



Affiliate Annual Report for Calendar Year 2025

(Complete Attachment B to be considered for one or more 2026 Affiliate Awards.)

To maintain compliance with IAFP Constitution and Bylaws, Affiliates must return this completed report. Please send by email to Susan Smith at: ssmith@foodprotection.org.

Please return the following items **electronically** by **Tuesday, March 3, 2026 (late reports will not be considered for awards)**:

REQUIRED:

- ☐ This completed form (*in English*).
- ☐ Your Association's list of current term officers (complete Attachment A).

OPTIONAL:

- ☐ Attachment B: Completion required **only** if your Association requests to be considered for one or more Affiliate Awards.
- ☐ IAFP accepts **all** Affiliate Annual Reports electronically, including those vying for one or more of the Affiliate Awards. *Affiliates seeking to present the highest quality visual presentation are encouraged to present their Annual Report in the highest quality possible for review by the Selection Committee. To avoid errors and omissions, please limit your submission to ONE email with all attachments.*
- ☐ Digital photos (with names and descriptions) to appear in the *Affiliate View* quarterly newsletter.

BRAFP - Brazilian Association for Food Protection

1. Your Official Delegate to IAFP Affiliate Council and Contact

Enter in the fields below the information requested for your Association's official Delegate to the IAFP Affiliate Council and your official Contact for IAFP correspondence. **Delegate must be an IAFP Member.**

Official Delegate to IAFP Affiliate Council

Name of Official Delegate Caio Cesar Pacheco Carvalho

Address 1 Rua Maricá 422 – Jardim Satélite

Address 2

City, State ZIP Country Sao Jose dos Campos/Sao Paulo/12230-100/Brazil

Phone Number +5511983741516

Email address caio_hc@yahoo.com.br

IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Official Contact for IAFP Correspondence (indicate “same” if person also serves as Delegate)

Name of official Contact for IAFP Correspondence “SAME”

Address 1

Address 2

City, State ZIP Country

Phone Number

Email address

IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

2. Membership List

- a. Indicate the current total number of members in your Association: 50
- b. How many NEW members joined your Association in 2025? 5

3. Meetings: Annual Meeting/Conference, Educational, Workshops, Webinars, etc.

- a. On what date(s) was your most recent general membership or major meeting (i.e., Annual Meeting/Conference) during the past year? Please list number of attendees.

1st FoodMicro Latino 2025 – October 25-28th – Aracaju/Brazil. 560 attendees.

<https://foodmicrolatino2025.icfmh.org/>

- b. Please provide the date(s) and location of your next scheduled major meeting (i.e., Annual Meeting/Conference):

For 2026 we have the following events planned, but some of them still need to have the budget confirmed:

- 1) April - Workshop cheese production in collaboration with Universidade Federal de Viçosa (UFV)
- 2) April – Food Safet Workshop in Paraná State in collaboration with BIOPARK (innovation hub)
- 3) May – 20-22nd – Santos/SP - X SIMCOPE – Fish Quality Workshop – BRAFP will collaborate in the event promotion.
- 4) June - Food Safety Day Initiatives: 2 Food Safety Seminars at Universidade Federal de Viçosa (UFV) and Universidade de São Paulo (USP) – ESALQ.
- 5) July - Second BRAFP Food Safety Award Ceremony
- 6) November – Food Safety Seminar in collaboration with UNIVASF – Pernambuco - Brazil

- c. List all other general membership meetings held in 2025 (excluding board meetings). Include title, dates and attendance numbers.

BRAFP Business Meeting	October 27 th – 15 attendees
Food Safety Day Seminar - USP	June 5 th – ~40 attendees

4. Awards and Scholarships

a. List members honored with an award from your Association and/or IAFP during 2025. Include name of award and qualification for award.

