

Assessment guidelines

for

CHEESE



2022







Dear judge,

In connection with the assessment of dairy products at International Food Contest the individual judge carries great responsibility. Each judge needs to possess great knowledge of the products to be assessed. This is, however, not always possible if for instance the products in question are only produced at one or very few dairies. However, with an allround knowledge of dairy production and products assessments, as well as the supporting product descriptions, any dairy professional should be able to assess the products presented.

It is essential to the organisers of International Food Contest that justice is rendered to each and every product to be assessed so that all products in a class are assessed according to the characteristic/description for the product.

The organisers of International Food Contest hope you will enjoy participating in the products assessments!

Lonnie Hirtz Nielsen

Product Manager, Dairy





Cheese classes at International Food Contest 2022

- 10. Plain and sweet fresh cheeses and cream cheeses
- 20. Spicy fresh cheeses and cream cheeses
- 30. Processed cheese all types
- 40. Other fresh cheese, natural and flavoured
- 50. Whole white mould cheese and blue/white mould cheese
- 60. Danablu (PGI) (whole as well as wedges, hunks and slices)
- 70. White cheese, traditional
- 80. White cheese, ultra-filtrated
- 81. Combi white, ultra-filtrated
- 90. Surface-ripened/smear-ripened whole cheeses
- 100. Surface-ripened/smear-ripened chunks and wedges
- 110. Whole blue mould cheeses
- 120. Rindless cheeses
- 130. Specialty cheeses, whole
- 140. Specialty cheeses, chunks and wedges
- 150. Cheddar and Mozzarella (whole and grated) as well as other grated/cubed cheeses
- 160. Mould-ripened cheeses wedges, chunks and slices
- 170. Sliced yellow cheese
- 180. Norwegian specialty cheeses (e.g. Norwegian brown whey cheese)
- 610. Products manufactured from other milk than cow's milk, or from mixtures (in 2022, exclusively cheese)

Electronic assessment system

An electronic assessment system will be used. This means that:

- Each judge must bring a laptop (mobile phones and tablets/iPads are **not** suited for running the assessment programme).
- The pc should be fully charged in advance, but a charger should be brought to be on the safe side.
- The pc must have internet connection (wifi).
- The browsers Firefox or Chrome must be installed on your pc as Internet Explorer and Microsoft Edge does not work well with the assessment program.

Please note:

- the Chief Judge must log on as judge no. 1
- the Observer must log on as judge nr. 10.

During the assessment, a full description of the product properties will be shown on the screen as well as assessment descriptions in so far as such have been submitted by the dairies. Products with no specific description will be assessed on the basis of the judges' professional experience and in accordance with trade specifications.

A default mark of 13 has been set for all products. If the judge does not actively change this mark, 13 will be registered as the property mark(s).





It is not possible to revert to a product to change a mark once the product marks have been submitted.

The judge

Any judge with a knowledge of

- The product quality
- The list of recognised faults (ref. page 6)
- The definition of the marking scale (ref. page 4)

independently and without interference gives his mark for each property of the products to be assessed. The principal mark will be calculated.

Each judge is expected to assess the products while being 100% objective in his assessment without being influenced by his own or others' interests, and following the standards or descriptions available for the product.

The chief judge

Even though the individual judge passes his grade independently the chief judge is responsible for ensuring correct assessments. Therefore, it is the right and duty of the chief judge to draw attention to any judge's clear errors in assessment. This may happen by for instance referring to the product description for the product and to the definition of the marking scale. Likewise, it is the chief judge's task to point out to the judge if his marks deviate considerably from those of his follow judges.

- 1. At the start of the assessment the chief judge shall briefly refer to the requirements to the quality of the product, the faults and the marking scale.
- 2. During the assessment, it is the chief judge's task to ensure that the products arrive in the proper order, to adjust the speed of the assessment in a way so that all judges are occupied at all times, and without products piling up before a single judge.
- As products are no longer re-assessed in case of major discordance on a mark it may
 be necessary to discuss a mark before all judges have submitted their marks as it is
 not possible to revert to a product once its marks have been submitted.

Marks for joint assessments are entered via the chief judge's logon. The chief judge may ask a fellow judge to enter the marks (using the chief judge's logon).

