf.htm>

News from UK

News from Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens May 2002

Prince visits Surrey Docks

At the end of March, HRH The Prince of Wales visited Surrey Docks Farm in London. This was his first public engagement as the Patron of the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens (FCFCG) and his visit was reported in The Guardian:

"In the afternoon, Charles arrives at Surrey Docks City Farm, a corner of the countryside in the shadow of Canary Wharf. He is here to boost city farms, many of which were forced to close last year by foot and mouth disease.

"It is refreshingly chaotic after the formality of the morning [engagements]. Children shriek, geese honk, goats bleat, and Charles appears to be loving it. He is introduced to two new-born kids ("They're called Charles and Camilla", whispers a volunteer), a traditional African storyteller presents him with a potato, and he listens as half a dozen children in a Mongolian yurt sing Old Macdonald. He appears genuinely engaged."*

*The Guardian, March 30 2002

The Prince talked to many local people including school children and volunteers. He said:

"What is so special about these places is that children and, indeed, people of all ages, need to be given that chance to grow plants, to learn about the seasons, to care for animals and to understand the important cycles of life."

Baroness Catherine Ashton, the School Standards Mini-

ster, also took part in the visit and reiterated her support for the Growing Schools initiative.

£0.5m for Growing Schools

In February 2002 the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens organised a national conference on Growing Schools.

Growing Schools is a Government initiative, funded by Department for Education and Skills (DFES) in partnership with Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. The initiative aims to:

- increase awareness and understanding of farming and growing
- increase opportunities for first-hand experience
- increase understanding of, and responsibility for, the environment
- promote healthy diets and lifestyles
- enrich the curriculum

At the conference the DfES announced an Innovation Fund of £0.5 million, which will be allocated to pilot projects from early years right through to teacher training. The fund, to be managed by FCFCG, will help schools overcome barriers and develop best practice guidelines.

At the conference Baroness Catherine Ashton, School Standards Minister, emphasised that farming and gardening has an incredibly valuable role to play in schools and education. The message spelt out by education providers is that Growing Schools can support learning across all Key Stages of the National Curriculum; it is practical, investigative, inspiring and a lot of fun.

The highlight of the conference was a presentation by Coombes School in Reading, where the headteacher, with the help of Year 2 pupils (age 7), explained how in autumn they study the effects of heat and insulation on hibernation by covering a child in fallen leaves and in spring they count and pick daffodils to take home on Mothers Day.



In July, a Growing Schools Garden will be exhibited at The Hampton Court Flower Show between 2 – 7 July 2002. The garden will show how schools can transform a barren playground into a welcoming and stimulating green space. It will include some of the best ideas from around the country, from a musical tunnel and interactive wall to a

friendship stop, apothecary's garden and weather station.

The garden project is a collaboration between FCFCG, the DfES, Gardening Which? magazine, and Learning Through Landscapes.

For more details about the Growing Schools Garden see: www.schoolsgarden.org.uk

For more information about Growing Schools contact: schools@farmgarden.org.uk

London Study findings

The FCFCG is carrying out a study of city farms in London. So far the research shows that, although some farms are struggling with funding, city farms make many positive contributions to the community in the capital and they could do much more if the resources were available. The research also highlights the potential for new city farms in some boroughs. The study is being funded by the Greater London Authority and a report is due in autumn 2002.

Thanks to a grant from the New Opportunities SEED Fund, the Federation will be extending its assessment of city farms and community gardens to the rest of England.

Open Gardens Day

Last year city farms and community gardens throughout the UK threw open their gates to the public on Open Gardens Day. Following on from that success, projects will again be open to the public on 16 June 2002 when staff and volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and encourage visitors to get involved in local projects.

Some community gardens are not usually open to the public, so Open Gardens Day offers people a great opportunity to find out what goes on at projects near them and to see whether they would like to get involved.

On Open Gardens Day some projects will be running workshops to show what can be grown in hanging baskets, window boxes and other containers. An information pack on container growing is available from FCFCG.

For an information pack contact: admin@farmgarden.org.uk

Scottish community growing pack

A new pack has been produced the Scottish Community Diet Project (SCDP) and FCFCG. It includes case studies about school growing projects, community gardens, city farms and allotments, and gives guidelines on how to set up a community gardening project.

