

# **STANDARDS FOR PEDIGREE AND BREEDING PARAMETERS OF LIVESTOCK MEANT FOR BREEDING, SEMEN AND EMBRYO PRODUCTION**

## **Appendix – I: Framework for the Community Breeding Stock Management**

The following guidelines shall serve as a broad framework for the implementation of community breeding stock management. Each village and Geog should adapt them to location specific needs and priorities as deem appropriate.

### **1. Objective**

- ◆ To promote better and effective participation of farmers in the livestock development activities, namely, breed improvement;
- ◆ To ensure better and equal sharing of cost and benefits by the community members;
- ◆ To ensure future sustainability of the breeding bull procurement and distribution scheme;
- ◆ To increase the sense of ownership of the scheme thereby facilitating better and effective services.

### **2. Community mobilization**

#### ***2.1. Membership***

Though the entire community of a particular locality is expected to benefit from the breeding stock supplied, all of them may not have the means to take care of it. A list should be prepared of people willing to take care of the breeding stock supplied who will benefit certain advantages described here under. These people will be known as members.

Other people from the community may join the membership in the future when they feel they can manage the breeding stock. In the long term, members should form into a farmer group or breeders' association.

#### ***2.2. Eligibility Criteria***

Membership eligibility criteria will be established jointly with the community, LEAs and other relevant agencies. Those, which fulfil the eligibility criteria, become members after signing agreement or memorandum of understanding. Eligibility criteria should include among others the capacity in terms of fodder availability and manpower to manage the breeding stock as well as a willingness to be part of the scheme.

#### ***2.3. Management Committee***

A management committee consisting of two or three members is to be selected/ elected by the Gup/ Tshogpa and the community. The main responsibility of such a committee is to ensure that the community breeding stock is managed in line with the contract agreement laid down by the Department of Livestock and those agreed upon by the community (*Appendix III*).

#### ***2.4. Roles and Responsibility of Members and Management Committee***

After discussing with the concerned community members, it is important to clearly spell out the expected roles and responsibility of members and that of the management committee. Each and every member is responsible for the well-being and proper management of the supplied breeding stock. Appropriate check and balance mechanism like imposition of penalty, fine etc on defaulters should be given due importance.

#### ***2.5. Benefits and Returns from the Scheme***

The members must decide the amount of the fee which should be paid by the beneficiaries for each service and when a progeny is born. Distinction should be made between members and non-members. The non members are expected to pay more for the services availed as they do not take care of the breeding stock.

#### ***2.6. Generation of Common Fund***

The concept of creating a common fund for the benefit of the members should be given due importance. This gains importance especially in view of facilitating the community to be able to sustain such scheme in future on their own. This is also to instil and introduce the concept of self-help among the members.

The common fund is basically the money paid by the members and/or non-members for the services of the breeding stock and/ the progeny born. The members should decide on the ways and means to put the money into effective use and avoid misuse. For example, the money could be used to purchase replacement stock, for maintenance breeding stock etc.

### **3. Breeding Stock Management Mechanism**

#### ***3.1. Breeding stock Management***

An appropriate system or mechanism to manage the supplied breeding stock properly is a prerequisite. While the community should be given complete liberty to decide on any method as deemed appropriate to their situation, the following may serve as some useful guidelines:

- ◆ Appointment of a breeding stock custodian/ attendant. The community should arrange for the payment of the attendant and other necessary support;
- ◆ A member volunteers to take care of the breeding stock who shall charge for the services rendered as per the agreement or consensus reached between the community members.
- ◆ Members to take care of the supplied breeding stock on a rotational basis for specified duration (1 month/ 3 months/ 6 months/ 1 year etc.) ensuring proper care and feeding.

The community should be well aware of the advantages and drawbacks of the different systems.