Marking scale

A scale of 15 is used for the assessments:

Point To be used for property marks

15 points Perfect
13 points Good
11 points Satisfactory
9 points Small deviation

7 points Obvious deviation which may harm the reputation of the product 5 points Serious deviation which will harm the reputation of the product

3 points Very serious deviation1 point Unacceptable deviation





Only uneven marks, i.e. 1-3-5-7-9-11-13 and 15, may be used for marking the individual product properties.

For marks of 9 or below a note on the fault *must* be given (ref. page 6).

If a product receives a calculated property mark of 3 or below, it will be exit the assessments.

Product properties

The following properties are judged:

- The external appearance of the cheese, its colour, its structure, its consistency and its odour & flavour.
- However, for classes 10, 20, 30 and 40 the following properties apply: the external appearance of the cheese, the internal appearance of the cheese, its consistency and its odour & flavour.
- In some classes packaging receives its own mark.

For the individual properties, the following applies:

External appearance: The shape, rind, mould (if any) or smear growth are as-

sessed together with the quality of waxing (if any) or

other surface treatment.

Packaging: The term "packaging" is understood as the packaging

outside the cheese itself. The packaging is assessed in relation to among other things foil, print, date stamping,

labels and weldings.

Colour of the cheese: The colour of the cheese on the cutting surface, i.e. the

colour inside the cheese. If the colour of the cheese is uneven or atypical, this should be noted. More or less yellow colour due to the feed of the cows should, how-

ever, not be noted.

Structure: Based on the characteristics of the cheese in question

the holes in the cheese are assessed – size of holes, and whether they have the correct shape and placement, as well as numbers. At the same time, any requirements to

inner mould growth are assessed.

Internal appearance: Mainly for the cheese types with somewhat different re-

quirements to the structure of the cheese.

Consistency: Assessment is made of whether the cheese is too hard or

too soft. Too short or too tough. Whether the cheese is

dry or sticky, or too crisp or flappy.

Odour & flavour: The judge smells and tastes the cheese in order to de-

cide if the cheese has any faults in the shape of off-taste





of for instance feed, yeast, unwanted fat hydrolysis (rancid) or other. At the same time assessment is made as to whether the cheese is aromatic and has the correct acidity and saltiness.

Special notes concerning joint assessment

A number of cheese classes have joint assessment for some properties.

Joint assessment marks will be entered on the Chief Judge's logon.

Joint assessment of chunks and slices

In connection with joint assessment of chunks and slices the following guidelines should be followed:

The cheese labelled "For grading" shall be used for the joint assessment of Packaging, External Appearance, Structure and Colour, and the same cheese shall at a later stage be circulated among the judges for their individual assessment of Consistency and Odour & Flavour. After assessment of the packaging the chief judge opens the cheese package, removes and packaging, and continues the assessment.

Recognised faults

Recognised faults for cheese are:

Fresh cheese, cream cheese, processed cheese and other fresh cheese

External appearance Consistency Blæret / Air bubles Blød / Soft Dårlig fyldning / Uneven filling Fast / Firm Fedtudtræk / Visible fat Klæg / Sticky Fugtig / Wet surface Løs / Loose Muggen / Musty Sandet / Sandy Nister / Gritty Sei / Chewy Skjoldet / Mottled Sprød / Brittle

Smudspartikler / Particles of dirt Tungsmeltelig / Heavy melting

Væsker / Free moisture Andet / Other Andet / Other

Odour & flavour

Internal appearanceBranket / Burned flavourAtypisk / AtypicalFad / Lacking taste

Blank / Glossy Kemikalieafsmag / Chemical flavour Flerfarvet / Mottled Sur / Sour

Hullet / Large holes Syrlig / Acidic
Plettet / Speckled Harsk / Rancid
Væsker / Free moisture Uren / Unclean
Åben / Open Afsmag / Off flavour

Andet / Other Andet / Other





White and blue mould cheese

External appearance

Angrebet, opløst / Affected, dissolved Bleg el. kraftig farve / Pale or strong colour

