

ERFP Country report 2010 – 2011

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

- Pursuit of the Official Catalogue of Spanish's breeds. In the Official Catalogue some new breeds have been included, 2 avian breeds Gallina del Sobrarbe and Gallina ibicenca and for the first time a camelid breed, Camello Canario. Others breeds have been reclassified as the goat breed Florida that has succesfully passed from a breed at risk of endangerment to a development breed. At this moment there are included in the Catalogue 184 breeds.
- A new dog breed, Perro de Aguas del Cántabro, has been included in the Canine Register
- Recognition and monitoring of associations of breeders of the bovine, ovine, goat, pig, canine, poultry and equine species, for the management of genealogical books and the development of the breeding programs with 159 associations.
- A new document to define a breed at risk of endangerment is being elaborated. This document will settle the basis to define the criteria for categorizing local breeds as development breeds or endangered breeds based on a series of technical criteria.
- Development of Guidelines for breed's inspectors to supervise the associations functioning.
- Actions to improved individual identification and inscription of the animals in the herd book. Establishment of a Register of collaborating farms.
- 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 last year, (Royal Decree 2129/2008).
- Implementation of the National System Information and Databases on Breeds (ARCA): a computer application with internet/intranet technology which includes an electronic database including data from breed's organisations and all the data related to the breed included in the official catalogue. Currently, most of the breed's information has been loaded into the system.
- Boost and encourage the realization of paternity assignment controls.

Actions planned for the next year:

- Update the official Catalogue with new categories and breeds. Some new requests have been received (1 bovine, 1 equine and 2 rabbit breeds) and are currently being studied for including them in the Official Catalogue.
- Approval of the proposal to establish criteria for considering a breed at risk of endangerment in the Official Catalogue of Livestock.

- Study of a National Observatory for AnGr as a permanent body for the study of the AnGr situation, trends and associated risks
- Development of the action plan for the national programme for the conservation, improvement and promotion of breeds

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

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.
- Yields control 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.

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

Actions undertaken during the past year

- Participation in the Task force "Agri environmental measures" as part of the Multiyear Programme of work of the European Regional Focal Point (ERFP) for Animal Genetic Resources.
- 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 two national meetings.
- 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

- 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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