

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON MILK RECORDING OF SHEEP

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
Niagara Falls - USA 16 – 20 June 2008

36th ICAR Session, Niagara Falls, USA, 2008

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Working Group Members

J.M. Astruc		FRANCE	(Chairperson)
F. Barillet		FRANCE	
A. Carta	(new)	ITALY	
M. Fioretti		ITALY	
E. Gootwine		ISRAEL	
D. Kompan		SLOVENIA	
F.J. Romberg		GERMANY	
E. Ugarte	(new)	SPAIN	

Meetings of the WG  6 June 2006
17 June 2008

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Terms of reference : **main items**

Prepare updates for relevant appendices of the International Agreement of Recording Practices	▪ Guidelines No emendation this year
Advise Board and Secretary General	
Prepare & analyze survey	▪ Yearly enquiry
Stimulate new developments and report on new equipment, procedures and methods	
Co-operation with relevant WG, SC and TF of ICAR	▪ Cooperation within ICAR
Keep contact with non ICAR organizations or persons in the field of competence	▪ Contact with non-ICAR organization in the dairy sheep field
Report on the activities ... Communication	

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Yearly enquiry on-line



From May 2006

Follow and stimulate ICAR recommendations

Provide official figures to ICAR

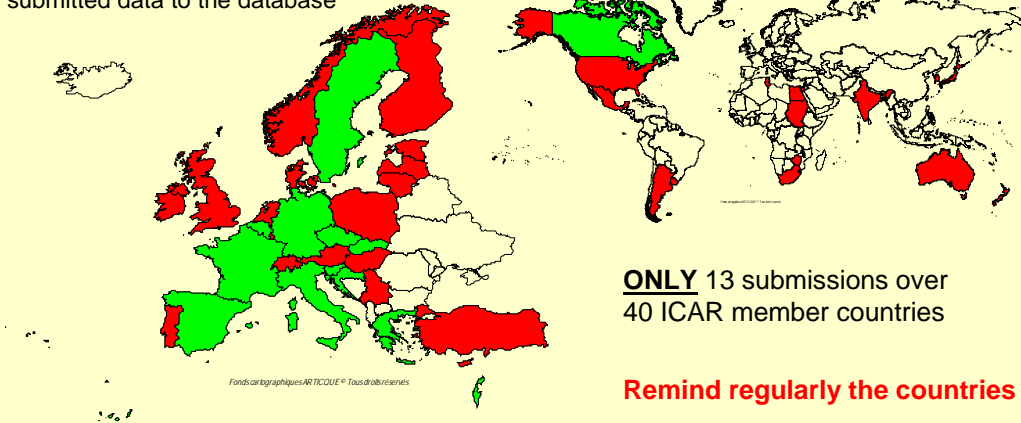
Biennial report (first report in 2008 available on the ICAR site)

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Yearly enquiry on-line

Green : ICAR countries having submitted data to the database



ONLY 13 submissions over 40 ICAR member countries

Remind regularly the countries

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Simplification of Milk quality recording

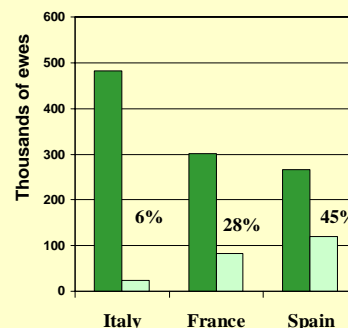
HIGH COST OF RECORDING IN SHEEP ...

... SIMPLIFIED STRATEGIES OF RECORDING

- Only 21% of the recorded ewes are submitted to qualitative recording
- In France & Italy, only half the test-days are sampled (3/6 per ewe)

- **Relevant for genetic purposes**
- **But not compatible with a too low accuracy of measures**

Italy, France & Spain represent **90% of all the recorded dairy sheep** in ICAR member countries



■ Ewes in official milk recording
□ Ewes with samplings/analysis

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Co-operation within ICAR

⇒ SC on Recording Devices

Before 2006	2006	2007 - 2008
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No device tested/agreed for sheep

First meters tested in sheep

1 meter passed ICAR tests

Are the guidelines relevant for sheep ?

▪ Requirements are relevant for sheep and do not have to be relaxed.

▪ Separate approval for goats & sheep

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Co-operation within ICAR

⇒ WP on On-farm Milk Analysis

- Participation at the Working Party (Roma meeting on 17 November 2007)
- Milk analysis : same issue than for recording devices : analysis must be accurate enough, in order to compensate the low number of measures

⇒ WG on Milk Recording in Goats

Crossed participation at both WG

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Conclusion

- Guidelines : no emendation this year
- Dairy sheep on-line enquiry : report of 2008 available on the ICAR site and in the report of the group
- Co-operation within ICAR : Recording and analysis devices : keeping enough accuracy to be relevant with simplification of the recording designs and size of the flocks.