Activities of the ICAR groups since Auckland 2018 and acknowledgments to the members of groups
ICAR activities have been made possible by the voluntary work of the members of the Sub-Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups and by the active support of their organisations that are hereby listed and warmly acknowledged.
SUB-COMMITTEES

Animal Identification
The main achievements in 2018 of the ID SC were:
• Reviewing and finalizing ICAR’s Field Testing Protocol for Animal Identification devices, focusing on device retention. Progressing the design of the relevant ICAR service.
• Reviewing the need to develop quality and environmental performance testing of UHF ear tags, in collaboration with ISO’s TC23-SC19-WG3 ‘Identification’.
• Planning the updating of Section 10 of the ICAR Guidelines. Topics to be reviewed in 2019 include: the ear tag applicator closing force, the colour staining of ear tags, and the length of the ear tags’ male pin.
• Planning a 2019 Ring Test for RFID devices among the accredited Test Centres
• Reviewing the Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee

COMPOSITION
• Jo Quigley, Integrity Systems Company Limited, Australia (Chairperson)
• Kaivo Ilves, Põllumajandusloomade Jõudluskontrolli AS, Estonia
• Folkert Onken, Deutscher Verband für Leistungs und Qualitätsprüfungen e.V, Germany
• Erik Rehben, Institut de l’Élevage, France
• Othón Reynoso Campos, SINIIGA, Sistema Nacional de Identificación Individual de Ganado en Mexico, Mexico

Interbull
Priorities of Interbull for 2018/2019:
1) Marketing of GenoEx-PSE, and expansion to other services:
• General information has been provided publicly.
• ICAR Accredited DNA Data Interpretation Organisations have been approached specifically
• No service fees for 2018 and 2019 have been charged for organisations signing up in 2018.
• 9 Service Users to date.
2) Maintain updated validation and International evaluation services, including conducting SNPMace feasibility project.
• SNPMace feasibility project started in May 2018 and is ongoing (end date November 2019).
3) Implementation of Interbull Centre’s role as EU Reference Centre
COMPOSITION

- Reinhard Reents, VIT, IT - Solutions for Animal Production, Germany (Chairperson)
- Gordon A. Doak, National Association of Animal Breeders/Certified Semen Services, USA
- Marija Klopcic, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Slovenia
- Sophie Mattalia, France Génétique Élevage INRA-SGQA, France
- Gert Pedersen Aamand, Nordisk Avelsvärdering Udknærsvej, Denmark
- Enrico Santus, Associazione Nazionale Allevatori Bovine della Razza Bruna, Italy
- Matthew Shaffer, DataGene Limited, Australia
- Brian van Doormaal, Lactanet, Canada
- Marco Winters, DairyCo, Agriculture & Horticulture Development Board, United Kingdom
- Philippe Trossat, Actalia / Actilait / Cecalait, France
- Frederic Dehareng, Laboratory of milk analysis of the Valorisation of Agricultural Products, Belgium
- Marina Gips, Central Milk Laboratory – ICBA, Israel
- Michel Grisé, Lactanet, Canada
- Amel Guellouz, Directorate of Genetic Improvement, (OEP), Tunisia
- Soren Hansen, Eurofins, Denmark
- John Rhoads, Eastern Laboratory Services, USA
- Christian Riede, LKV Rheinland-Pfalz / Saar, Germany
- Elezbieta Rybicka, Polish Fed. of Cattle Breeders and Dairy Farmers, Poland
- Dena Snidall, Cattle Information System (CIS), United Kingdom
- Harrie van den Bijgaart, Qlip B.V., The Netherlands
- Oscar Wenzel, Cooperinsem, Chile

Recording and Sampling Devices

The main achievements of the RSD SC in 2018 were:

- Addition of two new members to RSD-SC from Switzerland and Finland.
- Face-to-face meetings with manufacturers including Lely, DeLaval, SAC, Hokofarm, GEA, Dairymaster, Fullwood, Afimilk, SCR, Nedap, Boumatic, Pearson, and LMS.
- Launch of new web listing of certified devices and certified AMS-sampler combinations.
- Development of landing page for RSD-SC.
- Streamlined protocols for device testing and approvals.
• Phase I of testing effect of air admission (outside ISO specifications) on accuracy of milk recording and sampling devices.
• Streamlined approach for member and manufacturer annual reporting to ICAR RSD-SC. Reports under new system will be evaluated on 17 June 2019 at RSD-SC meeting.
• Contact with all manufacturers about purchase and application of ICAR labels for devices as outlined in the ICAR guidelines.

