

PREFACE

Proceedings Interbull Technical workshop, March 2-3, 2006, Wageningen, The Netherlands.

The main purpose of Interbull Technical workshops is to address technical questions pertinent to international evaluations and development in Interbull services, and to provide a forum for a vivid discussion between participants from the Interbull member organizations.

The workshop in Wageningen focussed on two topics: international genetic evaluations for female fertility and data quality. Research and pilot studies on international genetic evaluations have been performed for female fertility traits. Intermediate reports were presented at the Interbull Open Meeting and the EAAP meeting in Uppsala, 2005, but the need for in-depth discussion of some technical aspects was identified and addressed during this workshop. The importance of high quality of national and international genetics evaluations motivated the inclusion of verification of data and results as a topic on the workshop agenda, with the aim to facilitate exchange of experience between participants.

This is the third time papers are published in a proceeding following an Interbull Technical workshop. The need to have presentations documented and available from an informal event like this workshop has been acknowledged, and the presenters could therefore volunteer to publish their paper in this bulletin. Some of the papers presented at the workshop do not appear in this bulletin due to their informal nature or to the desire to publish elsewhere.

We would like to thank all participants for their verbal and written contributions. Also we would like to thank the local organizing committee at NRS for the efforts of making the Interbull Technical workshop in Wageningen a success.

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Interbull Centre,
PO Box 7023
SE-750 07 Uppsala
Sweden

e-mail: freddy.fikse@hgen.slu.se
 jette.jakobsen@hgen.slu.se
 hossein.jorjani@hgen.slu.se
 flavio.forabosco@hgen.slu.se
 eva.hjerpe@hgen.slu.se
 jan.philipsson@hgen.slu.se

