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Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

2014/0032(COD)

17.10.2014

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

for the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the zootechnical and genealogical conditions for trade in and imports into the Union of breeding animals and their germinal products (COM(2014)0005 – C7-0032/2014 – 2014/0032(COD))

Rapporteur: Michel Dantin

PA_Legam

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The aim of European Union zootechnical legislation is to encourage intra-EU free trade in, and facilitate imports of, breeding animals and their genetic material, while ensuring that breeding programmes and genetic resource preservation programmes, and thereby all the breeds which exist in Europe, are maintained.

The breeding of livestock, particularly of animals with a high level of genetic particularity, not only contributes to the economic and social development of the area in which it takes place, but is also one of the pillars on which the EU's food security is based.

Efforts to achieve competitiveness, in particular to allow major European breeds to be exported internationally, should not jeopardise local breeds – some of which are in very low numbers – which are an integral part of the biogenetic diversity in Europe. Throughout this text your rapporteur has sought to maintain this balance.

The Commission's intention was to bring together all the directives relating to the zootechnical legislation on different species into a single body of law in the form of this Regulation in order to complete the single market in this area. While your rapporteur supports this approach, certain provisions nevertheless need to be amended, in view of the objective referred to in the preceding paragraph.

In particular, the concepts of 'breed', 'breeding programme', 'preservation programme' and 'compromising preservation or genetic diversity', which are vital to the interpretation of the Regulation, are missing. Your rapporteur felt it appropriate to incorporate them into his draft report.

In addition, Articles 5 and 9, which deal in particular with the preservation of biodiversity, have been supplemented to take into account all the circumstances that might jeopardise a local breed which is established in Europe.

Furthermore, in the opinion of your rapporteur, equine animals cannot be treated in this Regulation in the same way as other species on account of the particularity of their breeding book. While the EU has the honour of hosting the headquarters of their organisation, the major equine breeds are organised internationally, which is not something that needs to be called into question. Europe is today the world leader in equidae production. The diversity and quality of the stud books should be preserved.

Finally, your rapporteur wishes to reiterate the importance of the work of the International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR) regarding identification methods, performance monitoring rules and genetic assessment of livestock. The ICAR should be clearly designated as the reference body in the development of zootechnical legislation in its areas of competence.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, as the committee responsible, to take into account the following amendments:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) The breeding of **domestic animals** of the bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine species, and to a lesser extent the breeding of animals of other species, occupy **an important** place in Union agriculture and is a source of income for the agricultural community. The breeding of animals of those species is best encouraged if purebred breeding animals or hybrid breeding pigs of recorded high genetic quality are used.

Amendment

(1) The breeding of **livestock** of the bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine species, and to a lesser extent the breeding of animals of other species, occupy **a strategic** place in Union agriculture **in economic and social terms. This agricultural activity, which contributes to food security in the Union**, is a source of income for the agricultural community. The breeding of animals of those species is best encouraged if purebred breeding animals or hybrid breeding pigs of recorded high genetic quality are used.

Or. fr

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(2a) However, efforts to achieve competitiveness must not lead to the disappearance of breeds with characteristics that are adapted to specific biophysical contexts. Local breeds may be at risk if not maintained in sufficient number, which would represent a loss of biogenetic diversity.

Or. fr

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(11) However, the terminus "breed" should remain an undetermined legal concept allowing breed societies to describe the group of animals of sufficient genetic uniformity that they consider as distinct from other animals of that species and to enter them with mention of their known ascendants in breeding books in order to reproduce their inherited characteristics by way of reproduction, exchange and selection within the framework of an established breeding programme.

deleted

Or. fr

Justification

The concept of a 'breed' occurs throughout the regulation, but it is not defined. For reasons of legal certainty your rapporteur proposes a definition.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(16) The quality of the services provided by breed societies and breeding operations and the way that they evaluate and classify animals has an impact on the value of breeding animals on the market. Accordingly, rules should be laid down for the recognition of breed societies and breeding operations based on harmonised Union criteria and their supervision by the competent authority of Member States in order to ensure that the rules established by them do not create disparities between

(16) The quality of the services provided by breed societies and breeding operations and the way that they evaluate and classify animals ***define the animal's performance level and*** has an impact on the value of breeding animals on the market. Accordingly, rules should be laid down for the recognition of breed societies and breeding operations based on harmonised Union criteria and their supervision by the competent authority of Member States in order to ensure that the rules established by

breeding programmes and breeding standards and thereby create technical barriers to intra-Union trade.

them do not create disparities between breeding programmes and breeding standards and thereby create technical barriers to intra-Union trade.

