

Safeguard for Agricultural Varieties in Europe
Sicherung der landwirtschaftlichen Artenvielfalt in Europa
Sauvegarde pour l'Agriculture des Variétés d'Europe



SAVE FOCUS

2005

Coordination Projects for Endangered Breeds Distributed across the National Borders in Europe
Koordinationsprojekte grenzüberschreitend gefährdeter Nutztierassen in Europa
Projets de coordination au-delà des frontières de races d'animaux domestiques menacés en Europe



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Summary

The 2005 SAVE Focus shows the flood of activities and engagement of European organisations and breeders. During the time between 2003-2005, much progress has been made in breed conservation:

Genetic testing shows clear relationships or crossings. Results of performance tests for the Mangalitsas are of interest to consumers and for marketing. The exchange of animals has increased.

In September 2004 there was a fruitful coordination meeting, organised by the SAVE-Foundation in Bled, Slovenia, for breeders and others responsible for Bovska, Plezzana and Krainer Steinschaf sheep breeds. This resulted in the founding of a new Breed Society in Italy. The Italian Government now recognises the Plezzana sheep as an endangered autochthone breed. And here we would like to warmly welcome the newly founded “ Associazione per la Valorizzazione Della Razza Ovina Plezzana” for the conservation of Plezzana sheep in Italy!

As ever, we look forward to your corrections, suggestions and criticism.

The SAVE-Team wishes you an enjoyable read!



Pustertaler cattle in Italy; source :www.agraria.org/razzebovineminori/pustertaler

Pustertal Cattle / Barà Cattle

Description: Pustertaler Cattle originate from the side-valleys of the Pustertal in Southern Tyrol. For a long time, they were credited to be the best cattle breed of the imperial and royal monarchy. Continuous sale of the breed to Viennese dairies finally led to the decline of the breed. Colour and patterns vary. Tail and belly are always white. The coloured areas (red or black) may be connected ("Schecken") or be distributed as finely coloured dots ("Sprinzen"). The Pustertaler Cattle are heavy and large framed. They are characterised by longevity and easy calving. Calves are very vital, with high daily weight increase when feeding on basic rations. With each lactation period, milking performance of the cows increases. Additionally, meat quality is very good.

General remarks: Pustertal bred in South- and North Tyrol seem to be improved with Vosgene blood. There are only 4-5 breeders left in South Tyrol, which have purebred animals without Vosgene blood. The degree of improvement is not clear at this point. Austria (North Tyrol) has closed its herdbook for external exchange of animals.

Breeding Activities

Italy / South Tyrol

Stock: males: 27 (26 black; 1 red)
females: 231 (177 black; 54 red)
young animals: 55 (37 black; 18 red)
no of breeders: 46

Remarks: In Autumn 2004 in Kapill/Gadertal was an exhibition with 23 breeders, 76 cows and 2 bulls. A book about Pustertaler cattle was published by Dr. Hugo Valentin

Special tests: all animals are DNA tested

Performance testing: no;

Pedigree control: yes

Contact: Südtiroler Fleckviehzuchtverband; Markus Steiner; Markthalle 1; I-39030 St. Lorenzen (BZ); Tel.: +39-0474/47 41 71; Fax: +39-0474/47 41 72; E-mail: sfv@dnet.it
Internet: www.fleckvieh_suedtirol.it

Italy / Piedmont: Barà Cattle

Stock: males: 150 bulls
females: 1393 cows
young animals: 1543 young females
no of breeders: 150 (127 Torino province; 23 Cuneo province)

Barà cattle are very closely related to Pustertal cattle: A scientific examination by the Department for Animal Breeding, University of Torino, showed that Barà and Pustertal share the same origin

Barà Cattle are kept in Piedmont, in Torino province and in the neighbouring Cuneo province.

Contact: R.A.R.E. (Razze autoctone a Rischio di Estinzione), Riccardo Fortina;

Corso G, Agnelli 32; I-10137 Torino;

E-mail: fortina@agraria.unito.it or associazionerare@yahoo.it

Germany

Stock: males: about 15 bulls (about 4-5 from the original import)

females: about 100 cows

Tendency of stock is stagnating

There is no ok for Germany. The animals are registered in different breeding associations.

Remarks: Performance testing is not obligatory. Investigations about genetic distance, performance etc. are conducted at "Pruef- und Besamungsstation München Grub e.V." by Dr. T. Grupp. Also from Grub some animals are exported to Australia and South Africa. In South Africa crossbreedings with Sangabreed of the Ngumi people are taking place, which is named "Supertaler" ("Pustertaler" in Afrikaans sounds insinuating). About 80-85% animals in Germany are black.