COMPOSITION
• Steven Sievert, National DHIA & DHIA Services, USA (Chairperson)
• Felix Adrion, Agroscope, Switzerland
• Richard Cantin, Lactanet, Canada
• Justin Frankfort, NMR, United Kingdom
• Alain Gastebled, IDELE, France
• Peter Huijsmans, Kwaliteitszorg Onderhoud Melkinstallaties (KOM), The Netherlands
• Kirsi Leppikorpi, ProAgria Keski-Pohjanmaa, Finland
• Jonas Persson, RYK, Danish Cattle Federation, Denmark
• Danuta Radzio, Polish Fed. of Cattle Breeders and Dairy Farmers, Poland
• Hubert Rothfuss, LKV Weser-Emare e.V., Germany
• Andrew Scott, LIC, New Zealand

TASK FORCE

Sensor Device
The main achievements of the SD TF in 2018 were:
• Development of summary of sensor devices in marketplace with classification my trait measured, technology and data usage. Live on ICAR website.
• Review and summary of characteristic reference measurements (gold standard for those traits where exists) for various data measurements (continues to evolve) – will be distributed to chairs for internal use after collection of additional performance criteria from manufacturers.
• Outreach to manufacturers – there is expressed interest from Dairymaster, Boumatic, Afimilk, SCR, Nedap.
• Development of data measurement structure to be used in ICAR guidelines.
• Planned development of ICAR coding system for all recording (meters, samplers, sensors) devices. Will reach out to Interbull for development and maintenance by ICAR.
• Language development for new section of the ICAR guidelines for SD overview – will need to be formatted by ICAR staff, endorsed by ICAR Board and then presented to General Assembly.
• Transition plan for conclusion of SD-TF and move work product to RSD-SC.

COMPOSITION
• Steven J. Sievert, National DHIA, USA
• Clément Allain, Institut de l’Elevage, France
• Franz Josef Auer, Landeskontrollverband Tirol, Austria
• Cecilia Bågenvik, DeLaval, Sweden
• Kees De Koning, Animal Sciences Group Wageningen UR, The Netherlands
• Christa Egger-Danner, ZuchtData EDV-Dienstleistungen Gmbh, Austria
• Uffe Lauritsen, Danish Agricultural Advisory Service, Denmark

• Reinhard Reents, VIT, IT, Germany
• Jeroen van den Ban, Lely International N.V., The Netherlands
• Harrie van den Bijgaart, Qlip B.V., The Netherlands
• Brian Wickham, ICAR Secretariat, Ireland

WORKING GROUPS

Animal Data Exchange
One of the tasks of the ADE WG was to conduct a survey with ADE stakeholders to assess status of ADE standards implementation and future plans. The survey was conducted in spring of 2019 and results will be shared during the ICAR meeting. Overall the message regarding implementation is very positive with none of the respondents indicating they will not implement any of the ADE standards. The technical working group has continued developing the REST API technical
aspects and will be presenting the proposal during the June ICAR meeting. Expansion of the data dictionary was put on hold due to the priority being on the transformation from SOAP to REST/JSON specs.

