Monitoring of dairy cattle health in the Czech Republic

Jiří Bauer*¹, Ludmila Zavadilová¹, Soňa Šlosárková²



Institute of Animal Science, Prague

Czech Republic



Veterinary Research Institute, Brno



Introduction

No national database of health of dairy cattle

 Performance testing data nationally evaluated and accessible online for farmers

System of management of recording and data storage established

Aim: Enhance data recording by inclusion of health data

Introduction

 Administrator of central database is Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic



For processing of data is authorized



Czech-Moravian Breeders Corporation

• Individual farmers are owners of the records in the database

- Dairy cattle in the Czech Republic:
 - 370 000 dairy cows

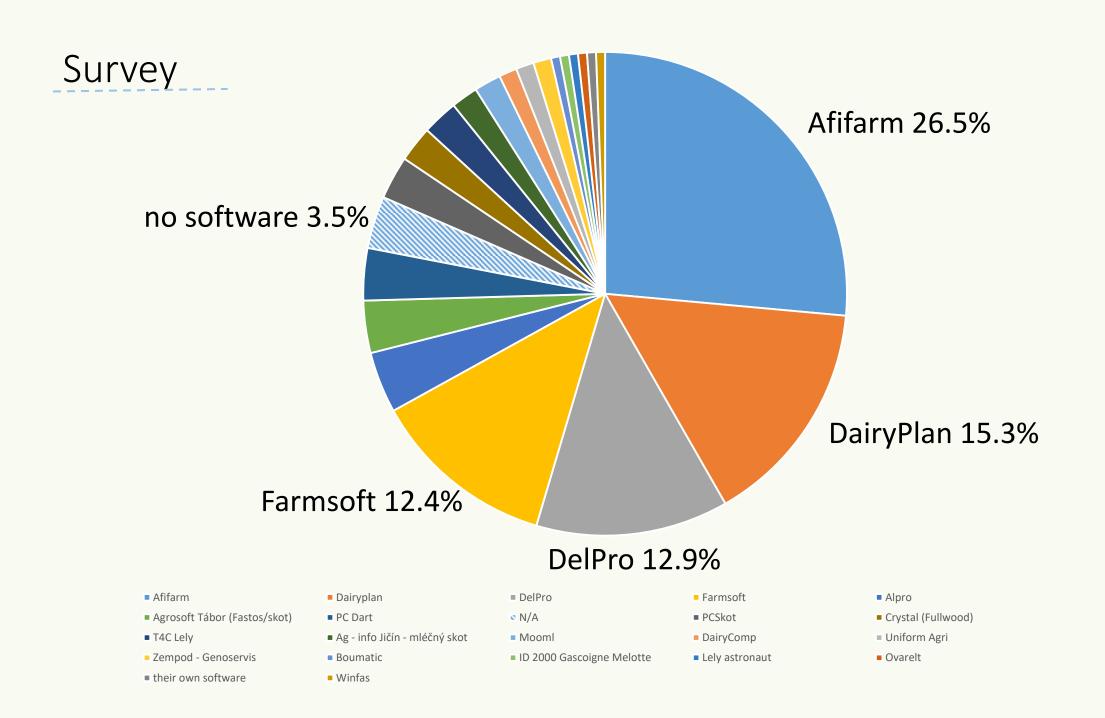
(2015)

- 96.8% in performance testing
- averagely 311 cows / farm, 8 500 kg milk per cow
- 56 % Holstein, 37% Czech Fleckvieh

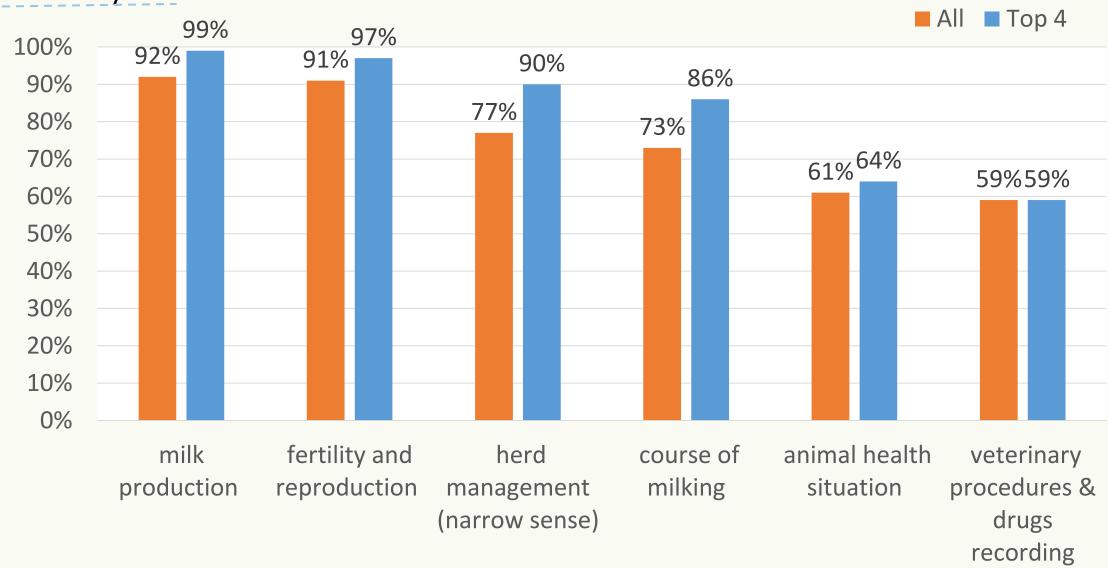
Survey

- For estimation of potential of farmers' records
- Frequency of use of commercial herd management software