Contact: Hartmut Glock; Bruchfelder Str. 2; D-34466 Wolfhagen; Germany;

Tel.: +49-5692/8799;

E-mail: hglock1021474382@aol.com

Austria

Stock: males: 2 (semen of about 20 bulls is available) females: 22

Contact: Tiroler Fleischrinderzuchtverband; Ing. Christian Moser; Brixner Str. 1; A-6020 Innsbruck; E-mail: fleischrinder@lk-tirol.at

Red Cattle / Rotvieh

Description: Originally, the Celts brought a unicoloured red cattle to Europe, the "Cattle of the Celts". In the Middle of the 19th century, organised breeding started. Robust and modest multi-purpose cattle (milk, work and meat) were bred. In Middle and Central Europe, breeding animals were continuously exchanged. Substitution crossing lead to a radical decline of the breed, the different red cattle populations disappeared almost completely.

Red cattle are medium framed with a strong conformation and good muscle development. Today, breeding aims towards a medium-framed red to reddish-brown double-purpose cattle as draught power is no longer in demand. Red cattle are suitable for pastures as well as for landscape management. Excellent fertility, resistance and vitality are characteristic for the cattle. Milk production from the basic ratio is app. 4000 kg with good protein and fat values.

Breeding Activities

Germany

Stock: males: 48; females: 596;
No of breeders: >100

Remarks: all available information provided under:

<http://www.genres.de/CF/tgrdeu/charakterisierung.cfm?idrasse=186>; or

<http://www.genres.de/tgr/rotviehprojekt/>; all populations of seven regions are included in the herdbook programme OPTIMATE; performance testing: see: <http://www.ropes-hoehenvieh.de>

Stagnating interest because of difficult economic situation of breeders in small farms.

Contact: Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Rotes Höhenvieh (BAG-RHV); Ostlandstr. 12; D-35638 Leun; E-mail: j@bremond.de

Czech Republic

Stock: males: 3; females: 52; young animals: 24 heifers; 4 female calves; 2 breeders

Remarks: The project of IBR eradication has started; the proposal of Herd Book System was made; The future work on the saving of the breeds depends on the subsidy policy of the Ministry of Agriculture. The grazing areal on the school farm will be enlarged. The semen of non-related sire will be necessary this year.

Special tests: Genotyping of candidate loci; published in journals and at conferences, reprints on request.

Performance testing: all breeding animals are tested on milk performance

Contact: Jindrich Citek, University of South Bohemia, Faculty of Agriculture, Dept. Ge-

netics and Animal Breeding, Studentska 13, CZ-37005 Ceske Budejovice,
E-mail: citek@zf.jcu.cz
or: Dr. Ivan Majzlik; Inst. f. Animal Genetic; University of Agriculture; CZ-160-21 Praha 6.

Austria

Stock: 6 cows

Remarks: Semen is needed for insemination to increase the population

Contact: Österreichische Naturschutzjugend; Karl Zimmerhackl; Grubberg 17; A-4170 Haslach; E-mail: oenj.haslach@utanet.at

Poland

Stock:males: 3; females: 14; pregnant heifers: 2; calves born in spring 2005: 4; one breeder

Contact: Prof. Dr. Z. Reklewski, Instytut Genetyki; Jastrzebiec, 05551 Mrokow/Poland; Fax: +48-22/756 16 99



Mangalitsa / Woolly Pig

Description: Mangalitsa derives from Shumadia pig. These days widespread opinion believes, that it is a Hungarian breed, even though it originates from Shumadia pig: 1833 Duque Milosh gave, as a present to Hungarian nobleman Jozef Palatine, 2 boars and 10 sows. On the farm Kis Jenő, Mangalitsa were bred in better conditions regarding care, husbandry and feeding, so a more productive pig breed was created.

The Mangalitsa pig exists in 3 variations:

blond, red and swallowbellied (with a fair belly). Hooves, snout, eyelids and anus are mostly black. Ears are middle-sized and droop to the front. The back is of average length and slightly curved, the trunk short and deep. Mangalitsas are robust, resistant against disease and stress and are capable of moving securely in any type of terrain, even in winter.

General remarks: DNA-testing in Hungary showed, that the three varieties of Mangalitsa blond, swallowbellied and red are definitively different breeds.

The Mangalitsas enjoyed great popularity until after the second world war as a lard pig. However, as the demand for lard decreased massively, breeding was reduced or ceased entirely. According to latest research its meat and fat contains a much larger amount of LDL cholesterol or so called "positive" cholesterol, so it can also be used in the therapy of people with high level of blood cholesterol.

Breeding Activities

Hungary: blond, swallowbellied and red Mangalitsa

Stock:

Blond: 220 boars; 4010 sows; 200 young animals; 99 breeders

Swallowbellied: 52 boars; 655 sows; 240 young animals; 31 breeders

Red: 74 boars; 979 sows; 370 young animals; 41 breeders

Remarks: New DNA tests to control the structure of the population. The results show, that all three varieties are different breeds. Result of the MHS-tests: all Mangalitsas are in the status NN, what means stable of stress.

