Group Report for the Dairy Cattle Milk Recording WG

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<th>Date of report</th>
<th>23/5/2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>SC/WG/TF name</td>
<td>Dairy Cattle Milk Recording WG</td>
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<td>Chair</td>
<td>Pavel Bucek</td>
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| Members (names)| Pavel Bucek  
|                | Kai Kuwan  
|                | Juho Kyntäjä  
|                | Kevin Haase  
|                | Carlos Trejo  
|                | Yaniv Lavon  
|                | Xavier Bourrigan  
|                | Friedrich Reinhard  
|                | Filippo Miglior  
| New members:   | Danuta Radzio – membership valid from 19th May 2017  
|                | Franz-Josef Auer – membership valid from 19th May 2017  
| Members since | Karl Zottl was appointed new CEO at Noe Genetik, assuming a wider range of responsibilities and therefore impacting on his ability to represent the group.  
| October 2016   |  
|                | Japie van der Westhuizen was appointed general manager of his organisation and also takes on new responsibilities.  
|                | On behalf of the working group, the chairman would like to thank Karl and Japie for their excellent work in service of the group. Both were leading experts in the WG and their input was always valuable.  
| Meeting(s) since | Last:  
| October 2016   | The last WG activity report included meetings until 5/8/2016. This report covers meetings after this date until 23/5/2017, when this report was finished.  
|                | Face-to-face meetings:  
|                | • 18/8/2016 Ad-hoc group meeting in Prague  
| Next:          | Future meetings (plans as of May 2017 will be updated):  
|                | • Face-to-face meeting in Scotland, ICAR 2017  
|                | • Meeting of the ad-hoc group in Prague in September  
|                | • Regular videoconferences of the whole working group |
**Whole working group videoconferences:**
- 14/9/2016
- 24/01/2017
- 23/03/2017
- 24/03/2017 (members who did not attend meeting on 23/03/2017)
- 18/05/2017 Last whole WG before Scotland

**Ad-hoc group or individual videoconferences between the chairman and individual member(s):**
- 06/10/2016, 12/10/2016, 18/10/2016, 24/11/2016, 25/11/2016, 09/01/2017, 08/02/2017, 10/02/2017, 10/02/2017, 15/03/2017, 16/03/2017, 11/04/2017, 12/04/2017, 10/05/2017, 17/05/2017, 18/05/2017, 19/05/2017

**Priorities addressed since October 2016 (last report)**

This overview summarises the Dairy Cattle Milk Recording WG’s priority projects, including whole working group projects, projects with limited involvement of the working group and individual projects.

The WG completed the new version of the ICAR Guidelines Section 2.1 for approval by the General Assembly. ICAR Members were invited to view the document and leave comments for the secretariat up until 10th June. The pending documents will be discussed and voted on during the General Assembly (14 June 2017). This work is now complete.

**On-going improvements to the ICAR Guidelines, particularly with regard to 24-hour and accumulated milk yield calculations.**

Good progress was made. The main goal is to ensure updates make content more customer-oriented, clearer and more practical.

**The WG undertook two new projects:**
- Plausibility checks project (ongoing)
- 24-hour and accumulated milk yield calculations (ongoing)
The plausibility checks projects will be presented in New Zealand and the calculations project will be presented in either New Zealand or Prague. TBC.

**Sensor Device Task Force.** Karl Zottl was a member of the Sensors Device Task Force. He will be replaced by a new representative from the DCMRWG.

**The WG has carried out new research on sensors.** Projects relating to in-line analysis, AfILab and statistical analysis will be discussed during the WG meeting in Prague (September 2017) and presented in New Zealand.

**Improvements to 24-hour calculations – priority project**
- Method by Liu et al. (2000). Results will be presented in New Zealand (ongoing).
- Galesloot method (research in France).

**Multidisciplinary analysis – phenotypes for novel traits (individual project, results will be published in Scotland)**
Designing a reference population to accelerate genetic gains for novel traits in Canadian Holstein. The DCMRWG is also planning further multidisciplinary projects.

**Future innovations to the ICAR Guidelines** (e.g. individual qualification of lactation in France, Brian Wickham’s proposal on developing useful calculation tools, etc.).

**ICAR Certificate of Quality Expert Advisory Group.** Most WG members are also part of this group. Juho Kyntäjä from Dairy Cattle Milk Recording WG is new chairman of this group.

**Advisory services – resolving practical issues affecting ICAR members**

**Promoting ICAR and WG abroad (e.g. training in Iceland and Poland, etc.)**

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<th>Priorities for next year</th>
<th>Priorities will be updated during the WG meeting in Scotland. This list of priorities is subject to change after the meeting.</th>
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<td>Make significant progress on improvements to 24-hour and accumulated milk yield calculations. Discuss impacts and practical aspects of calculations in detail.</td>
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<td>Complete the plausibility checks and calculations projects with a view to presenting in New Zealand (or Prague).</td>
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<td>Session and workshop for Prague 2019 organised by the Dairy Cattle Milk Recording WG. WG is planning a wide range of projects for Prague, including some interdisciplinary projects.</td>
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Complete research into 24-hour calculation methods for presentation in New Zealand:
- Method by Liu et al. (2000) – presented in New Zealand (ongoing)
- Galesloot method (research in France).

Discuss improvements to the Guidelines, how to make it more practical, clear and user-friendly. This applies especially to the new members of the DCMRWG.

Project on connections between milk yield production and health traits. We have already begun discussions on this project. We will resume discussion during our meeting in Prague (September 2017) where we will hopefully have significant results to present. We may collaborate with Christa Egger-Danner’s working group. To be confirmed once the schedule is updated and finalised.

Project on milk recording output and project quality management. Limited discussion to date. Discussion of completion turnarounds for both projects will be discussed.

Adding new milk recording technologies to the ICAR Guidelines, discussing AMS calculations used in Germany, milk recording projects specific to Central and Eastern Europe for ICAR in Prague 2019.

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<th>Issues the WG wishes the ICAR Board to consider</th>
<th>The WG is taking on a wider range of projects for and would be interested in organising a technical session and workshop in Prague 2019. This discussion will start before New Zealand and continue until Prague 2019.</th>
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