



Cattle

Network

EAAP Cattle Network Working Group

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Beef Task Force Meeting Report

EAAP office, Rome

17 - 18 November 2006

Participants: Andrea Rosati, Andie Dimitriadou, Milan Zjalic (EAAP, Italy), Daniel Brueggemann (FAL, Germany), Patrick Sarzeaud, Frédéric Bécherel (Institut de l'Élevage, France), Gerry Keane (Teagasc, Ireland)

Excused: Claudio Montanari, Kees de Roest (CRPA, Italy), Ernesto Abel Reyes (Tragsega, Spain).

1. Historical review, objectives and composition of the Beef Task Force in relation to the Cattle Network Working Group and the Livestock Farming Systems Commission of the EAAP (Cf. P. Sarzeaud's slides)

Based on the conclusions of the Workshop in Uppsala (Sweden, June 2005), the meeting in Paris (France, November 2005), and the meeting during the IFCN Conference in Braunschweig (Agribenchmark annual meeting, Germany, May 2006).

1.1 The first proposals for common projects are:

- Common classification of farming systems for quantification and survey treatments.
- Competitiveness of farming systems and beef production.
- Impact of the CAP reform on European beef farming systems.
- Implementation of different strategies of adaptation for beef farming systems.

1.2- A project supported by the EAAP Cattle Network Working Group:

- In collaboration with the Livestock Farming Systems Commission & the Cattle Production Commission.
- Focusing on proposals for common projects between European countries concerning the new context of production (CAP reform, market rules, reduced number of farms etc).
- Leading to comparisons (competitiveness and sustainability of beef production) and completing the work of the IFCN network (FAL).

The microanalysis of the farming systems is useful both for policy makers and farmers.

1.3 The composition of the Beef Task Force:

- Kees de Roest, Claudio Montanari (Research Centre for Animal Production, Italy)
- Claus Deblitz, Daniel Brueggemann (Institute of Farm Economics, Germany)
- Gerry Keane (Teagasc, Ireland)
- Ernesto Abel Reyes (Tragsega, Spain)
- Milan Zjalic, Andie Dimitriadou (EAAP)
- Frédéric Bécherel, Patrick Sarzeaud (French Livestock Institute, France)

1.4 Possible fields of collaboration:

- Write a report on the impact of the CAP on European beef farming systems.
- Describe a common classification and zoning for farming systems and regions in the European livestock sector.

- Be ready in case of a European tender about CAP implementation.

2. The BTF report (in the context of the Cattle Network workshop - EAAP Annual Meeting, Dublin, 24-25 August 2007)

2.1 Framework (see P. Sarzeaud's paper and slides)

Part 1: The policy issue

Historical and technical analysis of the EU Common Agricultural Policy: objectives and applications (SFP) for farmers among the different countries. Link with the WTO discussions. Presentation of the new rules.

Based on the contributions of G. Keane and C. Deblitz.

Part 2: The diversity of beef farming systems in Europe

Zoning of the livestock regions, types of beef farming systems, location and production involvement. Based on a typology produced by V. Le Chatellier and C. Perrot on FADN analysis and the proposal for a zoning of systems developed by A. Pflimlin in Uppsala.

Note: include beef and milk farming systems and provide the keys of the typology.

Part 3: National contributions

National beef production and herds: size and evolution, location and principal characteristics (breeds, link with the dairy herd, etc). [10-15 lines - a map?]

National beef farming systems

Based on data available at a large scale or at network level, make a brief presentation of the different beef farming systems in your country, reaching a common classification if possible. As regards the main farming systems, describe their location and present important facts regarding their management in terms of feeding, type of beef produced, etc.

Source: e.g. national survey in Ireland, CRPA network in Italy, etc. [10-15 lines - a map?]

The main evolution of the systems irrespective of the CAP

This part concerns size evolution, specialisation or change in management according to the economic and social developments: retirement of farmers, cost of land, environmental policy, sanitary policy, etc. [if possible]

CAP implementation

This part concerns the presentation of the decoupling and other cross-compliance policies in each country. As regards decoupling, we could use the same chart (cf. France, part on decoupling). Explanation of the single farm payment implementation (e.g. case of Germany until 2013). Some illustrations can be given with typical cases (cf. France). This part should be completed with cross-compliance subsidies and other national policies (e.g. REPS in Ireland). [15-20 lines]

Farmers' intentions

Based on results from surveys or polls. [if possible]

Impact of the CAP on economic results

The best would be to know the impact on the income and on the sustainability of beef production. The proposal is either to present results from simulation on typical cases or to show the first farm results (2005) after the CAP implementation (if available), with your comments about the role of the CAP (premiums) in it.

