

Parentage Recording Working Group

Presented by Suzanne Harding

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Working Group Members

Charl Hunlun	(SA Stud Book)	SA
David Hewitt	(World Holstein Friesian Federation)	
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Suzan Tellez	(Alpaca Society)	US
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Meeting held in Riga on 1st June 2010



Original Terms of Reference

1. Review current procedures for parentage recording
2. Define possible alternatives for optimal parentage recording
3. Possible tools for measuring the quality of recording
4. How to share results on this topic?



Current State of the Terms of Reference

- Review current procedures for parentage recording
 - survey results ✓
- Define possible alternatives for optimal parentage recording
 - SNP – the optimal standard SNPs will be defined by ISAG to ICAR Genetic Analysis working group ✓
- Possible tools for measuring the quality of parentage recording
 - data validation and parentage verification.
 - Auditing of the process.
 - What does the group consider to be a reasonable level of error? Needs to be defined.
- How to share results on this topic?
 - ICAR (website)
 - Members of ICAR, WHFF, etc ✓



Conclusions from meeting

- Terms of Reference item 3
 - The group needs to ask / answer questions that we have raised in our discussions and discuss by email.
 - The starting point will be the current guidelines.
 - The recent Survey will be used to reference suggestions for guideline revision.



Conclusions from meeting

- Example questions
 - Guidelines changed to make more explicit the percentage of animals that should be randomly tested, and what risk groups should be used
 - Guidelines to suggest what percentage herds should be tested
 - Guidelines on what the % error rate should be
 - Illumina and / or Affimetrics only manufacturing chips? Can data be compared between the two?
 - Will smaller herd books have problems creating country keys? Will they have to remain on microsatellites?
 - Currently it is implicit that breeding societies should be creating their own country / breed key?
 - What benefits and problems will genomics bring to breed organisations?
 - Farmers will use SNP for parentage regardless of ICAR / ISAG timelines



Conclusions from meeting

- Questions for the ICAR board –
 - SNP usage needs to be standardised and guidelines written – this needs to be done ASAP. Do the board want this group to look at this as an additional Terms of Reference or does this fall under the remit of the Genetic Analysis WG? Would this include genomic selection? If so the group needs more experts!
 - Should ICAR adopt ISAG accreditation of labs as the standard, without ratification?
 - Should ICAR have a group responsible for the promotion of the importance of animal recording and standardising proceeding.
 - Auditors should meet bi-annually to discuss standards and have a guideline and learn from each others experiences.



Thank you for your
attention

