



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



# French experience about digitalization in Milk Recording

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THE GLOBAL STANDARD  
FOR LIVESTOCK DATA



# ICAR Certificate of Quality

Granted to France in 2024



THE GLOBAL STANDARD  
FOR LIVESTOCK DATA

Arthur van Schendelstraat 650, 3511 MJ Utrecht, Netherlands

## CERTIFICATE OF QUALITY

### France Génétique Elevage

- Animal identification in cattle and in other species
- Milk recording in cattle and in other species
- Beef recording in cattle
- Meat recording in other species
- Genetic evaluation in dairy cattle, beef cattle and other species
- Data processing
- Milk laboratory analysis
- DNA laboratory analysis

*Marie-Agnes Mourot*

Marie-Agnes Mourot  
ICAR CE

Utrecht, 25 July 2024  
Certificate number: 2024/08  
Valid up-to: July 2029

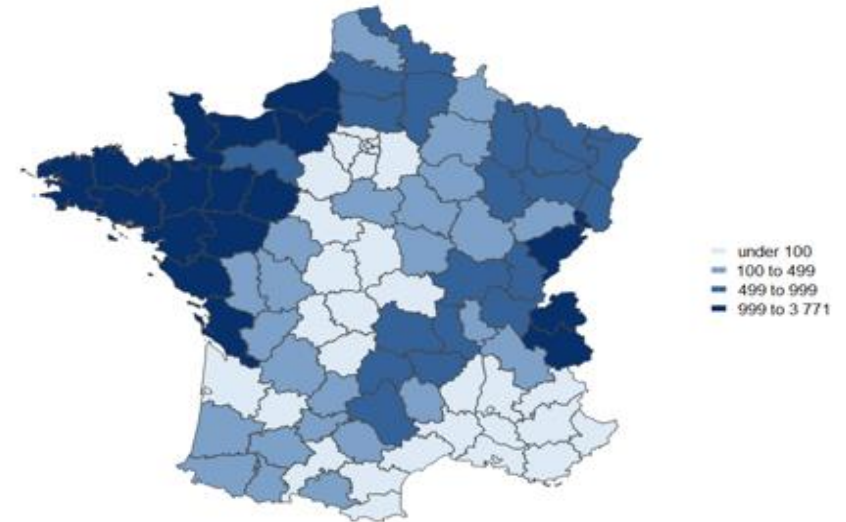
# French context in dairy cattle

## Some key figures in 2023

France within Europe



France - Location of dairy farms in Milk Recording



### Dairy cattle Milk Production

23.4 billion liters - Second place in Europe  
3.4 million dairy cows - 46.000 farmers  
80 cows/farm - Milk price 0.46 €/liter  
63% Holstein breed - 19% of AMS farms

### Dairy cattle Milk Recording

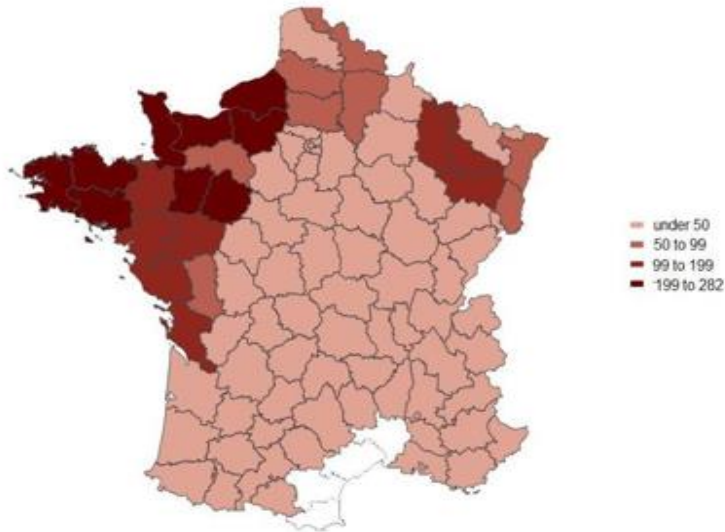
2.0 million dairy cows - 26.000 farmers  
9.000 kg/cow - 4.1% fat - 3.3% protein  
46 MRO's - A total of 18 million data recorded in GIS  
14% of AMS farms in Official Milk Recording



