

## DISCUSSION POINTS RE IMPORTATION OF BOVINE SEMEN

### FROM NICHOLAS BLAMPIED

I would be grateful to have the opportunity to discuss the proposed importation of bovine semen with the scrutiny panel.

- 1) Importation of semen will lead to importation of ovum and embryo which is a complete bovine animal.
- 2) Foreign Jersey breeds allow 1/8 crossbred animal as known as a pure bred Jersey.
- 3) If 50% of Island cattle are allowed to be bred to imported semen, we will narrow the genetic base and be related to the most popular bull.
- 4) Will lose many genetic features of the original pure Island Jersey cow.
- 5) Danger (slight) of importing an unknown undetected virus, reference "Hematologic Survey of Cattle on the Island of Jersey, with reference to the Reported Incidence of Lymphosarcoma (Leukemia)"
- 6) No reference has been made to Dr. Jim Allen's report (enclosed) and recommendations given in 1987 Messervy memorial lecture. This report has not been discussed.
- 7) No reference to the Chikhi, B.Goossens, A. Treanor and M.W. Bruford, Population genetic structure of and including in an insular cattle breed, the Jersey and its implication for generic resource management.
- 8) Importation of foreign semen and embryo will mean the importation of a subspecies of the Jersey breed.
- 9) The principal reason for importing genetic material is the possibilities of producing extra milk with fewer cows. The cost efficiency of extra food to produce extra milk from larger cows has not even been addressed. Land and food is more expensive in Jersey than other parts of the world.
- 10) Discuss certain aspects of the Promar Report:-

Page 40, improve genetic efficiency by importing semen. To reduce on-farm production costs estimated £.58 million on 14.5 million litres worth 4p.per.l.

This supposed profit makes the greatest reason to import genetics.

Page 62, if anybody wanted to import milk it is unlikely that a legal challenge could be maintained if taken to the EU and it should not be assumed that this is not going to happen.

Page 129, Jersey cannot compete internationally with dairy products.

The industry must change throughout to have a chance of surviving in the future.

Page 133, semen imports.

However most regarded it as an issue of secondary importance to resolving the situation with the dairy.

- 11) Artificial insemination of Animals (JERSEY) Law 1952.  
Revised edition showing how as at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2006.
- 12) Personal communication with Dr. Stephan Funk from Durrell.

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