ICAR Subcommittee
Interbull

Reinhard Reents
Chairman of the Interbull Steering Committee,
United Information Systems Animal Production
Outline

- Role and Structure
- International genetic evaluation service
- Current issues and developments
Interbull Activities

- Communication:
  - Meetings → Dublin, August 2007, Madison Oct. 2007
  - Workshops → new traits / developments
  - Publications → Interbulletin, Proceedings Aug. 07
  - Homepage
    - Information on MACE
    - Information on national genetic evaluation systems
    - Plus discussion forums

- Conduct research and development (R&D)
- Technology support to members
- International genetic evaluations
Structure

ICAR

Interbull

... ...

Interbull Centre

Swedish University of Agriculture SLU

Budget ~ 750,000 €
75% from service fees
25% from grants
- EC, SLU
- ...
Interaction with the members

Interbull Members (43)

Business Meeting

- Scient. Adv. Committee
- Steering Committee
- Interbull Centre
- Technical Committee
Steering Committee

- Reinhard Reents, Chairman, DEU
- Gerd Pedersen Aamand, DNK
- Brian van Doormaal, CDN
- Dorota Krencik, POL (outgoing)
- Sophie Mattalia, FRA
- Bill Montgomorie, NZL
- Paul van Raden, USA
- Enrico Santus, ITA (renominated)
- Hans Wilmink, NLD

- Jan Philipsson, secretary, SWE
Technical Committee

- Hans Wilmink, Chairman, NLD
- Freddy Fikse, ITB
- Gerrit Kistemaker, CAN
- Tom Lawlow, USA
- Zengting Liu, DEU
- Esa Mantysaari, FIN
- Raphael Mrode, UK

Genetic evaluation experts

Scientific Advisory Committee

- Georgios Banos, Chairman, GREECE
- Vincent Ducrocq, FRA
- Mike Goddard, AUS
- Larry Schaeffer, CAN

Outstanding scientists for animal genetics
Staff

- **Permanent**
  - 5 scientists
  - 1 technical person / secretary

- **Temporary**
  - one full time equivalent
International Genetic Evaluation Services
MACE visualised

International ranking

Country A
- Bull A1
- Bull A2
- Bull A3

Country B
- Bull B1
- Bull B2
- Bull B3

MACE

Country A
- Bull A1
- Bull A2
- Bull B2
- Bull B1
- Bull A3
- Bull B3

Country B
- Bull B1
- Bull A2
- Bull B2
- Bull B3
- Bull A1
- Bull A3
# Participation Rate

Number of bull populations

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<td>JER</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>49</td>
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## Participation Rate

**Number of bull populations**

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<td>SIM</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>48</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td><strong>40</strong></td>
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Current issues and developments
Service expansion

- Milking speed & Temperament
  - Test run in September 2008
- Body condition score & Locomotion
  - Test run in September 2008
- Calving traits for Simmental
  - Pilot run in 2009
Evaluation schedule

- Reduction to three runs well accepted
  - April ok
  - August ok
  - January concerns

- Timing of December / January run
  - Concerns about unequal space between runs
  - Concerns about time between data delivery to IB centre and January release
    Earliest change would be December 2009
    ➔ stay with it until all possibilities for addressing these issues have been evaluated
Genomic evaluation

Joint session of Interbull and ICAR on June 18, 2008

- Excellent overview on development in various parts of the world
  - Using ~ 50,000 SNPs to estimate an EBV with a reliability that is significantly higher than parent average (standard so far for young animals) but also significantly lower than a progeny test bull (standard for bulls that are widely used)

- Use of this information
  - Some countries plan to incorporate this into their official evaluations → market bulls on GEBV widely
  - Some countries use this for a much better preselection of young bulls for entering progeny test
Genomic evaluation II

- Interbull SAC has addressed the arising questions and gave a written and oral report for this meeting
  - Discussed in our business meeting June 19

- IB SC decided
  - To have a workshop in February 2009 on use of genomic information in genetic evaluations
    - National level
    - International level

- Created a task force of experts in this field
  - Prepare workshop
  - Address this topic scientifically
Strategic plan

Interbull is working on a strategic plan to accommodate the different developments:

- Use of molecular genetic evaluation data
- More complex selection strategies
- How to intensify contact with end users of Interbull evaluations
- Data recording
- Inhouse versus outsourced activities
- ...


Conclusions

- Very successful meeting in Niagara falls
  - Interbull thanks the organisers

- Thank you for your attention

P : G = 2 : 3