

ICAR Certificate of Quality:

Auditor(s)' Report for the ICAR Executive Board (following the Executive Board's deliberations the report will be forwarded to the applicant).

Name(s) of Auditor(s) and areas audited
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<i>In the case of more than one auditor, please indicate the areas which each auditor audited. In the case where auditors are working from differing sites (in relation to non-visiting audits) then both auditors are required to complete this document).</i>

FRANZ SCHALLERL, AUSTRIA

IDENTIFICATION AND PRODUCTION RECORDING OF DAIRY CATTLE
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Date of audit:

OCTOBRE 12./13, 2015

<u>Type of audit: (non-visited or visited)</u>

VISITED AUDIT

Applicant:

UNITED DAIRY FARMERS LTD, BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

Activities for which the ICAR Certificate of Quality are requested:
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IDENTIFICATION AND PRODUCTION RECORDING OF DAIRY CATTLE

Auditor's recommendation for the granting or refusal of the ICAR Certificate of Quality
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The audit was prepared very well by Mr. Gary Watson, the manager of the milk recording division of UDF.

I visited an assisted evening milk recording. The technician, Mr. Rae, a part time milk recorder, was very competent. Every new technician undergoes an 8-week-training and is supervised by an experienced technician in this time. A handbook is provided for each technician.
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There is an in-house developed software for data capture and reporting to the farmer. The software partner is CIS (a company that belongs to Holstein UK). Every farmer has an online-access and can choose from a large variety of reports. The milk recording data can be transferred into the on-farm-software and vice-versa data from the on-farm software in can be transferred to the central database.
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Therefore:

THE AUDITOR RECOMMENDS THE GRANTING OF THE CERTIFICATE OF QUALITY FOR IDENTIFICATION AND PRODUCTION RECORDING OF DAIRY CATTLE.

In the event of a negative recommendation, for the whole or part of the application, list the areas requiring attention and give a résumé as to reasons for non-acceptance and or non-compliance. Please list in order of priority.

This section has to refer to any breach of national law or ICAR Guidelines, quoting references.

Not applicable.

Other recommendations, please list any areas which, in the opinion of the auditor(s) would improve performance or service to the applicants farmers/customers.

Should be carried out before next before the next audit *(Please list in order of priority quoting Guidelines)*

Not applicable.

Desirable improvements but not obligatory *(Please list)*

Review

Auditors to give a résumé of each of the areas for which the applicant requested audit and how in the auditors' opinion the applicant was providing service. Include a list of the sites visited where appropriate and the responsible person at each site (if known).

Identification

Résumé:

Identification follows national and EC-rules. It is unique for each individual animal. The first ear tag must be applied within 36 hours of the birth of the animal and the second tag must be applied within 20 days of birth. The farmer has to report the tagging to a national authority (AFIS). This database is linked to Holstein UK and the UDF-Software.

If a keeper discovers an ear tag has become lost they must replace it with an ear tag bearing the same number within 28 days of discovery.

Every cattle has to have a passport. The cattle passport is a government-issued document that states the animal's:

- date of birth
- official ear tag number
- ear tag number of the dam
- breed
- sex

This document must accompany the animal throughout its life, from birth to death, and will include all movements, changes of ownership, passages through cattle markets, etc.

Transport Résumé: Transport of the samples is outsourced, the time between recording, arrival at the laboratory, analysing and reporting back to the farmer is permanently monitored by the software.
Production recording (on-farm processes) Résumé: UDF has mostly assisted recording. The technicians are trained very well. The daily work is monitored by the used software. There are several types of recordings. Most are assisted, but there are DIY-recordings as well. The farmer can choose between 4 – 6 – 8 - weekly recordings. If a farmer does not use ICAR recommended recording and sampling devices, the data will be flagged as “non-ICAR” and not reported to Holstein UK.
Laboratory Résumé: The laboratory is owned by UDF and holds a valid ISO-accreditation according 17025. The lab staff is very competent, a quality assurance scheme according to EN/ISO 17025 is established. The calibration documents are excellent.
Data processing (off-farm processes) Résumé: UDF uses the database of Holstein UK and is linked to AFIS. The used software is in-house-software developed in cooperation with CIS, a software company owned by Holstein UK.
Genetic evaluations Résumé: Not applicable
Other comments/remarks/opinions not covered above The audit was very well prepared; the auditor got all necessary information.

The President and Board of ICAR thank you for all your work in auditing and compiling this report.