Gabriela Rodrigues Silva, Universidade de São Paulo, Ribeirão Preto, SP, Brasil.	BRAFP – Young Scientist Award – 1st Scientific work submitted and evaluated by scientific committee formed by 6 recognized professors from different Brazilian universities
Catarina Angeli Santos, Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, SP, Brasil.	BRAFP – Young Scientist Award – 2nd Scientific work submitted and evaluated by scientific committee formed by 6 recognized professors from different Brazilian universities
Rafaela de Melo Tavares, Universidade Federal de Viçosa, Viçosa, MG, Brasil.	BRAFP – Young Scientist Award – 3rd Scientific work submitted and evaluated by scientific committee formed by 6 recognized professors from different Brazilian universities
Evelyn Cristine Silva, Universidade Estadual Paulista, Botucatu, SP, Brasil	ICFMH Developing Scientist Award – 1st Scientific work submitted and evaluated by scientific committee formed by 6 members of ICFMH, BRAFP and SBM.
Franco Gervasoni, Universidade do Oeste Paulista, Presidente Prudente, SP, Brasil.	ICFMH Developing Scientist Award – 12nd Scientific work submitted and evaluated by scientific committee formed by 6 members of ICFMH, BRAFP and SBM.
Alessandra Silva Araújo, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Recife, PE, Brasil.	ICFMH Developing Scientist Award – 3rd Scientific work submitted and evaluated by scientific committee formed by 6 members of ICFMH, BRAFP and SBM.
"Safe food, a right for all" (Federal University of Goiás), under the guidance of Prof. Valéria Quintana Cavicchioli.	BRAFP Food Safety Day Award - Winner The award aims to encourage and recognize food safety initiatives carried out in Brazil by companies, research groups, universities, or individuals, aligned with FAO's World Food Safety Day actions and publicly shared on social media tagging BRAFP. Participants promoted their activities between May 5 and June 15, submitted evidence of impact and scientific quality by June 30, and a technical committee selected three finalists and a winner based on objectives, audience reach, engagement, and scientific accuracy.

b. List scholarships awarded during 2025; include recipient and qualification for scholarship.

FAPEMIG Travel Scholarship for FoodMicro Latino	Total of 26 members received 360USD travel support from FAPEMIG, a public foundation for scientific promotion from Minas Gerais State. To apply for the
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	award, the members had to be enrolled in a University from the Minas Gerais State and needed to submit their scientific work to the committee.
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5. Web Communication

Please be sure to keep the IAFP office on your mailing list for newsletters, email, and other communications to your general membership.

Please provide your existing Affiliate's Web site address AND date last updated:

<https://brafp.org.br/>

last updated: Dec 2025

Did you launch a new Affiliate Web site in 2025? Y ☐ N ☒

Attachment A (completion required)

Association Officers List

Provide the contact information requested below for all current officers of your Association. **Please indicate if each officer is an IAFP Member (reminder: Your President and Delegate are required to be IAFP Members).** The information you provide here is published on our website and in select membership materials. The information may be typed in the fields below or may be sent to our office by email, fax or regular mail.

Indicate the term dates (e.g., 2025–2026) for your current Executive Board:

2026-2027

Officer Title President
Officer Name Caio Cesar Pacheco
Carvalho
Address 1 Rua Marica 422 – Jd Satellite
Address 2
City, State ZIP Country Sao Jose dos
Campos/Sao Paulo/12230-100/Brazil
Phone Number+5511983741516
Email address caio_hc@yahoo.com.br
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Officer Title Vice President
Officer Name Luciano dos Santos
Bersot
Address 1 UFPR Rua Pioneiro, 2153 –
Jardim Dallas
Address 2
City, State ZIP Country Palotina/Parana/
85953-12/Brazil
Phone Number+5544999839060
Email address
lucianobersot@gmail.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Officer Title Secretary
Officer Name Uelinton Manoel Pinto
Address 1 Av Pavão 78, apto 91.
Moema.
Address 2
City, State ZIP Country Sao Paulo/Sao
Paulo/04516-010/Brazil

Phone Number+5511960553724
Email address uelintonpinto@usp.br
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Officer Title Treasurer
Officer Name Bernadette Dora
Gombossy de Melo Franco
Address 1 Av. Prof. Lineu Prestes, 580
– Bl 14
Address 2
City, State ZIP Country Sao Paulo/Sao
Paulo/05508-000/Brazil
Phone Number+551130912199
Email address bfranco@usp.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Officer Title Past President
Officer Name Luis Augusto Nero
Address 1 UFV – Centro de Ciências
Biológicas e da Saúde – Departamento
de Veterinária – Campus Universitário
Address 2
City, State ZIP Country Vicosa/Minas
Gerais/36570-000/Brazil
Phone Number +553197446002
Email address nero@ufv.br
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Before continuing, please check one of the boxes below:

