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Health and Food Safety Directorate General

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## Standing Committee on ZOOTECHNICS

30 NOVEMBER 2018

### AGENDA

#### Section A Information and/or discussion

##### **A.01** Model forms of zootechnical certificates for breeding animals as laid down in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/717. (EC)

At the Working Group meeting of 8 March 2018 an agreement was reached that the zootechnical certificates would follow the layout and format as provided for in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/717 and there can be no deviation from the content which is the minimum information required.

Later, some stakeholders at the request of breed societies and breeding operations have contacted the Commission seeking guidance on the issuing of zootechnical certificates. The main concerns relate to the following issues:

- a) necessity of printing footnotes;
- b) possibility of using digital signature;
- c) language of certificate (one bilingual or two each in different language);
- d) possibility of:
  - cross-references to veterinary certificates,
  - empty boxes in zootechnical certificate,
  - copy of zootechnical certificate for semen donor attached to a zootechnical certificate for semen, etc.

Member States to report on best practices, experience and reported problems in relation to the use of model zootechnical certificates.

##### **A.02** Non-use of the model forms for zootechnical certificates in accordance with Article 31(2) of the Animal Breeding Regulation. (EC)

Article 31(2) of the ABR provides for derogation from the obligation to use model forms of zootechnical certificates. At the Working Group meeting of 8 March 2018 it was agreed that in case a breed society/ breeding operation is not going to use model zootechnical certificates laid down in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/717, it should provide such information and description what is used instead.

The question has arisen which document types may be used instead of zootechnical certificates in accordance with the model forms laid down in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/717 and who may issue those documents. In addition, the nature of authorisation by the competent authority of the non-use of the model forms zootechnical certificates should be clarified (general authorisation in national legislation or per breed society/ breeding operation).

Member States to report on best practices, experience and reported problems in relation to the use of other means of information than model zootechnical certificates.

**A.03** Zootechnical certificates issued by semen centres and embryo teams in accordance with Article 31(1) of the Animal Breeding Regulation. (EC)

Article 31(1) of ABR provides for a possibility for the competent authority to authorise that germinal products are to be accompanied by a zootechnical certificate issued, on the basis of the information received from the breed society or breeding operation, by a semen collection or storage centre, or by an embryo collection or production team, approved for intra-Union trade in those germinal products in accordance with Union animal health law.

The nature of such authorisation by the competent authority should be clarified (general authorisation in national legislation or per particular case).

Member States to report on:

- a) their plans to use or not this derogation;
- b) if and, if yes, how Member States are going to make publicly available information which breed societies and breeding operations are using this derogation and which semen centres and embryo teams are authorised to issue zootechnical certificates.

**A.04** Listing of breeding bodies in accordance with Article 34 of the Animal Breeding Regulation. (EC)

The Commission, on a daily basis, is updating the list of breeding bodies which is published at [https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/zootechnics/third\\_countries\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/zootechnics/third_countries_en).

A breeding body may only be included in the list upon the request of an official service of the third country and if documentation received demonstrates that the breeding body meets the requirements provided for in Article 34(2).

In accordance with Article 36(1)(d) any breeding animals that have entered the Union and the offspring produced from germinal products that have entered the Union have legal right of entry into the main section of a breeding book or breeding register if the breeding body in the third country of dispatch is included in the list of breeding bodies provided for in Article 34.

The discussion should focus on what can be done if the genetics is required from not listed third countries and not listed breeding bodies.

**A.05** Exchange of experience of Member States as regards the procedure for the notification and approval of breeding programmes carried out in Member States other than the Member State in which the breed society or breeding operation is recognised. (EC)

The conclusion of the Working Group meeting of 8 March 2018 was that, procedures for notification of the intended extension of a geographical territory of a breeding programme could not jeopardise free trade in breeding animals. The principle should be that extension of a geographical territory of a breeding programme is welcome, if necessary supported by the provision of the breeding programme.

Member States to report on best practices, experience and reported problems in relation to the intended extension of a geographical territory of a breeding programme.

**A.06** Information from the Commission on the procedure for notification by Member States of their national legislation based on the Animal Breeding Regulation. (EC)

In accordance with Article 68 of the Animal Breeding Regulation Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with Articles 66 and 67 by 1 November 2018. They shall immediately communicate the text of those measures to the Commission.

Notification should be done following the procedure based on Directive (EU) 2015/1535 – Member States must inform the Commission of any draft technical regulation prior to its adoption. Starting from the date of notification of the draft, a three-month standstill period – during which the notifying Member State cannot adopt the technical regulation in question – enables the Commission and the other Member States to examine the notified text and to respond appropriately.

**A.07** Information concerning the implementation of the Animal Breeding Regulation which Member States shall make publicly available or notify to the Commission. (EC)