

Conservation in Denmark

- Many of the original Danish livestock breeds are more endangered than ever. The development is going the wrong way and in the last 2 years, some breeds have been halved in population.
- After 30 years of conservation since the first international convention was adopted in Denmark, it must be concluded that both the breeds that were threatened with extinction from the beginning and the breeds that previously were numerous are now all endangered or critically endangered.



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- The Danish agricultural industry has Europe's highest cost level according to Department of Food and Resource Economics at the University of Copenhagen, and it is necessary to have high amounts of subsidy compared to the subsidy ceiling set by the EU, as the difference in production economy between the production breeds and the endangered breeds is large in Denmark
- The subsidy is not sufficient and limited compared to the Danish notification in EU



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- Today, there is virtually no research in Denmark into the old Danish livestock breeds in relation to in situ breeding and extensive farming.
- There is a lack of knowledge and competence in both the state and with politicians. This applies also to those who administer the existing laws in ministries and agencies, as well as with those who are the implementing food and veterinary controls.
- Much legislation in the livestock field is based on modern high-yielding breeds which clashes with the needs of endangered livestock breeds. There is a need for legislation that supports conservation. This applies to both tax conditions, animal welfare conditions, local food production ect.



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- The Government's Advisory Committee on Animal Genetic Resources is virtually non-functioning. The democratic elections to the Committee have been suspended, and an interim chairman from the agency has been installed.
- The committee's own strategy expired in 2020, and no new strategy has been developed. There is no follow-up and reporting on the committee's previous strategy, and there are no action plans for how Denmark intends to bring the breeds up to the population sizes recommended in the treaties.
- Conservation work is primarily lifted by a few enthusiastic private growers with large financial losses as a result.