☒ **CHECK HERE and return electronically by 3/3/26 IF YOUR AFFILIATE REQUESTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ONE OR MORE 2026 AFFILIATE AWARDS. (You are required to complete Attachment B.)**

☐ **CHECK HERE IF YOUR AFFILIATE DOES NOT WANT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A 2026 AWARD. (You are done! It is not necessary to complete Attachment B.)**

Attachment B (optional)

Affiliate Award Considerations

*To be considered for one or more of the five Affiliate Awards to be presented at IAFP 2026, Affiliates are **required** to check the box next to the award(s) for which you wish to be considered and provide the related criteria (in English). (REMINDER: Please confirm IAFP Membership of your Affiliate President and Delegate **before** completing Attachment B to avoid award disqualification.)*

☐ Affiliate Membership Achievement Award

How did your Affiliate grow **AND** retain members during the past year? Please provide details on:

- how new members were recruited throughout the year;
- the number of new members joining the Affiliate;
- the percent of increase in membership from 2025 to 2026;
- specific efforts on how you retained existing members; and
- other methods related to helping grow and maintain your membership.

You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type.

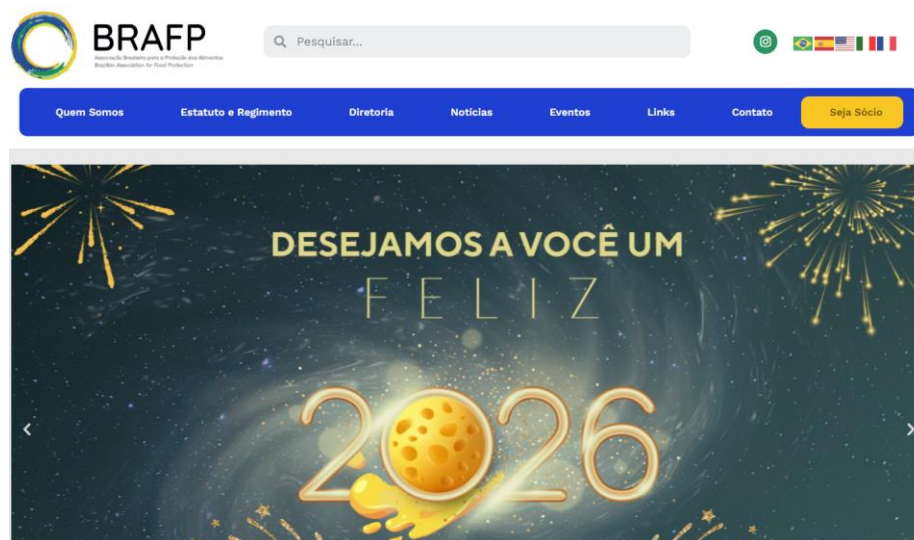
X Affiliate Communication Award

How did your Affiliate communicate information to your Members during the past year? Please provide a description of the types of communication sent to your general membership and include samples with your Annual Report. Samples can be printed copies/screen shots of blast emails, website (include frequency of updating), electronic/print newsletters, brochures, etc., along with respective dates sent. If available, provide how effective specific communication was toward meeting your goals. You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type.