Or. fr

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 34

Text proposed by the Commission

(34) Performance testing and genetic evaluation may be carried out by institutions designated by the breed society or the breeding operation. Those designated institutions shall cooperate with the European Union reference centres designated by the Commission. The Commission should therefore be empowered to designate by way of implementing acts European Union reference centres and the necessary powers should be granted to the Commission to adopt delegated acts describing their duties and functions, where necessary by amending Annex IV. Those reference centres qualify for Union aid in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC of 25 May 2009 on expenditure in the veterinary field¹⁵. In the case of purebred breeding animals of the bovine species, performance testing and genetic evaluation carried out by a breed society are at present assisted by the Interbull Centre, the **European Union reference body** designated by Council Decision 96/463/EC of 23 July 1996 **designating** the reference body responsible for collaborating in rendering uniform the testing methods and the assessment of the results for purebred breeding animals of the bovine species¹⁶.

Amendment

(34) Performance testing and genetic evaluation may be carried out by institutions designated by the breed society or the breeding operation. Those designated institutions shall cooperate with the European Union reference centres designated by the Commission. The Commission should therefore be empowered to designate by way of implementing acts European Union reference centres and the necessary powers should be granted to the Commission to adopt delegated acts describing their duties and functions, where necessary by amending Annex IV. Those reference centres qualify for Union aid in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC of 25 May 2009 on expenditure in the veterinary field¹⁵. In the case of purebred breeding animals of the bovine species, performance testing and genetic evaluation carried out by a breed society are at present assisted by the Interbull Centre, **a permanent sub-committee of the International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR)**, designated by Council Decision 96/463/EC of 23 July 1996 **as** the reference body responsible for collaborating in rendering uniform the testing methods and the assessment of the results for purebred breeding animals of the bovine species¹⁶.

¹⁵ OJ L 155, 18.6.2009, p. 30.

¹⁶ OJ L 192, 2.8.1996, p. 19.

¹⁵ OJ L 155, 18.6.2009, p. 30.

¹⁶ OJ L 192, 2.8.1996, p. 19.

Or. fr

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – point a – sub-paragraph (i)

Text proposed by the Commission

(i) the bovine species (*Bos taurus* and *Bubalus bubalis*), porcine species (*Sus scrofa*), ovine species (*Ovis aries*), caprine species (*Capra hircus*);

Amendment

(i) the bovine species (*Bos spp.* and *Bubalus bubalis*), porcine species (*Sus scrofa*), ovine species (*Ovis aries*), caprine species (*Capra hircus*);

Or. fr

Justification

*Proposal to adopt the denomination *Bos spp.* in order to extend the scope of the Regulation to include zebus, which live and are bred in the outermost regions.*

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(aa) ‘breed’ means a group of animals having sufficient points in common to be considered homogeneous by one or more groups of breeders who agree on the organisation of the stock renewal of the breeding animals and related trade, including at international level;

Or. fr

Justification

The concept of a 'breed' occurs throughout the regulation, but it is not defined. For reasons of legal certainty your rapporteur proposes a definition.

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – point f a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(fa) 'breeding programme' means a process conducted in accordance with this Regulation for the genetic improvement of animals and comprising all the following operations:

- defining the breeding objectives, criteria and populations to be measured;

- selecting or reproducing breeding animals which are suitable for distribution;

- organising the collection and processing of data through the implementation of any appropriate arrangements for genetic evaluation of breeding animals;

- organising the distribution of selected breeding animals, on the basis of their genetic evaluation results;

Or. fr

Justification

The concept of a 'breeding programme' occurs throughout the regulation, but it is not defined. For reasons of legal certainty your rapporteur proposes a definition.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – point f b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(fb) 'preservation programme' means a

programme which aims to preserve the genetic heritage of a population or breed through the implementation of appropriate actions in situ (on live animals) or ex situ (preservation of reproductive material or tissue);

Or. fr

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – point f c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(fc) ‘compromising the preservation or genetic diversity of a breed’ means a phenomenon whereby the recognition of a new breed society or the approval of a breeding programme for the same breed has the effect of prejudicing the management of the genetic heritage of that breed owing to a lack of coordination in the management of the animals by the different recognised breed societies for the same breed and a lack of information sharing between the recognised breed societies, leading to a loss of efficiency in terms of expected genetic progress, control of the increase in inbreeding and the management of genetic anomalies;

Or. fr

Justification

The concept of ‘compromising the preservation or genetic diversity of a breed’ occurs throughout the Regulation, but it is not defined. For reasons of legal certainty your rapporteur proposes a definition.

