

Data collection methods used in the Beef Data and Genomics Programme (BDGP) and the development of Restful API's for recording herd data.

Craig Vigors¹

¹*ICBF, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co. Cork*

Abstract

The Beef Data and Genomics Programme is a scheme approved by the EU to reduce greenhouse gases caused by cattle in Ireland by breeding more sustainable and profitable animals.

The BDGP requires participants to complete various surveys on animals in their herd, such as the docility of the animals, calf birth size, calf vigour, dam milk-ability, and the departure reasons of the sires and dams that have left the herd.

Various recording mechanisms have been made available to record this data by ICBF which includes scannable paper forms, data recording screens for mobile and desktop devices, and a simple API system to allow data to be submitted from 3rd party software applications.

ICBF are also developing a Restful API system that will allow JSON formatted data to be transferred between the ICBF database and other systems over the internet. Authentication is provided via the transfer of tokens using the OAuth 2.0 protocol.

This system will allow for real-time read and write access to the farmers' data stored in the ICBF database and will be made available to 3rd party software providers for the benefit of the Irish farmer.

Keywords: data recording, bdgp, api