France’s strategy for a more profitable beef & sheep industry

Session B1 : Information for Profitable Beef & Sheep Farming - Strategy & Information Services

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Introduction and context

France is an important bovine and ovine meat producer in Europe

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Beef cattle</th>
<th>Meat sheep</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of suckling females</td>
<td>4 100 000</td>
<td>4 050 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of breeders</td>
<td>102 000 (&gt; 5 cows)</td>
<td>52 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meat production (million tons)</td>
<td>1,591 (1,383 beef meat)</td>
<td>0,102</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rank in EU</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>3rd</td>
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French genetic programs in beef cattle and sheep

(FGE 2011)

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<tr>
<td>Nb of progeny tested males / year</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nb of evaluated young males / year</td>
<td>3853 (2500)</td>
<td>2254 (290)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nb of females in the recording scheme</td>
<td>281 735 7%</td>
<td>937 915 21%</td>
</tr>
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Management of French data

French genetic organizations are developed an information system (SNIG) for each species:

- To centralize all data to manage genetic programs,
- To share data between all organizations,
- To modernize the database management system.

For cattle
- only one database called SIG

For sheep
- two genetic information systems
- OVALL is the genetic information system for meat sheep
The genetic information system for cattle = SIG
The genetic information system for meat sheep = OVALL
French strategy for the future

The main goals are:

1. to reform all SNIG in a common national genetic information system: in order to simplify the management and to expect to save money

2. to exchange even more with other databases: in order to valorise the maximum of the collected data which have an interest

3. to have a common system for all ruminants to exchange with all farmers: in order to develop the automatic exchanges with all breeder’s software

4. to develop custom built services for hosting particular data: in order to develop new collects of data
To reform all SNIG in a common genetic information system

All evolutions are made in order to establish later a common information system for all ruminants

For example in sheep:

On-station evaluation of the young rams: we created a common part between the genetic information systems of dairy sheep and OVALL. This common database use the software of OVALL but can manage the young rams of the dairy programs.

for example for all ruminants:

Management of all EBVs: the aim is to manage for example EBVs in beef cattle and in meat sheep with the same method ...
Exchange even more with other databases

Example: Project in 2012 for the management of the small ruminant traceability

Slaughterhouses

OPCOM.

Breeders can delegate

Breeders

I&T MNIOC

Exchanges or the same physical entity table

Papers or electronic exchange of data

XML

To manage herds

To valorise: ex. mortality of lambs

XML

Common part

Identities

Movements

breeders

BDNI/SIMOC

 OVINFOS
To have a common system to exchange with all farmers = EDEL

For the livestock management:
- Exchanges using XML standard and FTP account
- Just for the data of bovine I&T, using an old standard (VSE, in ASCII format)

To valorise, to improve the collects, To develop new collects of data

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- Exchanges using XML standard and FTP account
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To valorise, to improve the collects, To develop new collects of data
To develop custom built services for hosting particular data

- We are working about genomic evaluations
- And FGE and the French genetic organizations want to develop collection of new data
  - But all the new data are not shared between all the genetic organizations
  - So French organizations need a custom built services for hosting particular data

A custom built services for hosting particular data:
- using the same standards with the genetic information system
- validating the data with all the data of the genetic information system
- having a good management of access rights
- The challenge is to facilitate the new genetic evaluations and the management of these data depending on the agreements between the organizations

Ex. sanitary data
The arrival of new technologies in computing or in genetics (like genomics) imposes some evolutions in the strategy of FGE

French genetic organizations need to develop valorisations of all interesting data collected in other databases in order to increase the profitability

To achieve this, FGE want:
- to develop exchanges between databases, with the breeder’s software
- to built a common genetic information system for all ruminants
- to keep collective genetic databases, but FGE need to offer a solution to all the genetic organizations for the collect of new private data

Especially for the beef cattle, FGE must have a reflexion about the management of genotypes
Thank you for your attention