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SmartCow: an integrated infrastructure for increased research capability and innovation in the European cattle sector



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PU	Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background	<p>SmartCow is a European project integrating key European cattle research infrastructures. Its objective is to promote the coordinated use and development of these infrastructures, and thereby help the European cattle sector face the challenges of sustainable production. By covering all the relevant scientific fields and the diversity of cattle types and production systems, SmartCow will provide easy access to high quality services and resources to academic and private research communities. For instance, access to research results, free trainings, national meetings with stakeholders and project applications TNA (transnational access) to conduct experiments in the project's infrastructures. Such services and resources are needed to develop innovative and ethical solutions for efficient use of animal and feed resources, promoting animal welfare and healthy livestock, as well as sustainable competitiveness.</p> <p>To build close links and synergies within the European research community working on cattle, the first step is to identify and characterize European research infrastructures.</p>
Objectives	<p>The objective of this task is to create an inventory that describes and maps the principal animal research infrastructures of the project partners.</p>
Methods	<p>A contact person from each research institute within the consortium was identified at the kick off meeting and their email address obtained.</p> <p>An exhaustive list of general information about the research infrastructures was developed and an excel spreadsheet created to collect the data.</p> <p>Before sending to all project partners, the file was sent to a smaller group of people involved in the project to review and identify any areas, which were missing, or where more information was required. Once this sub-committee was satisfied with the database, it was sent to the people within the consortium whose email addresses were collected at the kick off meeting.</p> <p>Once all information was returned it was collated into one document, validated and sent to partners working on Tasks 1.1 and 3.1 to allow them to go further in their respective work packages.</p>

Results & implications	<p>The result is the creation of an interactive map of the Research installations of SmartCow partners. The map is disseminated through the project website (http://www.smartcow.eu/map/) and allows any visitor to have access to a short description with key figures and a link to the website of each infrastructure. In a second step, the map will be completed with infrastructures outside the SmartCow consortium, within SmartCow organisations and outside, that are volunteer to disseminate information through the map.</p>
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1 Description of the Interactive map

1.1 Type and origin of the information displayed on the interactive map

The information about the Research infrastructures has been collected in the Database from D1.1. Most of the information from this database is available on the interactive map:

- All Institute details (address, responsible person, website...)
- Site characteristics
 - Enterprise (dairy or meat)
 - Climate
 - Total land
 - Grazing land
 - Grazing season
- All Animal types and breeds (dairy and suckler cows and finishing cattle)
- Research equipment
 - Individual feed intake facilities (Yes/No)
 - Metabolism facilities (Yes/No)
 - Greenhouse gas measurement (Yes/No)
 - Digestion facilities (Yes/No)
 - Grazing studies equipment (Yes/No)
 - Behavioural monitoring (Yes/No)
- Laboratory facilities
 - Capacity to process blood sample (Yes/No)
 - Capacity to process meat sample (Yes/No)
 - Capacity to process milk sample (Yes/No)
 - Capacity to process digestive system sample (Yes/No)
 - Capacity to process calorimeter/metabolism sample (Yes/No)
 - Capacity to process diet/feed sample (Yes/No)
 - Capacity to process DMI sample (Yes/No)
- Ethical aspects
 - Animal Welfare body (Yes/No)
 - Licence to perform experiments (Yes/No)
 - Name of the ethical licence body

