



ICAR Newsletter

July 2010

International Committee
for Animal Recording



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UFFE LAURITSEN - NEW PRESIDENT OF ICAR

The ICAR Board at its meeting held on 4 June in Riga, Latvia, elected Uffe Lauritsen from Danish Agricultural Advisory Service a new president of ICAR. He was elected member of the Board in 2003 and re-elected in 2010. He served for seven years as a Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Recording Devices and Vice –President of ICAR .

A WORD FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

Once again I would like to thank for the honour it is to be chosen by colleagues to sit at the end of the table.

The change of chair from Neil to me does not mean a lot of major changes, as the whole Board supported the topics and timeframe in the plan for the coming years.

Though it is obvious with a new person in charge from another country, another part of the world and with another background, there will be some correction of targets. Our whole industry is moving fast, and therefore we must be prepared to evaluate at any time, and in some cases also adjust to follow our members and serve them as they can expect.

Starting my new office, I intend to address more directly issues related to data handling, data exchange and data coordination at farm, national and international levels. This includes data ownership and the right conditions of the use of data. From ICAR we have no intention of ruling this field, but we need to investigate some details, to ensure that the interest of our members are well looked after. We are aware that there are other national legislations in the field, but this should not prevent us from getting in touch with details.

Another issue which requires more attention is the present structure, terms of reference and activities of the ICAR technical bodies. Discussions and reviews that took place during the Riga biennial session indicated that programs and activities of some working groups require a more in depth analysis which might result in their closure or re/orientation.



Uffe Lauritsen, the new ICAR President elected in Riga



Janis Duklavs, Minister of Agriculture of Latvia, welcoming participants.

The Board has over the last 2 years discussed several ways to modernize the fee structure. The current principle is from the time where we had only one member from each country, and does not reflect the situation now. It is very important for the Board that a new model will not result in dramatic changes for the individual member, and it is urgent for us to inform that the change is not at any way linked to a search for more funding. It will as a total be neutral.

37th BIENNIAL SESSION, RIGA, LATVIA

Functional facilities, excellent organization and warm hospitality of the Latvian Organizing Committee and the staff of the Latvian Agricultural Data Center - in addition to the themes of meetings and presentations - made the 37th ICAR Biennial Session one of the most successful event of ICAR activities and a pleasant meeting for three hundred sixty eight participants from forty three countries.

Latvian Minister of Agriculture opened the Session

Mr. Janis Duklavs, Minister of Agriculture of Latvia, opened the 37th ICAR Biennial Session and welcomed all participants and wished them pleasant stay in his country and successful and fruitful work. He underlined the importance of the animal sector in the Latvian agriculture and benefits of international cooperation for animal industry, professional organizations, state bodies and farmers. Ministry of Agriculture of Latvia supports ICAR and actively participates in ICAR programs and implements its guidelines in animal identification, recording and evaluation, for which it has been awarded with the ICAR Special Stamp and the Certificate of Quality.

Main themes and presentations

Over 75 presentations dealt with new technology developments and methods in animal identification, recording and evaluation. Participants have shown particular interest for results of studies and reviews undertaken by Sub-Committee INTERBULL in the use of genomic for

evaluation of breeding values of dairy bulls, systems for on-farm milk recording and analysis and new equipments and devices presented by manufacturers at the exhibition and at the workshop 'Manufacturers showcase'.

All presentations are available at the ICAR web site at: http://www.icar.org/Documents/Riga_2010/ppt/President_Report.pdf, while Proceedings will be published in the ICAR Technical Series and made available at the ICAR web site.

ICAR General Assembly

The General Assembly of ICAR was held on 2 June 2010 in Riga, Latvia. It received the President's Report and report of the Secretary General. The Assembly approved the 2009 End Year Financial Statement of Accounts and 2011 budget. The Assembly approved changes and amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly and to the procedure for approval of ICAR Guidelines. ICAR By-laws regulating procedure and terms of reference of the ICAR Board have been transformed in internal rules of the Board. The General Assembly elected Uffe Lauritsen from Denmark, Kaivo Ilves from Estonia, Pierre-Louis Gastinel from France, Reinhard Reents from Germany and Jay Mattison from USA members of the Board. Jozef Kucera from the Czech Republic and Neil Petreny from Canada were elected ICAR Inspectors.

