



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Health and Food Safety Directorate General

sante.g.3(2022)8452751

Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

Section Zootechnics

3 October 2022

CIRCABC Link: <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/9d528544-7946-4e8c-bb05-4a4451030bed/library/278503c7-d4ae-4e2f-a653-be1b92b5fb95>

SUMMARY REPORT

A.01 Presentation of the outcome of the questionnaire related to the implementation of particular aspects of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 (Animal Health Law) and Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 (Animal Breeding Regulation).

The Commission presented an outcome of the questionnaire related to the implementation of particular aspects of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 (Animal Health Law) and Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 (Animal Breeding Regulation) which was sent to Member States, Switzerland and Norway.

According to the received replies:

- around 80% of the competent authorities delegated the task of issuing of single lifetime identification documents for equine animals to delegated bodies in accordance with Article 108(5)(c) of the Animal Health Law;
- around 70% of the countries do not use the derogation provided for in Article 31(1) of the Animal Breeding Regulation related to the issuing of zootechnical certificates by germinal product establishments approved for intra-Union trade;
- around 60% of the competent authorities are publishing a list of breed societies/breeding operations from other Member States which have extended the geographical territory to the territory of their countries.

A.02 Exchange of views as regards the implementation of derogation provided for in Article 31(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 – issuing of zootechnical certificates by approved germinal product establishments.

Having regard Article 31(1) of and point 1(m) of Part 2 of Annex I to the Animal Breeding Regulation, a germinal product storage centre, storing germinal products obtained from breeding animals entered in the main section of the breeding book of a particular breed society, which is not indicted in the breeding programme of that breed society for the purpose of issuing zootechnical certificates for germinal products of the breeding animals covered by the breeding programme of that breed society, cannot issue a zootechnical certificate for those germinal products when they are re-dispatched to other destinations.

Therefore, as a temporary solution, consensus was found that germinal products dispatched from an approved germinal product establishment, delivered to that approved germinal product establishment with a zootechnical certificate ('original zootechnical certificate'), when split into different consignments, may be accompanied by a copy of the original zootechnical certificate, even if it contains also information on germinal products not being a part of the consignment.

Some Member States suggested that there is a need to amend model forms of zootechnical certificates for germinal products laid down in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/717. The Commission requested Member States to send their suggestions in writing.

A.03 Exchange of views as regards the implementation of the rules for upgrading of the offspring of animals recorded in a supplementary section to the main section of the breeding book.

The Commission confirmed that the female animal descended from a mother and a maternal grandmother which are recorded in a supplementary section of a breeding book of the same breed and a father and two grandfathers which are entered in the main section of a breeding book of the same breed has a legal right of entry into the main section of a breeding book.

The same legal right of entry into the main section of a breeding book has the first generation offspring, equally male and female animals, descended from the upgraded female animal. That rule was introduced in Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 to clarify the situation of the first generation offspring of an upgraded female.

Some Member States consider that rule to be in contradiction with the rules referred to in point 1(a)(i) of Chapter I of Part 1 of Annex II to Regulation (EU) 2016/1012: the animal of the bovine, porcine, ovine and caprine species, to be entered in the main section of a breeding book, shall have descended from parents and grandparents which have been entered in the main section of a breeding book of the same breed. The other Member States reminded that such approach has been taken during the Working Party at the Council when the draft Animal Breeding Regulation was discussed.

A.04 Presentation of an opinion of the Commission legal services concerning the rules related to a membership of breeders in breed societies.

An opinion of the Commission legal services has been shared with the Committee. It states that breed societies should not adopt rules providing for an obligation for breeders to be a member in order to participate in their breeding programmes and thus to have certain of their animals entered in the relevant breeding book, as such an obligation would be in conflict with the independent rights provided for in Article 13(1) and Article 13(2) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012.

A.05 Exchange of views as regards the implementation of the rules for the notification of the extension of the geographical territory of breeding programmes to the territory of another Member State.

Despite the fact that Member States are still facing some problems with regard to the procedures for an extension of geographical territory of a breeding programme to another Member State in accordance with Article 12 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012, it was acknowledged that cooperation of the competent authorities is quite well and improving. Those problems mainly concern breeding programmes for purebred

breeding animals of the equine species. It was suggested that Member States' experts on animal health should also get familiar with the procedures under Article 12 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012, to ensure better understanding of the subject. In order to ensure that Article 12(5) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 is well implemented, consensus was found on an approach based on the competent authority receiving a notification for an extension of geographical territory of a breeding programme from another Member State should send a confirmation of receipt of the notification to the notifying competent authority.

