## **ICAR**

International Committee on Animal Recording



Organisation and activities,
especially in Animal Identification
Ole Klejs Hansen, ICAR

## 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

### **Subcommittees**

- Animal Identification
- Interbull
- Milk Analysis
- Recording Devices

### **Working Groups**

- Animal Recording Data
- Artificial Insemination & Relevant Technologies
- Beef Performance
- Conformance Recording
- Genetic AnalysisFunctional 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 wiev
- Looking for members also from other parts of the world:
  - Asia, South America, Africa
  - Development countries

## External expertise

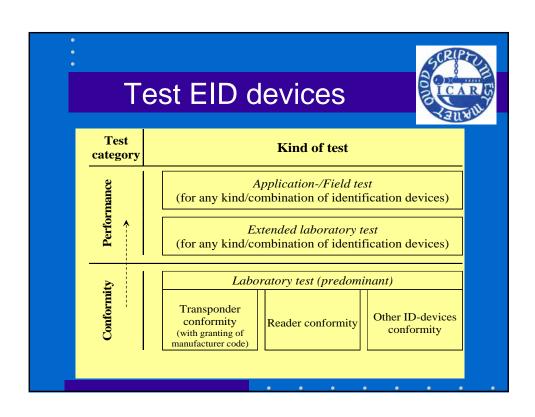


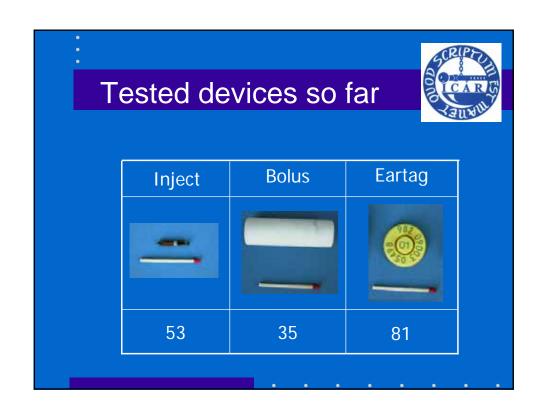
- Electronic identification devices:
  - Participation in ISO Working Groups on EID
  - Experts from ICAR approved test centres
- Plastic tags:
  - Experience from national test programmes
  - Especially inspired by French test programme
  - Experts from ICAR approved test centres

## 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







# 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 IDdevices 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