

Guidelines for Breed Registration in India

The farm animal genetic resources have remained the backbone of Indian agrarian economy through contributing milk, meat, egg, fibre, draught power and manure. As per FAO, Animal Genetic Resources (AnGR) refer to those animal species and the populations within each species that are used or may be used, for production of food and agriculture.

Recognising the need for an authentic national documentation system of valuable genetic resource with known characteristics in India, a mechanism for “Registration of Animal Germplasm” has been initiated at National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR), Karnal by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

This would provide protection to the valuable animal genetic diversity and facilitate its access for genetic improvement of animal breeds. This mechanism would be the sole recognised process for registration of “Animal Genetic Resources” material at national level.

The registration of Indian livestock and poultry shall revolve around the concept of a breed. It is difficult to exactly define a breed; however, FAO has given a definition, which is widely accepted. According to this definition, the breeds are either

(a) a sub-specific group of domestic livestock with definable and identifiable external characteristics that enable it to be separated by visual appraisal from other similarly defined groups within same species; or

(b) a group for which geographical and/or cultural separation from phenotypically similar groups has led to acceptance of its separate identity

The following link provides details on the prerequisites, eligibility criteria, formalities and procedure for registration of breeds of various livestock and poultry:

<http://www.nbagr.res.in/Guideliens%20for%20Breed%20Reg.pdf>

Compiled by Animal Breeding Group, NDDB