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## **The role of breeder organisations and the state of animal identification and recording in Slovakia**

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Breeding organisations in Slovakia in terms of the applicable law ensure the keeping of herdbooks and breeding programmes of individual breeds and species in the area of breeding tasks.

Breeder organisations (breeder associations) do not directly participate in the execution of tasks in the area of the identification of animals and recording.

The tasks relating to ensuring identification of animals and the execution of recording of livestock animals (cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, poultry) are assured by the State through an authorised breeding organisation which is the State Breeding Institute of the Slovak Republic (SBI SR), which is uniform throughout the whole of Slovakia.

SBI SR in terms of the law executes the recording through its regional centres. Analyses of milk from cows and sheep for purposes of recording are executed in the central laboratory of SBI SR in Zilina (whose accreditation should be completed this year). Results of recording are elaborated at the computer centre of SBI SR in Zilina. SBI SR publishes every year official results of recording for the respective species of livestock animals for necessity of the agricultural public.

In the area of legislation the actual breeding in Slovakia is sheltered by the Law No. 194/98 relating to breeding of livestock. The following supplementary notices with relevant enclosures are being prepared for:

1. Notice on the identification and keeping of central records of livestock animals.
2. Notice on the recording and heritability of livestock animals.

The above-mentioned law and prepared supplementary notices to the law are compatible with relevant EU directives and standards.

SBI SR shall also be responsible for the implementation of the EU Directive No. 820/97 for the identification of animals and keeping of central records of shifting animals in connection with health of the cattle, beef and beef products in the conditions of the Slovak Republic. SBI SR shall ensure the implementation of this directive in co-operation with a veterinary organisation.

The introduction of central records shall also be supported within the framework of the project PHARE where a co-operation agreement with an Italian group from the Veneto region for the implementation of the EU Directive 820/97 in Slovak conditions, is being prepared. In the framework of the above-mentioned project, it is possible to obtain financial support from funds of PHARE for the procurement of consultancy, software, hardware and identification material.