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European traceability system

Traceability, the key for animal breeding

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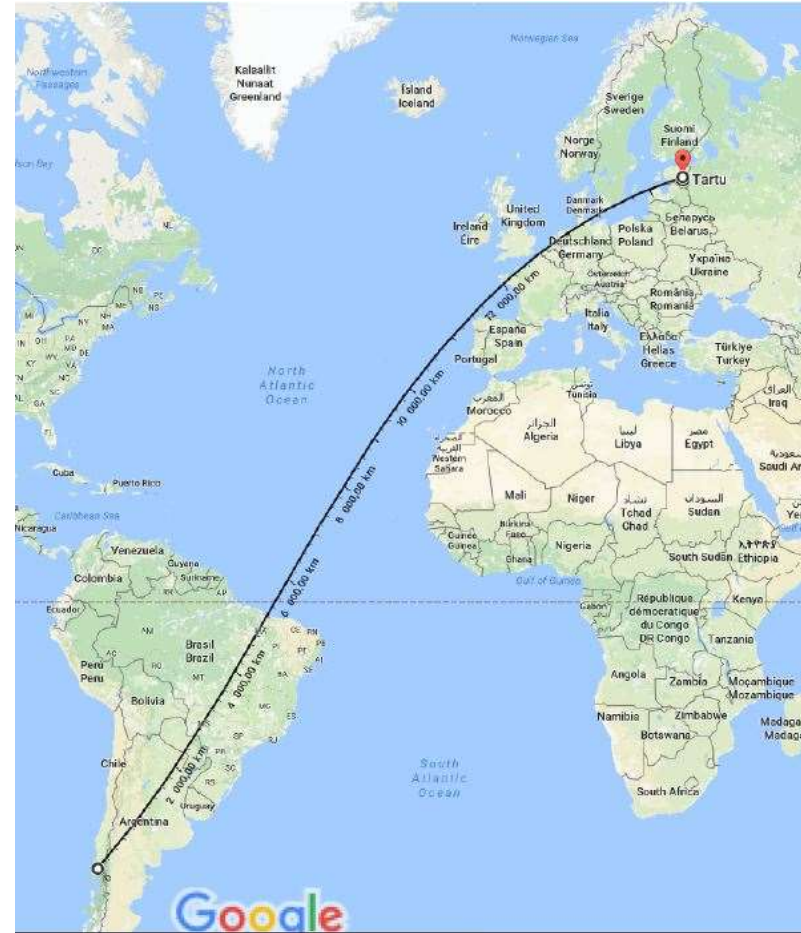
Who I am?

Country: Estonia

(~14400 km or
9000 miles)

CEO in performance
recording
organization
(dairy, beef, pig)

Member of ICAR SC
for Animal
Identification



What is traceability?

Recording of information and ability to use this information
to:

be ready to react quickly in case of disease outbreaks

reduce losses in case of disease outbreaks

European Union in general

28 member states

~4.5 million km²

~88 million bovine animals



History

Identification of cattle in milk recording herds (inventory numbers):

- ear notching
- freeze branding
- tattooing
- neck chains
- colour markers (paint)

Nonrecorded cattle were not identified.

Regulations

Bovine: Regulation (EC) 1760/2000

Ovine and caprine: Regulation (EC) 21/2004

Porcine: Directive 2008/71/EC

Equine: Regulation (EC) 2015/262

It is just a framework

How did it start?

There was a problem to solve in 1990's!

It was called 'BSE' but due to that there was a need for a good traceability system.

Animal identification is just a tool in a traceability system

System to follow animals from birth to death and even from farm to fork

What was the purpose?

1. Animal health – location, trace movements in veterinary purposes.
2. Human health – to trace products and to react if needed.
3. Management of the beef and veal market.

Basic

Tagging – all animals have two tags, replacement tags.

Recording – all information must be recorded.

Database/register – animals and holdings (farms, markets, etc), quality, data capture, use of database, access to the database.

Sanctions – what happens if ...

Tagging

Two ear tags

Must be identified:
Before leaving the herd
20 days from birth

Animals outside EU
retagged



Requirements for tags

Conventional/visual tag every member state is free to decide but there are some minimum requirements.

RFID tags – electronics shall comply ISO 11784 and ISO 11785

ICAR certification of animal identification devices is required often

<http://www.icar.org/index.php/certifications/animal-identification-certifications/>

Registration

All holdings (farms, collection centres, market places) shall be registered in a database.

All information (tagging, movements) shall be registered within 7 days.

Passport will be issued.

Database(s)

How the data capture is organized (who and how)?

Quality of data (errors)?

Database is the heart of the system and tool for veterinary services to supervise the system.

A good database is highlighting weaknesses on the field.

Database is the tool to evaluate the quality of the system.

Sanctions

There are penalties

But even more affects farmers the chance to get less subsidies

How the system is used today?

Not only for traceability!

Farm management

Breeding

Veterinary services

Subsidies

Traceability today and near future

Trends:

- Larger farms

- Management systems

Technology:

- RFIDs and readers

- Data capture and data exchange

Challenges

- Different farm structures and technical levels

Conclusion

The traceability doesn't protect us against any disease outbreaks.

The traceability helps us to control the situation and it help us to reduce losses

Thank you and enjoy
the week of ICAR 2016!

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