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – point i – sub-paragraph ii

Text proposed by the Commission

(ii) of the species referred to in point (a)(ii) which descends from parents entered in the main section of a breeding book of the same breed and which is itself entered or registered and eligible for entry in the main section of such a breeding book in accordance with Article 19;

Amendment

(ii) of the species referred to in point (a)(ii) which descends from parents entered in the main section of a breeding book of the same breed and which is itself entered or registered and eligible for entry in the main section of such a breeding book, **including geldings**, in accordance with Article 19;

Or. fr

Justification

The current definition, which only includes breeding animals, does not correspond to the particularities of the equine breeding book, in which animals are registered at birth, regardless of whether or not they will be breeding animals in future. This relates in particular to geldings and their status as ‘registered equidae’.

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – point o

Text proposed by the Commission

(o) "merit" means a **quantifiable heritable** characteristic **of a breeding animal**;

Amendment

(o) ‘merit’ means **an estimate of the effect of an animal’s genotype on a given** characteristic **which it may transmit to its progeny**;

Or. fr

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. By way of derogation from Article

Amendment

1. By way of derogation from Article

4(2)(b), the competent authority may refuse to recognise a breed society that complies with the requirements set out in Part 1 of Annex I where the breeding programme of that breed society would compromise the preservation or the genetic diversity of purebred breeding animals entered, or registered and eligible for entry, in the breeding book established for that breed by a breed society that has already been recognised in that Member State.

4(2)(b), the competent authority may refuse to recognise a breed society that complies with the requirements set out in Part 1 of Annex I where the breeding programme of that breed society would:

- compromise the preservation or the genetic diversity of purebred breeding animals entered, or registered and eligible for entry, in the breeding book established for that breed by a breed society that has already been recognised in that Member State, *or*;

- *compromise the improvement or breeding programme of a breed society that has already been recognised for that breed, or*;

- *compromise the objectives of the Nagoya Protocol and the Convention on Biological Diversity in relation to biodiversity conservation, or*;

- *compromise the approved breeding programme in the case of equine breeds.*

Or. fr

Justification

The provisions on the possibilities for refusing to grant recognition to breed societies should be supplemented to prevent a proliferation of breed societies for the same breed in a given territory, which would reduce clarity for users.

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 2 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ca) potential interference and a weakening which would result from the

recognition of a body registering the same breeding animals as a breed society that has already been recognised.

Or. fr

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The **competent authority referred to in Article 4 may authorise** breed societies and breeding operations **to** outsource the technical management of their breeding book or breed register and other specific aspects of their breeding programme to a third party, provided that:

Amendment

2. The breed societies and breeding operations **may** outsource the technical management of their breeding book or breed register and other specific aspects of their breeding programme to a third party, provided that:

Or. fr

Justification

It should be up to the breed societies to decide whether or not to outsource the technical management of their breeding books or breed registers and other specific aspects of their breeding programmes.

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Breed societies and breeding operations that choose to take up the option provided for in the first subparagraph shall inform the competent authority that they have done so.

Or. fr

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 71 concerning **amendments to** the requirements for the approval of breeding programmes set up in Part 2 and, in the case of purebred equine animals, in Part 3 of Annex I to take account of the variety of breeding programmes carried out by breed societies and breeding operations.

Amendment

3. The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 71 concerning the requirements for the approval of breeding programmes set up in Part 2 and, in the case of purebred equine animals, in Part 3 of Annex I to take account of the variety of breeding programmes carried out by breed societies and breeding operations.

Or. fr

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) provide the competent authority referred to in point (a), together with that notification, with a copy of the application for approval of the breeding programme provided for in Article 8(1).

Amendment

(b) provide the competent authority referred to in point (a), together with that notification, with a copy, **in that authority's national language**, of the application for approval of the breeding programme provided for in Article 8(1).

