

Animal Health & Welfare Genetics and FABRE TP Challenge session at the 75th EAAP Florence, Italy



ANIMAL WELFARE VERSUS GENETIC PROGRESS?

IS GENETIC PROGRESS THE PROBLEM, OR CAN IT BE PART OF THE SOLUTION FOR BETTER ANIMAL WELFARE?

Challenge session (51)

F. Gottardo & L. Boyle (Animal Health and Welfare Commission)

F. Miglior (Genetics Commission)

Ana Granados, Geena Cartick & N. Duijvesteijn (FABRE TP)







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IS GENETIC PROGRESS THE PROBLEM OR CAN IT BE PART OF THE SOLUTION FOR BETTER ANIMAL WELFARE?

Co-Chairs:



Naomi Duijvesteijn Chair of FABRE TP Hendrix Genetics



Flaviana Gottardo AH&W Commission Padova University

In this joint challenge session of AH&W – Genetics EAAP Study Commissions and FABRE TP, we will discuss Animal Breeding, Genetics, and Animal Welfare in sustainable livestock systems.

We want to invite speakers and the audience to constructive debates on the role of animal genetics in animal welfare and how animal welfare can be improved and considered in future breeding programmes.



Engaging in dialogue with policymakers and stakeholders

Members of EFFAB/ FABRE TP

Advocating for proportionate and science-based policy and legislation



Supporting and promoting responsible animal breeding through code EFABAR

EU authorities NGOs and stakeholders

Promoting and supporting research and innovation







ENGAGING in dialogue within the scientific community and beyond



Farmers

Understand each other perspectives and contributions to improve animal farming

Stakeholders & NGOs

Breeders

Policymakers

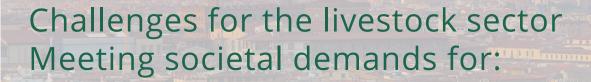
AW scientists

Animal Geneticists





Discuss the direction of travel for animal farming (and breeding)





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- ✓ Environmental sustainability (climate change mitigation and adaptation, reduced use of resources, dependence of fossil fuels...)
- ✓ Prudent use of antimicrobials to avoid antimicrobial resistance
- ✓ Biodiversity preservation
- ✓ Enhance food security and safety at the EU and Global level

Higher standard for animal health and welfare (see EU Citizen Initiative "End the Cage Age", Eurobarometer's survey)







Challenges for the livestock sector
Meeting the livestock sector's demands
for:



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- ✓ Socio-economic sustainability due to increased production costs and low prices at the farm gate
- ✓ Generation renewal (11% of farmers are less than 40 years old in the EU) and the availability of professionals
- ✓ Vitality of rural areas
- ✓ Appropriate regulatory frameworks









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Genetic solutions beside



Research and innovation for further and improved knowledge on: Nutrition and feeding, Health, Behaviour, Housing systems



Adoption of new technologies (precision livestock farming, biotechnologies, Al ...)

- should be part of a broader multifaceted strategy that includes improving environmental conditions, nutrition and overall **ANIMAL WELFARE?**
- are we approaching operating and biological limits with genetic improvements?

Agenda

09:45 AM

10:00 AM

10:15 AM

10:45 AM

11:15-12:30

08:30 AM

WELCOME by the chairs of the session:
Flaviana Gottardo - Padova University
Naomi Duijvesteijn - FABRE TP chair, Hendrix Genetics

08:45 AM Reversing the detrimental impact of genetic selection on farm animal welfare: P. Stevenson (CIWF)

The evolution of dairy cattle breeding objectives: R. Finocchiaro (ANAFIBJ)

Predicting the agility of breeding programs to adapt to future societal demands: J. ten Napel (WUR)

Breeding goal scenarios to quantify EU policy options on pig reproductive traits: L. Vargovic (Topigs Norsvin)

EAAP official coffee break

Do pig farms reconciliate sow prolificacy, preweaning piglet survival and weaned litter size Typology and results of French herds: S. Boulot (IFIP)

HenTrack 2.0 Project: Improving breeding programs with superior behaviour and welfare phenotypes: M. Toscano (Bern University)

Summary of the presentations and discussion with the audience in the room: Chairs moderation



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At the end of each presentation it is possible to pose no more of 1 or 2 questions on methodologies.



At the end of all presentations, the participants to the session are invited to ask questions and comments to the speakers. All are invited to participate actively to the discussion





2 FIRST INVITED SPEAKERS

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1. REVERSING THE DETRIMENTAL IMPACT OF GENETIC SELECTION ON FARM ANIMAL WELFARE? 30 minutes



PETER STEVENSON
Chief Policy Advisor at Compassion in World Farming

2. THE EVOLUTION OF DAIRY
CATTLE BREEDING OBJECTIVES
30 minutes
Raffaella Finocchiaro



RAFFAELLA FINOCCHIARO

Head researcher - Research and Development office - ANAFIBJ-Italian Holstein, Brown and Jersey Association

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3 Submitted abstracts from academia and private sector

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3. PREDICTING THE AGILITY OF BREEEDING PROGRAMS TO ADAPT TO FUTURE SOCIETAL DEMANDS- 15 minutes





5. DO PIG FARMS RECONCILIATE SOW PROLIFICITY, PRE-WEANING PIGLET SURVIVAL and WEANED LITTER SIZE: FRENCH STUDY – 15 minutes







LAURA VARGOVIC, TOPIGS NORSVIN



SYLVIANE BULOT, IFIP Institute du Porc





1 more invited speaker & Discussion

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6. HENTRACK 2.0 Project : IMPROVING BREEDI PROGRAMS WITH SUPERIOR BEHAVIOR AND WELFARE PHENOTYPES

- 15 minutes



MICHAEL TOSCANO
Senior Scientist (Group Leader of Poultry
Housing and Welfare) at University of Bern

7. SUMMARY of the PRESENTATIONS and DISCUSSION WITH THE AUDIENCE IN THE ROOM

- 1h 15 minutes

SPEAKERS and CO-CHAIRS





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