



WHFF 5205c General Discussion topics at the General Assembly

Background

On the 11th July 2023 the WHFF Membership were emailed asking for concerns and topics they might like to discuss.

Reply from Michel Geinoz, Holstein Switzerland

Hi Suzanne,

Holstein Switzerland discussed this and propose the following topics:

1. Way to calculate the breeding values: Because of the different ways to calculate, the values can be very different for certain traits from a country to another (from negative to positive). As the general breeding values are country-specific, there are not concerned, but it concerns individual traits (e.g. milk). Thinking about an harmonization would be a good thing.
2. WHFF should be pro-active and define the abbreviations for hereditary defects early enough, before each country goes his own way and define a special abbreviation and bring confusion (e.g. CDH).

I hope you understand our revendication and I'm looking forward to these discussions.

Best regards.

Michel Geinoz
Directeur / Direktor

Holstein Switzerland

Reply from Martino

Dear Suzanne

In this item "General Business" I can update on the status of the biodiversity study

Best regards
Martino

Reply from Rohan Butler, Holstein Australia

Suzanne,

Hope all the preparations are going well.

Something we get occasional feedback on is out of date lactation and classification data on our pedigrees for imported animals. Our staff do their best to capture this data when the animal is added but the concept of manually going back and updating this information is simply cost and time prohibitive.



In the modern world this data can be moved around by API. Is it something that WHFF would consider having some universal APIs for shifting around the basic information?

Thanks,

Rohan

Reply from Torben Lund, Dansk Holstein

Hi Suzanne

Her is our small contribution to topic / discussion :

How do we ensure that Holstein pulls in the same direction when it comes to climate action? All over the world, various indices etc. are made in order to breed a climate-friendly cow, but how can we work actively to harmonize these initiatives? It is more important that we do it together than that we each try to compete to have the "best" index. If we do not find a solution to the climate challenges, we may not be allowed to have cows in the future.

Med venlig hilsen/Kind Regards/Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Torben Balling Lund

Agenda so far

1. Calculation of breeding values - Because of the different ways to calculate, the values can be very different for certain traits from a country to another (from negative to positive). As the general breeding values are country-specific, there are not concerned, but it concerns individual traits (e.g. milk). Thinking about an harmonization would be a good thing.
2. WHFF should be proactive in defining and naming new Genetic traits eg CDH.
3. WHFF Biodiversity study
4. Data transfer - out of date lactation and classification data on our pedigrees for imported animals. In the modern world this data can be moved around by API. Is it something that WHFF would consider having some universal APIs for shifting around the basic information?
5. Climate action - All over the world, various indices etc. are made in order to breed a climate-friendly cow, but how can we work actively to harmonize these initiatives? It is more important that we do it together than that we each try to compete to have the "best" index. If we do not find a solution to the climate challenges, we may not be allowed to have cows in the future