Or. fr

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) the approval of a further breeding programme would fragment the population of purebred breeding animals available in

Amendment

(b) the approval of a further breeding programme would fragment the population of purebred breeding animals available in

that Member State to an *extent* that would compromise the preservation or the genetic diversity of that breed.

that Member State to an *extent* that would compromise the preservation or the genetic diversity of that breed ***or result in developments that depart from or are inconsistent with the characteristics specified for the breed in that Member State.***

Or. fr

Justification

Where there is more than one breeding programme for a given breed, it is important to ensure that the programmes are consistent with one another. Any inconsistencies would detract from the uniformity of the animals of that breed and undermine the breeding objectives set by breeders.

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation

Article 20 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 71 concerning ***amendments to*** the conditions for the recording of animals in supplementary sections of breeding books set out in Chapter III of Part 1 of Annex II.

Amendment

2. The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 71 concerning the conditions for the recording of animals in supplementary sections of breeding books set out in Chapter III of Part 1 of Annex II.

Or. fr

Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation

Article 21 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Breed societies shall not exclude on zootechnical or genealogical grounds, other than those resulting from the application of Article 19, the use of purebred breeding animals entered in the main section of their

Amendment

1. Breed societies shall not exclude on zootechnical or genealogical grounds, other than those resulting from the application of Article 19 ***and Article 27***, the use of purebred breeding animals entered in the

breeding book for breeding using the following reproduction techniques:

main section of their breeding book for breeding using the following reproduction techniques:

Or. fr

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation

Article 21 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1a. By way of derogation from paragraph 1, equine breed societies may, for the purposes of their breeding programmes or in order to safeguard genetic diversity within a breed, place restrictions on or prohibit acceptance of breeding animals and their germinal products for breeding using specific reproduction methods, as well as the use of natural reproduction or artificial reproduction (artificial insemination, in vivo or in vitro production of embryos) techniques on purebred breeding animals entered in the main section of their breeding book.

Or. fr

Justification

Article 21(1) implies that artificial insemination may be prohibited only on certain performance testing and genetic evaluation grounds. In respect of equine animals, the regulation must allow breed societies to choose which reproduction methods to use in their breeding programmes.

Amendment 23

Proposal for a regulation

Article 22 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. Breed societies shall require that purebred breeding animals of the bovine

1. Breed societies shall require that purebred breeding animals of the bovine,

species and male purebred breeding animals of dairy breeds of the ovine and caprine species are identified by analysis of their blood group or by any other appropriate method providing at least the same degree of certainty when they are used for:

ovine and caprine species are identified by analysis of their blood group, **by single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) analysis, by microsatellite analysis** or by any other appropriate method providing at least the same degree of certainty when they are used for:

Or. fr

Justification

SNP and microsatellite analysis need to be included among the reference methods.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation

Article 22 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The Commission shall take account of advances in identification methods on the basis of the work of the ICAR and the International Society of Animal Genetics (ISAG).

Or. fr

Amendment 25

Proposal for a regulation

Article 27 – paragraph 2 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. Where a breeding programme approved in accordance with Article 8(1) or Article 9 requires performance testing and genetic evaluation for the classification of purebred breeding animals of the equine species in breeding books and for the acceptance for breeding of **male** breeding animals of the equine species and their **semen**, breed societies shall ensure that such

2. Where a breeding programme approved in accordance with Article 8(1) or Article 9 requires performance testing and genetic evaluation for the classification of purebred breeding animals of the equine species in breeding books and for the acceptance for breeding of breeding animals of the equine species and their **germinal products**, breed societies shall ensure that such

performance testing and genetic evaluation are carried out in accordance with the following rules set out in Annex I:

performance testing and genetic evaluation are carried out in accordance with the following rules set out in Annex I:

Or. fr

Justification

Performance testing and genetic evaluation for acceptance for breeding should be an option for female breeding animals as well. This is of vital importance to some breed societies.

Amendment 26

Proposal for a regulation
Article 28 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. In the light of the opinion of the independent expert referred to in Article 13(1)(a), the Commission may, by means of an implementing act, lay down uniform rules for performance testing and genetic evaluations and the interpretation of the results thereof.

