

Deliverable report



ROBUSTMILK

Project no. 211708

D5.4_46: Conference meeting linked to Interbull on selection for robustness and milk quality

Due delivery date: M46 (January 2012)

Actual delivery date: M46 (January 2012)

Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium	

WP no: WP5

Lead Participant: GxABT – ULg (previously FUSAGx; Belgium)

1. Introduction

The Robustmilk project aims at developing innovative and practical breeding tools for improved dairy products from more robust cows. The objective of the WP5 is to integrate the major outcomes of the workpackages 1, 2, 3, and 4 and to disseminate the results. Dissemination of results is done in different directions. First towards stakeholders through the internet, lay publications,

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farmers conferences/seminars/discussion groups, and intervention in the popular press. Second towards scientific community through publications, workshops, and a satellite conference linked to Interbull on selection for robustness and milk quality.

2. Objective and deliverable

The objective was to communicate the results of the RobustMilk project to the scientific community through a conference meeting linked to Interbull on selection for robustness and milk quality. The deliverable was two sessions dedicated to animal robustness and milk quality during the 2011 Interbull Open meeting that took place in Stavanger Norway, from August 26 to 28, 2011.

3. Description of work

In February 2011, João Dürr from the Interbull center was contacted to inquire about the opportunity to have a session at the 2011 Interbull Open meeting linked to the RobustMilk project and focusing on animal robustness and milk quality. The Interbull center agreed to organize a RobustMilk session at the 2011 Interbull meeting.

The call of paper was sent around in April 2011 and the meeting was promoted on both Interbull and RobustMilk website (Figure 1).

During the consortium meeting in Uppsala, the list of presentations from the RobustMilk team at the Interbull meeting was established. In order to make clear which presentations were part of RobustMilk, a common slide was included in each presentation of the project (Figure 2).



The 2011 Interbull Meeting will take place in Stavanger, Norway, from August 26 to 28, in connection with the 2011 EAAP meeting.

INTERBULL OPEN SESSIONS

Interbull welcomes researchers and professionals working on genetic evaluation of livestock to present their latest results in the open sessions . The 2011 open sessions will include scientific reports related to four major themes:

1. National and International genetic evaluations
2. Use of genomic information in livestock genetic evaluation
3. Monitoring genetic variability of livestock populations
4. Animal robustness and milk quality - organized in cooperation with the RobustMilk project

Authors must submit titles for the Interbull open sessions using the form in the [event page](#) until **July 15, 2011**.

Inclusion of the submitted titles in the program will depend on the adequacy to the proposed themes and registration to the event.

The **leaflet of the RobustMilk project** is available ([Leaflet](#)).

Event

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The 2011 open sessions will include scientific reports related to four major themes:

- National and International genetic evaluations
- Use of genomic information in livestock genetic evaluation
- Monitoring genetic variability of livestock populations
- **Animal robustness and milk quality - organized in cooperation with the RobustMilk project**

More information are available on the [Interbull website](#)

News

- What does a **genotype** look like? ([more](#))
- The **list of publications** was updated ([more](#))

Figure 1: Call of papers and promotion of the 2011 Interbull Open Meeting

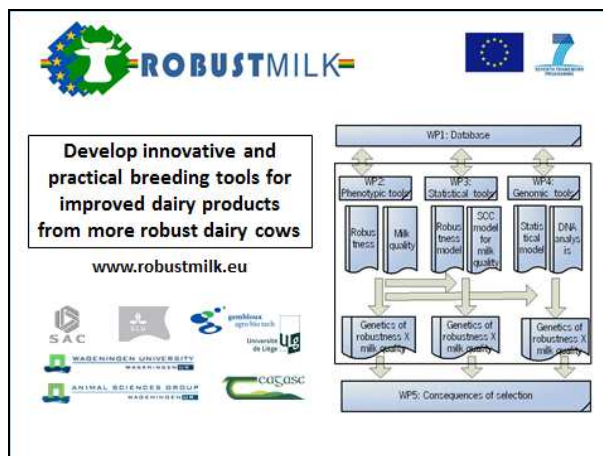


Figure 2: Common slide included in the Interbull presentation from the RobustMilk team

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4. Results

During the 2011 Interbull Open Meeting (Stavanger, Norway, August 26 to 28), two sessions were dedicated to animal robustness and milk quality and were organized in cooperation with the RobustMilk project. A total of 155 persons registered for the meeting. Out of total of 17 presentations, 9 were given by RobustMilk research groups and were directly derived from research done inside the project:

- Bastin, C., H. Soyeurt, S. Vanderick, and N. Gengler. 2011. Genetic relationships between milk fatty acids and fertility of dairy cows.
- Bastin, C., D.P. Berry, M.P. Coffey, E. Strandberg, J.I. Urioste, R.F. Veerkamp, and N. Gengler. 2011. Consequences of selection for milk quality and robustness traits.
- Bovenhuis, H., D. Berry, A. Lunden, E. Wall, J. Bastiaansen, S. Wijga, M. Calus, and R. Veerkamp. 2011. GWAS for robustness traits.
- Calus, M.P.L., Y. de Haas, M. Pszczola, and R.F. Veerkamp. 2011. Predicted response of genomic selection for new traits using combined cow and bull reference populations.
- McParland S., G. Banos, M. O'Donovan, M. Coffey, B. McCarthy, B. O'Neill, E. Wall, and D. Berry. 2011. Genetic evaluations for energy balance: a real possibility?
- Rönnegård, L., W.F. Fikse, H. A. Mulder, and E. Strandberg. 2011. Breeding value estimation for environmental sensitivity on a large dairy cattle data set.
- Urioste, J.I., J. Franzén, J.J. Windig and E. Strandberg. 2011. Genetic variability of alternative somatic cell count traits and their relationship with clinical and subclinical mastitis.
- Veerkamp, R.F., D.P. Berry, E. Wall, Y. de Haas, S. McParland, M. Coffey, and M.P.L. Calus. 2011. Use of phenotypes from research herds to develop genomic selection for scarcely recorded traits like feed efficiency.
- Wall, E., M.P. Coffey, R.F. Veerkamp, S. MacParland, and G. Banos. 2011. Lessons learned in pooling data for reference populations.

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Abstracts and presentations are available on the Interbull website and on the Robustmilk website (for those reporting research done inside the project).

Link to the Interbull website:

[http://www.interbull.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=89
&Itemid=127](http://www.interbull.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=89&Itemid=127)

Link to the Robustmilk website:

<http://www.robustmilk.eu/Publication/Publication.html#2011-interbull>

Also, a workshop with the industry about utilisation of the RobustMilk outcomes took places during the meeting. The summary of the discussion is available on the RobustMilk website.

5. Comments