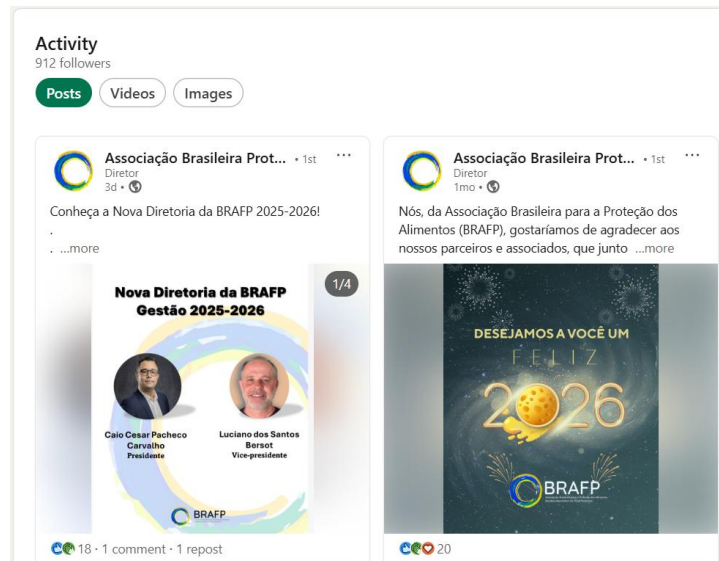
In 2025, the Brazilian Association for Food Protection (BRAFP) significantly strengthened its communication strategy to engage members, students, professionals, and partner organizations through consistent, multi-channel, and purpose-driven communication. BRAFP used its website, LinkedIn, Instagram, email blasts, and partner networks to promote food safety education, scientific events, and community engagement throughout the year.

Communication channels and frequency

- Website (www.brafp.org.br): Updated monthly with news, event announcements, webinars, awards, and reports. Dedicated pages were created for major initiatives such as the *Prêmio BRAFP Segurança dos Alimentos* and *World Food Safety Day 2025*, serving as a central repository for information and evidence submission.

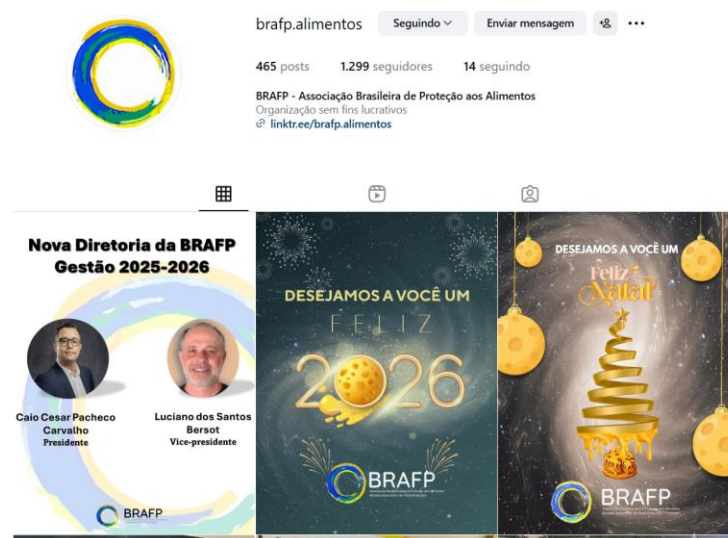


- LinkedIn: BRAFP became highly active in 2025, publishing regular posts (2–4 per week) covering events, webinars, award announcements, partner activities, and food safety news. Engagement increased significantly, with posts related to FoodMicro Latino, the BRAFP Award, and World Food Safety Day reaching thousands of views and interactions from Brazil and abroad. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/associa%C3%A7%C3%A3o-brasileira-prote%C3%A7%C3%A3o-dos-alimentos-80142b252/recent-activity/all/>



- Instagram: Used to reach students and young professionals through visual content, reels, and event highlights, especially during FoodMicro Latino and World Food Safety Day.

<https://www.instagram.com/brafp.alimentos/>



- Email communication: Targeted email blasts were sent to members to announce calls for participation, webinars, awards, and major events.
- Partner amplification: Content was shared by partners such as SBM, UFRJ, ACAFP, and universities, extending reach beyond BRAFP membership.

Highlight – Prêmio BRAFP Segurança dos Alimentos (World Food Safety Day Initiative)

<https://brafp.org.br/foodsafetyday/2025/>

The Prêmio BRAFP Segurança dos Alimentos, aligned with FAO's World Food Safety Day, became BRAFP's most impactful communication initiative of the year. The award invited companies, universities, research groups, and individuals across Brazil to develop and publicly share food safety actions on social media while tagging BRAFP.

