



WHFF 5206b Request from ICAR DNA Working Group to the Monogenetic Traits Working Group

Background

There was a meeting of the ICAR DNA Working Group on 10th October. At the meeting the topic of Genetic traits was discussed. The following email was sent to the Chair of the WHFF Monogenetic Traits and Registration Working Group.

Dear Lindsey,

Yesterday I had a meeting with the ICAR DNA Working group. The topic of reporting and naming new genetic traits was discussed and I was asked to pose the following questions to the WHFF working group.

1. We need to refine the process of reporting and naming new genetic traits.
2. The process needs to be quicker.
3. Genetic traits need to be placed into categories so that it is obvious which are prevalent and not prevalent.
4. Regulation of the labs that test for the genetic traits - create guidelines similar to the ICAR accreditations for DNA labs. This would ensure that genetic trait testing is harmonised across labs.
5. We should find out from the laboratories if they can work out global frequencies of genetic traits.

Currently the DNA Working group considers WHFF as the authority for Holstein traits, but they want more clarity around the above areas. Perhaps the regulation of labs would be an ICAR initiative.

I would like this to be discussed at the Council meeting in November if you and Cherilyn agree.

best wishes Suzanne

Suzanne Harding
Secretary General WHFF