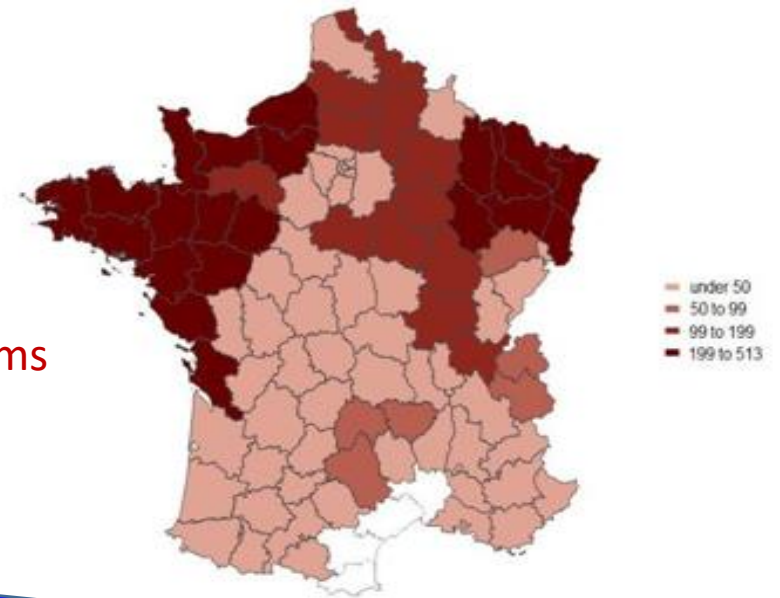
# Challenge in Official Milk Recording

## Evolution of Automatic Milking Systems farms in France

Number of AMS farms in Milk Recording - 2013



Number of AMS farms in Milk Recording - 2023



From 2.000 to 3.400 AMS farms

Stable since last 3 years...

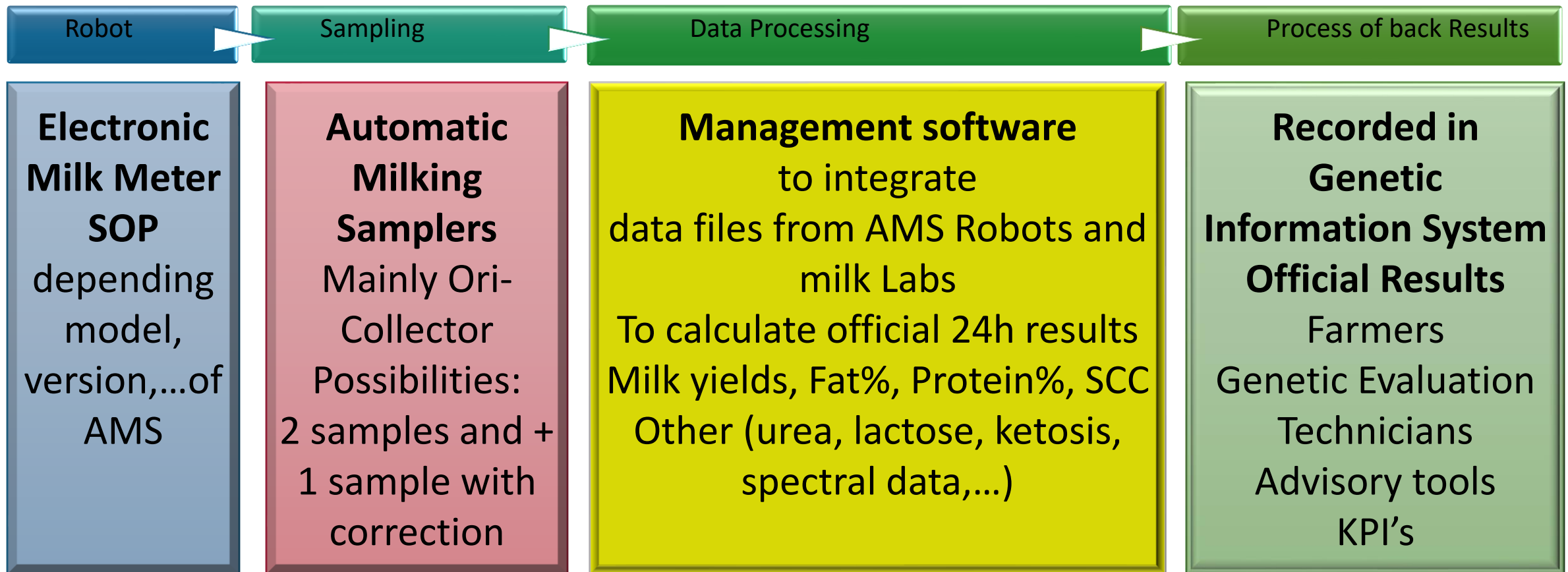
Many data, information,...

The main challenge for French MRO's is to keep AMS farmers in genetic evaluation, dairy herd improvement and to propose new services in collaboration with ICAR support, manufacturers

# Current process in Milk Recording

## Example in AMS farms

➤ A collaboration between MRO's and Manufacturers to define Standard Operating Procedures,...