Contact: Dr. L. Radnoczi Keleti Karoly u. 24; H-1024 Budapest; Tel/Fax: 0036-1/336 92 05; Fax: 0036-1/336 90 83
E-mail: radnoczil@ommi.hu

Austria: schwalbenbäuchige Mangalitsa

In Austria, only Swallowbellied Mangalitsas were found. Since February 2005 the red and blond Mangalitsabreed was imported from Hungary.

Stock:

Blond: 4 boars; 9 sows; 5 breeders

Swallowbellied: 70 boars; 210 sows; 82 breeders

Red: 5 boars; 10 sows; 6 breeders

Remarks: Import of animals to prevent inbreeding took place in February 2005.

Contact: IGWÖ (Interessengemeinschaft der Wollschweinzüchter Österreichs); Christoph Wiesner; A-2013 Göllersdorf, Wischathal 20; Tel.: +43-2954/303 96; E-mail: igwoe.zuchtbuch@utanet.at; and: pferdefreunde.wischathal@utanet.at

Switzerland: schwalbenbäuchige Wollschweine

Stock: 82 boars; 282 sows; young animals without pedigree certificate; 182 breeders

Remarks: Since 1. January 2004 breeding association accepted by government; whole population is APP/EP-sanified. Several herds were tested for Brucellosis, all negative. It is still a large problem to keep or get new places/breeders. Approx. Date of problems by inbreeding: latest in 10-15 years.

Contact: Schweizerische Vereinigung für die Wollschweinzucht (SVWZ), Alex Graf, Schützenstrasse 16, CH-8775 Bürglen/TG; E-mail: alex.graf@smile.ch

Germany: blonde, rote, schwalbenbäuchige Mangalitsa

Stock:

Blond: 15 boars; 30 sows;; 14 breeders

Swallowbellied: 39 boars; 73 sows;; 41 breeders

Red: 17 boars; 32 sows; 19 breeders

Remarks: Tendency in population numbers is decreasing or stagnating.

Contact: IG Wollschweine, Jürgen Flegler, Zwetschgenweg 30, D-35037 Marburg

E-mail: juergenflegler@compuserve.de

Romania: Red Mangalitsa

In Romania only red Mangalitsas are found.

Stock: no data available until editorial deadline

Remarks: with a small number of animals, the risk for inbreeding is very high. In order

to avoid consanguinity the generation interval as well as inbreeding is calculated.

Contact: Dr. Alexandru Nagy, Turda, Str.Agriculturii 27; Romania;

E-mail: scaturda@rdslink.ro

Yugoslavia: Mangalitsa

Conservation programme since 1994 There are three breeds existing: Blond (weasel), swallow bellied and Subotica, a crossbreed of Blond Mangalitsa x Lincolnshire x Large White. Population is increasing; No pedigree control at the moment.

Stock: 20 boars; 280 sows; 10 Breeders

Contact: Dr. Srdjan Stojanovic Ministry of Agriculture and Water management; Dept. f. Genetic Resources; Tel +381-11/609 352;

Fax +381 11 311 22 89;

E-mail agrvet@hotmail.com



Blond Mangalitsa pig in Hungary; photo: Radnoczi

Bovska Sheep / Krainer Steinschaf / Plezzana Sheep

Description: The Bovska sheep descends from the Zaupeel sheep, which was spread all over Europe during Medieval times. At the end of 19th century, crossbreeding with the Bergamasca sheep already took place. The Slovenian Bovaska sheep stands in the original type of the Zaupeel sheep. Bovska sheep are multi-purpose sheep. The milk is suitable for cheese production. The mixed wool is used for the production of loden, felt and tweed. The Bovska sheep is a medium framed, thin-legged and finely boned sheep. The narrow head shows a straight nose profile. Animals are mostly white, although black-brown and pied animals do occur. Rams are polled. Bovska sheep are hardy and modest. Live weight reaches 35-40 kg when feeding on basic rations. The meat is tasty and fine-fibred. Milking performance is good. The mixed wool is suitable for many purposes.

General Remarks: *In September 2004, a first Plezzana sheep Co-ordination meeting took place at the SAVE annual meeting in Bled, Slovenia. An intensive exchange of experience could take place. With beginning of the activities of a new Plezzana breeding association and the prospect of subsidies in Italy, crossborder co-operation had a very successful start.*

Breeding Activities

Slovenia: Bovska Sheep

Stock: (data only for animals included in the national recording and selection programme) rams: 93; ewes 1650 ; young animals: 350 used for refit

Remarks: population is stable; excellent milk breed;

special tests: Scrapie genotyping at all sheep breeds in Slovenia. About 400 sheep have been genetically tested during the last months. Included were 49 animals of Bovec sheep. The allele VRQ, known to carry a very high risk of scrapie, was present 5-10 %. Due to the low proportion of animals tested, the occurrence in the total population could vary largely.

