ICAR and Service-ICAR service to National Competent Authorities to validate that the permanent animal identification devices they use meet the original certification criteria of ICAR

Concept
The ICAR ID device validation test service is a voluntary service for Competent National Authorities and other field service users.

Principles
The device validation service should be applied by filling up the concerned application form found as Annex B5/C4 of Sections 10.7 and 10.8 of the ICAR Guidelines.

Validation test protocol
The basic device validation test is carried out by using the Preliminary Assessment protocol for the material performance tested devices as described in Sections 10.7.5.2 and 10.8.5.2 of the ICAR Guidelines. The validation test is assigned to the same laboratory which carried out the previous device certification test and the results of the validation test are compared with the results presented in the original test report.

The service user is free to list in the validation test application other parameters than those included in the Preliminary Assessment protocol and the test laboratory will quote the additional cost in the test plan they submit through Service-ICAR to the applicant body.

Samples for validation test
Sample devices for the validation test are collected by the body making the test request or the person authorized by the applicant body. The basic requirement is that the product samples originate from the local market stock and not from the manufacturer or his local agent. Relevant batch/lot identification details should be submitted along with the samples. The numbers of product samples for the basic validation test are given in paragraphs 10.7.5.2.1 or 10.8.5.2.1 of the ICAR Guidelines or as separately instructed in the laboratory test plan through Service-ICAR.

Before the validation test starts, ICAR notifies the nominated manufacturer that the product applied for validation from that country or market.

Publication of test results
The test laboratory compiles the test results into a comprehensive report which is the sole ownership of the body which signed the test application. If the test results are different from the device certification report, the validation test report will detail the differences and their implications. It will be then the responsibility of the respective local authority to take the initiative to address any validation queries to the manufacturer and report to ICAR if the case amounts to a misuse of ICAR device certification. For handling of misuse cases ICAR has an established procedure.

Confidentiality
ICAR/Service-ICAR will keep confidential the information about the markets from which the test samples originate.

All test results are kept confidential between ICAR and the applicant authority. The test results are submitted only to the authority that signed the validation test agreement.
Costs
Service-ICAR, as the responsible body for the contracting of tests under ICAR standards for ID devices, charges each device validation test cost to the applicant body, based on the laboratory fee plus the applicable Service-ICAR administrative fee.