

Interbeef Workshop. Draft Minutes.

Edinburgh Tuesday 13th June 2017, Room Harris 1, International Convention Centre

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1 Welcome and Introduction

Andrew Cromie, Chairman of the Interbeef Working Group, and Eric Venot, Chairman of the Interbeef Technical Committee, welcomed everyone to the workshop. Andrew indicated that the objectives of the workshop was to identify priority work areas for Interbeef members in the future.

2 Individual Country Feedback.

Prior to the workshop, Andrew and Eric had forwarded a number of key questions which they had asked each country participant to complete.

A total of 8 countries were present and all had completed the requested material in advance of the workshop. The countries represented were as follows; (i) Australia, (ii) Germany, (iii) Denmark, Finland and Sweden, (iv) Ireland, (v) Great Britain and Northern Ireland, (vi) France, (vii) Switzerland and (viii) South Africa.

Each country then presented its own specific feedback (please see attached material for relevant details).

3 Identification of Priority work areas.

Based on the country specific feedback, a number of top priorities areas for further work were identified. These were as follows;

- New breeds, traits and countries.
- Validation of International EBV's.
- Standards/harmonisation around data recording.
- Integration of International EBV's within National evaluations.
- New traits of interest for the future.

It was decided to omit item 1 from further discussions within the smaller working groups as this was already being addressed through the proposed international research project involving Interbeef and ABRI-Breedplan-AGBU. Similarly, it was felt that item 2 would need considerable prior thought and discussion, due its very technical nature. It was agreed that this should be included as an agenda item for the TC to consider at their next meeting in Auckland.

The people attending were then asked to express their interest regarding which question they would like to address, from which the project teams and moderators were then identified.

These were as follows;

1. Integration of EBVs	2. Harmonisation of traits	3. New Traits
Moderator - Ross	Moderator – Japie	Moderator – Rob
Eric	Klement	Lubos
Maria	Eva	Alexis
Hugh	Svenja	Toine
Wolfgang	Laurent	Bianca
Karolina	Thomas	Sophie
Zdenka		
Emma		

Each of the groups was then asked to consider the relevant topic and come back with a list of the key issues to be addressed by Interbeef in the context of the question, including next steps to be taken.

4 Reporting Back.

Each group then reported back its key findings, a summary of which are included with this material.

5 Key Actions.

A number of key actions then arose from the reporting back session, which were then to be considered by the WG and TC, as well other relevant groups such as ICAR and Interbull. These included;

- A need for the TC to undertake relevant research to establish the best means of integrating international EBV's (from Interbeef) into national evaluations without the risk of any double-counting.
- A need for Interbeef to restart work on standards and harmonisation of trait recording. This work should be undertaken in consultation with ICAR, including other relevant ICAR working groups.

- A need for Interbeef to prioritise work in new traits, especially feed intake and meat eating quality as these are traits of increasing economic value in the future. Again this would should be undertaken in conjunction ICAR and other relevant ICAR working groups such as the Feed & Gas group.