



European
Association for
Animal
Production



BABROC* Newsletter

* Support to the restructuring and strengthening of cattle producers' and breeders' associations as business representative organisations in CEEC-Phare contract No. 00-0308.00.

A EU funded project started on the 17th January 2001.

Two months have passed since our Project Inception Workshop in Nitra, Slovakia (17-18 February 2001). In this short period, the Project has started its full activity. The purpose of this Newsletter is to serve as a forum for the

exchange of information and experiences among Project Partners and to provide for an additional form of contacts between the Project Leader and Partners. Through this Newsletter, the EAAP Secretariat will strive to keep

informed all Project Partners and interested national and international institutions and organisations on activities and new developments within the BABROC Project.

1. Inception workshops

During the period February-April 2001, National Inception Workshops were organised by our Partners from

Slovenia, Lithuania and Hungary. The Slovakian Associate Partners attended our Project Inception Workshop in Nitra. The Lithuanian and Hungarian

Partners combined technical workshops on organisation and activities of breeders' associations with the National Inception Workshops.

2. Training activities on the EU regulations and on Aquis Communautaire

Workshops on organisation and activities of breeders' associations were held in Slovenia, Lithuania and Hungary. All three workshops were attended by breeders and officials of their associations as well as by representatives of respective Ministries of Agriculture and of the Project Leader. Experts from our EU Partners provided information on the legal status, organisational forms and activities of breeders'

associations in EU countries. The workshops marked the beginning of the preparatory work for the establishment of umbrella representative organisations in countries where such a body does not exist as well as for the transfer of technical functions and services from the state to Breeders' Associations.

According to the information received, the Slovakian Partner and the Polish and Estonian Partners intend to organise the respective workshops in May 2001 and in June 2001. The programme

of the Estonian Partner includes themes aimed at increasing technical capacity of Breeders' Association in providing services to its members (Cattle classification, Animal identification).

The workshop on animal identification organised by the Slovenian Partner marked the beginning of the implementation of their national legislation on identification and registration of cattle. It also served for clarification of a number of technical issues connected with this matter, as well as for

the familiarisation of Slovenian breeders with German, Austrian and Italian experiences in this field. The active participation of representatives of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Lithuania, contributed to the

broad success and high quality of the workshop.

EU market regulations with particular emphasis on protected designation of origin (DOP), protected geographic indication (GIP) and products of specific

character (SCP) was the theme of a special training workshop for the state officials and representatives of small private firms involved in processing and marketing of specific local products in Slovenia.

3. Signature of the Amendment to the Grant Contract

The Contract 00-0038.00 between the Commission of European Communities and the EAAP as the Project

Leader regarding the EU grant for the BABROC Project has been amended on 09 March 2001. By this Amendment, the EU has undertaken to provide the full amount of the proposed grant for the Project

during the two-year period. A part of these funds has already been transferred to the special account of the Project in Rome.

4. Future programmes

The international seminar on the future of breeders' associations will be held in Budapest, Hungary, 24 August 2001. The seminar will be attended by the members of

the Steering Committee and the National Co-ordinators as well as a selected number of young professionals from CEEC Partners (EU scholarships).

The first meeting of the Project Steering Committee will be

held in Budapest, Hungary, on 26 August 2001. The meeting will review the past activities and determine the programme of the project operations for the second half of the year.

5. Dissemination of information and publication of technical papers

EAAP in its function of Project Leader has established a special page at its web site containing information on

project activities (www.eaap.org). It also plans to publish in special technical series papers and teaching material submitted by EU and CEEC Partners at some of the national workshops. Similar material will be also available in an electronic form at the EAAP web site.

The Slovenian Partner has arranged for the translation of selected technical papers and for their publication in the periodical of the Slovenian Cattle Breeders' Association.

6. Financial support of national activities

As agreed at the Project Inception Workshop, the

Project budget could be used for the supporting of national training activities, workshops and seminars.

The procedure to obtain the partial reimbursement of expenditures has been communicated to Partners concerned.

7. Activities of the Project Leader

Activities of the Project Leader included provision of professional, administrative and financial support to CEEC Partners in the organisation of national workshops, contacts with the EU in finalising the grant contract and in establishing direct contacts with persons and services in charge of supervising the Project operations, and in adjusting the internal organisation with requirements of the Project.

The Project Inception Workshop was attended and serviced by Prof. J. Boyazoglu (Project Co-ordinator), Dr. M. Zjalic (Technical Assistant to the Project Co-ordinator) and Mrs. V. Vigne (Secretary of the Project).

Prof. J. Boyazoglu, in addition to his duties as the Project Co-ordinator, was a keynote speaker at the workshop on the EU market regulations held in April 2001 in Slovenia. Dr. M. Zjalic, EAAP Technical Adviser, attended workshops in Slovenia and Hungary. Ms. Elena Couto, the Project Accountant, visited

the headquarters of the European Commission in Brussels and had discussion with Mr. Antonio Izquierdo from the EU Phare programme on the implementation of the EU rules and requirements regarding management of the EU grant and accounting and administrative procedures. These procedures have been further developed in co-operation with Messrs. "Milano Consultants S.r.l." as the Project accounting auditors. Ms. Simona Pistoni started to work in the EAAP Secretariat as a part time correspondence and registry clerk for the Project.

8. Concluding remarks

In concluding this Newsletter, the EAAP Secretariat wishes to invite colleagues from Project

Partners to send information and contributions on Project activities in their respective countries as well as their proposals and suggestions for

the further improvements in the content and presentation in the BABROC Newsletter.

9. Human resources of the Project

Steering Committee

J. Lederer (Austria)
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P. Rafai (Hungary)
P.P. Fraddosio (Italy)
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A. Cholewicki (Poland)
G. Liciu (Romania)
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