For example: the Irish national survey, last results of the CRPA network, etc. [15-20 lines]

Consequences for each system

In this part, you are expected to present your considerations about the future of the beef activity in different systems according to the context evolution and in particular about: size, type of beef produced (age, weight, breeds, etc), management (feeding, husbandry, housing, intensification level: stocking rate, etc).

[10 lines per system or more if necessary]

Part 4 : synthesis

General discussion about the future of systems and production according to the impact of the CAP, market evolution, farmers' intentions, etc.

This part will be discussed jointly in order to produce a synthesis.

2.2 Documents available in Rome

- Irish and French parts: slides and text in progress,
- German part: slides and text to be completed,
- Italian part: text to be completed and statistical information,
- Spanish part: text to be written,
- Synthesis: to be written.

2.3 Time schedule for the BTF Report

- Information on the Rome meeting must be sent to all the members of the BTF in the end of November; confirmation of the participation in the Beef report expected by the end of December.
- National parts should be written by each member by the end of January 2007 and sent to P. Sarzeaud; P. Sarzeaud and F. Bécherel will write a proposal for the 2 first parts.
- By the end of February 2007: composition of the Report by P. Sarzeaud and F. Bécherel, sent to all the participants.
- By the end of March 2007: Report to be checked and corrected by all the participants; corrections sent to P. Sarzeaud.
- By the end of April 2007: second writing of the Report sent to the participants.
- By the end of May 2007: last suggestions and corrections on the 3 first parts; proposal for a common synthesis (part 4); checking and proofreading by the EAAP office in Rome (Andie Dimitriadou and Milan Zjalic).

N.B.: Possibility to ask other members to participate in the Report, like Duncan Sinclair (UK) or Pernilla Salevid (Sweden).

2.4 Publication

- Publication of the Report by EAAP, possibly in the EAAP Technical Series.
- Presentation of the Report during the Cattle Network Workshop in Dublin (24-25 August 2007).

3. Proposals for the organization of the workshop in Dublin (August 24th - 25th 2007)

30 to 50 participants are expected. Jean-Noël Bonnet (French Livestock Institute) shall be the Chairman. The proposed structure is as follows:

Friday, 24 August 2007

- Introduction, presentation of the programme (Chairman).
- Presentation of the BTF, of the Report and of the two first parts (P. Sarzeaud)

- Brief presentation of a synthesis on 5 main topics:
 - Different choices among countries as far as the new CAP reform is concerned.
 - Past and current evolution of the main beef farming systems in Europe according to their size.
 - Consequences on the main beef fattening systems (herds, products, income and land use).
 - Consequences on the lean beef farming systems (herds, products, income and land use).
 - Synthesis of the report.
- Note:* The following people could be involved as speakers: K. de Roest or C. Montanari, F. Bécherel, C. Deblitz, G. Keane (?) or an economist of Teagasc, M. Zjalic.
- Work in groups on the first 4 points: discussions linked to real experiences (1 chairman and 1 rapporteur for each group).
- Reporting to the assembly and general discussion.
- Conclusions and new steps (Chairman).

Saturday 25th of August

Morning:

Participation of representatives of the Irish beef farmers and beef industry, European representatives of COPA-COGECA and representatives of the European Commission.

Short presentation of the conclusions of the report and the group work and debate on the current and next rules of the CAP in Europe.

Afternoon:

Possibility to organize a farm visit in the vicinity of Dublin (to be discussed with G. Keane and J-N. Bonnet).

Timetable for the Dublin Workshop:

- Validation by the Cattle Commission of EAAP by the end of 2006.
- Program printed and sent to the participants in January 2007.
- A meeting with all the speakers and organizers could be organised in Paris in May (date to be defined), with the purpose of:
 - validating and adding comments on the European classification of the beef farming systems;
 - working on the synthesis and conclusion of the Report;
 - defining precisely the oral presentations for the Workshop and preparing the debates.