



Activity report of the European Consortium for Organic Animal Breeding: 2010

by Wytze Nauta, President

Members:

By the end of 2010 Eco AB had 10 registered members: organisations from the following countries: Norway, Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, France, United Kingdom, Denmark.

The board:

The board of Eco AB did change in 2010. Ton Baars and Günter Postler stepped out, Joanne Connington, already board member, became the new treasurer. Lotta Rydhmer of SLU Sweden became a new board member.

Activities:

We worked out a proposal for COST. Unfortunately we did not get through the selection, basically because we did not have enough partners or were already a network? The comments of the six members that judge such a proposal were very divers. So we did not see a chance to send a new proposal in October 2010 again.

The 3rd general meeting of Eco AB took place in Leipzig during WCGALP. 6 people attended this meeting.

Eco-AB was asked to join the organisation of the workshop on “ethical aspects related to methodologies in breeding and reproduction” in collaboration with the LowInputBreeds project for the first LowInputBreeds Symposium in March 2011. Eco-AB members will give presentations and join the discussions there.

Eco AB also started to work on a position paper about organic animal breeding which will be sent to IFOAM and discussed hopefully in 2011.

During the general meeting we discussed what to do with the money we have on our account. We decided that a research proposal could be financed. A proposal from Wytze Nauta to investigate the view of farmers on organic breeding in several European countries did not get a positive decision. Sweden will work on that topic in Scandinavia in 2011-2012.

Possibly the money can also be used for the position paper. This has to be discussed in March 2011 during the LIB-Workshop in Wageningen.

Finances:

The money of Eco-AB lies on an account at FiBL. Member organisations got invoices for their membership fee in 2010. The fee for full members changed to €400.00 per year. For associate members it stayed at €100.00 per year.

Website:

The website: www.eco-ab.org is still very quiet. We have to work on more activity there.