

## ERFP Country Report 2011 – 2012

**COUNTRY:** SPAIN

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### Strategic Priority Area 1:

#### Characterization, Inventory and Monitoring of Trends and Associated Risks

Actions undertaken during the past year

- Updating of the Official Catalogue of Spanish Breeds. During 2011, some new breeds have been included in the Official Catalogue of Livestock Breeds of Spain: two avian breeds, Gallina del Sobrarbe and Gallina Ibicenca; one equine breed, Cavall Pirinenc Català; and for the first time one camelid breed, Camello Canario. Others breeds have been reclassified such as the goat breed Florida that has successfully passed from a breed at risk of endangerment to a development breed. At the moment there are included in the Catalogue 185 breeds.
- The Perro de Agua del Cantábrico breed was also recognized and included in the List of Canine Breeds.
- Recognition and monitoring of the breeders' associations of different species, for the management of genealogical books and the development of the breeding programs. Currently, most livestock breeds included in the Official Catalogue of Livestock Breeds in Spain have recognized a association for this purpose. In the General Register of Associations are currently 159 officially recognized breed associations.
- Further work regarding the update of several zootechnical elements: Regulations of Genealogical Books, Improvement Programmes, Programmes for the Dissemination of the Improvement. A full review of regulations on herd books is being carried out with the purpose of complying with all the requirements established in the legislation published, (Royal Decree 2129/2008). Additionally, actions to verify compliance with the requirements and obligations of associations of breeders are being performed.
- Implementation of the National System Information and Databases on Breeds (ARCA): continue with the development of this software application with Internet/intranet technology which includes a computerized database with public access that contains specific data of the breeds, such as morphological, productive, reproductive characteristics; censuses, etc. It also offers information on associations of farmers, herd-breeding centres, performance tests, contests won, and legislation.
- A new document to define a breed at risk of endangerment has been approved. This document settles the basis to establish the criteria for considering a breed at risk of endangerment in the Official Catalogue of Livestock based on a series of technical standards.

Actions planned for the next year:

- Update the official Catalogue with new breeds. Some new proposals have been received (one bovine, one equine, two ovine and two rabbit breeds) and are currently being studied for including them in the Official Catalogue.
- Development of the action plan for the national programme for the conservation, improvement and promotion of breeds.
- If possible, connect directly the National database on Animal Genetic Resources -ARCA- with DAD-IS. This would simplify the updating for both of them regarding numerical information and also for texts on the breeds.

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## **Strategic Priority Area 2: Sustainable Use and Development**

Actions undertaken during the past year

- A new Royal Decree to support native breed animal products by labelling them with a local-breed logo is being elaborated.
- Support of extensive systems production for Native Breeds that fulfill some environmental aspects through specific legislation .
- Improvement of competitiveness of products native breeds.
- Support production of animal origin quality products, in particular from autochthonous breeds encouraging the use of these breeds in the production of quality products through specific legislation.
- Monitor the implementation of the breeding programs

Actions planned for the next year

- Approval of the Royal Decree that regulates the autochthonous breed logo on products of animal origin
  - Maintain the support to encourage the sustainable use and implement the legislation.
  - Development of advice systems for producers to incorporate the environmental regulations.
  - Studies of the actual situation of the exports of the products from autochthonous breeds.
  - Support for companies that produce local and traditional products.
  - Encourage the use of autochthonous breeds for preserving ecosystems.
  - Promotion for consumers of the products from autochthonous breeds included in quality marks.
  - Development of mechanisms for supporting those farms that collaborate in breeding programs
- Actions undertaken during the past year

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## **Strategic Priority Area 3: Conservation**

(please give details for the most relevant institutions for national genebanks / cryopreservation in the table in Annex 1)

Actions undertaken during the past year

- Approval of a new Royal Decree 841/2011 establishing the basic conditions of collection, storage, distribution and marketing of genetic material from bovine, sheep, goats, swine and equine.
- Approval of national programmes for conservation and improvement, general and specific for each breed.
- Breeding animals evaluation and animal qualification.
- Milk yield and meat recording, and genetic evaluation, including criteria for ovine against TSE. (Support for the development of genetics evaluations)
- Authorization of Testing Centres
- Authorization of collection, storage and reproduction centres, and germplasm banks.
- Designation of Reproducing Reference Centre or National Reference Centre for Reproduction (in Madrid) with the sign of a special agreement of collaboration.
- Ex-situ conservation of breeds in danger.

