

## **EFFAB WELCOMES EU LIVESTOCK STRATEGY**

### **Animal breeding gains recognition at the heart of Europe's livestock future**

**Brussels, 7 July 2026 - The European Forum of Farm Animal Breeders (EFFAB) welcomes the publication of the European Commission's Livestock Strategy, a long-term vision that places innovation, resilience and competitiveness at the center of the future of European livestock farming.**

#### **Animal breeding gains recognition**

EFFAB welcomes the positive tone of the Strategy towards European livestock production as a way to recognise the high-value creation of the sector. It is particularly pleased to see several of its key priorities reflected in the final Strategy, as well as the recognition of animal breeding as a fundamental part of the solution to the challenges of the sector.

In particular, the Strategy explicitly identifies "*cutting-edge genomic and animal breeding techniques*" as drivers of both economic and environmental performance. It also highlights the need for continued research, innovation and investment in resilience traits, including heat tolerance, which are becoming increasingly important as farmers face climate and disease-related challenges.

*"This recognition is a strong signal. Europe understands that sustainable livestock production will depend on innovation and is the culmination of months of engagement to ensure that breeding and genetics are recognised as essential tools for achieving Europe's sustainability objectives"* affirmed César González, Director at EFFAB. *"Animal breeding is already helping farmers produce more with fewer resources, improve animal health and welfare, and build resilience to climate change. Moreover, we believe that the engagement of breeding companies in Code EFABAR would be a substantial contribution to the "European excellence" included in the Strategy".*

#### **The work is not yet finished**

As the Strategy moves into its implementation phase, EFFAB will continue working with policymakers and stakeholders to ensure that breeding remains part of the solution for a competitive and sustainable livestock sector, and that all the positive elements for breeding included in the Strategy are also reflected in concrete actions.

*"The Union of 2040 must be a place where sustainable livestock farming not only survives, but thrives,"* the Strategy states. EFFAB shares this ambition and remains committed to delivering it through responsible breeding practices and initiatives such as Code EFABAR: The code of good practices for Responsible and Balanced Farm Animal and Aquaculture Breeding.

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## About EFFAB:

*EFFAB is the association that brings together organisations and companies active in animal breeding and reproduction across Europe. EFFAB members contribute to the genetic improvement of farm animal species including ruminants, pigs, poultry, fish and insects, supporting more sustainable, resilient and efficient food systems. At the intersection of science, innovation and policy, EFFAB engages with EU institutions, research and innovation networks, policymakers, stakeholders to promote evidence-based dialogue and support enabling frameworks for responsible innovation in animal breeding and reproduction.*

*As coordinator of the FABRE Technology Platform (FABRE TP), EFFAB also contributes to shaping the European research and innovation agenda for the livestock sector.*

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- *Discover more about FABRE-TP: [www.fabretp.eu/](http://www.fabretp.eu/)*
- *Discover more about Code Efabar: [www.responsiblebreeding.eu/](http://www.responsiblebreeding.eu/)*