Amended By-laws have been published on the ICAR web site at: www.icar.org/Documents/Statutes/By Laws after Riga 2010.pdf

Message from the out-going President

Neil Petreny at on 4 June 2010 left the post of the President of ICAR after four year service. In his address to the General Assembly he indicated that future priorities should focus on quality of services in recently emerged fields such as expanded on-farm data and data transfer standards.

Future success will greatly depend on responsiveness to needs and requests of the ICAR membership through strengthened ICAR infrastructure necessary to support work of over 100 volunteers in some 19 technical bodies. He thanked members of the Board, chairpersons and members of ICAR Sub-Committees, working groups and Task Forces for their cooperation



Neil Petreny, former ICAR President, acknowledged for his work, during the Official Dinner.

and contribution in attaining ICAR objects and to their employers, Members of ICAR for supporting voluntary work of their staff and the ICAR Secretariat staff.

The full text of the President's Report submitted by Neil Petreny is available on the ICAR web site at: www.icar.org/Documents/Riga_2010/ppt/Secretary_Report.pdf.

Accomplishments and the future focus

Andrea Rosati, Secretary General of ICAR, in his report to the General Assembly illustrated some of the main accomplishments, not detailed by Neil Petreny, in the period between the two ICAR sessions, in particular:

- Manufacturers showcase as a regular at ICAR biennial sessions.
- Establishment of the Milk Analysis Sub-Committee.
- Development of Identification Sub-Committee.
- Introduction of the ICAR Certificate of Quality as to replace the Special Stamp.

The emphasis in the future work is on improved quality of services based on needs expressed by Members and Associate Members in response to a service questionnaire sent to all Members and Associate Members, speed of approval of devices and expanded scope of the Certificate of Quality.

The report of the Secretary General is available on the ICAR web site at: www.icar.org/Documents/Riga_2010/ppt/new/President_Report.pdf

ICAR BOARD

New officers of ICAR

The ICAR Board elected Uffe Lauritsen, President of ICAR, Jay Mattison and Daniel Abernethy Vice-Presidents. Reinhard Reents was elected Secretary and Pierre-Louis Gastinel Treasurer. The Board nominated Kaivo Ilves new Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Animal Identification and Martin Burke new Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Recording Devices.



Daniel Abernethy (above) and Jay Mattison (below), elected Vice-Presidents of ICAR.



Kaivo Ilves (above), new Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Animal Identification and Martin Burke (below), new Chairman of the Sub-Committee for Recording Devices.



Genomic analysis in estimation of breeding values of dairy bulls

The ICAR Board upon the recommendation of the INTERBULL Steering Committee approved the genomic estimation of breeding values of dairy bulls as a standard ICAR method. Guidelines and standards for the use of genomic estimation will be published in ICAR and INTERBULL web sites.

ICAR AWARDS

The farewell dinner offered by the Latvian hosts for participants at the 37th ICAR Biennial Session was accompanied by a ceremony in which the out-going president of ICAR delivered ICAR awards.

Distinguished Certificate Award

Pierre Billon (Institut de l'Elevage, France), Louise Marguin (Institut de l'Elevage, France) and Bill Montgomery (Animal Evaluation Unit, New Zealand) received the ICAR Distinguished Certificate Award after terminating their terms of office, their longstanding association and the volunteer work in the ICAR technical bodies.



Ole Klejs Hansen receiving the ICAR President's Award.

Distinguished Service Award

Dick Koorn (NRS BV, Dutch Organisation for Cattle Improvement) and Dainis Rungulis (Ministry of Agriculture, Latvia) have received the ICAR Distinguished Service Award for their contribution to the attainment of ICAR goals.

President's Award

Ole Klejs Hansen (Danish Cattle Federation), former Chairman of the ICAR Sub-Committee for Animal Identification, received the most prestigious ICAR Award, the President's Award for his services to the animal sector in his country and his long-standing association with ICAR. As a chairman of the Sub/Committee for Identification he had greatly contributed to the establishment and consolidation of the role of ICAR as a standard setting association in this field and as the ISO registration authority.

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