




# Project on international genetic evaluation on beef Cattle

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EAAP Steering committee, 4th March 2004

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## An opportunity

- In 2000, Ireland (ICBF) looked for a solution to obtain breeding values for purebeef bulls
- ICBF Initiated a European Project with
  - » 2 others « sponsors »
    - France (Institut de l'Elevage)
    - UK (MLC)
  - » In relation with ICAR and specially Interbull and ICAR beef working group




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## Structure of the project

- INRA : prototype for European genetic evaluation for beef cattle using elementary data
  - » SGQA (Gilles Renand team)
  - » Application on Limousine and Charolais breeds for UK, Ireland and France
- AGBU (Australia) : study of comparison between breeding values obtained in different systems
  - » European system
  - » North American system
  - » Australian-New Zealand System




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## Schedule

- INRA sub project (EUBEEVAL : European BEef EVALuation)
  - » begun in second part of 2001 for 18 months
  - » Ended in March 2003
- AGBU project
  - » begun mid 2003
  - » end : End 2004.
- Now...
  - » Political decisions is going to be necessary...




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## EUBEEVAL

- EUBEEVAL : EUROpean BEef EVALuation
  - » A collaborative project :
    - » between the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA SGQA, France)
      - and the
      - Irish Cattle Breeding Federation (Ireland)
      - Meat and Livestock Commission (UK)
      - Institut de l'Elevage (France)
      - Interbull sub-committee and Beef working group (ICAR)
- For the development of an International Genetic Evaluation
  - » In Europe
  - » with Charolais and Limousin breeds as support of the tests



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## First INRA results

- This project showed :
  - » The feasibility of an International Genetic Evaluation
  - » The heterogeneity of environment effects on performance
  - » The potential benefit for the selection intensity
  - » The need for a good definition of fixed effects
  - » The need for a good identification of imported seed stocks

Renand et Al, Interbull meeting, Roma, 2003



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## Future...



- **An opportunity of**
  - » Common European genetic evaluation on beef cattle
    - Feasibility is validate
    - Exchange data system is under construction
    - This week : discussion with ICAR and Interbull to determine the appropriate organisation
- **A sound and recognized opportunity for country with a little number of recorded herds**
  - » To obtain breeding value to improve their beef herds
- **But this project needs again time and funds to give a good level of service**



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