

ICAR

International Committee on Animal Recording



**Organisation and activities,
especially in Animal Identification**

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What is ICAR



- International Committee on Animal Recording
- ICAR is a Non-Profit International Non-Governmental Organization (NINGO)
- The world-wide organization for standardization of animal recording, identification and productivity evaluation
- ICAR secretariat is located in Rome, Italy

Missions of ICAR (1)



- Providing:
 - Definitions and standards for measurement of traits of economic importance
 - Information and services to help member organizations to develop, operate and manage their business
 - Information and services which promote benefits of recording and evaluation, thereby increasing the demand for the services provided by ICAR member organizations

Missions of ICAR (2)



- Providing:
 - Guidelines which facilitate the provision of services
 - Standards facilitating the exchange of information by member organizations both nationally and internationally
 - Body through which member organizations can work together to achieve shared objectives

ICAR History (1)



- First dairy performance recordings in USA (1883 for Holstein cattle)
- First routine milk recording in Denmark (1895)
- Early attempt to internationally standardize milk recording (Paris meeting, 1923)
- European Milk/Butter Recording Committee (Rome, 1951)

ICAR History (2)



- Introduced the milkability (1963)
- The first attempt to introduce computerized systems in the early 60s
- Starting testing precision of recording devices for milk recording (1968)
- Other types of animal production recording introduced (Beef cattle, 1982)

ICAR History (3)



- Interbull became operative (1988)
- Early 90s ICAR began working on other species, such as sheep, goats and dairy buffalo
- Early 90s ISO and ICAR started developing standards for RFID and approval system for RFID devices to be used for animal identification

ICAR Today



- 68 full member organizations from 45 countries
- 7 associate members (manufacturers etc.)
- ICAR does technical activities and developments through 4 sub-committees, 9 working groups and 6 task forces
- About 100 technicians work voluntarily to fulfil ICAR missions

ICAR Work Structure



ICAR Board

Subcommittees

- Animal Identification
- Interbull
- Milk Analysis
- Recording Devices

Working Groups

- Animal Recording Data
- Artificial Insemination & Relevant Technologies
- Beef Performance
- Conformance Recording
- Genetic Analysis
- Functional Traits
- Lactation Calculation Methods
- Milk Recording in Goats
- Milk Recording in Sheep

Task Forces

- Animal Fibre
- Developing Countries
- Interbeef
- Milk Recording Practices
- Parentage Recording
- Pig Recording

ICAR Sub-Committees



- **Interbull**
 - Calculating routine international genetic evaluations for cattle. Over 25 countries currently subscribe to this service.
 - Meetings, workshops, surveys, presentations and publications.
 - Developing methods for generating international genetic evaluations.
 - Advice and assistance relating to the genetic evaluation of cattle.

ICAR Sub-Committees



- Recording devices
 - Minimum requirements for accuracy of recording devices
 - Test and approve recording devices
 - Guidelines for maintenance and accuracy of recording devices

ICAR Sub-Committees



- Animal Identification
 - Develop international standards of identification systems
 - Test and approve identification devices
 - Registration of manufacturers and approved identification devices

Subcommittee Members



- Members proposed by member organisations
- Mostly animal husbandry specialists working with I&R
- How can a hand full of such people set standards ??
- External technical expertise

Members, subcommittee



- Current members come from:
 - USA, Australia, France, Germany, UK, Denmark
- International standards require global view
- Looking for members also from other parts of the world:
 - Asia, South America, Africa
 - Development countries

External expertise



- Electronic identification devices:
 - Participation in ISO Working Groups on EID
 - Experts from ICAR approved test centres
- Plastic tags:
 - Experience from national test programmes
 - Especially inspired by French test programme
 - Experts from ICAR approved test centres

The process



- ICAR SC observes agricultural and industry aspects of interest
- ICAR SC builds in cooperation with experts and industry proposals for ICAR test protocol and approval systems
- ICAR General Assembly approves SC proposals.
- Decision of Full ICAR members






Test EID devices

Test category	Kind of test		
Performance ↑	Application-/Field test (for any kind/combination of identification devices)		
	Extended laboratory test (for any kind/combination of identification devices)		
Conformity ↓	Laboratory test (predominant)		
	Transponder conformity (with granting of manufacturer code)	Reader conformity	Other ID-devices conformity



Tested devices so far

Inject	Bolus	Eartag
		
53	35	81

www.icar.org



Manufacturer codes

List of Manufacturer codes

The General Identification Sub-Committee has launched the "ICAR performance evaluation and approval procedure for official permanent identification devices (conventional permanent plastic ear tags)" [for more information, click here](#)

Click on the thumbnail to enlarge the photo. The address of the manufacturers can be found [here](#)

No.	Manufacturer	Manufacturer Code	Product Code	Technology	Usage	Description	Date of approval	Thumbnail
1	Dezhnev Farming / Digital Angel Corporation	805	805001	PDA-B	Inject	Cylindrical, glass encapsulated 3.2 mm in diameter, 12.5 mm in length	November 2008	
2	Dezhnev Farming / Digital Angel Corporation	805	805002	PDA-B	Tag	Diplo like shade with shaft, black, 28.5 mm in diameter, 1.7 mm in height, 10.5 mm int. dia.	November 2007	
3	Dezhnev Farming / Digital Angel Corporation	805	805003	PDA-B	Inject	Cylindrical, glass encapsulated 3.2 mm in diameter,	April 1998	

New design of webpage



- More than 170 products
- More than 75 manufacturers
- All in one predefined list
- New webpage with all products
- Sort and search facilities
- User friendly

ICAR relations in RFID



- ISO and ICAR advising EU Commission about guidelines and approvals of RFID devices for sheep and goats
- Contacts to US and Canada authorities and organisations about ID devices
- ICAR in contact with OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health)
- Make activities of ICAR within animal ID and traceability known by authorities

ICAR participation



- FAO, OIE and ICAR workshop on **Animal ID and traceability** with 18 countries from South East Asia (July 2007, Sri Lanka)
- FAO and ICAR workshop on **Development of animal identification and recording systems for veterinary surveillance and livestock development** in countries of Central and Eastern Europe

The aim of ICAR



- To provide test and approval of ID-devices to benefit users worldwide
- Users are animal keepers, service providers and authorities
- ICAR's tests and approvals should be at a level of very high acceptance by users worldwide

Thank you
for your attention



Ole Klejs Hansen
Chairman
ICAR Subcommittee on Animal Identification