

Short notes on the 1st meeting of EURCAW *Ruminants & Equines* with Competent Authorities

14 November 2022, 1–4 p.m. CET, online

1. Introduction to EURCAW *Ruminants & Equines*
Harry Blokhuis outlined background, members, expertise, mission and target group and core activities of EURCAW *Ruminants & Equines*.
2. Report on achievements
 - 2.1. Factsheet 'Visual and tactile contact in individually housed calves'
Josef Schenkenfelder introduced the contents of the thematic and indicator factsheets regarding visual and tactile contact in individually housed calves.
 - 2.2. Review 'Enrichment of the environment'
Isabelle Veissier gave an overview of the review on enrichment of the environment covering occupational, physical, sensorial, nutritional and relational enrichment.
 - 2.3. Website
Alison Hanlon introduced the centre's website <https://www.eurcaw-ruminants-equines.eu/>
3. Training need analysis
Silvia D'Albenzio summarised activities regarding training needs of competent authorities and supporting bodies.
4. Workshops
 - 4.1. 'Visibility of EURCAW *Ruminants & Equines*'
Alison Hanlon and Isabelle Veissier performed a 'start-stop-continue' evaluation in order to identify missing/desirable, ineffective/needless or favourable forms of communication.
 - 4.2. 'Questions 2 EURCAW *Ruminants & Equines*'
Christoph Winckler and Josef Schenkenfelder tried to identify obstacles preventing competent authorities from sending questions to EURCAW *Ruminants & Equines*, main challenges in animal welfare inspections and open norms regarding animal welfare legislation that should be addressed by EURCAW *Ruminants & Equines*.
5. Presentation of work programme 2023–2024
Harry Blokhuis presented the work programme for the period 2023–2024. Competent Authorities agreed with the prioritisation in the work programme drafted by EURCAW *Ruminants & Equines*.

Further details on topics listed in the agenda are collected in a summary of the meeting slides which are available here: <https://bokubox.boku.ac.at/#30950c75d35c6a3a7c8e923ce79332d1>

List of attendees

Name	Organisation	Country	
Harry	Blokhuis	SLU	EURCAW Ruminants & Equines
Birgitta	Staaf Larsson	SLU	
Alison	Hanlon	UCD	
Isabelle	Veissier	INRAE	
Evangelia	Sossidou	VRI	
Silvia	D'Albenzio	IZSLER	
Christoph	Winckler	BOKU	
Josef	Schenkenfelder	BOKU	
Ester	Alaez Pons	DG SANTE	EC

EU Member State	Number of Participants	
Austria	1	--- Competent Authority --- Competent Authority ---
Bulgaria	1	
Cyprus	1	
Czech Republic	2	
Denmark	3	
Estonia	2	
Finland	3	
France	3	
Germany	1	
Greece	3	
Ireland	4	
Italy	2	
Latvia	1	
Lithuania	3	
Luxembourg	1	
Malta	1	
Poland	1	
Portugal	3	
Slovenia	2	
Spain	3	
Sweden	2	

Post-meeting survey (n = 19)

