

WORKING GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

MONOGENIC TRAITS AND REGISTRATION

1. Purpose

- To periodically review and propose revisions, when appropriate, to update and enhance the established guidelines for the exchange of lineage, performance, and monogenic trait information.
- Define the requirements and protocols for reciprocal registration agreements between Herdbook organisations in alignment with ICAR requirements, for exchange of monogenic trait information.
- To act as a resource for emerging Herdbooks.
- To monitor, investigate and report the ongoing recording and discovery of new monogenic traits in the Holstein Friesian cattle population and standardise the recording of such traits.

2. Working Group Focus

The Working Group (WG) will concentrate its activities on the following issues:

- To monitor and update guidelines for Herdbook registration to WHFF standards.
- Keep up to date with International Embryo Transfer Society (**IETS**) and International Committee for Animal Recording (**ICAR**) recommendations.
- To define and recommend how transgenic animals will be identified within the registration process using gene and expression codes as published by WHFF.
- To communicate with World Holstein Associations to share information.
- To consider the special requirements of emerging Herdbooks.
- To continually review the status of hereditary defect recording.
- To liaise with ICAR, INTERBULL and other international Organisations as to the development of standardised tools on-farm clinical description and the code identification.
- To recommend international codes for the identification of proven monogenic traits.

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- To investigate, monitor and recommend when a newly identified monogenic trait is proven;
 - How it should be identified on the pedigree.
 - How to define code form.
- To recommend to WHFF Council common identification protocols for recording monogenic traits.

3. Composition of the Working Group

The Working Group should consist of a maximum of 7 people, with:

- The majority of members being from Herdbook organisations, with operational expertise or nominated with specific specialised knowledge relevant to the group's activities and at least one member with genetic/animals science expertise.
- The WHFF Council to nominate the Chairperson and candidates for the Working Group for a term of four (4) years; re-appointment may be possible.
- The WHFF Council will designate one of its Members to serve as liaison between the WG and the Council.

4. Procedure

The Chairperson of the Working Group should arrange a meeting at least once for the group to become acquainted and to discuss any questions and specific tasks. After the first meeting, it could be possible and is strongly recommended to communicate by email and by a virtual platform.

5. Time Schedule

- The Working Group should meet at least once a year to review new findings and to report to the WHFF Council. This meeting may be through a virtual platform.
- WHFF Council to ratify all WG findings before they are communicated to industry.
- Activity of the Working Group to be reported on an annual basis to WHFF Council. Reporting should be through the Chairperson; if the Chairperson is unavailable, reporting should be through the Council member on the Committee.



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- Presentation and discussion of a report to WHFF Council on activities and/or recommendations at General Assembly every four (4) years, or yearly if activities are time sensitive.
- Presentation at World Conference.
- Final decisions are communicated on the WHFF website (www.whff.info).

6. Budget

- If required, a budget can be requested from the WHFF Council.

All travel expenses of the WG members are taken by their individual employers.