Performance testing: fertility in the recorded flocks

pedigree control: milk recording

Experiences: Transition from traditional to more professional breeding has been noticed during the latest period. Pasture in form of short transhumance is decreasing. Until today, the breeding goal has been the adaptation to harsh grazing. Production results of milk yield in modest conditions are quite high. Decrease of interest by young people for breeding of milk breeds of sheep.

Annual report on milk recording and fertility for each year.

Contact: Dr. D. Kompan, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical faculty Zootechnical dept.;

Groblje 3, SLO 11230 Domzale; Tel.:00386 (0) 1 7217 865, Fax:00386 (0) 1 7217 888; E-mail: drago.kompan@bfro.uni-lj.si

Austria: Krainer Steinschaf

Stock: 55 rams; 410 ewes; 18 breeders

Remarks: Because the Austrian ÖPUL-Programme changes in 2007 some exceptions will occur: pedigree runs via DNA-typing, paid by the breeder; To get subsidies, the breeder has to keep sheep for at least five years

(more see: <http://www.oengene.at>)

Contact: Dr. Reiner Seibold, Tigringer Str. 34, A-9062 Moosburg, Österreich, Tel.: 0043-4272-83064, Fax: 0043-4634-30008, E-mail: katharina.seibold@web.de

Germany: Krainer Steinschaf

Stock: 26 rams, 7 lines; 217 ewes in the herdbook, 50 not registered in Herdbook, 68 young ewes.

Remarks: Two breeders will start with milking the sheep. Up to now there are no information about milk performance.

Contact: Martin Hermle, Anke von Seggern; Bergstrasse 7; D- 87616 Wald; E-mail: 520089675611-0001@T-Online.de

Italy: Plezzana-Sheep

Stock: 3rams; 15 ewes; 10 young animals; 3 breeders

Remarks: In June 2004 a breeding association was founded: A.V.R.O. Ple (Associazione per la Valorizzazione della Razza Ovina Plezzana, Paolo Emilio De Simon, Tel 0039-220 655 04 under the umbrella organisation ASSONAPA (Ass. Nazionale Pastorizia). On

february 12, 2005 in Prato di Resia, in the Resia valley, the first meeting took place.

Contact: Dr. Emilio Pastore, Univ. Padova, Facolta di Agraria; Dipart. Di Scienze Zootecniche; Agripolis - Strada Romea, 14; I-35020 Legnaro (PD); Italia;
E-mail: emilio.pastore@unipd.it



Plezzana sheep, Italy; photo: Pastore

Povodna Valaska, Valasska ovce; Valachian Sheep / Walachenschaf

Description: The Valachian sheep is the most Western of Zackel sheep breeds which came from the Romanian Southern Carpathians to the High Tatra, the Low Tatra and the Beskides in Medieval times with nomadic sheep flocks. The breed was kept in large flocks for milk production. It is a medium sized delicate sheep with rough mixed wool. The head shows a straight profile, rams are slightly roman-headed. The face of some animals is characterised by striking colour spots. Rams carry erect, screw-shaped horns up to 50 cm length. Often, ewes are horned, too. Oestrus behaviour is strictly seasonal. Annual milk yield: 100-120 kg.

General Remarks: *In Slovakia and Eastern parts of the Czech Republic, small populations of original Valachian sheep have survived until recently. After the fall of the Iron Curtain, they lost their economic niche and were threatened with extinction. The German GEH transferred the animals as gene reserve to Germany and the Swiss Foundation Pro Specie Rara set up a survival project in East Moravia. In both countries, populations were, however, too small to avoid inbreeding.*

SAVE Foundation was therefore assigned by Pro Specie Rara to carry out a blood refreshment with animals of a remnant population from Slovakia. Unfortunately, this was not possible. Really pure-bred animals could not be found any more in Slovakia. It was thus agreed to exchange animals between Moravia and Germany. The project had to be postponed several times. Firstly, the foot-and-mouth disease prevented transport, then, a remnant population was reduced by a barn fire. At the end of the year 2003, preparations could be started. The EU-membership of the Czech Republic facilitated the exchange of animals considerably, which was, however, again threatened by EU regulations concerning scrapie resistance. The efforts of SAVE project director Halka Ržasa, the German GEH and the newly founded Czech breeding association were finally successful on the 2/3 October 2004, when altogether 46 Valachian sheep could be transferred internationally. The project was mainly financed by Pro Specie Rara.

Breeding Activities

Slowak Republik: Pôvodná Valaska

Stock: 1 ram; 34 ewes; 7 Young animals; 1 breeder

Remarks: Compared to 2004 the situation is stable. Population shall be increased in Slovakia.; Scrapiegenotyping showed: the flock is free of Scrapie; **performance testings:** fertility of ewes: 157.6%; milk production: 99.47l; fat: 7.56kg; protein: 5.70kg; lactation: 4.56kg;

pedigree control: the breeder does not produce males for breeding purposes.