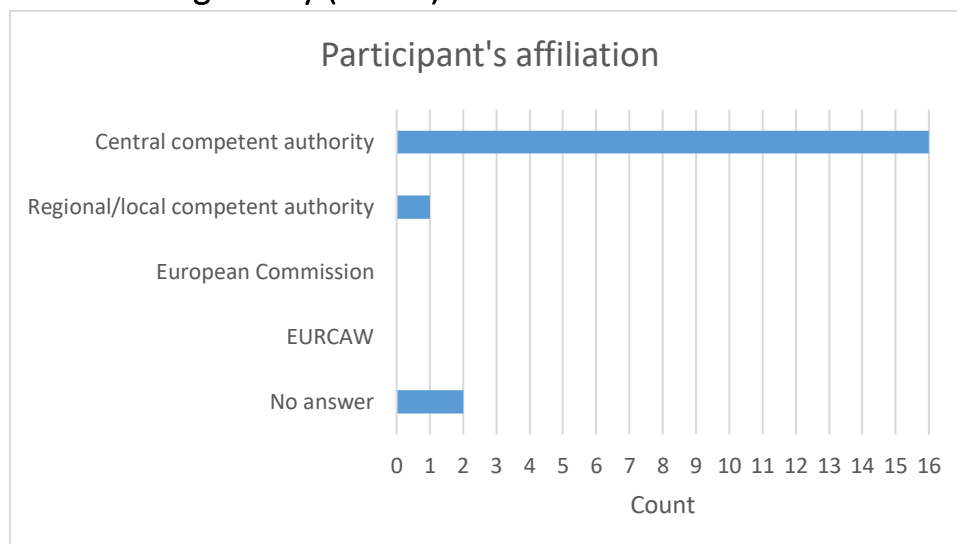


Figure 1: Distribution of participant's affiliation

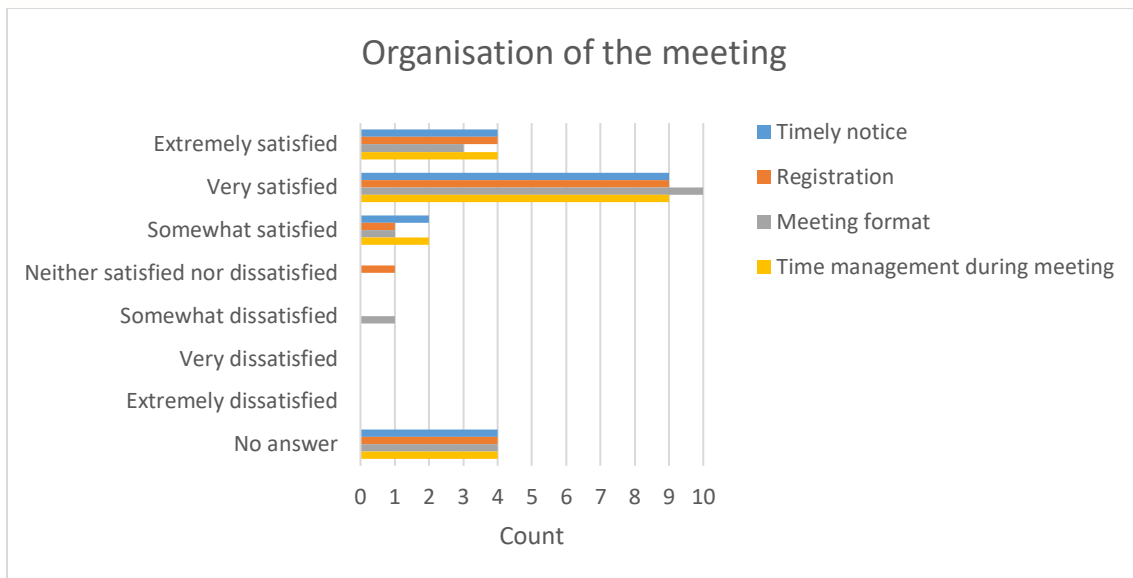


Figure 2: Participant's level of satisfaction with meeting organisation

Suggestions for improving organisation

- Good meeting and interesting practical presentations. Need to get more people involved
- If possible, these meetings should take place physically
- Send a reminder E-mail with link to the meeting a day or two in advance

