



WHFF 5411 Exchange of WHFF genetic traits at INTERBULL

By Suzanne Harding (SG)

Review of the WHFF Council minutes on the topic of the Exchange of Genetic Traits.

35th Council meeting minutes

6a Exchange of genetic traits (brought forward from 9b)

Jos gave the presentation from the EHRC Committee meeting in Budapest. Currently data exchange of genetic traits occurs manually. Jos made a proposal to ICAR / INTERBULL that countries could exchange data at the Interbull data run. Three countries participated in a trial - UK, Netherlands and Germany. Countries obtained on average 14% more data than before and the conclusion was that it gave significant added value to the participating countries. The data exchange can be extended to other breeds.

The data exchange will begin by exchanging only direct tests; leaving out phenotypes and indirect tests.

One issue remains to be decided – who will resolve conflicts? The trial had 0.3% conflicting data – who should solve this? The Council agreed that it should be country of origin of the bull and the owner of bull should be responsible for any retest. Each country will have different situations but any conflicts will have to be worked out in the country of origin.

Herd books will check for conflicts.

The data exchange is fully voluntary, but if used will help improve herd book data. It is not available for non Interbull Breed Association members.

Does the Council agree that WHFF should promote this INTERBULL service? Do the Council agree that we contact INTERBULL and inform WHFF members that the service is available for direct tests?

The joint INTERBULL / WHFF communication was tabled. It was commented that the web site screen shot should not include polled.

A clear policy is required to enable the resolution of errors and conflicts. It is up to the Breed Association to liaise with their evaluation centre to ask them to enable the data exchange and to read the data into their databases.

The Breed Associations have responsibility for registering the disorders.

Action: Jos to ask Gerben, Mike and Stefan to set out a procedure for the data exchange.

Decision: The council agreed to the proposal with the condition that the procedure for data exchange and conflicting results would be worked out

36th Council meeting minutes

8a. Exchange of genetic traits – the email discussions are on-going regarding the INTERBULL document (*WHFF 368a 20170623 WHFF Genetic traits Brochure Draft sh, WHFF 368a Email correspondence to Jos Buiting from Toine Roozen, WHFF 368a LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING (AnimInfo)*)



The next Evaluation Run is in April so exchange can start after that in May 2019; as with GenoEX Organisations can sign up or not, and there won't be a cost for the first year or so. If you participate then you can download all data available. Participants will need to sign a letter of understanding. Jos emphasised that Herd Book Organisations need to start exchanging data now as we have a responsibility to our breeders, and this will help them avoid genetic recessives. There will be an INTERBULL list of conflicting bulls and the countries involved will need to resolve the issues depending upon the structure of the country's organisations.

It was agreed that we should inform INTERBULL that we wish this to be available from May 2019.

Action: Jos will email Toine and also inform him about the change of text from indirect to direct test.

Action: Jos will send the edited document to Suzanne.

37th Council meeting minutes

6. Conflicting data on Genetic Trait Exchange presented by Jos Buiting (WHFF 370502 *Memo Bulls with Conflicting data on the Interbull exchange of Genetic Traits; WHFF 370503 Conflicting data VIT SAC CRV August 2019 sorted on Code August 14; WHFF 370504 Conflicts on US bulls August 2019_hausa Results*)

Jos went through WHFF 370502 memo, noting that the number of conflicts were mostly due to polled codes (86 due to a different naming system in Germany), 40 red colour codes and 153 'real' conflicts. The biggest group of conflicts were Dutch bulls - as registered in Germany with the polled issue. When Germany, Netherland and UK have 'solved' the conflicts. Between these 3 countries only new bulls will potentially have conflicts.

Jos identified two conclusions:

1. The conflict list is small
2. We can easily solve the problems

Jos asked the question - Are the Council happy that we can solve the conflicts by relying on the Country of origin? **Decision: This was unanimously agreed.**

42nd Council meeting minutes

7. Data Exchange of Genetic Traits

- a. Webinar for WHFF members

Jos had a suggestion that it would be good to have a webinar on the exchange of genetic traits. He asked if the Council think it would be interesting for the membership?

The Council agreed unanimously. **Action: Jos to arrange.**

Jos then explained the way the Genetic Trait data exchange worked and the reasons for having it. Italy has signed the contract, but the data exchange has not started yet. Giorgio confirmed this. Canada has also showed interest - Vincent will consult Brian Van Doormaal.

43rd Council meeting minutes

3. Previous minutes of the 42nd Council meeting by Zoom

c. Item 7 - Giorgio explained that the data exchange in Italy has not progressed, in Canada Vincent has consulted Brian van Doormaal who is working on it.

9. Data Exchange of Genetic Traits update:



Due to work commitments, Jos has not been able to follow up on a Webinar for WHFF members. He said that it was the idea of Toine Roosen, CEO of INTERBULL, to promote the data exchange. Jos challenged the Council to contact INTERBULL to join the data exchange service. László asked how conflicts in data were resolved. Jos stated that conflicts in data were resolved by going first to the data source (country of origin of the bull), then to the laboratory. He stated that percentage wise there were very few conflicts.

52nd Council meeting minutes

12a. Jos also mentioned the exchange of WHFF genetic traits at INTERBULL. He explained that there are still only three organisations signed up. Any differences in tests were resolved by the organisations doing the testing.

Action: Suzanne to look out the minutes to review the issue.

Suzanne commented that Toine Roosen had spoken about holding a webinar to publicise the data exchange. There might also be a small charge levied.

Action: put on the next agenda for discussion.