ICAR’s Animal Identification Services
Testing and Certification of ID devices

Andie Dimitriadou - ICAR Secretariat
ICAR Annual Conference – 20 June 2019, Prague
QUICK FACTS ABOUT ICAR

- **International NGO** with 117 Members from 59 countries all over the world.

- Active in **farm animal production** sectors:
  - Identification
  - Performance recording
  - Genetic evaluation

- **Services:**
  - Guidelines
  - Certification and evaluation services
  - Knowledge sharing activities
  - Networking
CERTIFICATION OF ID DEVICES

- **Electronic devices**: RFID ear tags, leg tags, tag attachments, ruminal boluses and injectable transponders (for horses and pets).

**Conformance test** with ISO standards 11784 and 11785 according to ISO standard 24631-1.

- **11784**: Transponder code structure for the radio frequency identification of animals
- **11785**: Technical concept for the radio frequency identification of animals (communication between transponder & transceiver)
CERTIFICATION OF ID DEVICES

- **Electronic devices:** ICAR offers also the **Performance test** according to standard ISO 24631-3.
  - Not obligatory.
  - Does not lead to a certificate.
  - Provides useful information about the performance e.g. read range of the transponder.
CERTIFICATION OF ID DEVICES

- **Conventional ear tags:** ICAR certifies the composition and environmental performance of the ear tags according to ICAR standards.

  - Preliminary Assessment: ear tag design; locking mechanism; application test (axial and transverse test).

  - Laboratory test: material characteristics; harmful substances; acid/alkaline bath treatment; ageing by damp heat and cold; resistance to artificial ageing; abrasive treatment; typography readability; colour contrast change; machine readability (optional); resistance of locking system.
CERTIFICATION OF ID DEVICES

- Full certification of RFID tags: RFID tags can be tested and certified for composition and environmental performance, plus conformance with ISO standards 11784/11785.
  - Preliminary Assessment
  - Laboratory test as outlined before
CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE

- Full information for the testing/certification procedures (including application forms) of the different test types: See [here](#).
RE-CERTIFICATION OF ID DEVICES

- ICAR Certification lasts for 5 years
- After 5 years, test can be repeated and **certification renewed for another 5 years**. The device maintains its original product/certification code.

Tests applied for re-certification:
- RFID devices: Limited test
- Conventional ear tags: Preliminary assessment
VALIDATION OF ID DEVICES

- Voluntary service for national Competent Authorities (not manufacturers or their agents).

- Quality verification to ensure that devices on the market remain compliant with the appropriate ISO and ICAR test protocols.

- Does not lead to certification of the devices.

Full information here.
FIELD TESTING OF ID DEVICES

- New protocol - Future service
- Will be applicable to:
  - ICAR-certified/registered devices
  - For both RFID and conventional ear tags that have passed ICAR’s Device Composition and Environmental Performance test
- Initially for cattle only
- Key role of national Competent Authorities

FIELD TEST PLAN
FIELD TEST EXECUTION
REVIEW OF TEST RESULTS
CERTIFICATE & PUBLICATION
MISUSE OF CERTIFICATION

- ICAR and ISO have **specific rules** for the use of the certification / registration of devices.
- In case of inappropriate use, **specific measures** are foreseen – even withdrawal of the certification.
- Competent Authorities and farmers should report to ICAR any cases of misuse.
- **Form** for reporting misuse
PUBLICATION ON ICAR WEBSITE

- **RFID devices**
  - Currently certified - [link](#) (Devices certified every 5 years by ICAR)
  - Registered - [link](#) (Devices registered for their lifetime)

- **Conventional ear tags** [link](#)

---

**ICAR Certified Devices**

- Conventional ear tags
  - [read more](#)
- RFID Devices
  - Full certification [read more](#)
  - Ear tags, Tag attachments, Boluses [read more](#)
  - Injectable transponder [read more](#)
- RFID Transceivers [read more](#)

**ICAR Registry of RFID Devices**

- Registered RFID devices
  - [read more](#)
- Registered manufacturers – signatories of Code of Conduct
  - [read more](#)
ICAR GUIDELINES

- **Section 10** of ICAR Guidelines: Guidelines for Animal Identification Device Testing & Certification
  - Includes the test protocols / procedures for all types of tests
  - Link to ICAR Guidelines [here](#).
QUESTIONS – CONTACTS

Andie Dimitriadou
Certification Services Executive
ICAR Secretariat
Via Savoia 78, Rome, Italy
T +39 06 85 237 212
andie@icar.org

ICAR website www.icar.org

Animal Identification webpage