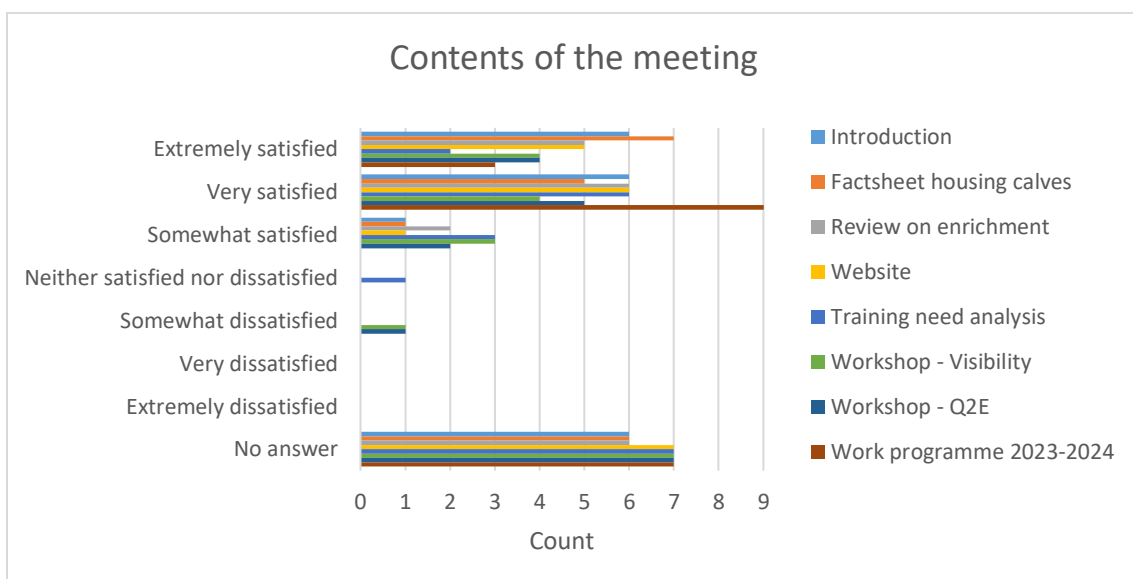


Figure 3: Participant's level of satisfaction with contents of the meeting

Suggestions for improving contents

- It would be nice to find contents of EURCAW *Ruminants & Equines* on the website, e.g. the factsheets could have been published on the website at the time of the meeting
- Training need analysis not clearly explained
- Presentations on specific fact sheets/information material would be useful
- Application of a 'sectorial philosophy', e.g. dairy/meat, large/small ruminants, horses/donkeys

- More specific training on ruminants and equines, however, assuming those will be in follow-up meetings

There will be a physical meeting of EURCAW *Ruminants & Equines* with competent authorities planned for next year. At this early stage, do you have any thoughts regarding this meeting you want to share with us?

- A physical meeting (kick-off) is very good, especially at the start of the EURCAW
- Who specifically shall attend the meeting?
- Is it possible or necessary that more than one person per member state attends (without reimbursement)?
- Can you give loads of notice and keep the meeting to the time allocations? Over running of presentations can destroy a presentation. Less workshops, can be just sitting in silence especially for people like me new to this area
- Before the meeting it should be requested to the MS, to give their inputs on possible areas they want to talk (have a clear information from the reference centre)
- Physical meetings are very important for networking. The last poultry meeting was too short probably to allow good engagement with all participants
- The poultry workshops were useful but all countries did not participate in sharing information as it was not the participants work area. So good advance notice on the topics for similar such workshops would be advantageous hopefully and allow participants to gather information. Also having the workshop questions in advance would help
- It might be useful to review the feedback form the pig and poultry EURCAW meetings held this year
- I prefer online meetings due to disadvantages in physical meetings (e.g. time, money, family and business, health risk, transport stress)
- Please can it be also available online as for some of our colleagues it is much harder to attend a physical meeting

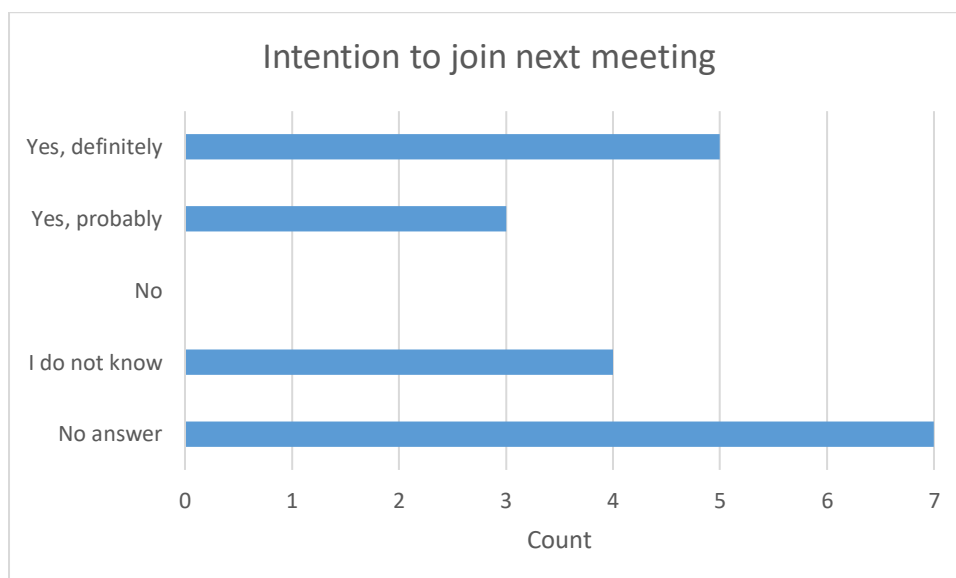


Figure 4: Participant's intention to join the next meeting of EURCAW Ruminants & Equines with competent authorities



Further comments

- It is good to have this EURCAW. We are awaiting your results
- Please create a lot of factsheets for a practical use
- More information and less workshops. Short presentations and practical guidance
- Excellent website, very user friendly. Looking forward to using it and finding trustworthy and scientifically sound information in one place
- Congratulations for your first attempt. I'm sure every next meeting will be better under your efforts