This initiative achieved communication success not only through the winning project but through dozens of independent initiatives conducted nationwide between May 5 and June 15. Participants posted videos, reports, lectures, and social media content demonstrating food safety education actions in their communities. This generated organic, decentralized promotion of food safety culture, multiplying BRAFP's visibility far beyond its direct channels.

The award webpage centralized guidance and submissions, while LinkedIn and Instagram posts showcased participating initiatives, reinforcing engagement and visibility. The result was a nationwide campaign where BRAFP's communication goal—spreading food safety awareness—was achieved through the voices of participants themselves.



Effectiveness toward goals:

- Increased visibility and engagement on LinkedIn and Instagram
- High participation in the BRAFP Award and World Food Safety Day workshop at USP
- Strong attendance at FoodMicro Latino driven by sustained promotion
- Greater interaction between members, students, and partners through shared content

- Expanded recognition of BRAFP as a reference in food safety communication in Brazil and Latin America

Through structured, frequent, and interactive communication, BRAFP effectively informed, engaged, and mobilized its membership and broader community in 2025.

X Affiliate Education Award

What types of food safety education program(s) did your Affiliate provide to its members during the past year? Provide the following details on all technical meetings, educational conferences, webinars, workshops, classes, and other methods pertinent to the interests of the membership:

- Background;
- Objectives;
- Agenda;
- Target audience;
- Dates held; and
- Numbers of attendees.

Describe any awards provided to students or young professionals. You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type. *(Do not submit copies of speaker Power Point slide presentations.)*

In 2025, the Brazilian Association for Food Protection (BRAFP) delivered a comprehensive portfolio of food safety education initiatives integrating scientific excellence, student development, industry engagement, communication outreach, and international collaboration. The centerpiece was the 1st FoodMicro Latino 2025, the first FoodMicro® satellite event ever held outside Europe, organized by BRAFP at the invitation of the International Committee on Food Microbiology and Hygiene (ICFMH). Integrated into the 33rd Brazilian Congress of Microbiology, the event took place October 25–28, 2025, in Aracaju, Brazil, under the theme “Sustainability and Food Safety.”

The conference advanced discussion on food microbiology within sustainability, One Health, antimicrobial resistance, emerging technologies, and artisanal foods. Over four days, the program included 7 keynote lectures, 8 roundtables, 4 minicourses, 277 scientific posters, and an exhibition with industry-led educational sessions. Topics addressed biofilms, sustainable processing, precision fermentation, microbiome modulation in animal production, alternative proteins, AI applications in microbiology, and the microbiology and regulation of Brazilian artisanal cheeses, including a dedicated cheese science workshop.

The event brought together 560 participants from Brazil, Europe, North and South America, including students, researchers, regulators, and industry professionals, promoting strong exchange between academia and practice.

A core priority was student inclusion. With funding from FAPEMIG, BRAFP awarded 26 travel scholarships to undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral participants from Minas Gerais. All recipients presented scientific work, ensuring active engagement.

BRAFP also promoted scientific excellence through two award programs. The BRAFP Young Scientist Award Competition selected five works for oral presentation, recognizing three winners for research in antimicrobial resistance, quorum sensing, AI genomics, and microbial diversity. The ICFMH Developing Scientist Award Competition pre-selected ten posters for in-person evaluation, awarding three young scientists for innovative work in probiotics, biofilms, pathogen control, and metagenomics.

Beyond the conference, BRAFP expanded its educational reach through international webinars in collaboration with the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) and the African Association for Food Protection (ACAFFP). A highlighted webinar on mycotoxin control in the cashew nut chain

targeted African and Latin American audiences, addressing regionally relevant hazards and strengthening South–South knowledge exchange.

A major communication and education milestone was the Prêmio BRAFP Segurança dos Alimentos, organized in alignment with FAO's World Food Safety Day. This national award invited companies, universities, research groups, and individuals to design and publicly share food safety actions while tagging BRAFP on social media. Conducted between May 5 and June 15, dozens of independent initiatives were promoted across Brazil, generating decentralized food safety education campaigns. Participants submitted evidence of engagement, audience reach, and scientific accuracy, creating a multiplier effect in spreading food safety culture far beyond BRAFP's direct membership. The award webpage served as an educational hub and the initiatives themselves became vehicles of peer-to-peer learning and awareness.