General report: Valaska is an highly endangered sheep breed; Population is small; Description: dual-coated sheep with coarse white gray or black wool. Sortiment is from D/E to F. It is a small size sheep with horns (mostly rams). Average female weight is 30-35kg, males 40-45kg. Well adapted to mountain conditions.

Contact: Pavel Srpon/ Jarmila Dubravská
ZCHOK, Mladeznicka 36; Sk-97401 banska Bystrica; MP SR, OZK; Dobrovicova 12; 81266 Bratislava, Slovakia; Tel.: 00421-2/59 26 65 70; Fax: 00421-2/59 26 67 56
E-mail: jarmila.dubravska@land.gov.sk

Czech Republik: Valasska OVCE

Stock: 20 rams; 250 ewes; 200 young animals; 15 breeders

Remarks: performance testings (e.g. weight increases of lambs in the age of 100 days; production of wool grease) and reproduction testings (fertilization, intensity, lamb rearing) are usual.

Contact: Breeding association Brno: Svaz chovatelů ovci a koz v CR; Ing. Vit Mares; Palackého 1-3; PO Box 19; CZ-612 00 Brno; E-mail: schok@atlas.cz

Germany: Walachenschaf

Stock: 35 rams; 180 ewes; ca. 120 young animals (ewes and rams); 29 breeder

Remarks: An exchange of animals between Czech Republic and Germany took place; 20 (5,15) Valaska Sheep were imported to Germany. From Germany to Czech Republic 25 (6,19) animals were exported.

Special tests: In 2004 Maedi Visna investigations took place at 7 breeders. In one case, Maedi Visna was found at Milk sheep, which are kept in parallel to the Valaska Sheep. At least at 2 farms investigations for

genotyping were made. The Results are mainly G1 and G2 classifications.

Experiences/Report: robust sheep with 1,4 to 1,7 lambs in average. Seasonality is not always given, because summer- and autumn births occur. The exchange of animals with Czech Republic gave a new motivation for breeding. The sheep are particularly loved by hobby breeders.

Contact: GEH; Rassebetreuer Jakob Wisesheu; Postfach 1218; D-37202 Witzhausen;
E-mail: geh.witzenhausen@t-online.de



Valaska sheep in Roznov, Czech Republic

Villnösser Sheep / Brillenschaf / Jesersko-Solcavska Sheep

Description: In the 18th century, the Villnösser sheep developed from crossbreeding the Carinthian landrace with the Bergamask sheep and the Paduan silk sheep. In Southern Carinthia, the Friaul and in Slovenia, the Villnösser sheep was the most frequently occurring stretched breed. The breeding area stretched to Upper Bavaria. Since 1938, it was tried to standardise the indigenous sheep breeds.

The Villnösser is a strong and medium sized sheep with a roman and bare head with lop ears of medium length. Black spots around the eyes (glasses) contributed to the German name of the sheep ("Brillensheep"). Pigments may, however, also occur at the ears and sometimes at the body or the lips. The meat is especially aromatic. The Villnösser sheep is especially characterised by out-of-season oestrus behaviour, hard hooves and fine wool.

Breeding Activities

Austria: Kärntner Brillenschaf

Stock: rams: 250; ewes: 2800; young animals: 600; No of breeders: 180

Remarks: A new herdbook programme connected via Internet results in a better exchange of data and calculation of statistical information.

Special tests: genotyping at new breeding rams and 10% of the ewes of a breeder

Performance testing: fitness and rate of reproduction; pedigree control especially of the parents of breeding rams

Experiences:

Contact: Schaf- und Ziegenzuchtverband Kärnten; Museumsgasse 5; A-9020 Klagenfurt; E-mail: e_penker@lk-kaernten.at

Slovenia: Jesersko-Solcavska

Stock: rams: 654; ewes: 4569 ewes; born lambs: 2056 (used for refit); No of breeders: 76 Estimated No of total population: 15000

Remarks: Increasing No of Jesersko-Solcava sheep population as a consequence of a change of the system of subsidies;

Results of special tests: Scrapie genotyping work being done by all breeds of sheep in Slovenia. Due to the proportion of animals tested, the occurrence in the total population could vary largely

performance testing: fertility in the recorded flocks;

pedigree control: in the recorded flocks

Experiences: Sheep are fertile over the whole year. They mate soon after lambing Increase of flocks and of farms to organic farming system; Annual report on fertility for each year.