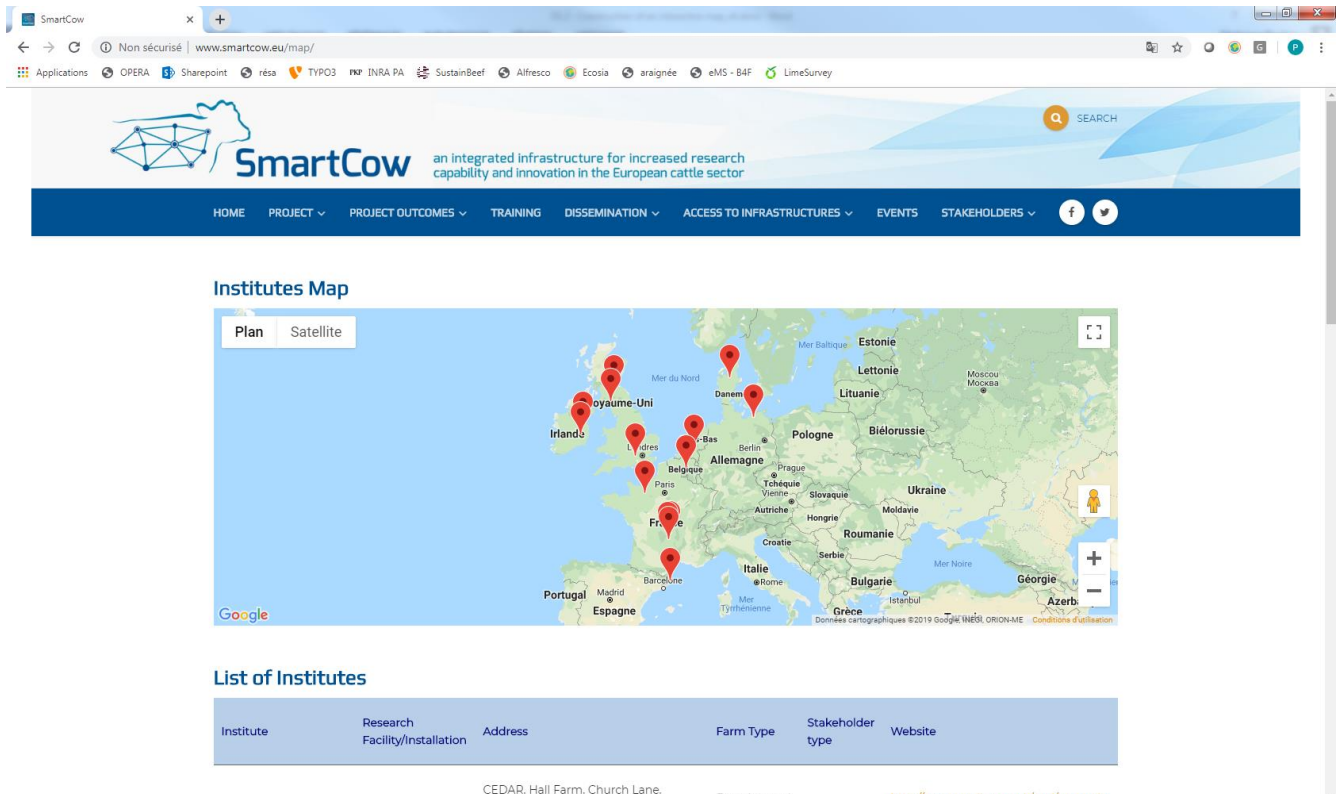
In its first version, the map display information from 12 research infrastructures which are summarized in the table below:

Country	Institute	Research infrastructure	Installations
France	INRA	Pôle experimental bovin (PEB)	Le Pin
			Herbipôle-Theix
			Herbipôle-Laqueuille
			Herbipôle-Marcenat
Scotland	SRUC	Dairy Research Centre	Dairy centre
		Beef centre	Beef centre 1 & 2
The Netherlands	Wageningen University	Carus	Carus
	WU-DLO	Dairy Campus	Dairy Campus
England	University of Reading	CEDAR	CEDAR
Germany	FBN	FBN-EFC	Barn
			ExpPhysRoom
			RespCham



			BehavArena
Ireland	Teagasc	Moorepark	Moorepark
		Grange	Grange
Denmark	Aarhus University	Danish Cattle Research Centre	AU1 & 2
Spain	IRTA	EVAM	EVAM
Belgium	CRAW	Experimental dairy farm	-

1.2 Presentation of the interactive map



The screenshot shows the SmartCow website interface. At the top is the SmartCow logo and tagline. Below is a navigation bar with links: HOME, PROJECT, PROJECT OUTCOMES, TRAINING, DISSEMINATION, ACCESS TO INFRASTRUCTURES, EVENTS, and STAKEHOLDERS. The main content area features the 'Institutes Map' which is a map of Europe with red location markers. Below the map is a 'List of Institutes' table.