COMPOSITION
- Robert H Fourdraine, CRI International Center for Biotechnology USA, (Co-Chair)
- Bert van’t Land, Coöperative CRV u.a. The Netherlands, (Co-Chair)
- Lars Bergman, DeLaval
- David Bleloch, Shearwell Data Ltd UK
- Andrew Cooke, Rezare Systems Ltd. New Zealand
- Mark Doornink, VAS (Valley Agricultural Software ) USA
- Johannes Frandsen, SEGES Denmark
- Sarah Görlich, ASR and Qualitas AG, Switzerland
- Simon Jenkins, DataGene Australia
- Freddie Ruijser, Lely International N.V.,
- Juliette LeClaire, FIEA, France
- Michael Lynch, ICBF, Ireland
- Beate Maassen-Francke, GEA Farm Technologies GmbH, Germany
- Robert Moore, Lactanet, Canada
- Damien Pachoud, Datamars SA, Switzerland
- Freddie Ruijs, Lely, The Netherlands
- Sven Schierenbeck, VIT, Germany
- Harm-Jan van der Beek, UniformAgri, The Netherlands

Artificial Insemination and Related Technologies
- Olivier Gérard, Allice, France (Co-Chair)
- Fritz Schmitz-Hsu, Swissgenetics, Switzerland (Co-Chair)
- Jens Baltissen, Bundesverband Rind und Schwein e.V., Germany
- Melton DeJarnette, NAAB (Select Sires), USA
- Jos Hooijer, CRV, The Netherlands
- Lamberto Morelli, INSEME SpA, Italy
- Richard Spelman, LIC, New Zealand

Breed Association
The main achievements of the BA WG were:
- Membership of the WG
- Jersey Bulls (purity issue)
- TOR Breed Associations WG
- Guidelines for Breed Associations
- Audit questions review
COMPOSITION

- Suzanne Harding, Holstein UK, UK (Chairperson)
- David B. Hambrook, Royal Jersey Agricultural & Horticultural Society-Royal Jersey, United Kingdom
- Charl Hunlun, ICAR Secretariat,
- Josef Kucera, Czech Moravian Breeders Corporation, Czech Republic
- Pauline Michot, Charolais Herd Book, France
- Steven Skinner, ABRI, Australia
- Courtney Walker, The World Guernsey Cattle Federation, United Kingdom
- Cherilyn Watson, World Holstein Friesian Federation, New Zealand
- Brian Wickham, ICAR Secretariat, Ireland

Dairy Cattle Milk Recording

The main achievements of the RSD SC in 2018 were:
- Organise sessions, a practical workshop on cattle milk recording, and prepare papers for the ICAR conference in Prague.
- Develop projects on general parts of the Guidelines, define specific topics and engage in in-depth discussions on these points with a view to improving the Guidelines.
- Support CoQ for DCMR functions. Develop turtle diagrams and KPIs for ICAR MR audits.
- Provide support to other ICAR Groups and ICAR members where necessary.
- Milk Recording Workshop at ICAR 2019 in Prague organised by the working group.
- Research project: Recalculation of the Liu Method
- Big data project
- Discussion on how comparing different 24-hour calculation methods

Conformation Recording

- Gerben De Jong, Coöperative CRV u.a., The Netherlands (Chairperson)
- Pierre Berrechet, IDELE, France
- Gabriel Blanco, CONAFE, Spain
- László Bognár, Hungarian Holstein Association, Hungary
- Bernhard Luntz, Institut fur Tierzucht, Germany
- Timothée Neuenschwander, Holstein Switzerland, Switzerland
The WG is also carrying out several specialist projects:

- Connections between milk yield production and health traits and what they mean for farmers (postpartum disease and future performance)
- Individual lactation qualification – discussion and analysis

**COMPOSITION**

- Pavel Bucek, Czech Moravian Breeder’s Corporation Inc., Czech Republic (Chairperson)
- Franz Josef Auer, Landeskontrollverband Tirol, Austria
- Xavier Bourrigan, IDELE, France
- Bruce Dokkebakken, Minnesota Dairy Herd Improvement Association, USA
- Kai Kuwan, Vereinigte Informationssysteme Tierhaltung w.V., Germany
- Juho Kyntäjä, ProAgria Group, Finland
- Yaniv Lavon, Israel Cattle Breeders’ Association (ICBA), Israel
- Filippo Miglior, Ontario Genommics, Canada
- Danuta Radzio, Polish Federation of Cattle Breeders and Dairy Farmers, Poland
- Friedrich Reinhardt, VIT – Vereinigte Informationssysteme Tierhaltung w.V., Germany
- Carlos Trejo Jimene, Consultant, Chile