Amendment

2. In the light of the opinion of the independent expert referred to in Article 13(1)(a), the Commission may, by means of an implementing act, lay down uniform rules for performance testing and genetic evaluations and the interpretation of the results thereof ***on the basis of the work of the ICAR.***

Or. fr

Amendment 27

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – Part 1 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. be legally and financially independent from the competent authority;

Amendment

2. be legally and financially independent from the competent authority, ***without that financial independence preventing public authorities from granting them public aid in accordance with EU law;***

Or. fr

Amendment 28

Proposal for a regulation

Annex II – Part 1 – Chapter I – paragraph 1 – point a – subparagraph i

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(i) in point (i) of Article 2(i) in the case of purebred breeding animals of the bovine species (*Bos taurus* and *Bubalus bubalis*), porcine species (*Sus scrofa*), ovine species (*Ovis aries*) and caprine species (*Capra hircus*);

(i) in point (i) of Article 2(i) in the case of purebred breeding animals of the bovine species (*Bos spp.* and *Bubalus bubalis*), porcine species (*Sus scrofa*), ovine species (*Ovis aries*) and caprine species (*Capra hircus*);

Or. fr

Amendment 29

Proposal for a regulation

Annex II – Part 1 – Chapter I – paragraph 1 – point a – subparagraph ii

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ii) in point (ii) of Article 2(i) in the case of purebred breeding animals of the equine species (*Equus caballus* and *Equus asinus*);

(ii) in point (ii) of Article 2(i) in the case of purebred breeding animals of the equine species (*Equus caballus* and *Equus asinus*);
Both of the animal's parents shall be entered in the main section of the breeding book and shall be accepted for breeding by the breed society.

Or. fr

Justification

The process prior to the acceptance (or, possibly, rejection) of male or female equine breeding animals for breeding in a breeding book allows control to be exercised over the zootechnical level of the animals as part of a breeding approach that goes beyond mere pedigree.

Amendment 30

Proposal for a regulation

Annex II – Part 1 – Chapter I – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) it has its pedigree established in accordance with the rules set out in the breeding book ***in accordance with the breeding programme approved in accordance with Article 8(1) or Article 9;***

Amendment

(b) it has its pedigree established in accordance with the rules set out in the breeding book;

Or. fr

Justification

Pedigree-related matters are governed by the rules laid down in the breeding book, not by the breeding programme.

Amendment 31

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter I – first paragraph

Text proposed by the Commission

Breed societies shall carry out performance testing to establish the genetic value of purebred breeding animals of the bovine species using one or a combination of the methods set out in this Chapter.

Amendment

Breed societies shall carry out, ***or have a third party carry out,*** performance testing to establish the genetic value of purebred breeding animals of the bovine species using one or a combination of the methods set out in this Chapter.

Or. fr

Amendment 32

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter I – second paragraph

Text proposed by the Commission

Performance testing shall follow the rules and standards established by the relevant European Union reference centre provided

Amendment

Performance testing shall follow the rules and standards established by the relevant European Union reference centre provided

for in Article 31(1) in cooperation with the *International Committee for Animal Recording* (ICAR).

for in Article 31(1) in cooperation with the ICAR.

Or. fr

Amendment 33

Proposal for a regulation Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter I – Section 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Breed societies shall record milk production data according to the rules and standards established by the relevant European Union reference centre provided for in Article 31(1) in cooperation with ICAR.

Amendment

(Does not affect English version.)

Or. fr

Amendment 34

Proposal for a regulation Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter I – Section 3 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The inclusion in the genetic evaluation of temperament, morphological rating data and disease resistance shall only be considered if the data are generated on the basis of a recording system approved by the designated institution as provided for in Article 29(1).

Amendment

2. The inclusion in the genetic evaluation of temperament, morphological rating data and disease resistance **and any other new trait** shall only be considered if the data are generated on the basis of a recording system approved by the designated institution as provided for in Article 29(1).

Or. fr

Amendment 35

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter II – paragraph 2 – second subparagraph

Text proposed by the Commission

The breeding value of a breeding animal shall be calculated on the basis of the results of the performance testing of the individual *or* of its relatives ***and the confidence in such a breeding value may be enhanced by the use of genomic information or based on another method*** validated by the European Union reference centre referred to in Article 31(1).

Amendment

The breeding value of a breeding animal shall be calculated on the basis of ***genome-related information and/or*** the results of the performance testing of the individual ***and/or*** of its relatives ***and/or any other source of information*** validated by the European Union reference centre referred to in Article 31(1).

Or. fr

Justification

The Commission's wording could be interpreted as prohibiting the acceptance for breeding of young bulls with no daughters ('genomic bulls'). It is important to ensure that semen from genomically evaluated bulls may be placed on the market.

