

XI CONGRESO HOLSTEIN DE LAS AMERICA



The Herdbooks of America held its biannual Congress in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, autonomous region of the multinational government of Bolivia, which leads the breeding of the sector and the progress of the country in general. Eleven countries, including Spain as a guest, discussed during two days everything related to the latest knowledge on Genomics, Holstein breeding in the Tropic, feeding, production efficiency and heat stress, exportation to third countries, registers, milk recording , ICAR, Interbull, etc. Gabriel Blanco was welcome to the conferences as a part of the Congress, giving a lecture on morphology a global harmonization of dairy cattle from the point of view of ICAR. The American Associations are grateful for the Spanish effort to attend this important event and they will collaborate with the Morphological Department to have support and information about the Spanish program of animal classification and the World Holstein Friesian Type harmonization Program.

Currently, contrary to some years ago, livestock and agriculture (soya, corn, etc), are in a good moment for the producer, in general, and all the countries in Latin America throw themselves into the increase of the productions, head of cattle, barns promotion (Concentrated New Zealand promotion), Herdbook improvement (to become part of ICAR, Interbull) and increase members, classification and milk recording cows.

Milk Production in the Tropic.

Although the environment generally is hostile for breeding pure bred Holstein Friesian cattle heat stress, foot and mouth disease, tick, etc), it is demonstrated that with an expert and careful management (vaccinations, control adaptation and controlled life together with tick) good quality

milk could be produced without spoiling environment, in the tropic, with pure breed, long-lived and healthy animals with good lactations.

Currently, most of dairy farms in Bolivia just like Brazil, Paraguay, Ecuador and Peru, have cross breed cattle, generally Cebu-Friesian cross bred or another dairy breed, getting lactations, at best, of 1200 litres and 120 days lactation, not enough to satisfy the country or countries' needs, although it's true that dairy products consumption per person and year is low and almost 40 kg. Last year's (in Bolivia), it is increasing because of Government, Industry and breeders are promoting it.

Although there is a large field to improve Genetics in Latin America, it is true that there are very good breeders of Friesian breed cattle, from Mexico to Argentina at the same level of the best farms all over the world.