

**Races Bovines Locales à Petits Effectifs**

## Conservation program of a dozen highly endangered cattle breeds in France

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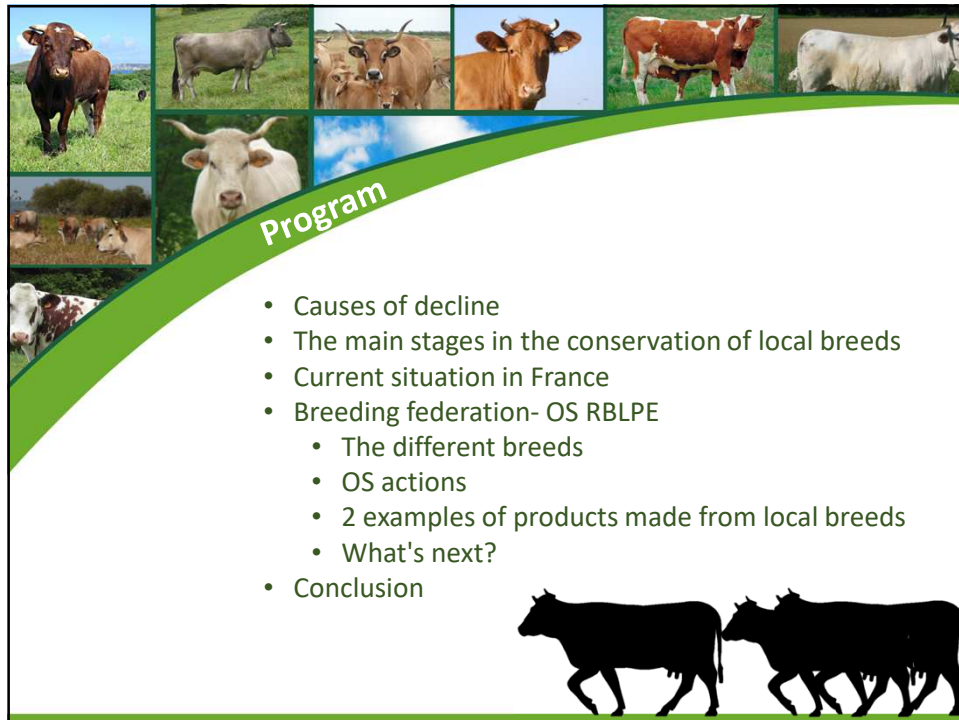
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INSTITUT DE L'ELEVAGE **idele**

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MINISTÈRE DE L'AGRICULTURE ET DE LA SOUVERAINETÉ ALIMENTAIRE


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### Program

- Causes of decline
- The main stages in the conservation of local breeds
- Current situation in France
- Breeding federation- OS RBLPE
  - The different breeds
  - OS actions
  - 2 examples of products made from local breeds
  - What's next?
- Conclusion



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 Decline due to

- ✓ **Mechanization of agriculture**  
-> no longer useful for working the land
- ✓ **Specialization of livestock farming**  
-> mixed animals were no longer in demand
- ✓ **Breeding law 1955** = selection efforts focused solely on a few dairy OR beef French breeds to feed the population, others were abandoned

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### The main stages in the conservation of local cattle breeds

**Early 1980**

**Identify and inventory**

- IDELE began to field **registration** of all reproductive animals and breeders for each breed
- State funding of the **first conservation programs** for IDELE actions
- Several breed are saved *in extremis* sometimes from just few animals.

**From 1990**

**Preserve and manage**


- **IDELE** is responsible for the **management** and the monitoring of preservation programs of some rare breeds.
- Many **AI bulls are collected** : more than 200 available now in total. They are a major tool for the long-term management of genetic diversity.
- Breeders associations, regional conservatories and **local authorities** are also involved.

**From 2010**

**Promote the breeds and their products**

- **VARAPE (2012-2014)**: a project to characterize conditions for success of collective projects to promote small breeds -> project not focused on genetic


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## Cattle in France nowadays

**Beef cattle:**  
 +3,668,000 beef cows  
 17 breeds - 2 of which (Charolais and Limousin) represent **64 %** of all beef cattle


(Source FGE)



@Herd-Book Charolais

**Dairy cattle:**  
 +2,800,000 dairy cows  
 17 breeds - 2 of which (Holstein and Montbéliarde) represent **79%** of all dairy cows

(Source FGE)




