



Code EFABAR

Promoting responsible breeding
of farm animals across Europe

Version 2020

Introduction

Animal breeding and reproduction form a vital part of European food production systems. Across Europe, millions of animals are bred every year, including beef and dairy cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, chickens, laying hens and many different species of fish. The companies, cooperatives and organisations that breed animals in Europe are working to provide the highest standards of health, welfare, safety and sustainability.



Code EFABAR is a voluntary initiative of best practices to be used by EFFAB members that commit to defined criteria of responsible breeding of livestock species. It was introduced in 2006 and is reviewed and updated every three years. This document relates to the latest version of the code, published in 2020.

Promoting sustainability

Farm animal breeders are an important element of the European food systems. The practices they adopt directly impact the animals that farmers rear to provide sustainable, nutritious and tasty food to EU citizens. Code EFABAR recognises the central role of sustainability in safeguarding both European and global food security for today and the future. In 2020, the Code's six core values were updated to align with relevant UN sustainable development goals (SDGs).



“Code EFABAR brings together a wide range of stakeholders, including animal breeders, scientists, welfare experts and consumers”



Promoting best practices

Code EFABAR is designed to promote sustainability and responsibility among EFFAB members. The code is based on Europe's highly respected legislative framework for food standards and their underlying principles. EFFAB members who adopt the code are making commitment to practice responsible breeding. Code EFABAR may be used to assist to promote globally these principles of good practices.

Code EFABAR's objectives include:

- defining and promoting sustainable and responsible standards for farm animal breeding
- promoting transparency
- setting standards that first match and then exceed current national and EU legislation
- a commitment to continuous improvement of environmental and social responsibility
- working to meet United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

“EFFAB members are improving animal health and welfare by breeding animals that are more robust and resilient to diseases.”

www.responsiblebreeding.eu



Code EFABAR is an initiative of the European Forum of Farm Animal Breeders (EFFAB)

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