
Preface

The International Committee for Animal Recording welcomed the participants of this Buffalo Workshop and acknowledged the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in particular, Dr J. Maki-Hokkonen of the Animal Production and Health Division (AGA), for their support.

Animal recording, especially buffalo recording, is still unknown in many developing countries. Bearing in mind that animal recording represents the base of development of livestock production at national and farm levels, the aim of this Workshop was to promote buffalo milk recording systems by considering the already existing experiences of buffalo recording activities and by giving the opportunity to the invited experts to freely discuss the constraints, requirements and benefits of implementing standardised milk recording systems for buffalo.

Experts from fifteen countries prepared case studies describing the experience of animal recording in their country. These case studies served as a basis for the discussion held during the two day Workshop.

ICAR has 56 member organizations in 47 countries and around 400 participants from 56 countries attended the 32nd ICAR Session and INTERBULL Meeting.

In developing long-term strategies for promoting and standardising animal recording systems, ICAR follows the global strategy for the improvement of livestock production and quality.

I have been working on the Kerala Livestock Development Project in India, therefore, I am aware of the situation in developing countries. I believe that ICAR should provide guidelines for animal recording in low input production environments.

Buffalo is the largest livestock population in many developing countries and ICAR is concerned with the opportunity of establishing guidelines and recommendations for recording that can be universally applicable ensuring a satisfactory degree of uniformity and flexibility in the choice of the methods.

I am pleased that several non-member countries participated in this ICAR Session thus allowing the animal production experts to have the opportunity to verify ICAR purposes and actions. ICAR shall always be available to all countries to help, advise and to learn from them.



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