## Strategy, priorities to define new services



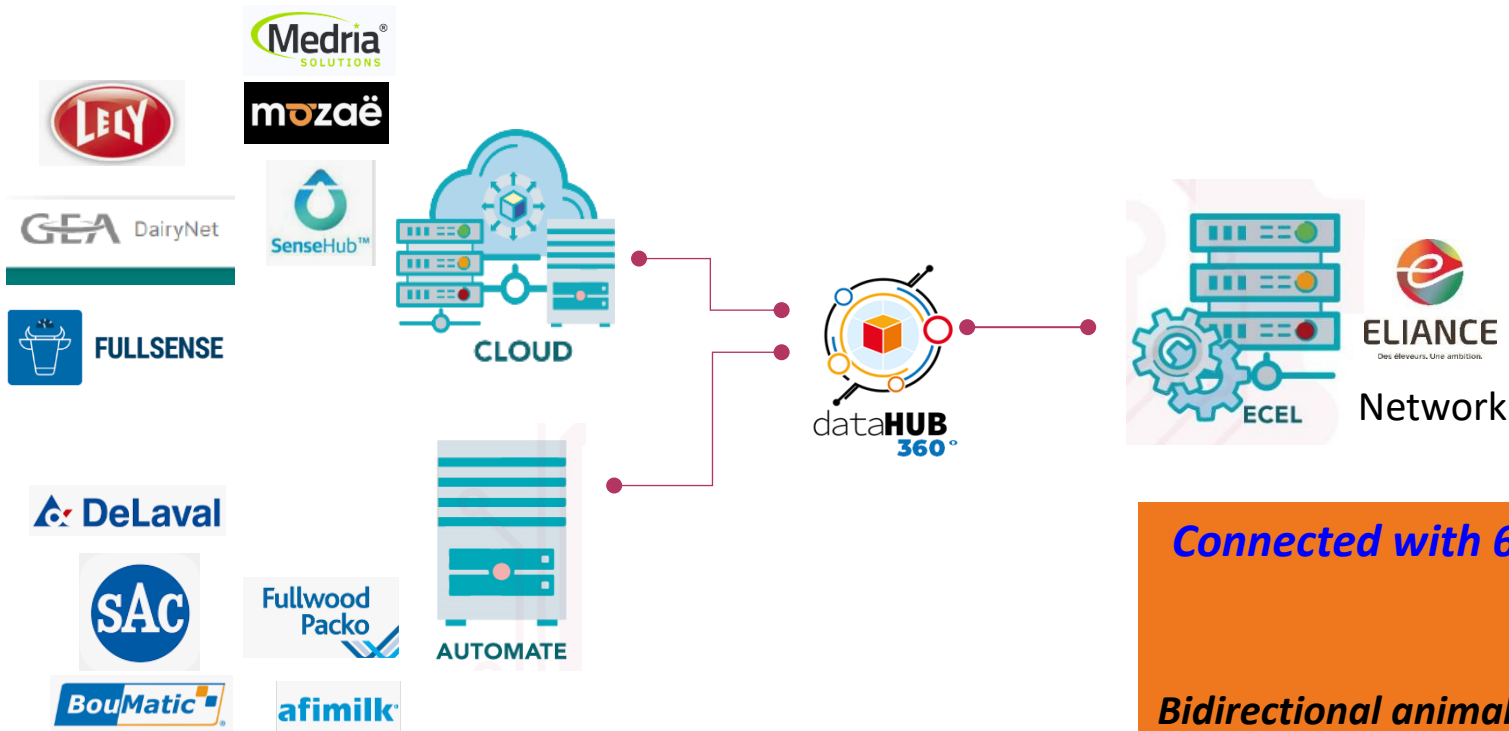
### About collecting, using sensors data from connected farms



- Think about the possibility of using data from sensors, dairy farms connected for genetic evaluation, advice in accordance with ICAR Guidelines and manufacturers
  - Imagine an innovative(s) solution(s) to improve milk recording process, data exchange (import/export) and sharing more information with farmers
  - Analyse and **standardize data source** for taking into account differences between devices, manufacturers
- ➔ One way: **the digitalization concept** by using new technologies like Web tools, Application Programming Interface, Artificial Intelligence,....

