Report of the Working Group on

PERFORMANCE RECORDING OF DAIRY SHEEP

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Berlin, Germany, 23 May 2014
Working Group Members

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Meetings of the WG
29 May 2012 in Cork (9 participants)
20 May 2014 in Berlin (20 participants)

Joint meeting with goats group: very successful

39th ICAR Session, Berlin, Germany, 2014
Yearly enquiry on-line

Green: ICAR countries having submitted data to the database in 2010-2011

Red: ICAR countries

- Booklet with raw data

11 submissions in 2012-2013 (decreasing !)

Remind regularly the countries

- Biennial report (tables and figures) for the years 2012-2013 available on the web

39th ICAR Session, Berlin, Germany, 2014
What did milk recording in sheep represent in 2013?

- 1,198,000 ewes in official milk recording (not specified) + 536,000 in D recording (France only)

- Italy, Spain, France: 89%
New version of the guidelines approved in Berlin

- Include udder morphology as an optional recording
  
  Purpose: to be informative (and not normative) = general principle, different traits that could be scored, examples of scoring tables

- Quality assurance for AC method
  
  Propose procedure for checking when deviant situations

- Harmonize, update, clarify
  
  ICAR stamp → Certificate of Quality
  Remove the word rules

- Linguistic reviewing
Session S2 dairy sheep and goats

⇒ Berlin, Friday 23 May

⇒ 9 presentations

From 7 countries
5 dairy sheep
3 goats
1 sheep and goats

⇒ Large range of issues

From milk recording to genomic evaluation,
through health projects and breeding programs

Thanks to the German organization to have permitted
to add this session in the program!

39th ICAR Session, Berlin, Germany, 2014
New issue to be addressed

- **Use of on-farm electronic milk meters:**

  How to use data from electronic milk meters?

  Are there (or not) limitations of their use according to the configuration of milking installation?

  Share experience between countries

  Sampling: which feasibility in small ruminants milking routines?

  **Cooperation with the SC recording devices**