

European Commission Health and Consumer Protection Directorate-General

EU zootechnical legislation

with view to

Cross-border activities of breeding organisations

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Zootechnical legislation for cattle in connection to other legal fields

- ✓ Zootechnics (77/504...)
- ✓ Import/Export (2342/92)
- ✓ Identification/Registration (1760/2000 ...)
- ✓ Market/Premiums (1254/99 ...)
- ✓ Animal Health (88/407 ...)
- ✓ Endangered breeds (445/2002 ...)
- ✓ Animal Welfare (91/628 ...)
- ✓ Financial aid (1/2004 ... 2000/C28/02)

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Basic aim of EU zootechnical legislation

- ✓ free trade of breeding animals and their genetic material as standardised products
- ✓ legal right to enter a herdbook of the same breed

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The aims are reached by harmonised...

- ✓ recognition of breeding organisations
- ✓ pedigree certificates
- ✓ criteria governing entry in herdbooks
- ✓ performance testing and genetic value assessment
- ✓ acceptance for breeding purposes

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EU-zootechnical legislation

	bovine		pigs		sheep/goats	equidae	other animals
	pure-bred	hybride					
Basic Directives: herdbook, breeders organisations, trade semen, ova embryos	Dir. 77/504	Dir. 88/661	Dir. 90/119	Dir. 90/119	C.D. 90/257	--	Dir. 91/174
acceptance for breeding recognition breeders organisations	Dir. 87/228 C.D. 84/247	Dir. 90/118 C.D. 89/501	Dir. 90/119 C.D. 89/504	Dir. 90/119 C.D. 89/504	C.D. 90/254	C.D. 92/353 C.D. 92/354	--
entering in herdbooks	C.D. 84/419	C.D. 89/502	C.D. 89/505	C.D. 89/505	C.D. 90/255	C.D. 96/78	--
performance testing and genetic value assessment	C.D. 86/130 (C.D. 94/515)	C.D. 89/507			C.D. 90/256	--	--
pedigree certificate							
- animals	C.D. 86/404						C.D. 93/623 C.D. 2000/68
- semen, embryos	C.D. 88/124 C.D. 96/80 (C.D. 2002/8)	C.D. 89/503	C.D. 89/506		C.D. 90/258		C.D. 96/79
Importation from Third Countries				Dir. 94/28			
- Pedigree certificates	C.D. 96/509				C.D. 96/510		(C.D. 93/623)
special regulations							
	INTERBULL Cou.D. 96/463 - financial aid						Competitions Dir. 90/428 Dain C.D. 92/216 96/C 41/03

Dir. Council Directive
 C.D. Commission Decision
 Cou.D. Council Decision

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The screenshot shows the 'Animal Health and Welfare' page on the European Commission website. It features a navigation menu with options like 'Home', 'About Us', 'Contact Us', and 'Help'. The main content area is titled 'Zoonoses/Animal Health and Welfare' and lists legislative acts under two categories: 'Bovine animals (cattle, buffaloes)' and 'Particulate animals (pigs)'. Under 'Bovine animals', there are sub-sections for 'Basic Directive', 'Recognition of breeding organisations', 'Entering in herds/books', 'Pedigree certificates', 'Performance testing and genetic evaluation', and 'Acceptance for breeding'. Each sub-section lists relevant legislative acts such as Council Directive 77/248/EEC, Commission Decision 84/247/EEC, and Council Directive 86/441/EEC. A sidebar on the right contains a 'Resources' section with links to 'Consumer Voice Newsletter', 'Committees', 'Lobby', 'Ethnobotanical Affairs', 'Organisations', 'Codes', 'Import Conditions', 'Pets and Animal Welfare', and 'Entertainment'. At the bottom, there are icons for 'Food and Food Safety', 'Animal Health and Welfare', 'Plant Health', and 'PVO Implications'.

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What is an approved breeding organisation?

- ✓ breeders' organisation or association
- ✓ keeping a herdbook
- ✓ carrying out a breeding programme
- ✓ approved by authorities of the Member State of its headquarters

➤ according to Commission Decision 84/247/EEC

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Current legal position

Neither the Treaty establishing the EU nor Directive 77/504/EEC and Decision 84/247/EEC limit the activities of breeding organisations to the Member State on whose territory they are constituted.

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Cross-border activities of approved breeding organisations

- ✓ already possible without restrictions
 - principles of Common Market (EC Treaty)
 - harmonised recognition (Dec. 84/247/EC)
- ✓ assistance and cooperation of authorities according to Dir. 89/608/EEC
- ✓ practiced in a number of cases

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Necessity for further development in Community legislation?

- ✓ information and hearing of the Member States concerned in case of cross-border activities
- ✓ algorithm to solve problematic cases
- ✓ specification of criteria for recognition

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Legislative actions on Community level

- ✓ concretion and improvement of existing rules demanded several times
- ✓ draft Commission Decision discussed
- ✓ in case of refusal Commission assumes that existing rules are sufficient

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Starting points for further developments

Possible specification of criteria for recognition:

- ✓ definition of a geographic territory of activities
- ✓ testing programme taking into account Dir. 87/328/EEC
- ✓ parentage recording in accordance with ICAR principles
- ✓ identification according to Reg. 1760/2000
- ✓ non discriminatory services for members
- ✓ possibility to refuse in case of endangerment of genetic resources

Outlook

harmonisation of principles on EU level
reference to international standards in technical matters

e.g. ICAR

- ✓ performance recording, genetic evaluation
- ✓ recording and verification of parentage
- ✓ data exchange (structure, ownership of data)??
- ✓ essentials of a breeding programme (bull-testing)??
- ✓ certification of herdbook keeping and parentage recording??
- ✓ certification of breeding programmes??

Thanks for your attention!

What is a breed?

Animals that, through selection and breeding, have come to resemble one another and pass those traits uniformly to their offspring.

What is a breed?

"A breed is a group of domestic animals, termed such by common consent of the breeders, ... a term which arose among breeders of livestock, created one might say, for their own use, and no one is warranted in assigning to this word a scientific definition and in calling the breeders wrong when they deviate from the formulated definition. It is their word and the breeders common usage is what we must accept as the correct definition."

Jay L. Lush in *The Genetics of Populations*

Approach for ICAR

- ✓ "breeds" (populations) assuring reciprocity
- ✓ coordinated amendment of breeding objectives including crossbreeding
- ✓ agreements on data exchange