A.06 Presentation of the 2023-24 work programme of European Union reference centre responsible for the scientific and technical contribution to the harmonisation and improvement of the methods of performance testing and genetic evaluation of purebred breeding animals of the bovine species.

The Director of European Union reference centre (EURC) on bovine breeding (Interbull) has presented the activities that have been carried out by the EURC in previous years and proposed new activities for 2023-24. A future close collaboration with the newly designated EURC on endangered animal breeds has been mentioned. Member States expressed an interest to be more involved in the activities of the EURC.

A.07 Presentation of the 2023-24 work programme of the European Union reference centre responsible for the scientific and technical contribution to the establishment and harmonisation of the methods for the preservation of endangered breeds, and the preservation of the genetic diversity existing within those breeds.

The Director of newly designated EURC on endangered animal breeds, that will start operating as of 1 January 2023, has presented the activities that the EURC is planning to carry out in 2023-24. Amongst others, the EURC will focus on establishment of a methodology for classification of a breed as endangered.

A.08 Information concerning the implementation of the Animal Breeding Regulation which Member States shall make publicly available.

The Commission requested Member States to verify links to their national webpages displaying information in the area of zootechnics published at the Commission webpage https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/zootechnics/member_states_en.

The Commission highlighted the importance that those links lead directly to information required by the Animal Breeding Regulation and Directive 90/428/EEC, and that all necessary information is accessible and provided in the relevant format. Lists of breed societies and breeding operation published by Member States should be in the formats as laid down in Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/716. The Commission reminded that information related to equine competitions should be published in the formats as laid down in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/388.

In case an update of the Commission webpage is necessary, a Member State should provide the Commission with the appropriate link to its national webpage.

A.09 Exchange of views as regards the global Strategy for Genetic Resources for Europe and the specific Animal Genetic Resource Strategy – State of play, presentation from the European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources (ERFP) and discussion.

The Chair of the European Regional Focal Point for Animal Genetic Resources presented the global Strategy for Genetic Resources for Europe and the specific Animal Genetic Resource Strategy, and explained how they link with Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 and EURC on endangered animal breeds.

B.01 Exchange of views and possible opinion on Commission Implementing Regulation designating the European Union reference centre responsible for the scientific and technical contribution to the establishment and harmonisation of the methods for the preservation of endangered breeds, and the preservation of the genetic diversity existing within those breeds.

The draft Implementing Regulation designates the European Union reference centre for endangered animal breeds. The scope of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 is limited to breeding animals of bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine species and therefore the activities of that European Union reference centre should be related to endangered breeds of those animal species only. The evaluation and selection committee proposed the consortium led by Stichting Wageningen Research, Wageningen Livestock Research, the Netherlands, which comprises Institut de l'Élevage, France and the Federal Office of Agriculture and Food, Germany, for that function. The European Union reference centre for endangered animal breeds will start its activities on 1 January 2023.

Vote taken: Favourable opinion.

M.01 Listing of breeding bodies in accordance with Article 34 of the Animal Breeding Regulation.

The Commission, on a daily basis, is updating the list of breeding bodies which is published at https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/zootecnics/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) of the Animal Breeding Regulation.

The Commission requested the Committee to express its views on the possible listing of one breeding organisation from a third country. Member States are requested to send their positions in writing.

M.02 Zootechnical certificates for the offspring of purebred breeding animals in a Member State without a breeding book for those breeds.

The Commission requested Member States to consider the situation of the offspring of purebred breeding animals which were moved from other Member States or entered from third countries to a Member State where there is no breeding book for particular breed or there is no extension of the geographical territory of breeding programmes to the territory of that Member State. Based on the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 there seems to be no option for the offspring of those purebred breeding

animals to receive a zootechnical certificate. Member States are requested to send their opinion in writing.

M.03 Possible amendments to the Animal Breeding Regulation.

One Member State suggested an amendment to Regulation (EU) 2016/1012. The Commission stated that this Regulation is only applicable for the last four years and the focus should be put more on implementation of the current provisions.

The Commission proposed that Member States, in case of any requests for changes, they send them to the Commission in writing.