Growing Interest : a flavour of community food growing in Scotland' is available from the SCDP website: www.dietproject.org.uk

For more information about the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens see:
www.farmgarden.org.uk

News from Germany

International Workcamp in Hannover

1. July - 13. July 2002

Camp address:

City Farm Hannover
Rumpelstilzchenweg 5
D- 30179 Hannover
Phone: 0049-511-6044703
fax: 0049-511-6044709
email: uballstaedt@gmx.de

About us:

The Adventure Playground and City Farm for Kids in one of the marginal areas of Hannover with a high rate of unemployment and imigrants (Germans from former USSR, refugess from all countries and jewish refugees from Russia). Staff consists of 5 persons, two of them immigrants. Our area is about 10.000 sqm. big, we host sheeps, goats, pigs, ponies, cats and small pets.

No. of vols is 12

Camp languages are English, German, Russian

Accomodation:

A large sleeping room, 3 bathrooms and another large room with a kitchen unit for sparetime activities in the main building. If neccesary, there is a small wooden shed at your disposal. One shower is available for everyone.

Work-program:

construction of playground-material (from own resources) from wood & bricks, mabe water. Recultivation of our outdoor area (garden, animal area, sheds). In case of interesting cooperation with the staff in creating games for children (age 8 - 12) and a holiday program for them. Vlunteer-group activities in order to get contact with the population around us, especially youth, are welcome.

Leisure-program:

Information about the projekt, contact with our youth and adult visitors, other volunteers. Excursions in the surrounding, city trips. We hope to have enough bikes for the volunteer-group at that time. As an exeption, we can use vans to transport the group. The volunteers will be provided with information about cultural events in Hannover. Within certain limits, we offer tickets for puplic transport, cinema etc.

What to bring along:

sleeping bag, air or rubber foam mattress, rain and working clothes, swim suit, photos/information about your country/ town/project, interesting games for your group.

Important: please check with your health insurance, what to do in case of accident or illness. Our european fellow

countrymen and -women (from EU-countries) must not forget their special insurance form E11.

Practical skills are welcome, especially with wood.

Approach

by plane: from airport Hannover-Langenhagen take the suburban train/light rail to the main-station

by subway: in the rear part of the main station, you will find the subway station. Take line no. 8, direction „Alte Heide“, leave the train at „Bahnstrifft“. Then follow the brown traffic signs „Stadtteil-Bauernhof“.

by car: please contact us in order to get individual advice

Please contact Uwe Ballstaedt if you need any further information

European Education Training program

1. Education aims

Personality of the students:

- reduction of feeling strange and prejudices against foreign children in German institutions
- develop openness, curiosity and understanding for people and institutions of other countries and cultures
- Acquisition of intercultural competences
- Development of additional foreign language competence

Intercultural experiences in Germany:

- Acquisition of consolidated knowledge about this language-and identity development of children who grow up in two language cultures
- Perceive the foreign as enrichment of one's own culture and as a natural part of daily life
- Insight in life and socialization conditions of children belonging to various countries and cultures

European experiences:

- consolidated knowledge about Europe and better understanding of various cultures in Europe
- Getting to know habits of living and mentalities of people belonging to other cultural areas
- Dealing with educational systems and educational concepts in other European countries
- Possibility of a common education with students of European countries

2. Classes

The education concerns general education, educational science, vocational experience and fine arts and pedagogical learning fields. Basis is the curriculum of technical colleges for social education of the Department of Culture and Education in Baden-Württemberg; August 25th, 1997.

Additions and deepenings:

- Intercultural education
- European vocational experience/sociology, culture, history, law- and administration system of the practice country.
- Children literature and literature for young people of the practice country
- Comparison of educational systems in Europe (main emphasis on nursery school education)
- Foreign language of choice or mother tongue, depending on practice country:

The foreign language lessons are held in cooperation with the teacher training college Weingarten.

Practice places

Nursery schools, crèches, boarding schools, day nurseries, children's hospitals, German schools and binational facilities in Germany and abroad, animation, elementary school, homes, children's villages etc...

Practice places:

Aberdare/Rhondda Cynon Taff in Wales (Great Britain)

Mantova/Lombardy (Italy): twin town of Weingarten

Rivoli/Piemont (Italy): twin town of Ravensburg

Bron/Lyon (France): twin town of Weingarten

Montellimar (France): twin town of Ravensburg

Cavalaire-sur Mer (France): day-nursery

Varna (Bulgaria) : Bulgarian-German registered social work association

Further practice places in France in connection with the German-French Jugendwerk

Duration of the traineeships

In the sub-course a foreign country traineeship of 13 weeks (approx. February till May) is done. Half of the professional traineeship (6 months) can also be absolved in suitable social education institutes in European foreign countries. The other 6 months are especially scheduled in intercultural facilities in Germany.