During World Food Safety Day 2025, BRAFP also organized a technical workshop at the University of São Paulo (USP), reinforcing food safety culture among students and professionals.

Industry participation enhanced practical learning. Companies such as Hygiena and Bio-Rad conducted "Hands On" sessions demonstrating environmental monitoring, allergen control, and rapid microbiological methods, bridging science and application.

Additionally, BRAFP's President contributed to global education through the IAFP Executive Board Speaker Program, delivering lectures in Argentina, Mexico, and Chile.

Overall, BRAFP's 2025 programs engaged hundreds of professionals and students, supported 277 scientific presentations, involved 46 international speakers, fostered international cooperation, and amplified food safety education through nationwide engagement initiatives aligned with IAFP's mission.

X Best Overall Affiliate Meeting Award

Did your Affiliate hold an outstanding food protection meeting (not sponsored/co-sponsored by IAFP*) which you consider 'over and above' those normally held? If so, provide the following details, if applicable, on what led to a highly successful meeting:

- Type of meeting and the value it brought to Affiliate Members/attendees (does not need to be your Annual Meeting);
- Objective for the meeting (if relevant);
- Activities/Topics (e.g., poster competition, vendor tech talks; a printed copy of the agenda may be included with your award application);
- Numbers of attendees:
 - Number of and overall percentage of Affiliate Members (for example, 100 total attendees with 75 of them being Affiliate Members = 75%)
 - Number of Guests (non-dues-paying Affiliate Members) and their relationship to the Affiliate Chapter and/or meeting's topic(s);
- Audience participation (through roundtable discussions, exercises, etc.);
- Student involvement;
- Partners (e.g., other associations or affiliates);
- Speakers and their affiliations (if available);
- Sponsors;
- Engagement of attendees with exhibitors;
- Diversity of meeting participants (range of sectors represented, e.g., students, academia, extension, government, NGO, industry representatives, etc.), which can be broken down into services (e.g., retail, education, research, manufacturing, etc., if available); and
- Other information (e.g., whether the meeting included a celebration of a milestone Affiliate anniversary and related activities).

You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type. *(Do not submit copies of speaker Power Point slide presentations.)*

The 1st FoodMicro Latino 2025, organized by the Brazilian Association for Food Protection (BRAFP) at the invitation of the International Committee on Food Microbiology and Hygiene (ICFMH), represents an outstanding food protection meeting "over and above" traditional Affiliate activities. Held October 25–28, 2025, in Aracaju, Brazil, as a satellite event of the 33rd Brazilian Congress of Microbiology, this was the first FoodMicro® event ever hosted outside Europe, placing BRAFP at the center of a historic milestone in global food microbiology and food safety engagement.

Type of meeting and value to members:

This was a four-day international scientific and technical conference focused on *Sustainability and Food Safety*. It delivered exceptional value to BRAFP members by providing direct access to global experts, high-level scientific debate, applied industry solutions, student engagement, and networking across academia, government, and industry.

Goals:

- Expand FoodMicro's global reach into Latin America
- Advance discussion on food microbiology in sustainability, One Health, and emerging hazards
- Promote student participation and scientific recognition

- Integrate industry solutions with scientific knowledge

Activities and topics:

The program included:

- 7 keynote lectures
- 8 roundtables (3–5 speakers each)
- 4 minicourses (biofilms, biomaterials, microbiology education, artisanal cheeses)
- 277 scientific posters
- Young Scientist Award competitions (BRAFP & ICFMH)
- Industry “Hands On” sessions (Hygiena and Bio-Rad)
- Technical exhibition with 14 companies
- REPEQUAB workshop on Brazilian artisanal cheeses

Topics ranged from antimicrobial resistance, microbiomes, alternative proteins, AI in microbiology, sustainable processing, precision fermentation, and artisanal food safety.

