

ERFP Country report 2010 – 2011

COUNTRY: Estonia

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Strategic Priority Area 1:

Characterization, Inventory and Monitoring of Trends and Associated Risks

All populations of farm animals have been monitored and their status reported. The number of pigs, sheep and goats, as well as poultry and cattle show slight increase. Monitoring of endangered breeds shows stable trend.

Updating the national farm animal data bank, improving the quality of data in the international databanks (EFABIS).

Several studies have been undertaken, and a part of them published, on characterization, inventory and monitoring of trends and associated risks of different populations, especially in cattle and horse.

Two PhD projects are focused on molecular characterization of Estonian breeds – one in dairy cattle, and the other one in horse.

Together with the Nordic Genetic Resource Center (NordGen) an international workshop “Risk management in animal breeding programs” was arranged in Tallinn from June 14 to 18, 2010. The workshop was attended by 29 participants from Norway, Denmark, Finland, Latvia, Sweden, Poland and Estonia.

Participation in Baltic, Nordic, European and FAO collaboration in the field of AnGR.

Strategic Priority Area 2:

Sustainable Use and Development

The breeding programmes of Estonian Holstein, Estonian Red Cattle, beef cattle and Tori Horse breed have been revised and approved in 2010.

The 125th anniversary of the publication of the first herd book in Estonia was celebrated on November 22, 2010. A conference was held, and a special publication devoted to herd book keeping released.

Strategic Priority Area 3:

Conservation

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

The conservation programmes of Estonian Native Horse, Estonian Heavy Draught Horse and Tori Horse universal type have been revised and approved in 2010.

The subsidies paid within Agri-environment programme have promoted rising the animals of endangered breeds (Estonian Native Cattle, Estonian Native Horse, Estonian Heavy Draught Horse, Tori Horse universal type).

Strategic Priority Area 4:

Policies, Institutions and Capacity-building

A lot of attention has been paid to raising public awareness of the problems connected with management and conservation of genetic resources:

- Several articles and reports have been published in newspapers and journals;

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- The AnGR issues have been considered in several meetings and round-tables;
 - TV and radio have covered several actions - meetings, round-tables, animal shows and exhibitions.
- Participation in several scientific conferences and workshops related to the management of AnGR.
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