- Artificial insemination and diffusion of the improvement with high genetic value semen.
- Authorization of genetic laboratories, DNA banks and filial control, implementing the Central Veterinary Laboratory (Algete) with proper sources.

#### Actions planned for the next year

- Progress in conservation programmes
- Develop activities in the official genetic laboratory, Reproducing Reference Centre or National Reference Centre for Reproduction.
- Standardize the system of breeding animals evaluation and unify techniques and protocols for each breed.
- Promote the activities of the germplasm bank.
- Coordinate with other organism for the collection of genetic material for using it in conservation programs.

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#### **Strategic Priority Area 4: Policies, Institutions and Capacity-building**

##### Actions undertaken during the past year

- The National Coordinating Committee for the conservation, improvement and promotion of livestock breeds with representation from the relevant official authorities and the Ministry of the Environment, and Rural and Marine Affairs has carried out three national meetings in 2011.
  - Organization of meetings, in committees, with all the partners implied in the management of breeds, not only public but private.
  - Continue with the collaboration with the National federation of Spanish autochthonous endangered breeds (FEDERAPES) in order to coordinate efforts in the conservation and recovery of these breeds.
  - Continue with the collaboration with the Spanish Federation of select breed's organisations (FEAGAS) for giving technical support to organisations.
  - Implementation of the National System of Information (ARCA).
  - Development of the web page of the Ministry with the zootechnical information.
  - Continue with the development of the database for the genetic evaluation of ovine against TSE.
  - Designation of the official Laboratory of the Ministry on genetics in Algete for reference and activities in genes to support the breeds.
  - Creation of communications networks and exchanges of information, with national organizations (Universities, INIA) and foreigners (EAAP, FAO, EU).
  - Connection of policies and programs on animal genetics resources with other national and international initiatives in the field of agriculture and the biodiversity.
  - Educative Programs for vets, livestock breeders and the public in general.
  - Legal Frame: norms and policies. Publication of a Royal Decree to develop the national program for conservation and promotion of breeds and other legislation to support the breeds
  - Publications of different books on breeds
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- Diffusion through Internet (Web pages, as PEGASO, FILUS, BABIECA for equine) and Campaigns of awareness and promotion.
- Define and approval the calendar of the livestock events.

Actions planned for the next year

- A national data base for animal genetic resources will be put into operation.
  - Boost of animal and products exportations by simplifying the administrative proceedings.
  - Update the Regulations and Programmes for breeds.
  - Approval of promotion and diffusion programmes for breeds.
  - Development of the different lines of the National Programme, in particular for genetics and reproduction, sustainable activities and programmes of quality products.
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**Annex 1: List of relevant national institutions for national Genebanks / Cryopreservation Experts**

institution, address, e-mail, homepage, phone / fax	contact person / expert incl. e-mail	animal species	type of genetic material	remarks
CENSYRA - Centro de Selección y Reproducción Animal de Colmenar Viejo. (Animal Selection and Breeding Centro of Colmenar Viejo) Ctra. de Colmenar Viejo a Cuadali de la Sierra, km 1,3 28770 Colmenar Viejo (Madrid) <a href="http://www.madrid.org">http://www.madrid.org</a> Tl. 91 846 43 35 / 53 Fax 91 846 44 28	Juan José Urquía García Jesús Dochao Méndez <a href="mailto:jesus.dochao@madrid.org">jesus.dochao@madrid.org</a>	bovine ovine caprine porcine equidae	semen (all species) embryos (bovine and ovine)	The Animal Selection and Breeding Centre of Colmenar Viejo of the Autonomous Community of Madrid, is been designated the National Reference Centre for Reproduction

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