Animal Data Recording

June 2008
Activities since 2006

• **Establishment of a working group:**
  – S Harding (Holstein UK - UK)
  – D Koorn (NRS BV - Netherlands)
  – N Wirtz (VIT - Germany)

• **Establishment a draft working programme to meet the terms of references:**
  – To provide a single guideline, primarily for the electronic format of data relating to animals
  – To assist in the formation of a common data dictionary

• **Contact and coordination**

• **Meeting in June 2008**
• At international level a lot of organisations deal with similar activities:
  – World Holstein Federation
  – ISO
  – UNCEFACT
  – CEN
  – ...
• Within ICAR several SC or WG have similar activities for a limited scope in relation with their activities
Though to facilitative data exchange were a real issue!!!...

- The major part of the problems find their solution at national level.
- Apart specific circumstances, few countries, limited and precise demand, there is little input from international organisations for many reasons:
  - A lot of time is wasted because of the difficulty of mutual understanding
  - Objectives are often too wide, not well defined and do not meet the needs of industry,
  - Establish and maintain data dictionary and messages require a large amount of work which is difficult to funded
  - Lack of business expertise resulting in an too important contribution from academic people and TIC technicians
  - Intellectual property issues
Recommendation n°1

Because of:
- the context
- the difficulty for an international organisation to produce something relevant,

ICAR should renounce to establish data dictionary and electronic format.
Recommendation n°2

• Data definition, codifications and list of contents should be established at the level of the existing ICAR wg or sc.

• For syntax issues, when it is required, WG and SC should refer primarily to the current ISO standards.
Recommendation n°3

ICAR could bring a valuable contribution to its members, even with limited means, in the field of animal data exchange and relevant technologies by:

- Arranging periodical surveys among its members about these issues
- Reporting about the activities of the international standards setters
- Being a sentinel of risk and opportunities
- Arranging open meeting during the general assembly about, based on presentation, open discussion rather than on formal papers
Recommendation n° 4

- According these proposals the ‘Animal data recording’ working group should be discarded.
- A task force should be established, consisting in a network of experienced people from member organisations.
Next steps

- If ICAR follow the previous recommendations:
  - the task force should be enlarged to a limited number of people from other continents than Europe,
  - The first meeting of the task force will take place in 2009 in order to prepare the open meeting of 2010
  - The survey will be organised in 2009
  - The agenda of the 2010 open meeting could consist at least:
    - Results from the survey.
    - Report about the activities of international standard setters.
    - What news from member organisation and from ICAR SC and WG.
Thank you for your attention...