Contact: Dr. Drago Kompan, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical faculty Zootechnical department; Groblje 3, SLO 11230 Domzale; Tel.: 00386 (0) 1 7217 865, Fax: 00386 (0) 1 7217 888; E-mail drago.kompan@bfro.uni-lj.si

Germany: Brillenschaf

Stock: rams: ca. 100, 32 in herdbook; ewes: 1100; 607 in herdbook; young animals: about 1000; No of breeders: ca. 120

Remarks: Mendel, C. et al, 2004: Rasenvergleich Mast- und Schlachtleistungsuntersuchungen In: "Dr Bayerische Schafhalter 6, 11-12/2004

Performance testing: 1,36 lambs per birth; 18% two lambings per year, 225g daily growth until 105th day of life. Pedigree control only during special investigations

Contact: GEH; Rassenbetreuer Jakob Wiesheu; Postfach 1218; D-37202 Witzenhausen; E-mail: geh.witzenhausen@t-online.de

Italy: Villnösser Sheep /
Fiemme Sheep

**Stock: rams: 508; ewes 1624; total:
2132**

Remarks: Up to now, 87 rams are Scrapie
genotyped: 55 class G2; 02 class G1; 30
class G3; breedingprogramme since 2003:

breedingrams are bought in the age of
6months. They are reared and pastured
together. After selection and certification,
rams are distributed to the breeders.

Contact: Verband Südtiroler Klein-
tierzucht, Mrs. B. Mock, Via Galvani I-
39100 Bozen/Südtirol;
E-mail: Kleintierzuchtverband@dnet.it



Jesersko-Solcavska Sheep, Slovenia

Sumavka Sheep / Forest Sheep / Cikta Sheep / Waldschaf

Description: The Sumavka sheep originated through the crossing with other landraces with the Zaupel sheep, which had come to Southern Middle Europe with the Indogermans. Traditionally, it was kept in small populations in the rough low mountain range of the triangle Bohemian Forest, Mill Region and Forest Region. Up to the 1950s, the Sumavka sheep was found on nearly every farm. The home-spun mixed wool was traditionally used for sock-knitting.

The Sumavka sheep is small to medium sized. The fleece is single coloured and mostly white. However, brown and black animals do occur. The head of the ewes is straight, the rams' head slightly curly. The forehead is woolly. Both sexes may be horned or polled. Ears stick out nearly horizontally. Sumavka sheep are finely boned, their tail is woolly. Ewes lamb twice a year, at least thrice in 2 years. The first lambing occurs after 13 months. Rams reach a live weight of 60-70 kg when fed on basic rations, ewes 40-55 kg. Fattening efficiency of the lambs is at 180-200 gs daily weight gain.

Breeding Activities

Austria (Waldschaf)

Stock: rams: 94; ewes: 852; young animals: 42; No of breeders: 76

General remarks: The coefficient of inbreeding could decrease inbreeding coefficient. The effective population is increasing. The max. allowed inbreeding coeff. could be raised from 4% to 5%.

Two landscape management projects were started.

There is a danger of increase in the genetic diversity by Scrapie-genetic controls.

Pedigree control: yes, 100% of all breeding rams and 20% of all ewes from the year 2001 on.

Contact: Dipl. Ing. Hans Kjæer; Kriegswald 18; A-4162 Julbach;

E-mail: waldschafe@aon.at

Czech Republic

Stock: 150 rams; 4000 ewes; 3800 young animals; 30 breeders

Remarks: performance testings (e.g. weight increases of lambs in the age of 100 days; production of the wool grease) and reproduction testings (fertilization, intensity, lamb rearing) are usual.

Contact: Breeding association Brno: Svaz chovatelů ovci a koz v CR; Ing. Vit Mares; Palackého 1-3; PO Box 19; CZ-612 00 Brno; E-mail: schok@atlas.cz

Germany (Waldschaf)

Stock: 52 breeding rams; 844 ewes; 34 breeders

Remarks: all 7 breeding lines of rams exist. Pedigree of all breeding rams is certificated; Performance testing: in 2003 fertility of ewes was 172% in average; survival rate 156 % in average; In 2005 Forest sheep will be included in a control of fattening performance, carcass yield and quality of meat in comparison to different breeds. Scrapie geotyping: all young rams are genotyped, some ewes are also genotyped. Animals with VRQ are not allowed to be sold, but they are allowed for own breeding. In general the Scrapie geotyping is for the breed no problem.

Contact: Siegfried Dorrer; Obere AU 41; D-84183 Niederviehbach;

E-mail: ARGE_Waldschaf@web.de

Hungary

Stock: 14 rams; 260 ewes; 105 young animals; 3 breeders

Remarks: a new breeding group with 50 ewes and 20 young animals was build in 2004.

Performance testing: weight control at birth and in the age of one year. Livestock judging; governmental breeding programmes

Contact: Dr. Lazlo Radnoczi, Orszagos Mezogazdasagi Minösitö Intezet, Keleti Karoly u. 24, H-1024 Budapest;

E-mail: radnocil@ommi.hu

Rouge de Roussillon (Souche Marti) / Rotkopfschaf

Description: Rouge de Roussillon originate from the Pyrenees, where they probably developed from crossbreeding with North-African sheep. In the 17th and 18th century, numerous Rouge de Rousillon were imported to Germany. In 1979, the last herd was saved from the slaughterhouse literally at the last minute.

