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Press release
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SOMMET 2023 : XXL SIZE AMBITIONS

3rd to 6th of October are the dates of the 32nd edition of the SOMMET DE L'ELEVAGE (LIVESTOCK SUMMIT) to be held in Clermont-Ferrand, France. A recognised international business forum, the SOMMET is not only THE event for the livestock industry, but it's also THE place to be for politicians, institutions, farmer organisations and unions, influencers and many others who flock to the show every year.

2,000 heads of livestock, 1,500 exhibitors and 100,000 visitors are expected at this year's event, which already includes a stellar programme with, among others, 2 cattle breeds, **the Limousin and the Brown Swiss organising their national championships** and the mixed Montbeliard breed that is hosting its inter-regional competition.

2023 will see the largest number of dairy cattle in the history of the SOMMET with 532 milk cows at the show, that's 100 more than in 2022.

In addition, the SOMMET DE L'ELEVAGE will be hosting over a **hundred conferences** covering all the key agricultural issues.

Not forgetting of course, the renowned **"Sommets d'Or"** innovation competition, **Georgia being the country guest of honour and the central theme at this year's SOMMET of sustainability in livestock production.**

There's a great show in the making.

"This year we will break all records in terms of exhibitor numbers. This unprecedented success proves that the move to a four-day show has more than paid off. The proof of the pudding is in the eating, our exhibition space is already full which leads us to think about future solutions, a new show layout and why not, the construction of a 3rd permanent show hall".

Jacques Chazalet,
President of the SOMMET DE
L'ELEVAGE

Sustainability in livestock production is the theme of this year's show and it's the new strapline at the SOMMET

For over a year now, the SOMMET DE L'ELEVAGE has given itself the goal of becoming the world's #1 sustainable livestock show.

"At a time when everyone is talking about sustainability, everybody is still trying to define the concept", as explains the SOMMET's General Manager, Fabrice Berthon.

"It was important for us to make it our hobbyhorse because our event began and has developed in the heart of our Massif Central region, an unspoilt area, 70% of which is natural pasture. And it is in this ecosystem that a sustainable livestock model based on pastoralism has been naturally developed by farmers over the years. This is what our event is all about, making the sustainable dimension our major ambition for

the future and the agriculture of tomorrow by promoting all the prospects in the conservation of the Ecosystem and Man within this environment," adds Fabrice Berthon.

The SOMMET DE L'ELEVAGE positions itself on 3 essential pillars:

- **Economic efficiency:**
a farm can only be sustainable if it is economically viable
- **Utility within a social context:**
livestock farming is the basis of an entire sector that brings together a multitude of people and trades
- **Environmental legitimacy**

This stance is all the more relevant as the UN has decreed 2026 as the year of pastoralism and grazing. This theme will be widely addressed at

this year's show. The SOMMET will welcome professional organisations, including Auvergne Pastoralism, who will host a specific conference on the subject.



**SOMMET
DE L'ELEVAGE**

WORLD'S #1 SUSTAINABLE
LIVESTOCK SHOW

The highlights

The excellence of the Limousin breed at the SOMMET DE L'ELEVAGE



For the 4th time, the Limousin breed will use the event to host its annual National Championships. Divided into 4 half-days, the "National" is an eagerly awaited event for both French and international Limousin breeders. It is the world's largest gathering of the breed, bringing together all Limousin fans and with close on 140 farms, from throughout France, represented at the show. For 4 days, 400 animals, among the best of French Limousin genetics will be in judging in the prestigious Zenith d'Auvergne ring. An auction sale of elite breeding stock, organised by Interlim Génétique Service, will round off activities on Thursday 5th October 2023.

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Over 150 Brown Swiss cows competing in the breed's National Championships

For the second time, the Brown Swiss breed has opted to host its National Championships at the SOMMET DE L'ELEVAGE.

Brown Swiss farmers from throughout France will be present for their National Championships with over 150 animals expected from Brittany, Normandy, Anjou, New Aquitaine, Occitania, Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, Burgundy-Franche-Comté, the Grand-East and the Hauts-de-France regions.

This is an opportunity to rally breeders and visibly promote the Brown Swiss breed in France and further afield. During the Championships, the emphasis will be on welcoming foreign farmers and developing contacts and exports.