Amendment 36

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter II – paragraph 3 – first subparagraph

Text proposed by the Commission

3. ***The statistical methods applied in genetic evaluation shall comply with the rules and standards established by the relevant European Union reference centre provided for in Article 31(1) in cooperation with ICAR and guarantee a genetic evaluation unbiased from the influences of the main environmental factors and data structure.***

Amendment

3. ***Breed societies shall guarantee that there is no bias resulting from the influences of the main environmental factors and data structure. A breed society may approach the relevant European Union reference centre provided for in Article 31(1) if it wishes to ascertain whether its statistical methods for genetic evaluation comply with internationally established and recognised standards and rules. If it is asked for an expert opinion, the European Union reference centre shall treat information supplied by the breed society as confidential.***

Justification

The firm obligation laid down in the Commission proposal could stifle innovation in the genetic evaluation field and could lead to confidentiality problems for breed societies that develop innovative statistical methods.

Amendment 37**Proposal for a regulation****Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter II – paragraph 3 – second subparagraph***Text proposed by the Commission**Amendment*

The reliability of the genetic evaluation shall be measured as the coefficient of determination in accordance with rules and standards established by the relevant European Union reference centre provided for in Article 31(1) in cooperation with ICAR. When publishing the evaluation results, the reliability as well as the date of evaluation shall be given.

(Does not affect English version.)

Amendment 38**Proposal for a regulation****Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter II – paragraph 5***Text proposed by the Commission**Amendment*

5. Bulls intended for artificial insemination, with the exception of bulls belonging to breeds threatened with extinction, shall be subjected to a genetic evaluation on compulsory traits as described in point 6 or 7. Those breeding values shall be published by the breed society.

Other available breeding values **of** bulls intended for **artificial insemination** shall also be published by the breed society.

5. Bulls intended for artificial insemination, with the exception of bulls belonging to breeds threatened with extinction, shall be subjected to a genetic evaluation on, **as a minimum requirement**, compulsory traits as described in point 6 or 7. **All of** those breeding values shall be published by the breed society.

The breeding values **existing for** bulls intended for **natural services, as well as for females**, shall also be published by the

breed society.

Or. fr

Amendment 39

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter II – paragraph 6 – second subparagraph

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The minimum reliability of the genetic evaluation of bulls for artificial insemination of the dairy breeds shall be at least 0,5 for the traits milk yield, butterfat and protein content, according to the rules and standards established by the relevant European Union reference centre provided for in Article 31(1) in cooperation with ICAR for the evaluation of the main production traits, taking into account all information available from progeny and collaterals.

(Does not affect English version.)

Or. fr

Amendment 40

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter II – paragraph 6 – third subparagraph

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Genomically evaluated young bulls, without progeny performance records, shall be considered suitable for artificial insemination if their genomic evaluation is validated according to rules and standards established by the relevant European Union reference centre provided for in Article 31(1) in cooperation with ICAR.

(Does not affect English version.)

Or. fr

Amendment 41

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter II – paragraph 7 – first subparagraph – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(e) genomic evaluation or any other method, including a combination of these methods, validated in accordance with the rules and standards established by the relevant European Union reference centre provided for in Article 31(1) in cooperation with ICAR.

(Does not affect English version.)

Or. fr

Amendment 42

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter II – paragraph 7 – third subparagraph

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The minimum reliability of the genetic evaluation of bulls for artificial insemination of beef breeds shall be at least 0,5 for the traits live weight gain and muscular development (beef conformation) according to the rules and standards established by the relevant European Union reference centre provided for in Article 31(1) in cooperation with ICAR for the evaluation of the main production traits,

(Does not affect English version.)

Or. fr

Amendment 43

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – Part 1 – Chapter II – paragraph 7 – fourth subparagraph

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Where genomic breeding values are calculated, those values shall be validated for the traits concerned according to the rules and standards established by the relevant European Union reference centre provided for in Article 31(1) in cooperation with ICAR.

(Does not affect English version.)

Or. fr

Amendment 44

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – Part 3 – Chapter I – paragraph 3 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) the traits recorded in conformity with the principles agreed by the ICAR, such as milk production, milk composition or any other relevant data, shall be stated;

(Does not affect English version.)

Or. fr

Amendment 45

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – Part 3 – Chapter I – paragraph 3 – point b – subparagraph i

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(i) relate to a period of time which conforms to the norm laid down by ICAR for recording productivity of milk animals;

(Does not affect English version.)

Or. fr