Brunskjoldet / Discolored mould

Deform / Misshaped Fedtet / Greasy Fugtig / Wet surface Løs skimmel / Loose

Løs skimmel / Loose mould Smudspartikler / Particles of dirt Tyk skimmel / Thick mould Tynd skimmel / Thin mould Tør skimmel / Dry mould Udtørret / Dried out Ujævn / Uneven Andet / Other

Colour

Atypisk / Atypical Skjoldet / Mottled Andet / Other

Structure

Flækket / Fractured

Indre skimmel / Inner mould
Overskimlet / Too much mould

Småhullet / Pinholes Tæt / Compact

Underskimlet / Lacking mould

Åben / Open

Andet / Other

Consistency

Blød / Soft Fast / Firm

Randblød / Soft under the rind

Sej / Chewy Sprød / Brittle Tør / Dry

Udtørrede stikkanaler / Dry piercing ho-

les

Urene stikkanaler / Unclean piercing ho-

les

Andet / Other

Odour & flavour

Afsmag / Off flavour

Ammoniaksmag, lugt / Ammonium

aroma
Bitter / Bitter
Fad / Lacking taste
Harsk / Rancid
Jordlugt / Mouldy odor

Kemikalieafsmag / Chemical flavour Saltbitter / Bitter or significant salt fla-

vour

Skarp / Pungent Sur / Sour Syrlig / Acidic Andet / Other

Blue mould cheese

External appearance

Angrebet, opløst / Affected, dissolved

Deform / Misshaped Fedtet / Greasy Hornet / Horned Høj, lav / High or low

Kit i stikkanalerne / Putty piercing holes

Misfarvet / Discolored Muggen / Musty Svag / Weak Såret / wounded

Væsker / Free moisture

Andet / Other

Colour

Atypisk / Atypical

Rødrandet / Red rind Skjoldet / Mottled Andet / Other

Structure

Flækket / Fractured

Gæret / Fermentation holes Hvidrandet / Pale or white rind Overskimlet / Too much mould

Tæt / Compact

Underskimlet / Lacking mould Uregelmæssig / Irregular

Åben / Open Andet / Other





Consistency

Blød / Soft Hård / Hard Klæg / Sticky Sandet / Sandy Sej / Chewy Sprød / Brittle Uensartet / Uneven Andet / Other Atypisk / Atypical Bitter / Bitter Fad / Lacking taste Fordærvet / Spoiled Harsk / Rancid

Salt / Saltv

Saltbitter / Bitter or significant saltflavour

Skarp / Pungent Sur / Sour Syrlig / Acidic Andet / Other

Odour & flavour

Afsmag / Off flavour

Blue cheese - wedges, chunks and slices

Packaging

Dårlig renskæring-klargøring / Wax on slices

Fejl ved lågpåsætning (skiveost) / Error in lidding

For stor emballage / Packaging too big Hul i pakning / Hole in packaging Kondensdannelse / Condensation Luft mellem skiverne / Air between slices

Løs pakning / Loose packaging Løse etiketter / Loose labels

Nedgledet (skiveost) / Slices slipped down

Sammenhængende / Sticking together Skæv stabling / Unevenly piled Skæve etiketter / Crooked labels Snavset film-folie / Dirty film-sheet Stemplingsfejl / Stamping error Svejsningsfejl / Welding defect

Uensartet udskæring / Uneven slicing

Væsker / Free moisture

Andet / Other Dato / Indistinct date

Fejlplaceret dato / Date placed wrong

External appearance

Angrebet, opløst / Affected, dissolved
Deform / Misshaped
Fedtet / Greasy
Hornet / Horned
Høj, lav / High or low
Kit i stikkanalerne / Putty piercing holes
Misfarvet / Discolored

Misfarvet / Discolored Muggen / Musty Svag / Weak Såret / wounded

Væsker / Free moisture

Andet / Other

Colour

Atypisk / Atypical Rødrandet / Red rind Skjoldet / Mottled Andet / Other

Structure

Flækket / Fractured
Gæret / Fermentation holes
Hvidrandet / Pale or white rind
Overskimlet / Too much mould
Tæt / Compact
Underskimlet / Lacking mould
Uregelmæssig / Irregular
Åben / Open