Number of attendees:

- 560 participants
- Estimated ~120 BRAFP Affiliate Members (≈21%)
- 440 non-members, including students, researchers, regulators, and industry professionals attracted by the scientific program and FoodMicro brand

Audience participation:

The meeting emphasized interaction through roundtables, live poster sessions, award oral presentations, minicourses, technical forums, and industry demonstrations, creating continuous dialogue rather than passive attendance.

Student involvement:

- 277 posters, largely from graduate and undergraduate students
- 26 travel scholarships funded for students
- Dedicated Young Scientist Award sessions with oral presentations and formal recognition

Partners:

- ICFMH (FoodMicro owner)
- Brazilian Society for Microbiology (SBM)
- REPEQUAB (Artisanal Cheese Research Network)

Speakers

A total of 46 speakers from 7 countries (Brazil, USA, Belgium, Italy, France, Denmark, Chile), representing universities, research institutes, and regulatory bodies such as EFSA.

Sponsors

- Institutional: CNPq, CAPES, FAPESP, FAPEMIG, CFMV
- Private: Hygiena and Bio-Rad (exclusive educational sessions)

Exhibitor engagement

The exhibition area hosted 14 companies in microbiology solutions. Dedicated “Hands On” sessions and an open technical arena drove strong interaction between attendees and exhibitors throughout the event.

Diversity of participants

Participants represented:

- Undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral students
- Academia and research institutions
- Government and regulatory agencies
- Food industry professionals (manufacturing, quality, laboratories)
- Extension and technical services

Other distinguishing factors:

This meeting marked the historic expansion of FoodMicro to Latin America, demonstrated BRAFP's leadership in global food safety education, and strengthened international scientific collaboration while deeply engaging students and industry.

The 1st FoodMicro Latino 2025 stands as a model Affiliate meeting for its scale, diversity, scientific depth, student focus, and global impact.





X C.B. Shogren Memorial Award

NOTE: Applying for the Shogren Memorial Award does not automatically include your application for any of the other Affiliate awards. If applying for this award, you must apply separately for one or more of the other Affiliate awards which may have contributed toward meeting the criteria of the Shogren Award. (Note: Your Affiliate is not required to win one of the other Affiliate awards.)

How did your Affiliate demonstrate exceptional overall achievement during the past year in promoting the mission of IAFP (*“To provide food safety professionals worldwide with a forum to exchange information on protecting the food supply”*)? The judges will also consider how the Affiliate has demonstrated its commitment to food safety over the years. “Overall achievement” should encompass at least several of the following activities/accomplishments of your Affiliate:

- Exceptional achievement in membership;
- Types and effectiveness of communication and education;
- Awards and scholarships presented;
- Attendance numbers at meetings;
- Collaboration with other professional organizations;
- Whether the Affiliate has been considered for and/or won other Affiliate awards in the past;
- Involvement in the IAFP Affiliate Council Meeting (e.g., participation at the Affiliate Council Meeting held during the IAFP Annual Meeting and in online Affiliate Council meetings throughout the year; submissions to the *Affiliate View* newsletter, sharing Affiliate Council information with Affiliate members); and
- Other pertinent information.

While not a requirement, strong consideration will be given to an Affiliate whose officers (beyond the requirement for the President and Delegate) are also IAFP Members. Provide a description and include any supporting documents. You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use separate pages if necessary; please limit your explanation to 1,000 words or less in 12-point type.

During 2025, the Brazilian Association for Food Protection (BRAFP) demonstrated exceptional overall achievement in promoting the mission of IAFP: *“To provide food safety professionals worldwide with a forum to exchange information on protecting the food supply.”* BRAFP’s actions combined large-scale international scientific engagement, strong student development, continuous education initiatives, active global collaboration, and consistent participation in IAFP activities—while building upon a multi-year trajectory of commitment to food safety culture in Brazil and Latin America.

Exceptional achievement in membership and engagement

BRAFP experienced significant engagement growth driven by the organization of high-impact technical and scientific initiatives that attracted professionals, students, academia, regulators, and industry. The flagship event, 1st FoodMicro Latino 2025, brought together 560 participants from multiple continents and directly connected BRAFP members with global experts in food microbiology and safety. Approximately 21% of attendees were BRAFP Affiliate Members, while the remainder represented potential new members exposed to BRAFP’s mission, expanding the Affiliate’s visibility and attractiveness.