# In France, an innovative solution to exchange sensors data

## Creation of a web platform: DataHUB, heart of data exchange



**Connected with 6 AMS manufacturers, 4 Activities Sensors manufacturers**

**Bidirectional animal data exchange solution**

*From Cloud*

*From Farmer's PC*

**Import data, frequency every 10 minutes**

**Export data, frequency 1 or 4 times per day**

**Possibility to monitor the dataflow, check new data imported**

**And to manage multi-automates for each farm**

# Data and volume exchanged

## By using DataHUB platform on dairy farms

### Data exchanged

#### By import, concerns

*Herd inventory, events (calving date, IA,...),  
official milk recording data,...  
(Avoid to enter information twice)*

#### By export, concerns (each cow)

*Milk weight  
Fat%, Protein%, SCC (unofficial status)  
Body weight  
Milking speed  
Milk temperature  
Teat coordinates  
Health events,... (recorded by farmers)  
Cow Activity, rumination data*



**9.200 Automates  
connected**

Automates	%
AMS Robots	54%
Sensors	34%
Milking Parlours	8%
Feeding Stations	4%



# Kind of services offered

## 9 services and tools connected to DataHUB platform



*For  
Genetic evaluation*

Daily data concept to improve  
lactation accuracy level,...

*Dairy Herd Improvement,  
Advice*

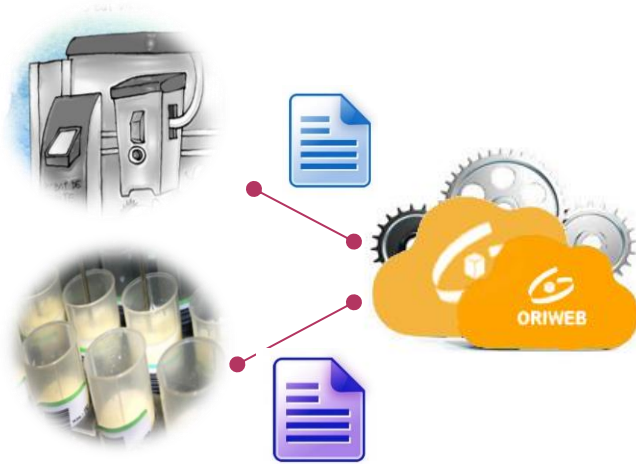
Management tools to forecast milk  
production,...

*Monitoring milk meters,...*

Computerized solutions to check  
the accuracy of electronic milk  
meters,...

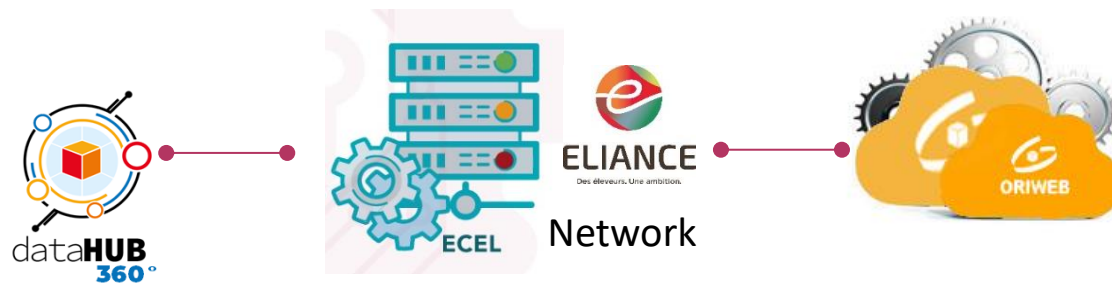
# Value of tools offered by DataHUB in accordance with ICAR

## Examples in Official Milk Recording



### Automation of data processing in Milk Recording from AMS files and milk labs results (to improve back results)

- ➔ Plausibility checks (link animal ID-milk weight-vial number,...)
- ➔ 24h milk yields calculation from last 96 hours
- ➔ Peeters&Galesloot method for only one sample
- ➔ Automatic reports for farmers and data transfer to National Genetic Informatic System



### Implementation of Daily data service (to improve lactation results)

- ➔ Flagging all initial data (official and unofficial), data traceability
- ➔ Integration of 24h milk yields between two test-day, 24h in line analysis (unofficial results used only for management)
- ➔ Data transfer to National Genetic Information System





# Opportunities in the future

## About sensors data, new traits



- The number of dairy farms connected, fitted with robots,...which use new data, sensors data,... will increase each year
- According countries, in European Union for example, there are new regulation **about farmer's consent**, data protection,...
- In this context, **the challenge for Milk Recording and Livestock Organizations** is to collect new data, to propose new services for the farmers in accordance with **Guidelines and ICAR Standard**, in collaboration with manufacturers
- **The valuation of new traits** from health (udder traits,...), conformation (body condition score,...) is underway for management and genetic evaluation in livestock organization in the world
- Use **new technologies, digitalization concept** (Web platform, Artificial Intelligence, e-learning,...) is a way for better data collecting and processing

## Conclusion



Using sensors data from robots, milking parlours connected,... represents an opportunity to enhance performance and efficiency on dairy farms!





# Thank you