#### ***3.2. Record Keeping***

This is a compulsory aspect of the scheme. An effective record keeping will not only be useful to the Dzongkhag or the Department to effect necessary policy and implementation strategies but also it will help in keeping dispute and disagreement among the members to the minimum. It is stressed that uniform and standard record keeping system should be followed through out the country for ease of management and analysis. A register will be given to the community along with the breeding stock. Information concerning reproductive parameters, health status, attendance (the data to be recorded must be defined by the concerned authority)

should compulsorily be recorded. This register will accompany the breeding stock throughout its life. The community is free to organise the record keeping.

### ***3.3. Breeding stock Exchange Programme***

This basically applies to exchange of community breeding bull, stallion and rams. Such breeding stock exchange programme must be pursued rigorously in order to avoid in-breeding in a population. The exchange programme could either be intra or inter Geog or even intra or inter Dzongkhag. This exchange programme should be worked out in detail at the beginning of each year or each plan period either by Central Farm and/ in consultation with the concerned Dzongkhags. This should be in turn supported by appropriate policies, legislation and legal framework.

### ***3.4. During the Death of the community breeding stock***

#### ***3.4.1 The write off procedure***

In case of death of a community breeding stock, the following measures should be taken. A time frame of **1 month** is given between the death of the animal and the write off.

- ◆ The community should inform the LEA and the Dzongkhag as soon as possible after the death of the community breeding stock.
- ◆ When technical verification of the death by a veterinarian is possible (the bull is kept at less than half days walk from the nearest veterinary centre), he should conduct the post-mortem, if not the LEA shall perform the post-mortem.
- ◆ All the relevant samples including HP samples should be submitted by the LEA to the NCAH/ RVL along with the death certificate and the PM report.
- ◆ The NCAH/ RVL should then certify the death and send all the relevant documents to the DLO.
- ◆ The DLO forwards these documents to the Dzongda who signs the final write off and sends a copy of the write off to the NLBP/ concerned Farm.
- ◆ The Dzongkhags shall compile quarterly the deaths of Community Breeding Stocks (bulls/ stallions/ rams) with full explanation of the causes of death and send the compiled report to NLBP who is responsible for the monitoring of the breeding stock.

#### ***3.4.2 Disposal of the carcass***

The LEA/ RVO/ BAFRA inspector is responsible for certifying whether the meat is fit for human consumption or not.

- ◆ If the meat is **not** fit for consumption, the carcass must be disposed off in the most hygienic/ acceptable way.
- ◆ If the meat is fit for consumption, it should be sold by the community's management committee and the money should deposited to the government revenue account of the particular Dzongkhag.

#### ***3.4.3 Case of death due to lack of proper management***

A breeding stock / ram) to the community is given for a period of three years (bull/ stallion) and two years (rams), after which it will be exchanged. If the breeding stock dies within this period, the cause(s) of death will be analysed case by case to decide whether

or not another breeding stock should be supplied or not. In case of death due to lack of proper management, the RGOB will not supply a new breeding stock immediately to the community or they should pay for the replacement stock.

### **3.5. *Culling procedure***

1. The community requests the Dzongkhag to have their community breeding stock culled with proper justification.
2. The Dzongkhag forwards the culling proposal to the NLBP.
3. The NLBP and RVL jointly conduct the status evaluation of the breeding stock with a score card developed to this effect. They award their technical sanction for the culling to the Dzongkhag.
4. The Dzongkhag gives the final approval for the culling of the breeding stock and is responsible for its disposal (the breeding stock shall not be distributed to anyone/ anywhere as it has been judged unfit for breeding).
5. The breeding stock other than stallion shall be sold at the current meat rate for 60% of the live body weight and the money collected goes to the government revenue account. In case of Stallion it should be sold on auction after fixing a base price as per the prevailing market price.

### **3.6. *Monitoring and Evaluation***

For this, the community members or beneficiaries of the community as a whole must be actively involved in monitoring of the community breeding stock on the aspects like its management and utility by themselves. This is mainly to create peer and societal pressure on the concerned custodian/ caretaker of the breeding stock so that an effective management of the breeding stock becomes a reality.

However, monitoring and evaluation of technical nature will be conducted by the external agencies like the LEAs, Dzongkhags, RVLs/ NCAH and NLBP.