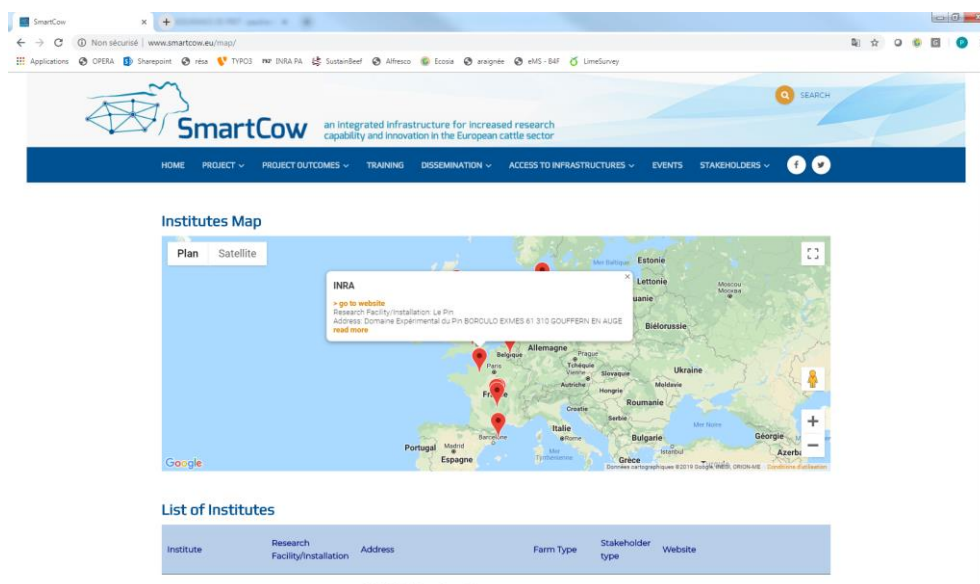
Institute	Research Facility/Installation	Address	Farm Type	Stakeholder type	Website
		CEDAR, Hall Farm, Church Lane,	Experimental		http://www.rearlinn.ac.uk/landresearch/

There is 3 sets of information for the interactive map.

1.2.1 1st set of information:

When clicking on a marker, the identification of the RI is precised:

- Name of the institute
- Name of the research facility
- Address of the facility
- Link to the website of the facility



1.2.2 2nd set of information

Below the map, there is a listing of all the RIs with a few information:

- Institute
- Research facility / installation name
- Address of the research facility
- Type of farm
- Type of stakeholder
- Website of the research facility

Institute	Research Facility/Installation	Address	Farm Type	Stakeholder type	Website
University of Reading	CEDAR	CEDAR, Hall Farm, Church Lane, Arborfield, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 9HX, UK, PO38TXW	Experimental Farm	Public	http://www.reading.ac.uk/apd/research-and-facilities/cedar.aspx
CRAW	Experimental dairy farm	Rue de Lioux 6 5030 Gembloux, Belgium	Experimental Farm	Public	http://www.crawallonie.be/en
INRA	Herbipôle-Theix	INRA - Herbipôle, Theix, F63122 Saint Genès-Champagnelle	Experimental Farm	Public	http://www.ara.inra.fr/herbipole
INRA	Herbipôle-Marcenat	INRA - Herbipôle, La Borie, F15190 Marcenat	Experimental Farm	Public	http://www.ara.inra.fr/herbipole
INRA	Herbipôle-Laqueuille	INRA - Herbipôle, Les Razats, F63820 Laqueuille	Experimental Farm	Public	http://www.ara.inra.fr/herbipole
Teagasc	Grange	AGRIC, Grange, Dunsany, Co. Meath	Experimental Farm	Public	http://www.teagasc.ie
FBN	BehavArena	Wilhelm-Stahl-Alle 2, 18196 Germany	Experimental Farm	Public	http://www.fbn-dummerstorf.de/7L-1
FBN	ExpPhysRoom	Wilhelm-Stahl-Alle 2, 18196 Germany	Experimental Farm	Public	http://www.fbn-dummerstorf.de/7L-1
CDN	Parthenon	Wilhelm-Stahl-Alle 2, 18196 Germany	Experimental Farm	Public	http://www.fbn-dummerstorf.de/7L-1

