



Interbeef Update

Interbull Business Meeting
Tallinn, 26th August 2017.



Interbeef – Background.

- International genetic evaluation of beef cattle.
 - Service from ICAR to its members.
 - Database & routine services provided by the Interbull Centre (on contract to ICAR).
 - Research capacity provided by Interbeef members.
- Based on using countries pedigree and **phenotype** data => International EBV's (*Phocas, 2005*).
- Currently includes 10 countries, 3 breeds (LM, CH & SI) & 4 sets of traits (Wean wt, Calving, Female fertility & Carcass).
- WG chaired by Andrew Cromie (IRE) and TC chaired by Eric Venot (FRA).



Total number of records (CH, LM & SI)

Interbeef	Jan 2016	Jan 2017
Number of countries	10	10
Number of evaluation breeds	2	3
Number of country-breed-trait combinations	18	22
Number of animals in the pedigree database	25,389,096	28,256,603
Number of submitted national estimated breeding values	7,472,166	7,977,376
Number of international estimated breeding values	57,996,544	61,142,008
Number of distributed international estimated breeding values	1,108,658	1,344,841



Current Work.

- New calving evaluations – CZK
 - Plan to implement in Jan 18.
- Use of cross-bred data – IRE.
 - Ireland 20k records => 300k for AWW.
- New female fertility evaluations – DEU.
- Updated agreements, including code of practice document – ICAR.
- IDEA (genotypes + recessives) – ITBC.



Future Work.

- Workshop to identify priority areas at ICAR meeting in Edinburgh.
 - Integration of Interbeef EBV's and National EBV's – Ross Evan (IRE).
 - Data harmonisation – Japie van Der Westhuizen (RSA).
 - New phenotypes + including sharing genotypes – Rob Banks (AUS). *Opportunity for ICAR/Interbull/Interbeef (GenoEX, traits database).*
 - More breeds, traits & countries – AUS/IRE/ITBC.

International Collaboration.



BREEDPLAN® used in many countries
by some breeds - for example:

Breed	No. of Countries	Countries
Hereford	8	Australia, New Zealand, Namibia, UK, USA, Canada, Argentina & Uruguay
Angus	5	Australia, New Zealand, UK, Canada, Argentina
Brahman	4	Australia, USA, South Africa, Namibia
Simmental	5	Australia, New Zealand, UK, South Africa, Namibia



Summary.

- Interbeef is gaining momentum!
 - Implementation to routine service (1/year).
 - Participation within Interbull meetings.
 - Models that share phenotypes (and genotypes), including multi-breeds are of interest to everyone.
- Keen to have more countries participating.
 - Developments with AGBU-ABRI-Breedplan exciting.
 - New & strong research partner, plus potentially more services in the future.
- Thank you to all volunteer participants, ICAR and ITBC staff.