Consistency

Andet / Other

Blød / Soft Hård / Hard Klæg / Sticky Sandet / Sandy Sej / Chewy Sprød / Brittle Uensartet / Uneven Andet / Other

Odour & flavour

Afsmag / Off flavour Atypisk / Atypical Bitter / Bitter





Fad / Lacking taste Fordærvet / Spoiled Harsk / Rancid Salt / Salty Saltbitter / Bitter or significant salt fla-

Skarp / Pungent Sur / Sour Svrlia / Acidic Andet / Other

White and blue mould cheese, wedges, chunks and slices

Packaging

vour

Dårlig renskæring-klargøring / Wax on slices

Fejl ved lågpåsætning (skiveost) / Error in lidding

For stor emballage / Packaging too big Hul i pakning / Hole in packaging Kondensdannelse / Condensation Luft mellem skiverne / Air between slices

Løs pakning / Loose packaging Løse etiketter / Loose labels

Nedgledet (skiveost) / Slices slipped down

Sammenhængende / Sticking together Skæv stabling / Unevenly piled

Skæve etiketter / Crooked labels Snavset film-folie / Dirty film-sheet Stemplingsfeil / Stamping error

Svejsningsfejl / Welding defect

Uensartet udskæring / Uneven slicing

Væsker / Free moisture

Andet / Other

Dato / Indistinct date

Fejlplaceret dato / Date placed wrong

External appearance

Angrebet, opløst / Affected, dissolved Bleg el. kraftig farve / Pale or strong colour

Brunskjoldet / Discolored mould

Deform / Misshaped Fedtet / Greasy Fugtig / Wet surface

Løs skimmel / Loose mould

Smudspartikler / Particles of dirt

Tyk skimmel / Thick mould

Tynd skimmel / Thin mould Tør skimmel / Dry mould

Udtørret / Dried out Ujævn / Uneven

Andet / Other

Colour

Atypisk / Atypical Skjoldet / Mottled Andet / Other

Structure

Flækket / Fractured Indre skimmel / Inner mould

Hvidrandet / Pale or white rind Overskimlet / Too much mould

Småhullet / Pinholes

Tæt / Compact

Underskimlet / Lacking mould Uregelmæssig / Irregular

Åben / Open Andet / Other

Consistency

Blød / Soft

Fast / Firm

Randblød / Soft under the rind

Sej / Chewy Sprød / Brittle

Tør / Dry

Udtørrede stikkanaler / Dry piercing ho-

Urene stikkanaler / Unclean piercing holes

Andet / Other

Odour & flavour

Afsmag / Off flavour Atypisk / Atypical

Ammoniaksmag, lugt / Ammonium

aroma

Bitter / Bitter Fad / Lacking taste Harsk / Rancid

Salt / Salty

Jordlugt / Mouldy odor





Kemikalieafsmag / Chemical flavour Saltbitter / Bitter or significant salt fla-

vour

Skarp / Pungent

Sur / Sour Syrlig / Acidic Andet / Other

White cheese

External appearance

Angrebet, opløst / Affected, dissolved

Blæret / Air bubbles Bøde hjørner / Soft corners Deform / Misshaped Fedtet / Greasy Indsunken / Sunken

Smudspartikler / Particles of dirt

Vedhæng / Adherent

Andet / Other

Muggen / Musty

Colour

Atypisk / Atypical Skjoldet / Mottled

Smudspartikler / Particles of dirt

Andet / Other

Structure

Finpibet / Pinholes
Flækket / Fractured
Grov / Coarse
Hullet / Large holes
Løbefejl / Fraction error
Uregelmæssig / Irregular

Andet / Other

Consistency Blød / Soft

Blød / Soft Hård / Hard Klæg / Sticky Sandet / Sandy Sprød / Brittle Andet / Other

