The application of reproduction reports in INTERGIS, based on official milk performance recording

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INTRODUCTION

• Reproductive ability is the single most important component of dairy herd management.
• Reproduction traits are being incorporated in performance recording.
• Reproductive performance variables include health and production traits, nutritional needs and reproduction information.
• Ongoing information being captured in INTERGIS (see Figure 1).

Objective: The development and improvement of interactive reports towards ensuring sound reproduction performance for dairy herds

METHOD

• An existing scientifically based program was upgraded to extend more management options.
• State of the art technology was used to develop these reproduction performance functionalities.
• Evaluation of individual cow performance was extended to cows within groups.

DISCUSSION

• Reproduction and health status of the herd can easily be monitored.
• Early intervention on reproduction and health problems will exclude expenses on outside resources of replacement heifers.
• Performance of bulls can also be evaluated on production and reproduction values.

CONCLUSION

• Information on reproduction traits addresses the demands in health aspects and milk quality, as well as production and reproduction efficiency.
• The variety of reports offer the opportunity for animal scientists, feed consultants, veterinarians and extension officers to assist dairy farmers on aspects influencing reproduction performance.

Figure 1. Milk Dashboard on reproduction traits available in INTERGIS

Figure 2. Dashboard for cows in milk filtered on Lifetime Production Efficiency

Figure 3. Cows in milk filtered on Somatic Cell Count (SCC) > 400 000 cells/ml

Figure 4. Trend on average days open (calving to conception) for cows in the herd

Figure 5. Performance of bulls used in herd based on Lifetime Production Index