@Alger Meekins

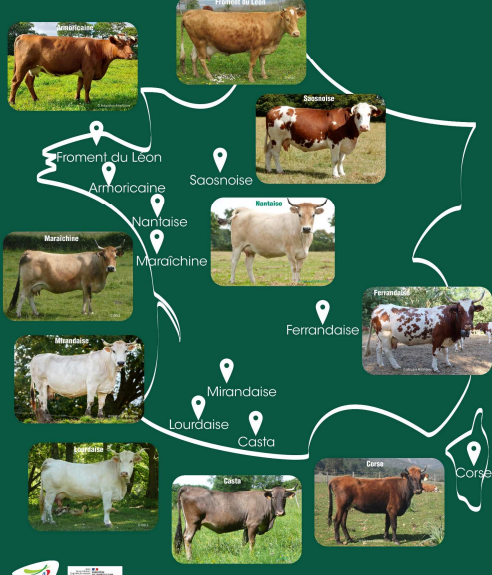
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### OS RBLPE (Small Local Cattle Breeds)

- 2008: Creation of the Breeding federation for rare cattle breeds (OS RBLPE)
- 2010: 1st presentation of the 12 cattle breeds at the Paris International Agricultural show. This presentation is now held every 3 years
- 2023: OS RBLPE counts 12 breeds, 10 times more cows than 30 years ago




**AVEC LES VACHES DE NOS TERROIRS, OSEZ LA DIFFÉRENCE !**

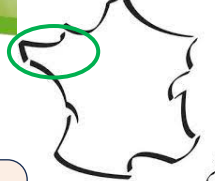








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## North-west of France





**ARMORICAINE**

- Breed saved thanks to semen from Armoricaïn bulls born in the 60's and kept by Breton insemination cooperatives.
- Renowned for its precocity, ease of breeding and marbled meat


	1990	2022
Female	20	1068
Owners	7	131


	1990	2022
Female	48	698
Owners	12	148

**FROMENT DU LÉON**

Breed poorly characterized, although a herd book was created in 1907

Dairy breed which produces a cream remarkable for its quantity, color and flavor






**CANADIENNE**


During the XVth century, cattle from France were exported from French Normandy and Brittany to Canada and are at the origin of Canadienne breed. Some animals were imported in France in the 90's and their descendants are now raised on dairy farm.


	2000	2021
Female	15	100
Owners	2	15


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## West of France 1/2







**SAOSNOISE**


- Breed formed from several origins: Mancelle, Durham, Normande and Rouge des prés breeds
- Grassland breed suitable for heavy carcass production of young bulls

**BLEUE DE BAZOUGERS**

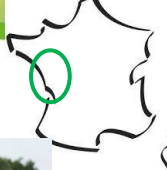
- Breed in the process of reconstitution : in 2000, only 2 bulls (sire and son)
- Related to Saosnoise and Rouge des Prés breeds
- 2018: breed recognition


	2001	2021
Female	866	1619
Owners	37	110


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## West of France 2/2







**MARAICHINE**

- Breed adapted to the fine management of marsh grazing
- From the Parthenaise breed
- Suitable for the production of pink veal, which are sold locally in short food chain supply


	2000	2021
Female	377	2624
Owners	28	144

**NANTAISE**


- Dual-purposed breed renowned for its ability to work the land, it has suffered from the mechanization of agriculture.
- Nowadays used mainly has beef cattle
- Breed producing quality milk-fed calves


	1990	2022
Female	55	1474
Owners	19	125

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## South-west of France






**MIRANDAISE**

- Historically land-working breed on the slopes of the Gers department
- The Mirandaise herd book dates from 1897


	1990	2022
Female	170	901
Owners	22	96



**CASTA**

- Easily recognizable by its chestnut-colored coat ("Casta" means chestnut in Occitan) and light-colored mucous membranes.
- Production of 5-year-old beefs whose fine meat is appreciated

	1990	2022
Female	87	424
Owners	20	45




**LOURDAISE**

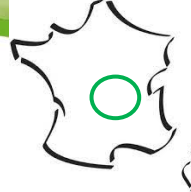
- Only one bull left in 1978.
- Before the Lourdaise was the best dairy breed of the Pyrénées, but the best dairy cows were lost
- Now veals and 4-5-years-old-beefs are produced


	1990	2022
Female	42	324
Owners	12	67

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## Center of France






	1990	2021
Female	198	3709
Owners	39	606

**FERRANDAISE**

- Breed with 3 coat types and 2 colours (red and black)
- Dual-purposed breed still used in both system
- Ferrandaise milk was the source of 5 famous Auvergne cheeses
- The most numerous breed of our group, breed with a good dynamic in its numbers

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## THE ACTIONS OF OS RBLPE

**An annual inventory\*:** the aim is to share information about existing reproductive animals on different farms, so that breeders can exchange their animals more easily and with more reliable information.