**DNA**

The following activities were completed since the last ICAR meeting in February 2018:

- Completed the revision of ICAR Guidelines Section 4 - Guidelines for DNA Technology.
- In collaboration with the Interbull Centre, launched the ICAR accreditation service to DNA Data Interpretation Centres for SNP-based parentage verification (currently 20 approved organizations).
- Supported the Interbull Centre in the official introduction of the GenoEx-PSE service (currently 9 service agreements signed).
- Completed the 2018 call for ICAR accreditation of laboratories for SNP-based and/or microsatellite (STR)-based genotyping and parentage verification.
- Prepared a draft conflict of interest policy for members of the WG
- Initiated discussions to define the requirements for expansion of other services using the GenoEx platform.
COMPOSITION
• Brian van Doormaal, Lactanet, Canada (Chairperson)
• André Eggen, AgriGenomics, EMEA, Illumina France SARL, France
• Suzanne Harding, Holstein UK, UK
• Dariusz Kamola, Polish Federation of Cattle Breeders and Dairy Farmers, Poland
• Sandra Kipp, VIT, Germany
• Raffaele Mazza, Associazione Italiana Allevatori, Italy
• Matthew McClure, ABS-Global, USA
• Romy Morrin-O’Donnell, Weatherbys, Ireland
• Nilesh Nayee, National Dairy Development Board, India
• Ezequiel Luis Nicolazzi, CDCB, Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding, USA
• Jiansheng Qiu, Neogen Genomics Operations, USA
• Joanna Sendecka, Interbull Centre, SLU University, Sweden
• Wim van Haeringen, Dr. Van Haeringen Laboratorium b.v., The Netherlands

Feed and Gas
• Roel Veerkamp, GES, The Netherlands (Chairperson)
• Yvette de Haas, Wageningen University and Research, The Netherlands (co-Chairperson)

• Raffaella Finocchiaro, ANAFI, Italy
• Peter Garnsworthy, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom
• Birgit Gredler, Qualitas AG, Switzerland
• Nina Krattenmacher, University Kiel, Germany
• Jan Lassen, Viking Genetics, Denmark
• Filippo Miglior, Ontario Genomics, Canada
• Jennie Pryce, Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources, Australia

Functional Traits
The main achievements of the FT WG in 2018 were:
• Guideline on lameness
• Survey on welfare recording
• ICAR Claw Health Atlas (Exchange of pictures and extension)

COMPOSITION
• Christa Egger-Danner, ZuchtData EDV-Dienstleistungen GmbH, Austria (Chairperson)
• Andrew John Bradley, Quality Milk Management Services Ltd, United Kingdom
• Noureddine Charfeddine, CONAFE, Spain
Sheep, Goats and Camelids

The main achievements in 2018 of the SGC WG were:

- Organize the EAG on large camelids with members and agenda. First action: set up a survey on large camelids (done in spring 2019).
- Produce first version of the guidelines on meat, reproduction and maternal traits. Draft sent to the WG in May 2019.
- Discuss next priorities for EAG fiber, especially regarding wool traits. Preparation of a questionnaire on wool recording (meeting in Rome on 13 Feb. 2019).
- Organize a session dedicated to small ruminants at the ICAR conference in Prague.
- Synthetic valorization of the on-line survey on dairy sheep and goats
- Update section SGC WG of the ICAR website
• Silverio Grande, Associazione Italiana Allevatori (AIA), Italy
• Pera Herold, University of Hohenheim, Germany
• Valerie Loywyck, IDELE, France
• Sharon McIntyre, Beef and Lamb NZ Genetcis, New Zealand
• Juan Manuel Serradilla Manrique, University of Córdoba, Spain
• Mojca Simčič, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
• Alessia Tondo, Associazione Italiana Allevatori (AIA), Italy
• Eva Ugarte, NEIKER, Spain
• Danijel Mulc, Croatian Agency for Agriculture and Food, Croatia
• Eamon Wall Sheep Ireland, Ireland