



ASC METRICS METHODOLOGY

Consultation Summary

March 2020 Public Consultation



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Project Objective

The aim of the ASC Metrics Methodology is to provide consistency to the metric standard-setting process of the ASC Standards. The 'Baseline' Methodology document issued for public consultation is applicable to all species-specific metrics and aims to provide minimum requirements for setting and/or revising metrics within any of the ASC standards. The ASC Metrics Methodology will also be applicable to the ASC Farm Standard once the Alignment Project is completed.

Purpose of consultation

Despite being a non-normative document, the ASC Metrics Methodology is a core methodology within the ASC standard-setting process. Consultation on non-normative documents is conducted for the purpose of transparency and in line with ASC multi-stakeholder ethos.

ASC specifically seeks stakeholder feedback on two dimensions of the 'Baseline' Methodology document (listed below). Furthermore, stakeholders are encouraged to provide any general feedback which they deem fit.

Proposal

The ASC would particularly welcome feedback on the following dimensions of the Methodology:

i. 'Relevant Data'...

Data from certified farms (where applicable), non-certified farms and research studies will be consulted for revision and/or setting of new metrics.

- *Is there any other type of data that should be considered as relevant for this purpose or do you consider any of the mentioned types of data as irrelevant? If so, please provide an explanation as to why you think that a certain type of data should not be included in the metric setting approach.*

ii. Statistical Analysis

The current version of the ASC Metrics Methodology states that "*data will be checked for normal distribution and homogeneity of variance*" although a Gauss distribution can not necessarily be expected, especially for survival rates in highly technical systems.

However, homoscedasticity is assumed to determine the sample size for non-certified farms (within revision of metrics, based on data from certified farms and literature). We welcome feedback from all stakeholders regarding this specific point and the general approach taken re. statistical analysis.



Next steps

The results of the public consultation will be presented to the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) of the ASC and will serve as input for the revised version. The updated version will be made public on the ASC-website.

Revisions to metrics will refer to (in consultation documents) the version of the ASC Metrics Methodology that has been used for the numerical analysis.