



THE GLOBAL STANDARD  
FOR LIVESTOCK DATA

Network. Guidelines. Certification.

# ICAR AMS Summit

20-21 September 2023

Schiphol Airport, The Netherlands

# ICAR AMS Summit

- 48 participants
- Participants from 13 countries from Northern America and Europe
- Manufacturers, MRO's, test centres, herdbooks
- Moderator: Uffe Lauritsen (Denmark)
- Key-note speaker: Norah O'Shea (Teagasc)
  - Digital Dairy: Role of Data in the Dairy Supply Chain



# Objectives – AMS Manufacturers, MRO & ICAR

Explore future challenges in dairy chain

Added value of cooperation between Manufacturers, MRO and ICAR

Explain Guidelines plus background and current projects

# Main Program

Four MRO's and 5 manufacturers reflected on:

- The added value of cooperation between AMS manufacturers and ICAR

Group discussions about:

- a) Sharing AMS data is adding value for all of us as manufacturers, farmers and milk recording organisations.
- b) ICAR is the platform to set standards for milk recording devices.
- c) ICAR standards currently meet the needs of both manufacturers and milk recording organisations.

Explanation of:

- a) ICAR guidelines and testing process of milk recording devices and sensor systems.
- b) ICAR project regarding data recording (universal coding system and standardization and definition of non-production AMS traits).
- c) ICAR ADE standards.

# 1. Sharing AMS data is adding value for all of us as manufacturers, farmers and milk recording organisations.

- a) **Basic agreement on this statement, however:**
- b) **Cost benefit**
- c) **Focus on ICAR data standards – ADE**
  - i. Many local varieties and “standards”. ICAR Guidelines in real life!
  - ii. Tailor made solutions by AMS manufacturers
  - iii. Labeling of data (origin, type, quality, specification etc.)
- d) **The milk sample is the carrier of important data**
  - i. However, it is cumbersome and time consuming to collect this way – both for MRO and AMS manufacturers
  - ii. ICAR standards based on yield and fat. Today the sample is used for 10-15 additional parameters, all lacking guidelines
- e) **Assuring the quality in the whole recording chain**
  - i. ID, sample, analysis, data, logistics etc.
- f) **Can we establish a joint agenda to add value and save costs?**
  - i. Dealing with the challenges of the whole dairy chain (Climate change)
  - ii. The value of data lies in the use of data. Collecting is the most costly part



## 2. ICAR is the platform to set standards for milk recording devices.

- a) **Agreed, but much more than milk recording**
- b) **Unique platform**
  - i. Manufacturers, MRO and science meet and cooperate for solutions
  - ii. Setting standards
  - iii. Certification services
- c) **Improvements in the service**
  - i. Costs, benefits are not always clear
  - ii. Running time of activities
- d) **Strategic cooperation needed with International Dairy Federations**
  - i. Future directions (climate change, CO2 neutral 2050)
  - ii. Include animal welfare, health and food safety

### 3. ICAR standards currently meet the needs of both manufacturers and MRO

- a) **Yes and no**
- b) **Acceptance that we need standards**
- c) **Guidelines has a long history – for good and bad**
  - i. Where to go to and how to keep the good things
  - ii. Need for a joint strategic agenda with the full dairy chain (glass -> grass)
  - iii. On-farm analysis, what new services are needed to monitor and calibrate equipment?
  - iv. Get rid of roadblocks
- d) **Action is needed**
  - i. Follow up on this meeting
  - ii. Any ideas to secure progress with involvement from all parties (Manufacturers and MRO)

## Opportunities

Improvement of cooperation with MRO's

- **More emphasis on ICAR ADE-Standard**
  - Standard should always benefit the farmer
  - Empowerment of working groups to generate standards fast
  - International use of standard for data exchange
- **Foster data exchange platforms which use ICAR ADE-Standard**
  - Collaboration of manufacturers & Dairy Data Organizations
  - E.g., IDDEN
- **Foster collaboration across boundaries**
  - Opportunity to participate and give input on standards to reach general goals (in interest of our farmers)
  - **Target:** The industry must get rid of small locally isolated solutions

GEA



# Summary of ICAR AMS Summit

## **Milk sample is carrier of important data**

- a) ICAR needs to promote the value of milk recording by explaining for which purposes milk samples are taken nowadays (components, pregnancy status, fatty acids etc.).
- b) should be supported by guidelines for determination of these traits as far as guidelines currently not exist.

## **Use common data exchange standard (ICAR ADE)**

- a) Most manufacturers clearly support ICAR ADE standards.
- b) ICAR should encourage members:
  - i. to use same ICAR ADE standards
  - ii. harmonise way of giving consent by farmers
  - iii. harmonise different systems of taking milk samples with AMS devices

# Summary of ICAR AMS Summit

## **MRO's and manufacturers to focus collaboratively on data quality across chain**

- a) setting of standards for milk recording and on-farm recording devices
- b) cost and time efficient certification process
- c) certification or validation of data measured by AMS devices
- d) standardization and harmonisation of traits measured
- e) use of coding system for devices to be able to track source of data across the chain
- f) communicate to AMS manufacturers a list of traits measured by AMS devices needed for milk recording and breeding purposes.

## **Strategic cooperation with other organisations to prepare for future**