

Brain storming session conducted at CIRC on Strategies for utilization of Frieswal[®] “the first synthetic cattle breed of India”

A Brainstorming session was organized at ICAR - Central Institute for Research on Cattle, Meerut on 21 October 2024 on the topic Strategies for utilization of Frieswal "the first synthetic cattle breed of India" and genetic improvement of Indigenous Cattle Resources. The program started with the visit of dignitaries to various laboratories of the Institute and Dr Raghvendra Bhatta, Deputy director General (Animal Sciences) and other dignitaries inaugurated three new research laboratories viz. Milk processing cum incubation lab; Tissue culture and Biochemistry Laboratory and Veterinary clinical laboratory.

The formal session started with the welcome address by Dr AK Mohanty, Director of the institute followed by a brief journey of development of First Synthetic Milch Breed of Cattle, The Frieswal having 62.5% blood of Holstein Friesian and 37.5% blood of Sahiwal by Dr Sushil Kumar, Head of Division, Cattle Genetics and Breeding. Frieswal cattle breed has been developed with the help of 47 military dairy farms spreaded across India therefore cows of this breed are able to give more than 4000 litre milk in a mature lactation of 305 days with about 4% Milk Fat in it. The animals of this breed are best suited for all agro climatic conditions of India. This breed has already been registered with ICAR-NBAGR, Karnal as first Synthetic Milch Cattle Breed of India.

The session was chaired by Dr Raghavendra Bhatta, Deputy director General (Animal Sciences), ICAR, New Delhi and the name of other dignitaries who attend this session are Dr AK Mishra, Former Chairman, ASRB, New Delhi; Dr Nitin V. Patil; Honorable Vice Chancellor, MSFSU, Nagpur, Dr GK Gaur, Asstt. Director General (AP&B), ICAR, New Delhi; Dr. BP Mishra, Director, ICAR - NBAGR, Karnal; Dr BR Gulati, Director, ICAR -NIVEDI, Bangalore; Dr VK Saxena, Director (Research), BASU, Patna; Dr Nitin Kurkure, Director (Research), MSFSU, Nagpur; Dr RK Pundir, Principal Scientist & Head (AGR), ICAR-NBAGR, Karnal; Dr TV Raja, Principal Scientist, ICSR-NDRI, Karnal; Dr Arjava Sharma, Former Director, ICAR-NBAGR, Karnal; Dr Birham Prakash, Former Director, ICAR - CIRC, Meerut; Dr Rajendra Prasad, Former Director, ICAR-CIRC, Meerut; Dr. Shrikant Tyagi, Former Director, ICAR-CIRC, Meerut and all the heads of divisions, scientists of ICAR-CIRC, Meerut. All the scientists involved in the development of Frieswal shared their experiences and all the participants gave their expert opinion for utilising Frieswal for improvement of cattle producing lesser milk in the country. All the scientists who were involved the development of Frieswal Cattle were honoured by providing them a memento for their contribution and sincere efforts.

In the last, chairman of the session Dr Raghavendra Bhatta, DDG gave his concluding remarks and congratulated all the scientists and contributors for their sincere efforts for the development of Frieswal Breed. The program ended with formal vote of thanks to one and all by Dr Rajiv Ranjan Kumar, I/C PME.