

NEWSLETTER

SHARING AUSTRIAN EXPERIENCE

Recently, the General Manager of the Austrian Cattle Breeders Academy, Mr. Martin Stegfellner, Ms. Hannah Lichtenwagner, in charge of International Education, and the European Parliament member from Austria, Mr. Alexander Bernhuber, visited the Republic of Armenia.

The visit aimed at presenting the cattle breeding education programs and implementation methods. The suggested course includes theoretical and practical trainings to be implemented both online (webinar, farminar, e-learning) and through practical courses in Austria.

The Austrian partners visited CARD Foundation to familiarize themselves with the CARD group history and the implemented programs. The significant role of the Austrian Development Agency was particularly emphasized in the activities of the CARD Foundation. Ms. Nazeli Grigoryan, the manager of the Animal Identification and Registration Program, financed by the ADA and implemented by CARD in cooperation with the RA Ministry of Economy, introduced the project details.





The delegation members met with the Deputy Minister of Economy, Mr. Tigran Gabrielyan, and the Head of the Department of Primary Agricultural Products, Mr. Levon Ter-Isahakyan, who presented the State support programs for cattle breeding development in Armenia, highlighted the Austrian cattle breeding development experience and the importance of training courses, suggested by the Austrian Cattle Breeders Academy for Armenian farmers.

The Austrian partners visited the newly established Kat-Ar farm in the Armavir province, Apaga community, where 30 purebred Austrian Fleckvieh breed heifers were imported from the Genetic Austria in November 2021 through the support of Smart Agro. Our guests were glad to note that the imported animals were kept at the farm in conditions fully corresponding to the animal welfare requirements. The milk tested on the farm was evaluated by the Austrian colleagues as having a high sweet aromatic flavor.



The cooperation of Smart Agro and Genetic Austria extends beyond the import of live animals, including the importation of the Fleckvieh bull semen for artificial insemination to increase the productivity of cow generations. The cooperation has resulted in the import of more than 2000 heads of Austrian Fleckvieh breed to Armenia (totally more than 5 million EUR value). The Austrian colleagues visited a farm in the Akunq community in Kotayk province, where the first and second generations of local and Austrian Fleckvieh crossbreeds are grown. The resulting offsprings are almost not inferior to the Austrian purebred Fleckvieh breed with their dairy products. During the visit, the delegation members met with the Assistant to the Honorary Consul of Austria in Yerevan, Ms. Syuzanna Avanesyan. The latter presented the prospects of the Austrian and Armenian deep partnership and expressed her commitment to supporting the future programs.

