

Gene Banking and Cryopreservation Training Workshop
1- 3 June 2010
Lelystad, the Netherlands

Coordination: Sipke Joost Hiemstra, CGN

Background

- European Regional Focal Point
 - ERFP Guidelines 2003
 - ERFP Working Group Cryopreservation
- FAO
 - Global Plan of Action AnGR
 - New FAO Guidelines Cryoconservation
- Need for exchange of experiences and knowledge between countries
- European strategy for AnGR Gene Banking ? Further collaboration



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Participants and teachers

- >30 participants from > 20 European countries
- Participants are professionals with strategic and/or operational responsibilities in Gene Banking
- Teachers recruited from European scientific/gene banking community



Programme

- Plenary lectures, main topics gene banking:
 - Role and objectives of cryopreservation strategy
 - Type of material, feasibility, costs
 - Sampling strategy, genetic aspects
 - Sanitary and legal aspects
 - Data base requirements
 - Use of gene bank material
- Exchange of experiences, examples of existing gene banks
- Hands-on sessions
 - Lab – cryoconservation
 - Analysis of pedigree/genomic data
- Discussion
 - Main issues for further development of national cryoconservation programs?
 - Opportunities for collaboration across countries in Europe

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Conclusions and recommendations (1)

- Many countries are undertaking and developing cryopreservation activities
- Most countries need to further develop national framework for gene banking
- Further development national strategies first, but also opportunities for international collaboration

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Conclusions and recommendations (2)

- Further development National strategies first
 - Re-consider scope/priorities (species? breeds? lines? animals?)
 - Clear distinction 'working collections' and 'long term storage'
 - Consider cheap storage of somatic cells
 - Sanitary issues – solve problems – create national derogations
 - Legal framework – ownership – contracts - access
 - Funding/raise awareness (policy makers, livestock sector)
 - Need for operational guidelines/protocols

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Conclusions and recommendations (3)

■ European collaboration

- Promote minimum quality standards for all countries
- Networking, exchange of information and operational experiences
- Develop legal framework (ownership, access, etc), standard/model documents
- More active support – on the spot expert visits to less developed countries
- Transboundary collaboration (sub-regional, similar breeds, storage, etc)
- Multi country (somatic) cell bank?
- Ensure financing, co-funding EU, lobbying
- Adapt European animal health regulations to gene banking
- One portal for European gene bank collections / databases

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Documents/ppt available:

www.rfp-europe.org

www.cgn.wur.nl/UK/CGN+General+Information/Education+and+information/Seminars/





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Seminar 2011 - Conservation and use of breeds at risk

Challenges in practice

- When and where?: May 2011 – Netherlands – 2 days
- Organisers: Kor Oldenbroek and Sipke Joost Hiemstra
- Collaboration ERFP-SAVE
- Theory meets practice
 - Scientific contributions
 - Experiences from NGOs, breed associations, etc.
- Participation: European National Co-ordinators, SAVE representatives, Experts, (national) NGO's involved in the *in vivo* conservation

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