Odour & flavour

Bitter / Bitter

Branket / Burned flavour Fersk / Lacking salt Gærsmag / Yeasty Harsk / Rancid

Kemikalieafsmag / Chemical flavour

Salt / Salty

Saltbitter / Bitter or significant salt flavor

Sur / Sour Syrlig / Acidic Tællet / Tallow Uren / Unclean Andet / Other

Yellow cheese

External appearance

Deform / Misshaped

Dårlig lugt / Bad odour from surface Dårlig renskæring-klargøring / Wax on

product Fedtet / Greasy Foldet / Folded

Foliefejl / Error in packaging film

Fugtig / Wet surface Hornet / Horned Kittet / Putty

Misfarvet / Discolored

Muggen / Musty Angrebet, opløst / Affected, dissolved

Parafineringsfejl / Error in waxing Skjoldet / Mottled Snavset / Dirty Stemplingsfejl / Smudged

Svag / Weak Såret / Wounded Andet / Other

Colour

Hvidlig / Pale

Lysrandet / Pale or white rind

Manglende krystaller / Lacking crystals

Marmoreret / Marbled Misfarvet / Discolored Mørkrandet / Dark rind Rødrandet / Red rind Skjoldet / Mottled

Smudspartikler / Particles of dirt

Andet / Other





Structure

Atypisk / Atypical Finpibet / Pinholes Flækket / Fractured

Gæret / Fermentation holes

Ingrediensfejl / Wrong ingredients or di-

stribution

Krølpibet / Irregular holes

Lagdelt / Layered

Mangepibet / Too many holes Randgæret / Holes near rind

Tæt / Compact

Uregelmæssig / Irregular

Åben / Open Andet / Other

Consistency

Blød / Soft Fast / Firm Klæg / Sticky Løs / Loose

Manglende krystaller / Lacking crystals

Randblød / Soft under the rind

Sandet / Sandy Sej / Chewy Sprød / Brittle Andet / Other

Odour & flavour

Afsmag / Off flavour Atypisk / Atypical Bitter / Bitter

Branket / Burned flavour Fad / Lacking taste Fordærvet / Spoiled Gærsmag / Yeasty Harsk / Rancid

Kemikalieafsmag / Chemical flavour

Kitsmag / Putty taste Kraftig / Too strong

Manglende krydderismag / Lacking

spice flavouring

Salt / Salty

Saltbitter / Bitter or significant salt fla-

vour Sur / Sour Syrlig / Acidic

Sødbitter / Sweet bitter

Andet / Other

Yellow cheese - wedges, chunks and slices

Packaging

Dårlig renskæring-klargøring / Wax on slices

Fejl ved lågpåsætning (skiveost) / Error

in lidding

For stor emballage / Packaging too big Hul i pakning / Hole in packaging Kondensdannelse / Condensatio

Luft mellem skiverne / Air between slices

Løs pakning / Loose packaging Løse etiketter / Loose labels

Nedgledet (skiveost) / Slices slipped

down
Sammenhængende / Sticking together

Skæv stabling / Unevenly piled Skæve etiketter / Crooked labels Snavset filmfolie / Dirty film-sheet Stemplingsfejl / Stamping error Svejsningsfejl / Welding defect Uensartet udskæring / Uneven slicing

Væsker / Free moisture

Andet / Other

Dato / Indistinct date

Fejlplaceret dato / Date placed wrong

External appearance

Deform / Misshaped

Dårlig lugt / Bad odour from surface Dårlig renskæring-klargøring / Wax on

product Fedtet / Greasy Foldet / Folded

Foliefejl / Error in packagingfilm

Fugtig / Wet surface Hornet / Horned Kittet / Putty

Misfarvet / Discolored Muggen / Musty

Angrebet, opløst / Affected, dissolved Parafineringsfejl / Error in waxing

Skjoldet / Mottled Snavset / Dirty

Stemplingsfeil / Smudged

Svag / Weak





Såret / Wounded Andet / Other

Colour

Hvidlig / Pale

Lysrandet / Pale or white rind

Manglende krystaller / Lacking crystals

Marmoreret / Marbled Misfarvet / Discolored Mørkrandet / Dark rind Rødrandet / Red rind Skjoldet / Mottled