This meeting, alongside webinars, workshops, and international outreach, reinforced BRAFP as a central hub for food safety discussion in Brazil and Latin America.

Types and effectiveness of communication and education

BRAFP's educational strategy in 2025 was diversified and highly effective:

1. 1st FoodMicro Latino 2025 (Oct 25–28, 2025) – the first FoodMicro® event outside Europe, organized at ICFMH's invitation. The four-day program included 7 keynotes, 8 roundtables, 4 minicourses, 277 posters, student competitions, industry "Hands On" sessions, and a workshop on artisanal cheeses. Topics included antimicrobial resistance, One Health, AI in microbiology, sustainability, alternative proteins, biofilms, and regulatory challenges.
2. International webinar series in collaboration with UFRJ and the African Association for Food Protection (ACAFP), including a webinar on *mycotoxin control in the cashew nut chain*, targeting African and Latin American audiences and promoting South–South knowledge exchange.
3. World Food Safety Day Workshop at the University of São Paulo (USP), engaging students and professionals in discussions about food safety culture and global challenges.
4. Technical meetings and professional forums during FoodMicro Latino to present BRAFP activities, plan future actions, and strengthen leadership within the Brazilian Microbiology Society.

These activities ensured year-round engagement beyond a single meeting, reaching diverse audiences through conferences, webinars, and workshops.

Awards, scholarships, and student development

BRAFP demonstrated outstanding commitment to developing young professionals:

- 26 travel scholarships funded through FAPEMIG enabled undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral students to attend and present work at FoodMicro Latino.
- BRAFP Young Scientist Award Competition: five oral presentations, three winners recognized.
- ICFMH Developing Scientist Award Competition: ten posters evaluated in person, three winners awarded.

A total of 277 scientific posters, largely from students, were presented, providing meaningful scientific visibility and career development.

Attendance numbers and meeting impact

The 560 attendees at FoodMicro Latino represented academia, government, industry, extension services, and students from Brazil, Europe, and the Americas. The technical exhibition featured 14 companies, with dedicated educational sessions by Hygiena and Bio-Rad, strengthening the link between science and practical food safety tools.

Collaboration with other professional organizations

BRAFP worked closely with:

- ICFMH (FoodMicro owner)
- Brazilian Society for Microbiology (SBM)

- REPEQUAB (Brazilian Artisanal Cheese Research Network)
- UFRJ
- ACAFP
- University of São Paulo

These collaborations have amplified BRAFP's educational reach and international integration.

History of recognition and IAFP engagement

BRAFP was awarded the IAFP Affiliate Membership Achievement Award at the 2025 IAFP Annual Meeting, recognizing its growth and engagement. BRAFP organized IAFP Latino 2024 and continues to expand its visibility within IAFP.

BRAFP leadership actively participates in the IAFP Affiliate Council Meetings, online sessions, and regularly disseminates Affiliate Council information to members. BRAFP also contributes to communication channels promoting IAFP initiatives.

Leadership involvement in IAFP

Beyond the required President and Delegate roles, BRAFP officers maintain active IAFP membership. Notably, the BRAFP President participates in the IAFP Executive Board Speaker Program, delivering lectures at universities and food safety conferences in Argentina, Mexico, and USA, promoting food safety culture and IAFP's mission throughout Latin America.

Long-term commitment to food safety

Over the years, BRAFP has built a reputation for promoting food safety education through national meetings, Food Safety Day campaigns, partnerships with universities, and international engagement. The 2025 achievements represent a maturation of this trajectory, positioning BRAFP as a regional leader aligned with IAFP's global vision.

Conclusion

Through large-scale scientific meetings, student support, international webinars, university workshops, industry engagement, global partnerships, and active participation in IAFP structures, BRAFP demonstrated exceptional overall achievement in 2025. These efforts provided a robust forum for food safety professionals to exchange knowledge, strengthened the food safety culture in Latin America and beyond, and exemplified sustained commitment to IAFP's mission.