Rouge de Rousillon are sparsely woolled sheep with spirally curled wool. The lambs are born brown, but change colour after 5-7 months to light brown and then to reddish white. They have narrow heads, which remain dark as well as the legs. The tail is long and thin with a broad base. The wool has an unusual high fat content. Rouge de Rousillon show a good milking performance over a long lactation period.

Breeding Activities

France

Stock: no actual data available
State 2003: 60 rams; 150 ewes, 100 young animals; 2 breeders

Remarks: In France there is a group of sheep, about 1000 animals, which are named "Rouge de Roussillon. Aim of breeding is the red colour and the quality of meat. Conservation criteria are not discussed. "Rouge de Roussillon souche Marti", which are bred at the Ferme Conservatoire de Leyssart, are an undergroup, but are the original breed.

Contact: Mme Dominique Massoubre; Leyssart; F-33660 Puyonormand; Email: info@ferme-conservatoire.com Web: <http://www.ferme-conservatoire.com>

Germany

Stock: state 2005 unknown, because herdbook is under construction; 5 breeders;

Remarks: Herdbook is under construction; There are two more breeders since 2003. In one flock probably crossbreeding with Coburger Fuchsssheep is suspected. There is one big herd in the Nürnberg Tiergarten. From there, single animals can be given to interested breeders.

Contact: GEH; Rassebetreuer Henrik Wagner; Saarlouiser Str. 54; D-66346 Püttlingen; Email: Henrik.W.Wagner@agr.uni-giessen.de



Rouge de Roussillon, (Source: Ferme Conservatoire de Leyssart, France)

Girgentana Goat

Description: The mighty corkscrew-like horns of the Gargantuan goat show the connection to its ancestors, the Markhor Wild Goat from the high mountain area of Afghanistan. Girgentanas were mainly kept for their good milk performance (up to 3 l/day). The production of goat's cheese has no tradition in Sicily and goat's milk is less in demand. The remaining stock suffered a severe blow at the beginning of the 90s.

The most striking characteristic feature are the erect corkscrew-like shaped horns, measuring 50 cm and more. The rams have a beard. The profile is slightly convex. The fleece is longhaired and white. Girgentanas are of medium size. They lamb for the first time at the age of 15 month. Afterwards, they show oestrus behaviour every 20 days and produce 1.9 lambs per year. The milking yield is outstandingly high.

Breeding Activities

Italy: Capra Girgentana

Stock: about 680 animal, 20 breeders

Germany: Girgentana Ziege

Stock: about 120 animal, 14 breeders

Problems of inbreeding in Germany are still given. But also in Italy, the bloodline of the animals from Canicatti, Prov. Agrigento, where the German Girgentanas were imported from, is now extinct there. Therefore an exchange of animals is urgently needed. Because in the South and Central Italy the "Blue Tongue Disease" is acute, an exchange is quite difficult. This disease is spread by mosquitoes and leads to massive loss of milk performance in goats and cattle. For the next spring - before the "mosquitoe-season" starts- transprotection of animals is allowed for a short time. It is expected that an exchange will occur then. Also a Girgentana-Network in Germany shall be build.

Contact: Hans-Peter Grunenfelder,
SAVE Foundation, branch St. Gallen,

Tel / Fax: 0041-71-222 74 40,
Email: info@monitoring.eu.com



Hucul Horse

Description: There is a compulsory model based on an analysis of the actual population, which is obligatory for whole Hucul breeding. It was confirmed by the Hucul International Federation in 1996: Size (at withers): stallions = 135-145 cm; mares = 132-143 cm (stick); girth's circumference - more at least about 30 cm than size withers; cannon circumference (left fore leg under the knee): stallions = 17-20 cm; mares 16-19 cm. Colours: all colours except roan, albino, grey and leopard are allowed. In the whole Hucul horse population one can differentiate several types, but there are different points of view. Tarpan Hucul, Bystrzec-Hucul, Przewalski-Hucul or: Noric, Tarpan-looked, Oriental and Mongolian. Nowadays, there are two main types of Hucul horses: the first is taller and strongly built, cruder than the second one which is smaller, more angular and dry, but nobler. This is one differentiation. Depending on the breeding area, differentiation of the types varies. Preservation Efforts: In Europe there are about 550 breeding mares. About 80 stallions are registered in the herdbook and about 90 stallions are additionally known of.

Breeding Activities

Austria

There are two different breeding organisations in Austria: The Austrian Stud Book Society (A) and the Association of the breeders of the Huculhorse (partner of HIF), (B).