1.2.3 3rd set of information

When a user click on “read more” for a facility, he will access an exhaustive presentation of the research facility with :

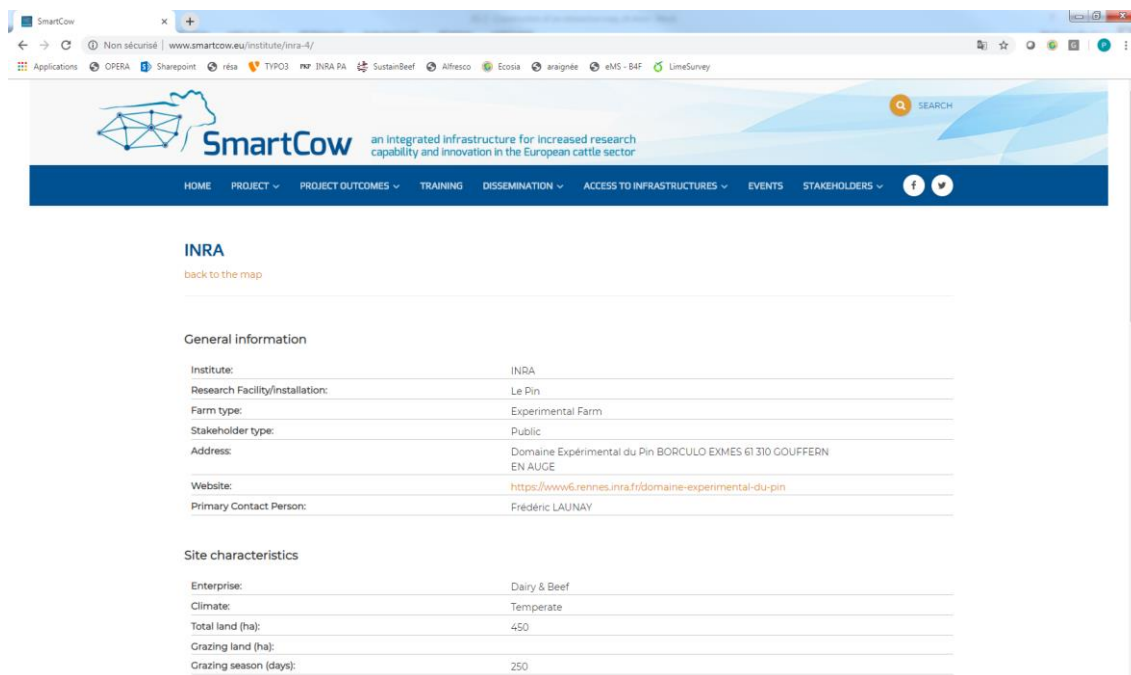
- General information
- Site Characteristics

SmartCow: an integrated infrastructure for increased research capability and innovation in the European cattle sector



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement N°730924

- Animal types, breed and head numbers
- Research equipment
- Laboratory facilities
- Ethical aspects



2 Access to the map

The map is accessible to all on the project website: <http://www.smartcow.eu/map/>

3 Updates of the map

In the course of the project, the interactive map will be extended progressively to other research infrastructures on cattle within the institutions and the countries of the SmartCow consortium in a first step.

In a second step, the mapping will be extended beyond participating countries to a whole Europe by the mean of a questionnaire sent to EAAP European network.

An online survey has been created and disseminated toward scientific and university organizations listed in the EAAP database and through the EAAP Newsletter, and congress. SmartCow partners have been encouraged to disseminate the survey toward their own contact.

4 Communication about the map

The map has been presented to the SmartCow consortium during the 1st year meeting in March 2019. The review from the consortium has allowed for an improvement of the 1st version of the map. Communication about the map will be done on SmartCow newsletter and social networks (twitter @cow_smart, Facebook @smartcowproject) and the map will be made available from SmartCow

website homepage. That information will be relayed on SmartCow partners' own communication tools (website and / or social network). Furthermore, along with the invitation to the online survey, universities and scientific organizations have been informed about the map and a direct link to the map has been send to them.

