Trend in Dairy Market, Products, and Research

From 1995 to 2004, per capita domestic commercial use of all dairy products (milk fat basis) has grown 0.4% annually, resulting in 14% larger overall market. Demand has been uneven across dairy products, and the increase can only be attributed to a very few products. On the global scale, per capita consumption of dairy in high-income countries has subsided with the demand for dairy products growing at about 2% per year. Increase consumption in dairy products in many low-income countries has driven the growth of dairy consumption at more than 10% per year. The potential for global trade and current dynamics in world dairy market are changing the U.S. dairy industry. Worldwide competition is fueled by new uses for milk-based ingredient, rising demand for cheese variety, an increase in functional food markets, and increased in shelf-lives for products. Potential dairy research includes the applications of dairy ingredients as well as investigation of new health benefits of dairy.

Dr. Vardhanabhuti has a PhD in Food Science from North Carolina State University. She has extensive experience in functionality of dairy proteins and mixed proteins and polysaccharide systems. Her recent research has focused on improving heat stability of whey proteins, investigation of protein astringency, and developing shelf stable whey protein gels having textural properties of high pH gels. Prior to joining MU, Dr. Vardhanabhuti was a senior researcher at North Carolina State University.