Stock:

A: 9 stallions; 35 mares, 66 foals; 12 breeders

B: 9 stallions; 70 mares (33 in-foal mares); 66 foals < 3 years; 35 geldings; 58 breeders

Remarks: A: for the first time, 4 stallions completed and passed a stationary performance test in a horse training center in Austria; Performance testing:

Agreements of co-operation between the Polish, the Hungarian and the Slovak. National stud; pedigree is investigated in the different countries;

Performance testing: obligatory for stallions, voluntary for mares; consists of dressage at A- level plus the hucul-track (small cross country and agility track)

pedigree control All animals are chipped and DNA- typed, pedigrees are rigorously checked back to the origins of the breed and corrected if necessary based on a scientific database

General report: The support program offered by the Dept. of Agriculture is working efficiently and expected to be prolonged; In March 2004, the 4th International meeting of approved breeding organisations for the hucul horse according to EU 92/354 was held

in Frauenberg, Germany; delegates from 4 countries attended.

Remarks: B: At the 10. General meeting of the Hucul International Federation (HIF) in May 2004 in Iwkowa, Poland, Michael Horny, director of the national stud of Topolcianky was elected as president. Meetings took place to harmonize the performance testings. Co-operation agreement between the Hungarian National Stud Aggtelek and the Slovak National Stud Topolcianky were done in Poland in September 2004.

General report: the population of Hucul-horses is increasing because of the activities of the Austrian Verband mentioned below. Hucul horses are kept in outdoor stabling, offspring are with the mares, later they are kept in a "kindergarden" to encourage social behaviour. Subsidies are given only to animals which are bred within the Austrian OPIMATE breeding programme.

Contact: A: österreichischer Zuchtverband für Ponys, Kleinpferde und Spezialrassen; Cobenzlgasse 67b, A-1190 Vienna, Austria; E-mail: manfred.maier@meduniwien.ac.at

Contact: B: Verband der Züchter des Huzulenpferdes in Österreich; Ruth Horejs; A-4820 Bad Ischl; Kesselbach 9; E-mail: huzulen@aon.at; Internet: www.huzulenpferde.at

Czech Republic

Stock: 100 mares; No. of stallions is not fixed now, because of some animals were crossed with Fjord horses, Przewalski horses or Noriker horses.

Contact: Hucul Club Praha; Zmrzlik 1; CZ-15500 Praha 5; Reporyje;
E-mail: info@huculclub.cz

Hungary

Stock: 9 stallions, 135 mares

Contact: Prof. Dr. S. Mihók; Debrecen University of Agriculture; Böszörményi út 138; H-4032 Debrecen;
E-mail: mihok@helios.date.hu

Poland

Stock: 120 stallions; 426 mares

Contact: Dr. Maciej Jackowski, Agricultural University Krakow, Akademia rolnicza w Krakowie, Katedra Hodowli koni, 30-059 Krakow, al. Mickiewicza 24/28, Poland,
E-mail: rzpiesz@cyf-kr.edu.pl

Romania:

Stock: 9 stallions; 50 mares at the national stud in Lucina. Liability of the herdbook changed to the National Forest Administration

Contact: Director Gheorghe Mohanu;
E-mail: gmohanu@rosilva.ro

Slovak Republic:

Stock: 15 stallions; 80 mares; 120 young animals

Contact: National Stud Topolcianky, Slovak Republic, Director Dr. Michal Horny Parková 13, SK-951 93 Topolcianky;
E-mail: riaditel@nztopolcianky.sk

Remarks: special tests: Every stallion is tested by DNA-typing

Performance testing: Stallions and mares are tested by riding with saddle and by draught.

Pedigree control is obligatory.

General report: The national stud Topolčianky is responsible for the herdbook of the Huculhorses of whole Slovak Republic. Breeders are organised in the Breeding association of Huculhorses. Additionally there is the Slovak Hucul Club.

Ukraine:

Stock: no data available at the Moment; Monitoring of purebred animals is urgent necessary.

Contact: Vasil Garat; Private Farm "Zolota pidkova (Golden Horse Shoe)"; Gagarin Str. 64, Andrijewks, District Ushgorod, Zakarpattje, Ukraine;
E-mail: khosen@karpaty.uzhgorod.ua

Germany

Stock: 3 registered Stallions; 19 registered mares 2 registered foals

Remarks: performance testings on voluntary basis;

pedigree control: all registered stallions and at least 10% of the foals and all foals which are over or under the usual gestation.

Contact: Deutsche Reiterliche Vereinigung e.V. (FN); Freiherr-von-langen-Str. 13; D-48231 Warendorf, Deutschland;
E-mail: jKellner@fn-dokr.de

HIF (Hucul International Federation):
Präsident Director Dipl. Ing. Michal Horny; Parkova 13; SK 951 93 Topolcianky; Fax: +412 37 630 1611
E-mail: riaditel@nztopolcianky.sk

Internationale Dachorganisation der anerkannten Rassezuchtorganisationen für Huzulenpferde

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