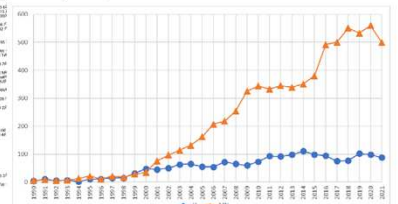
Also general data: demographic situation, use of AI for example.

**DataBase:** managed by IDELE, pedigree edition

Useful for PRM (Threatened Breed Subsidy) to justify 200€ for female of more 2 years,  
Unfortunately not all region implementing the measure


ADRF Bovins - CPB										FR 320006									
Code	Sexe	Année	Statut	Statut	Statut	Statut	Statut	Statut	Statut	Code	Sexe	Année	Statut	Statut	Statut	Statut	Statut	Statut	Statut
001	M	2019	01	01	01	01	01	01	01	001	M	2019	01	01	01	01	01	01	01

**Graphique 2 – Utilisation de l’Insémination Animale (IA) et de la Monte Naturelle (MN) : nombre de naissances par année, mâles et femelles confondus**



\*Listing inventory are made with GDPR

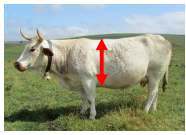
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## THE ACTIONS OF OS RBLPE

**About genetic diversity management:**

- Scoring - breed characterization
- Help to choose bull's dams for futur AI or natural mating Bulls
- Mating advice
- Inbreeding monitoring



Breast depth



Horn shape

Appariements des taureaux MM														
Avec les vaches	Avec les vaches	avec les taureaux MM	Numero	Nom	Date d'Asses	Pinet	Mirel	Aucre	race	%	Gen	MUCH	Nom Eleveur	Taux cons.
			229552144	TARIN	28/04/2022		PETITE					C23488	BOUCHERON Thomas	
			222562148	TARIN	28/04/2022		DEAN					C23509	LUCCAS Dominique	
			223822149	TREBIEN	27/04/2022		ONBOW					C238067	SCHWITZ Pascal	
			201744229	TAMFANI	26/04/2022		CRACKLEB					C232922	COSCIKY Estelle	
			225952149	TCHOUPI	26/04/2022		CALVPSO					C233784	Alberto LEUCCI	
			223817149	TACH	28/04/2022		NARVAL					C230250	LAGAT TUP Patricia et Didier	
			223852254	TERREBLE	24/04/2022		MAC2					C230208	TERPANGUYEN	

Taux consang.																				
Numero	Nom	race	Fine	GPU	Pictang	Andalouze	Auvergne	Basque	Beauce	Bretonne	Charentaise	Comtoise	Gasconne	Normande	Picarde	Provençale	Rouennaise	Urbaine	Urbaine	
1744340248	INNA	1.0%	10/10/10	100	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
1744340248	OSBS	2.7%	10/10/10	100	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
105372000	ISS	3.7%	10/10/10	100	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

■ Accouplement déconseillé à court terme (plus de 25% de consanguinité) = **TRÈS DÉCONSEILLÉ**

■ Accouplement déconseillé (consanguinité à court terme entre 12.5% et 25% de consanguinité) = **NON DÉCONSEILLÉ**

■ Accouplement déconseillé (consanguinité à court terme entre 6.25% et 12.5% de consanguinité) = **DÉCONSEILLÉ**

■ Accouplement déconseillé (consanguinité à court terme entre 3.12% et 6.25% de consanguinité) = **POSSIBLE**

□ Accouplement déconseillé (consanguinité à court terme inférieure ou égale à 3.12% de consanguinité) = **ACCION POSSIBLE**

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## THE ACTIONS OF OS RBLPE



**Breed Promotions:**

Annual participation to the International Agricultural Show in Paris



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## VALORISATION ACTIONS OF BREEDS

2 examples

### Froment du Léon

Valorisation of its special butter and other milk products: breed slogan “so creamy and so buttery”.  
The breed society created a collective trademark associated with specifications of production.  
Mainly farm sales but also a product of interest for Michelin-starred chefs gastronomy


### Mirandaïse




« La quinzaine de la Mirandaïse » promote meat of the breed locally, in partnership with butchers during 2 weeks 2 times in the year: last year 15 butchers involved, around 15 cows and 15 beefs sold.


- 2019: Creation of the collective trademark “La Mirandaïse, race locale du Gers”
- 2023: 30 breeders involved

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## What's next ?

Setting up projects around genomics and/or the link between our breeds and biodiversity




### Conclusion:

The benefits of local cattle breeds are :

- Promoting territories, people and contributing to the richness of French gastronomy
  - Suitable for economical, self-sufficient systems
- Rich diversity for the future of breeding, particularly in the context of changing environment.

The conservation of these breeds has been made possible thanks to a number of actors: breeders, the IDELE, financial support from the Ministry, local relays and conservatories. It is important to involve consumers who have a major role to play!



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