



WORKING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

MONOGENIC TRAITS AND REGISTRATION

Purpose

- To periodically review and propose revisions, when appropriate, to update and enhance the established guidelines for the exchange of lineage, performance and monogenic information.
- Define the requirements and protocols for reciprocal registration agreements between Herdbook organisations in alignment with ICAR requirements for exchange of monogenic information.
- To act as a resource for emerging Herdbooks.
- To monitor, investigate and report the ongoing recording and discovery of new monogenic traits in the Holstein Friesian cattle population and the recording of such traits.

Working Group Focus

The group will concentrate its activities on the following issues:

- To monitor and update guidelines for Herdbook registration to WHFF standards.
- Keep up to date with International Embryo Transfer Society (**IETS**) and International Committee for Animal Recording (**ICAR**) recommendations.
- To define and recommend how transgenic animals will be identified within the registration process using gene and expression codes as published by WHFF.
- To communicate with World Holstein Associations to share information.
- To consider the special requirements of emerging Herdbooks.
- To continue reviewing the current status of hereditary defect recording.
- To liaise with ICAR, INTERBULL and other international Organisations as to the development of standardised tools on-farm clinical description and the code identification.
- To recommend international codes for the identification of proven monogenic traits.
- To investigate, monitor and recommend when a newly identified monogenic trait is proven;
 - How it should be identified on the pedigree.
 - How to define code form.

- To recommend to WHFF common identification protocols for recording monogenic traits.

Composition of the Working Group

The Working Group (**WG**) should consist of a maximum of 7 people with:

- The majority of members should be from Herdbook organisations, with operational expertise or nominated with specific specialised knowledge relevant to the group's activities and at least one member with genetic / animals science expertise.
- Council to nominate chairman and candidates for the Working Group for a term of four (4) years; re-appointment may be possible.
- The Council will designate one of its Members to serve as liaison between the WG and the Council.

Procedure

The chairman of the Working Group should arrange a meeting at least once for the group to become acquainted and also to discuss the different questions and specific tasks. After the first meeting, it could be possible and is strongly recommended to communicate by email or skype.

Time Schedule

- The Working Group should meet at least once a year to review new findings and to report to the Council. This meeting may be through teleconferencing.
- Activity report of the Working Group to be reported on a yearly basis to WHFF Council.
- Presentation and discussion of report to WHFF council on activities and/or recommendations at General Assembly every four (4) years, or yearly if activities are time sensitive.
- Presentation at World Conference.

Budget

- If required, a budget can be requested at WHFF-council.
 - All travel expenses of the WG-members are considered to be taken by their individual employers.
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