Smudspartikler / Particles of dirt

Andet / Other

Structure

Atypisk / Atypical Finpibet / Pinholes Flækket / Fractured

Gæret / Fermentation holes

Ingrediensfejl / Wrong ingrediens or di-

stribution

Krølpibet / Irregular holes

Lagdelt / Layered

Mangepibet / Too many holes Randgæret / Holes near rind

Tæt / Compact

Uregelmæssig / Irregular

Åben / Open Andet / Other

Consistency

Blød / Soft

Fast / Firm Klæg / Sticky Løs / Loose

Manglende krystaller / Lacking crystals

Randblød / Soft under the rind

Sandet / Sandy Sej / Chewy Sprød / Brittle Andet / Other

Odour & flavour

Afsmag / Off flavour Atypisk / Atypical Bitter / Bitter

Branket / Burned flavour Fad / Lacking taste Fordærvet / Spoiled Gærsmag / Yeasty Harsk / Rancid

Kemikalieafsmag / Chemical flavour

Kitsmag / Putty taste Kraftig / Too strong

Manglende krydderismag / Lacking

spice flavouring

Salt / Salty

Saltbitter / Bitter or significant salt fla-

vour Sur / Sour Syrlig / Acidic

Sødbitter / Sweet bitter

Andet / Other

Specialty cheeses (whole)

External appearance
Deform / Misshaped

Dårlig lugt / Bad odour from surface

Dårlig renskæring-klargøring / Wax on

product
Fedtet / Greasy
Foldet / Folded

Foliefejl / Error in packagingfilm

Fugtig / Wet surface Hornet / Horned Kittet / Putty

Misfarvet / Discolored Muggen / Musty

Angrebet, opløst / Affected, dissolved

Parafineringsfejl / Error in waxing

Skjoldet / Mottled Snavset / Dirty

Stemplingsfejl / Smudged

Svag / Weak Såret / Wounded Andet / Other

Colour

Hvidlig / Pale

Lysrandet / Pale or white rind

Manglende krystaller / Lacking crystals

Marmoreret / Marbled Misfarvet / Discolored





Mørkrandet / Dark rind Rødrandet / Red rind Skjoldet / Mottled Smudspartikler / Particles of dirt Andet / Other

Structure

Atypisk / Atypical Finpibet / Pinholes Flækket / Fractured Gæret / Fermentation holes

Ingrediensfejl / Wrong ingredients or di-

stribution

Krølpibet / Irregular holes

Lagdelt / Layered

Mangepibet / Too many holes Randgæret / Holes near rind

Tæt / Compact

Uregelmæssig / Irregular

Åben / Open Andet / Other

Consistency

Blød / Soft Fast / Firm Klæg / Sticky Løs / Loose

Manglende krystaller / Lacking crystals

99 Randblød / Soft under the rind

100 Sandet / Sandy

101 Sej / Chewy

93 Sprød / Brittle

102 Andet / Other

Odour & flavour

112 Afsmag / Off flavour

108 Atypisk / Atypical

125 Bitter / Bitter

115 Branket / Burned flavour

118 Fad / Lacking taste

121 Fordærvet / Spoiled

109 Gærsmag / Yeasty

113 Harsk / Rancid

116 Kemikalieafsmag / Chemical flavour

119 Kitsmag / Putty taste

132 Kraftig / Too strong

133 Manglende krydderismag / Lacking spice flavouring

122 Salt / Salty

110 Saltbitter / Bitter or significant salt flavour

114 Sur / Sour

117 Syrlig / Acidic

120 Sødbitter / Sweet bitter

124 Andet / Other

Mozzarella

External appearance

Dato / indistinct date Deform / Misshaped

Fejlplaceret dato / Date placed wrong

Flækket / Fractured

Fold i svejsning / Weldingfold Foliefeil / Error in packagingfilm Svejsningsfejl / Welding error Uren / Dirty or mouldy surface Andet / Other

Colour

Atypisk / Atypical Skjoldet / Mottled Smudspartikler / Particles of dirt Andet / Other

Structure

Flækket / Fractured

Hullet / Large holes

Ingen struktur / No structure Saltlommer / Mottled due to salt Uensartede strimler / Uneven strips

Andet / Other

Consistency

Blød / Soft Klæg / Sticky Sandet / Sandy Tør / Dry Andet / Other

Odour & flavour

Afsmag / Off flavour Fad / Lacking taste Melet / Floured Salt / Salty Sur / Sour





Syrlig / Acidic Uren / Unclean Andet / Other

