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The ICAR „Artificial Insemination and Related Technologies“ Working Group: Its goals and current projects

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The objectives of the ICAR Artificial Insemination and Related Technologies Working Group (AI&RT-WG) are to:

- a. Maintain, update, promote and extend universal guidelines for recording data associated with artificial breeding (for both male and female gametes, primarily in cattle) and its use to assess reproductive success
- b. Conduct and report the results of periodic international surveys related the recording of artificial breeding data and its use to assess reproductive success.
- c. Identify and specify services that can be provided by Service ICAR to facilitate the recording of artificial breeding data and its use to assess reproductive success.
- d. Stimulate and facilitate international collaboration in research and development on all aspects of recording artificial breeding data and its use to assess reproductive success.

The AI&RT-WG addresses these goals by bringing in the expertise of its members and collaborates with other ICAR bodies (Interbull, Animal Data Exchange WG), manufacturers and the International Embryo Technology Society (IETS).

Just recently a global survey was conducted to assess straw bar-coding practices, capabilities, and potential hurdles to implementation at bovine semen collection centers (SCC). An ongoing project is to carry out a proof of concept for an international database on semen information.

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