

**ICAR- NATIONAL BUREAU OF ANIMAL GENETIC RESOURCES
KARNAL-132001 (HARYANA)**

GUIDELINES FOR ANIMAL VARIETY RELEASE & REGISTRATION

New varieties of farm animal species are being developed to cater the need, specifically for the food of the people and livestock keepers, worldwide. These varieties are formed to evolve a specific trait or a combination of traits through various selection and breeding processes. In farm animals, varieties are more common in pig and poultry species as compared to the large animal species. In India, research towards developing various varieties of poultry and pig is continuing since long. In recent time, few varieties of pig and poultry have been evolved by the researchers of different organizations for enhancing the performance vis-à-vis suitability to local conditions. Improved varieties play an important role in providing food and livelihood security to the society, and therefore constitute valuable assets to the nation. Consequently, it is in public interest to specifically promote the use of developed varieties and also protect the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) of the developers by documenting and registering these varieties as is being done in the case of breeds of livestock and poultry by the ICAR.

Process of variety development

Animal varieties are being developed by various species specific research institutes of ICAR as well as Agriculture/Veterinary universities. It follows selection of genetic stock and their systematic breeding to obtain the germplasm of higher genetic potential for specific trait(s). The process of variety development can take 10 to 20 years and more, depending on genetic and non-genetic factors including generation interval, prolificacy of the species and inheritance of the trait. Homogenous presence and stability of the trait for which a variety has been developed are most important factors for demarcation of a variety. Developed variety is further evaluated at different location(s) or in field by the developer organization. After ascertaining the stability in traits for which a variety has been developed, the variety can be released after following the necessary guidelines.

Objective and purpose of Release

The purpose of variety release is to introduce a new variety of a livestock or poultry species to the public for rearing, propagation and utilization. Variety release gives the recognition to the developers as an individual as well as a developing agency, who have developed the variety. It gives the details of specific traits, the variety carries for which it should be reared and or propagated along with recommended package of practices. It will also ascertain the inheritance of different genetic groups used for development of the said variety.

Variety Release Committee (VRC)

The Variety Release Committee (VRC) is constituted under the Chairmanship of Deputy Director General (Animal Sciences), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi and would have the following composition

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| 1) Deputy Director General (Animal Sciences), ICAR, New Delhi | - Chairman |
| 2) Assistant Director General (AP&B), Animal Science Division, ICAR | - Member |
| 3) Assistant Director General (IP&TM), ICAR | - Member |
| 4) Animal Husbandry Commissioner, DAHDF, Ministry of Fisheries,
Animal Husbandry & Dairying, GoI or his nominee | - Member |
| 5) Representative of National Biodiversity Authority | - Member |

- 6) Director, ICAR-National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal - Member
7) Principal Scientist (AG&B), ICAR-NBAGR, Karnal - Member
Secretary

It will have provision (with the approval of the chairman) for co-opting need based species specialist with reference to the variety under consideration from the following:-

- i. Director of concerned species specific institute of ICAR
- ii. Developer
- iii. Director, Animal Husbandry Deptt. of concerned state
- iv. Director of Research, SVU/SAU of concerned state
- v. Animal based Industry/progressive farmer in concerned state

All members will have a right to vote except developer, in case of voting on any issue.

Nature of material to be released

Variety of domesticated animals, which has been developed through standardized procedure and has potential attributes of academic, scientific or commercial value. It should be unique, stable and uniform.

The following categories of materials shall not qualify for registration

- Material without accompanying documentary evidence for the claim made in the application.
- Material for which any form of protection has been sought elsewhere.

Proposal form

Proposal shall be made on the prescribed Performa. The Variety Release Committee shall meet at least once a year, with the concurrence of the Chairman, for consideration of applications and related matters and decision thereupon.

Who can apply?

Proposal can be submitted by any organization / Govt. agency of India.

Evaluation and screening of proposal(s)

- The proposal(s) submitted as per the prescribed Performa will be screened at NBAGR by the Member Secretary, VRC, as per guidelines.
- The Bureau shall examine the historical facts, founder stocks, breeding method and the present status of the proposed variety.
- The proposal will be technically evaluated by two experts (one from NBAGR and one from outside preferably from species specific institute, if exists) nominated by Director ICAR-NBAGR who will give recommendations regarding its suitability to be released as a variety.
- The proposal(s) will be put up before the VRC, who will have the final authority for acceptance or rejection.

Registration of released variety(s)

All varieties released by the Varietal Release Committee would be registered in concurrence.

Nodal Agency

- ICAR-National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources (NBAGR) would be the nodal agency to register the variety.
- NBAGR will assign accession number(s) to the released variety(s) and
- NBAGR would maintain a permanent register and database for listing the varieties

approved by VRC with details on unique traits.

Validity of registration

The period for validity of variety registration shall be 25 years.

Notification of registered materials

- All varieties approved for release and registration would be officially notified with Accession Number.
- A certificate will also be issued to this effect to the applicant.
- Official Notification will be published along with brief description in
 - Indian Journal of Animal Sciences - Published by I.C.A.R., New Delhi
 - NBAGR Newsletter, Published by the Director, NBAGR, Karnal-132 001
 - ICAR News - Published by the Publication and Information Division, Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan, ICAR, New Delhi – 110 012
 - NBAGR, ICAR Website

De-notification

De-notification shall be done by the VRC in case of false claim(s) or disputed IPR claim. Appeal for counter claim, if any, should reach the VRC within a period of three months or the publication of Notification in Indian Journal of Animal Sciences - Published by the I.C.A.R.

Procedure for submission of proposal

1. All proposals for release of proposed variety should be submitted to the following address:
The Director
National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources
P.O.Box. 129, Karnal – 132001, Haryana
Email: director.nbagr@icar.gov.in
2. Three copies of the proposal should be submitted in the prescribed proforma along with relevant documents, data, literature, no matter how small (even one page), for the proper evaluation of the variety. E-mail softcopy (MS-Word format) of the application at director.nbagr@icar.gov.in.
3. The proposal must be signed by the applicant and countersigned by competent authority with rubber seal.
4. Requirements and Norms for submission of Variety Release Proposal

Sl. No.	Norm
1.	The proposed variety should be evaluated following the recommended package of practices.
2.	Adaptive Trials/ On Farm Trials must be conducted in consultation with, and got visited by, the officials of the concerned institute / SMD in the farmers' fields. New variety should also be compared with the existing targeted variety in the fields.
3.	The photographs of the proposed variety be enclosed with the release proposal (Male, female, flock, chicks (both in farm and field)).
4.	A certificate (signed by all the contributors and countersigned the concerned HOD & Director/ Authorized Signatory) should be enclosed by the proposer (Leader) of the Variety; verifying the contribution of the persons involved in the development/ identification and testing of the variety (Certificate-I).

5.	Detailed description of the variety (Annexure-I or II)
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