At the same time, BGS, the Brown Swiss Breed Cattle Society, will be organising a "National Brown Swiss Tour". Foreign delegations and French visitors can register for the 3-day study tour that will present all the features and benefits of the Brown Swiss, the world's #3 dairy breed in terms of numbers.

The culmination of this national competition at the SOMMET is the auction sale of heifers that, every year, attracts a wide range of breeders looking to acquire the best of Brown Swiss genetics.

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VIP welcome and a tailor-made programme

The SOMMET's organisers have, as every year, identified as a priority, an appropriate and warm welcome for foreign delegations. This includes the VIP facilities, as seen in the **International Lounge** in the heart of the Zenith d'Auvergne, an exhibition area of 800 m² which serves as a reception, work and relaxation place. It offers many free services such as interpreters, guided tours of the show, the organisation of B2B meetings with exhibitors, meeting rooms, a prayer room, and free shuttles to the city, train station and the airport.



A full programme of events dedicated to foreign visitors includes **farm visits** and **the grand gala evening**.

A programme of **35 farm and agri-industrial site visits** are available to foreign delegations every year, including beef and dairy farm visits, sheep, horse and goat unit visits. There's also a visit to an abattoir, a biogas unit, a beef export centre, a feed lot, a beef meat research centre and a visit to INRA, the National Institute of Agronomic Research to learn about what's on the farming horizon.



Delegations are cordially invited to the **International Livestock Gala Evening** organised in partnership with FRANCE GÉNÉTIQUE ÉLEVAGE, during which all breeds of cattle, sheep and horses present at the show will be on parade in the main Zenith d'Auvergne ring, followed by a convivial buffet party.



GEORGIA, country guest of honour in 2023

Following on from Mongolia in 2022, the SOMMET continues its trek in the East, this time heading to Georgia. This small country of just 3.5 million inhabitants located between the Black and Caspian seas will be the guest of honour at this year's SOMMET DE L'ELEVAGE.

With its exceptional geographical location (straddling Europe and Asia), Georgia is a very interesting gateway to the markets of Central Asia and the Middle East, particularly for the export of sheep and goats.

But it is also a country that faces a chronic shortfall in milk and meat. It is therefore within the framework of a FASEP project, set up a little over a year ago and financed by the French Ministry of the Economy and Finance, that a group of French specialists were tasked to audit Georgian agricultural and livestock operators and identify possible paths of development. Their report is due to be published and will include recommendations on genetics, farm equipment, veterinary monitoring, and product enhancement.

A conference presenting Georgian agriculture and opportunities for investors, followed by B2B meetings, is scheduled for the morning of Tuesday 3rd of October, the show opening day.

"French supplies can help the people of Georgia to overcome all their livestock issues. The SOMMET will allow them to forge solid partnerships".

Benoît Delaloy,
SOMMET DE L'ELEVAGE
International Manager

Over 5,000 international visitors expected

Today, the SOMMET DE L'ELEVAGE's development potential clearly lies on the international stage. Year after year, **numerous foreign delegations, with identified investment plans**, make the journey to the centre of France to attend this major livestock event. Their interests range from cattle genetics (beef & dairy breeds), sheep, livestock machinery and equipment, to inputs, animal feed, milking and milk handling equipment and new technologies.

With nearly 5,000 foreign visitors from more than 80 countries, the 2022 edition saw a resurgence in international visitors.

After last year's show, and in view of this year's announced programme, show organisers are hopeful that the ceiling of 5,000 foreign visitors will be pierced in 2023.

This is not unexpected as both the Limousin and Brown Swiss are two breeds that are internationally popular.



IN SHORT

A growing interest in the energy transfer

Once again, the number of exhibitors whose business activity is in the domain of energy transfer (biogas, solar power, etc.) is increasing, confirming the interest of the SOMMET for these new technologies and the sustainability of these energies.

The success of the agora or forum on energy transfer launched in 2022, has propelled the show's organisers to repeat the experience this year. Several mini conferences given by specialist companies will be offered to visitors throughout the show.

New developments in show space

In view of the growing number of exhibitors and visitors (more than 100,000 in 2022), the organisers have had to think about new arrangements for the show, such as :

- The outdoor exhibition area and catering facilities have been expanded
- The beef and dairy cattle halls have been increased to their maximum possible size
- The digital space in the lobby will be expanded to accommodate more influencers and reality TV personalities. A new «farming simulator» game zone, available to visitors, can be found in the same area.



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