The practice places are checked and accompanied regularly on their educational suitability by the institute.

Duration of the education/degree

The education as an educator lasts three years, a professional traineeship of one year is included. After a successful final examination of the school education and the professional traineeship the name "state-approved educator" is acquired. Additionally a special certificate in English/French/Italian language and an European passport will be exhibited.

1. Les objectifs de la formation :

Personnalité des étudiants :

- diminution de préjugés vis-à-vis des enfants étrangers dans les institutions allemandes
- développer une ouverture, un intérêt et de la compréhension pour les institutions d'autres pays et d'autres cultures

- acquisition de connaissances d'une langue étrangère supplémentaire

Expériences interculturelles en Allemagne :

- acquisition de connaissances approfondies concernant l'évolution de langue et d'identité des enfants qui grandissent dans deux cultures
- intégration d'étrangeté comme un enrichissement de sa propre culture et comme un fait évident du quotidien
- certaines connaissances des conditions de vie et socialisation dans la vie dans les pays différents

Expériences européennes :

- acquisition de connaissances approfondies sur l'Europe et une plus grande compréhension des cultures européennes
- faire connaissance des différentes façons de vivre et mentalités de gens d'autres cultures
- faire connaissance de systèmes éducatifs et de conceptions pédagogiques dans d'autres pays européens.
- offre d'une formation commune avec d'autres étudiants européens

2. L'enseignement :

La formations s'applique à l'éducation dans les domaines de la culture générale, la pédagogie et les connaissances professionnelles ou pédagogiques. La base est le plan d'enseignement pour les institutions de pédagogie sociale du ministère de l'instruction publique de Baden-Württemberg du 25 août 1997.

compléments et approfondissements :

- l'éducation interculturelle
- connaissance de la profession à travers l'Europe, sociologie, dispositions juridiques et administratives du pays du stage
- étude de la littérature des enfants et jeunes du pays de stage
- comparaison des différents systèmes éducatifs en Europe (avant tout la pédagogie préélémentaire)
- langue étrangère optionnelle selon la langue maternelle du gré du pays de stage :

Les cours des langues étrangères ont lieu en coopérations avec l'école supérieur à Weingarten.

Les stages:

Dans les

- jardins d'enfants -institutions binationales en Allemagne et à l'étranger
- écoles maternelles -écoles élémentaires
- crèches -maisons d'enfants
- internats -villages d'enfants
- cliniques pour enfants, etc....

Les villes partenaires pour les stages :

- **Aberdare**/Rhondda Cynon Taff en Wales (Angleterre),

ville jumelée de Ravensburg

- **Mantoue** / Lombardie (Italie), ville jumelée de Weingarten
- **Rivoli** / Piemont (Italie), ville jumelée de Ravensburg
- **Bron**/Lyon (France), ville jumelée de Weingarten
- **Montélimar** (France), ville jumelée de Ravensburg
- **Cavaire-sur-Mer** (France) : crèche

Autres endroits pour le stage en France par l'intermédiaire de l'OFAJ (Office franco-allemand pour la jeunesse).

La durée des stages :

Au premier semestre les étudiants font un stage à l'étranger pendant 13 semaines (février à mai). La moitié du stage professionnel (6 mois) se fait également dans une institution pédagogique sociale dans un pays européen, les autres six mois sont prévus dans les institutions interculturelles en Allemagne.

Les institutions des stages sont évaluées et en contact régulier avec notre institut.

Durée de la formation / diplôme :

La formation d'éducateur / éducatrice dure 3 années, y inclus un stage professionnel d'une année.

Après avoir terminé la formation scolaire et le stage professionnel avec succès, les étudiants acquièrent le titre d'éducateur / éducatrice reconnu par l'État, un certificat en français/anglais/italien et un passeport pour l'Europe.

More Informations

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Next Newsletter

Copy dead-line for the next newsletter is **1-8-2002**

Please send all your text by email or send a disk in word-format or rtf-format to our office in Stuttgart - we don't want to type your text.

And please send all your email-adresses and url's for your website.

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