

PREFACE

This proceeding is following the Interbull Technical workshop held at AIPL in Beltsville 2nd and 3rd March 2003. The main purpose of Interbull Technical workshops is to address technical questions pertinent to international evaluations and developments in Interbull services, and to provide a forum for a vivid discussion between participants from the Interbull member organizations.

The workshop in Beltsville mainly focused on new traits (calving and longevity) to be added to the Interbull services. Research and pilot studies on international genetic evaluations have been performed for both longevity and calving traits. Intermediate reports were presented at the Interbull Open Meeting in Interlaken, 2002, but the need for in-dept discussion of some technical aspects was identified and resulted in this workshop. The reports on longevity and calving traits included in these proceedings are for practical reasons somewhat limited, but the full (long!) intermediate and final reports are available at:

http://www.interbull.org/documents/MACE_longevity_intermediate.pdf

http://www.interbull.org/documents/MACE_longevity_final.pdf

http://www.interbull.org/documents/MACE_calving_intermediate.pdf

http://www.interbull.org/documents/MACE_calving_final.pdf

There has not been a long tradition of publishing papers in a proceeding following an Interbull Technical workshop due to informality of the event. However, the need to have presentations documented and available has been acknowledged, and the presenters could therefore volunteer to publish their paper in this bulletin. Of course, 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 AIPL and especially Rex Powell for the efforts of making the Interbull Technical workshop in Beltsville a success.

The contribution of Monica Jansson to the preparation of this bulletin is gratefully recognized.

March 2003

e-mail:

Interbull Centre
BOX 7023
SE-750 07 Uppsala
Sweden

Ulf.Emanuelson@hgen.slu.se
Freddy.Fikse@hgen.slu.se
Thomas.Mark@hgen.slu.se
Hossein.Jorjani@hgen.slu.se
Jette.Jakobsen@hgen.slu.se
Jan.Philipsson@hgen.slu.se