



Business to Business (B2B) Event on Breeding

April 11-13, 2018, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Background: The rate of urbanisation in Ethiopia is high, which becomes challenges to meet the demand for food - including dairy products - from an increasing urban population. Milk production of zebu cattle is extremely low compared to exotic breeds such as Holstein-Friesian or their crosses and zebus cannot meet the increased demand for milk and dairy products especially in the urban centres. As part of GTP II, the Ethiopian government has established a 'Dairy development roadmap' with a vision to significantly increase the domestic cow milk production to satisfy consumption demand and to start export of Ethiopian milk products. This is set to be achieved by increasing the number and productivity of dairy cattle through improvement **genetics, health, and feeding management**.

Breeding for dairy production essentially consists of two elements: **Fertility management and Breeding choices**.

Fertility management is part of the day to day management activities on a dairy farm and consists mainly of ensuring animals become pregnant on the most appropriate moments. Elements of fertility management entail heat detection, choosing right insemination or mating time, managing animals that fail to return into oestrus after calving, checking animals at return intervals, diagnosing and where possible addressing causes of return to service.

Breeding concerns with the choices of which breed to mate with and which way to organise the breeding activities: through AI or natural mating. More complex issues can be integrated in breeding programmes, such as embryo transplantation, use of sexed semen, selection procedures, use of genomic techniques etc.

Since these two elements are main concern and have long term significant impact on the profitability and sustainability of commercial dairy farms, As part of technical support to commercial farms, DairyBISS has implemented **pilot private dairy advisory service** that aims to improve the dairy farm management in commercial dairy farms including the fertility management as main component of dairy advisory service. Moreover, it promotes to **establish and functioning Dairy business platform** that serves as an effective private sector network for business development, B2B relations, business information exchange, and experience sharing and learning. In line with this the project was organized breeding business platform in December 2017 that aimed to bring all parties together involved in breeding for dairy production, to discuss current state of affairs of breeding for improved dairy production in Ethiopia, identify bottlenecks and propose strategies for improvement. As a follow up activity of the breeding platform, DairyBISS will organize business to business (b2b) event week on breeding which will be held from April 11-13, 2018.

This breeding b2b event focuses on two aspects "**Promoting private sector looking to new prospect and act upon for growing and untapped demands of breed improvement services in Ethiopia and to underline the interrelation of genetics improvement with other management aspects of dairy production in Ethiopia** "



Hence, the proposed three day breeding b2b event program

On Wednesday April 11th **visit** will organize for Dutch Dairy business to National Artificial Insemination Center, Private AI service providers and dairy farms @ **Debrezit and surroundings**. The visit aims the delegates to have better insights and firsthand information about breeding service and its prospect in Ethiopia.

On Thursday April 12, 2018 **business to business meeting** will be organized which includes matchmaking session @ **GETFAM Hotel**. There will be presentations on various issues of breed improvement service provision by government, development partners, and Dutch and local private AI provider companies. Matchmaking sessions will be followed that aims to nurture relationships between breeding services providers and breeding service recipients.

On Friday April 13th **Dairy breeding scientific seminar** will be organized @ **GETFAM Hotel**. The seminar will highlight a number of important issues for the future breeding improvement initiative in Ethiopian. Moreover, it looks an opportunity to strengthen collaboration of Dutch and Ethiopian knowledge institutes on issues of dairy breed improvement researches. The seminar will gather eminent speakers and scholars engaged in the in dairy breeding.