

## 1. Background

- The Interbeef Agreement<sup>1</sup> provides for SLU to “*subject to the terms of this Agreement, provide relevant data to approved research providers in accordance with best practice standards for research.*”<sup>2</sup>
- At the Interbeef WG at its meeting on January 2012 that “*Chairperson (Brian) to consult with WG and agree agreement for use of data in research.*”<sup>3</sup>

The purpose of this paper is to provide a proposed basis for use of data in research.

## 2. Proposal

Data provided to SLU by Service Users under the Interbeef Agreement are dedicated to international beef genetic evaluations. However, for research purposes, data extracts resulting from specific and explicit research agreements are to be made available to research partners. The process to be followed in reaching an agreement to provide data for use in research comprises the following steps:

- Any proposal to conduct research must be prepared and submitted in writing to SLU with a copy to the Chairperson of the Interbeef WG.
- Before the use of the data for any research is approved, SLU will co-ordinate a consultation with the Interbeef WG. This consultation must result in an agreement in writing between SLU, Service Users whose data is being used, the Interbeef WG and the researchers before any data is released to the researchers.
- The written agreement must cover:
  - the description of the requested data,
  - the purposes for which the data is to be used,
  - the publication or other arrangements for the dissemination of the research output,
  - the utilisation of the research output, and
  - the integrity and security of any data provided.
- The general principles relating to the use of data for research include, subject to the final agreement resulting from the consultation process described above:
  - a. Data is only used in the research for which it is supplied. That is, it is not to be supplied to any other party or used for any other research without written agreement.
  - b. To ensure data security, if a research partner of a Service User from, for example, country A asks for a data extraction for research agreed by the Working Group, SLU will re-codify animal and farm identification numbers (contemporary group also if it includes farm number) provided in the data extract. In the meantime, SLU will provide to this research partner the correspondence between animal and farm id numbers only for animals and farms of the associated Service User in country A. The research partner will then have a way to check their results with national information for the relevant Service User.

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<sup>1</sup> International Collaboration Agreement (Interbeef) as signed by Initial Service Users in 2011.

<sup>2</sup> Schedule 3 part C. page 29 of Interbeef Collaboration Agreement.

<sup>3</sup> Page 3 of Minutes of Interbeef WG meeting held 12<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

- c. Data is protected and individuals (animals, farms, people and organisations) are not identified in the resulting publications.
- d. The results of the research are available to SLU and Interbeef Service Users who participate with data, for use in their services for the range of breeds, traits and territory they cover without licence fees applying.
- e. The Interbeef WG and relevant Service Users are acknowledged as the source of data in all resulting publications.
- f. The Interbeef WG is consulted prior to publication of any results.
- g. SLU is reimbursed for the cost of data extraction either through its annual service fee or on a project basis. If SLU is paid for data extraction, the price for that work will be well defined in advance.
- h. The tool used for data extraction will include the recoding of animal and farm identifications.

### 3. Discussion

The above proposal is a final draft for discussion amongst members of the Interbeef WG and is the result of two rounds of comment and feedback.

Please refer all suggestions and queries to me directly.

The deadline for final feedback is **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2012.**

Draft 3rd September 2012

Reference: Z:\Interbeef\Agreement\Research Use of Data\Interbeef Research Use of Data Draft 03 09 2012 v5.doc