

Assessment of the validity of the dairy health recording systems in the Nordic countries “DAHREVA”



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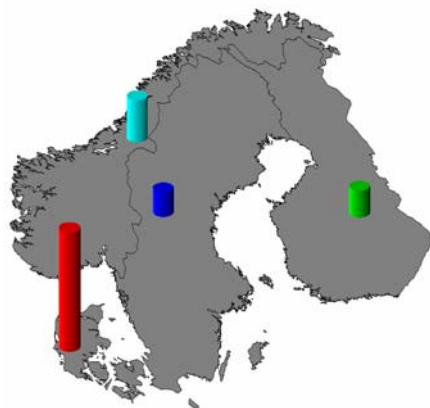


OBJECTIVES

- Validation of the Nordic dairy health recording systems.
- Comparison of the health status between the Nordic countries.
- Information on changes for improving these systems to benefit animal health, welfare and food quality.

BACKGROUND

Earlier studies have shown differences in the incidence rates of several recorded cattle diseases between the Nordic countries.



DK=0.54 FI=0.16 NO=0.23 SE=0.15

Figure 1. Incidence rates of recorded clinical mastitis in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden in 2006.

Possible explanations:

Differences in the national recording systems?

Farmers', advisors' and veterinarians' attitudes towards treatments and recording?

Differences in true disease incidences?

APPROACH

- Uniform national data collection, data shared between countries for analysis.
- Focus on mastitis, metabolic diseases, lameness and reproductive disorders.
- Assessment of farmer disease recordings and national health database registrations.
- Farmers' and veterinarians' attitudes to treatment and recording of disease.
- Identification of data losses from disease event to database.
- Defining components of an optimal common Nordic recording system.



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