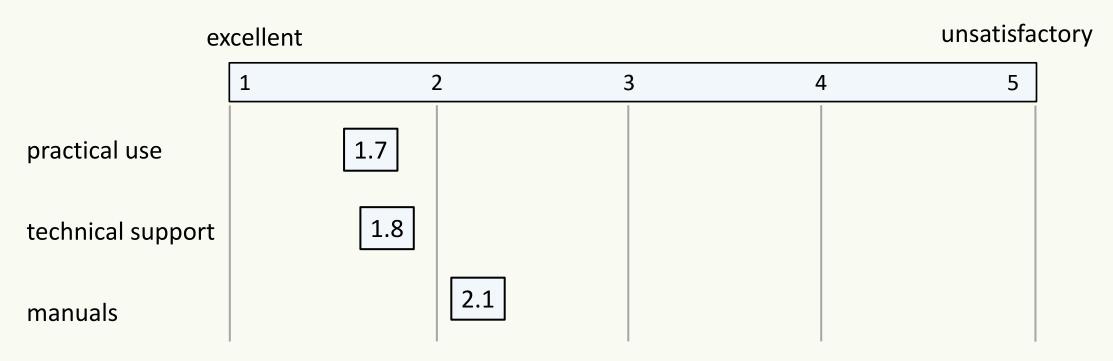
- Answers from 158 companies (included 5 breeder service corp.)
- 21 Programs are used by farmers
- Four most frequent have together 67 % of market share



Survey



Top 4



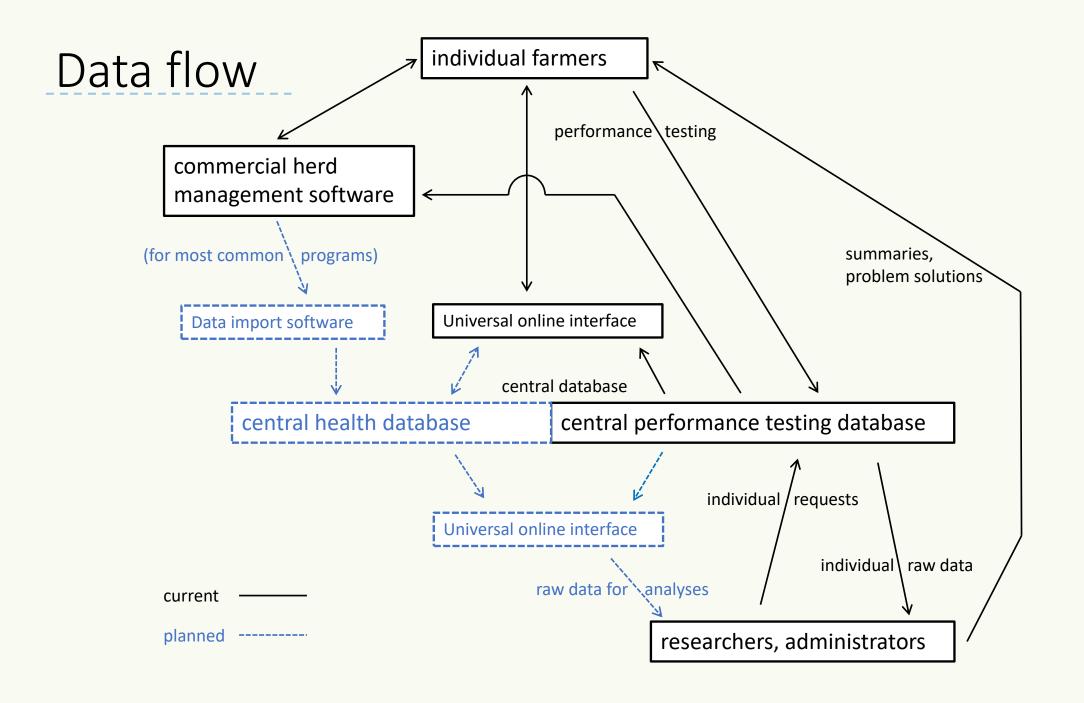
 Plan for connecting top four commercial software to national health recording system

Health key

Compatible with ICAR

• Three levels of categorization:

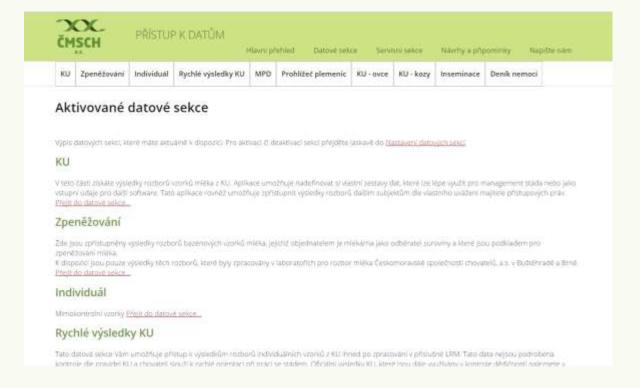
- Full health key 803 individual items (ICAR)
- Simplified key grouping by disease localization and type 203 items
- Simple key most frequent diseases in generally named groups 26 items



Universal Interface

- Online web interface for farmers "Access to the Data"
- Performance testing records, breed registry

- Additional module for voluntary disease recording
- Accessible for farmers this year
- Recording of use of medications and antibiotics included



Conclusions

- Commercial herd management software is widely used by Czech cattle breeders
- Majority of farmers use only four programs, which can be utilized by importing data to national database
- 60% of farmers are already recording health situation in their herds
- New system of national health recording will enable monitoring of situation in country and make possible a genetic and veterinary evaluation of health in dairy cattle

