

# **IN SITU PRESERVATION OF THE GENES OF INDIGENOUS AND ENDANGERED SPECIES WITH SPECIAL REGARD TO THE SUPPORT CLAIMING POSSIBILITIES OF YOUNG FARMERS**

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This support scheme serves the sustainability of a viable population of species having low numbers in Hungary and the so called in situ preservation of the genes of the females – in case of poultry both males and females – of protected indigenous and endangered farm animal species under original housing and feeding conditions. The programme provides support for the keepers, who are involved in the implementation of the breeding programme of the given variety, and undertake the genetic conservation of the protected native and endangered farm animal species. The objective of the tender is the environmental protection, the promotion of the efficiency of resource use, and with the co-operation of the keepers and the breeding organisations responsible for the maintenance of varieties, the in situ conservation of indigenous farm animal species. To do so, they focus on young agricultural entrepreneurs with relevant agricultural qualification. No extra support is provided for them, however they are favoured during the judgement process and get a better chance to get support up to about \$14 billion within the framework of the rural development programme.

Out of the indigenous and endangered farm animal species it is the cattle, horse, donkey, pig, sheep, goat and hen varieties that have priority. Only the owners of the animals registered in the territory of Hungary (except for exhibition, competition) can take part in the in situ genetic conservation programme. The programme has strict demands concerning the minimum number of female animals in the minimum commitment period. So in case of bovine and equine species one animal per variety, in case of swine, sheep and goats 10 animals per variety, while in case of poultry 20 animals are eligible.

According to the rules of the tender, after applying the relevant scoring system the support can be provided as follows: bovine varieties 300 EUR/animal/year; equine varieties 500 EUR/animal/year, donkey 250 EUR/animal/year, swine 198 EUR/animal/year, sheep-goat 57 EUR/animal/year, poultry 25-50 EUR/animal/year.

This special form of assistance is not only for the survival of the above listed species in their natural environment, but also provides new opportunities and incentives for the young agricultural entrepreneurs in the livestock sector, within that the breeding and keeping of native and endangered animals species, and with that they can contribute to the development of the country and themselves.