

**CONSERVATION AND EVALUATION
OF INDIGENOUS BREEDS OF CATTLE**

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to

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Propositions:

1. Globally, there is a great range of production environments; these will persist, and they have differing requirements for achieving least-cost, sustainable food and agricultural production.
2. About 2/3 of world agriculture will always be low-medium input.
3. Dual- and multi-purpose types of cattle are required.
4. Highly-g geared breeds are not universally best.
5. The logistics of maintaining heifer replacement via crossing systems are frequently grossly underestimated.
6. About 1/2 the genetic differences in a domestic species are between-breed.
7. The simplest way to conserve a breed is to use it (carefully).
8. INTERBULL is (unintentionally) contributing to the loss of genetic resources, by enabling
 - a. Increased exposure of a very small number of breeds
 - b. Increased selection differentials in these breeds.
9. INTERBULL could facilitate the development of locally sustainable types by providing
 - a. Guidance on evaluation
 - b. Evaluation tools e.g. user-friendly, robust software for small populations, and reports on sets of traits required to develop sustainable production systems!

