



Ad hoc action **Identifying of Simmental cattle in Europe**



Original Simmental (DAD-IS)



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Members and participants

- **Members:**
- Beate Berger (NC Austria),
- Tomáš Němeček (NC Czechia),
- Melissa Raemy (NC Switzerland),
- Srdjan Stojanović (NC Serbia),
- Piotr Kowol (Polish Federation of Cattle Breeders & Dairy Farmers),
- Ivan Pavlík (Association of Slovak Spotted Cattle Breeders – Cooperative)

- **Participants:**
- Mateusz Harabasz (cattle breeder, Poland),
- Holger Goderz (Chair of ERFP WG In situ, Federal Office for Agriculture and Food, Germany),
- Till Masthoff (German Livestock Association (BRS)),
- Pierre-Elie Richard (Simmental France),
- Nina Moravcikova (Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra),
- Radovan Kasarda (Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra),
- Rachel Davis (NC United Kingdom),
- Clara Nyegaard-Signori (NC Denmark).




Deutsches Fleckvieh (DAD-IS)



Activities




January 2024	Kick-off meeting
February 2024	Draft of the questionnaire
March 2024	2 nd meeting (online); collecting of responses
April 2024	3 rd meeting (online); short report presented during ERFP Cyprus meeting; discussions; additional questions; updated questionnaire outside the AHA team
May 2024	4 th meeting (in person) – Nitra (Slovakia); identification of subpopulations; analysis of responses;
June 2024	Updated questionnaire – members of WSFF/ESF; collecting of responses; drafting of paper for GENRES
September – December 2024	5 th meeting (online); paper for GENRES




Questionnaire

77 questions


- Population information
- Breeding programme information
- Phenotype and production information
- Breed dedicated products
- Production system
- Animal registration



Beef Simmental




Responses



Slovensky strakaty

Country	Breed
Austria	Fleckvieh/Simmental
Czechia	Masny Simental, Cesky Strakaty Skot, Cesky Strakaty Skot – original
Serbia	Simmental
Switzerland	Simmental/Simmental Fleckvieh/Fleckvieh, Simmental (beef), Swiss Fleckvieh
Poland	Polish Simmental
Slovakia	Slovensky Strakaty, Masovy Simental
Denmark	Simmental
Romania	Baltata Romaneasca (Romanian Spotted)
Italy	Pezzata Rossa Italiana

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First findings

1. Different recognition of breed type (dual-purpose, milk, meat) in different countries and different breeding goals
2. In every country, utilization determines breeding goals but, in some cases, (Czechia, Poland, Slovakia, Denmark), it is the reason for distinction of animals as separate breed
3. Organization of animal registration in herdbooks differs between countries
4. Herdbooks
 - a. herdbook for dual-purpose animals without sections dedicated to animals with milk or meat performance recording (Slovakia, Czechia, Serbia, Italy)
 - b. herdbook for dual-purpose animals with separate sections dedicated to animals with milk or meat performance recording (Poland, Austria, Romania)
 - c. separate herdbook for animals considered as milk or meat type within one breed (Switzerland, Poland)
 - d. separate herdbooks for meat animals considered as different breed (Slovakia, Czechia)
5. Exchange of animals between separate sections or herdbooks (cases 5a-5c), when the production goal or performance recording is changed, is possible. On the other hand, exchange of animals between herdbooks (case 5c and 5d) is not possible. Progeny of such animals are considered crossbreds.

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First findings

- Original type of Czech spotted cattle has been described
 - Subpopulation of original type of Slovak Spotted cattle in Slovakia has been identified
 - Possible subpopulation of original Simmental cattle is under investigation in Poland
 - Possible original type of Simmental cattle in Italy - Pezza Rossa Friulana was indicated with unknown status (crossbred with modern type including Fleckvieh since 1980s).
 - No further subpopulations of original Simmental have been identified due to the use of commercial insemination doses.
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- Cesky strakaty - original type (local - no import)
 - Body frame smaller in local type
 - Milk production lower in Swiss population and local type
 - Functional longevity higher in beef and local type

