

The objective of the

**Italian Rabbit Breeders Association** 

is to improve, enhance and increase

Italian rabbit breeding

by means of technical,

economic and promotional

actions.



# ANCI: the reference point of Italian rabbit breeders

ANCI promotes institutional activities (Rabbit Genealogic Reference and Rabbit Directory) under the supervision of the Italian Ministry for Agriculture, Farming and Forestry, the development of Italian rabbit raising and the technical assistance to rabbit breeding farms.

# Technical and sector activities:

- Assistance to breeders
- Price monitoring and market analysis
- Diffusion of regulations
- Collaboration with scientific associations and research organizations
- Relations with public administrations



## Institutional activities:

- Rabbit Genealogic
  Reference
- Rabbit Directory
- Experts Directory
- National Exhibitions from the Rabbit Directory

#### **Promotional activities:**

- Diffusion of rabbit breeding and consumption of rabbit meat
- Collaboration with sector company associations and institutions in the rabbit productive chain



# **Genealogic Reference**

The Genealogic Reference is a means to obtain the genetic improvement of meat rabbit races with special reference to rabbit genetic assessment and certification of reproducers.

The technical activity of the Genealogic Reference is based on the direct management by ANCI of a Central Breeding Farm and on the activity of registered breeders. The selection scheme is founded on an innovative organisation model according to which the Central Breeding Farm centralises all selection activities and entrusts the registered breeders with the cross-breeding of pure races in order to exalt the effects of "hybrid vigour".

#### The races in the Genealogic Reference

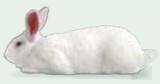
The selection from the Genealogic Reference of three meat races, i.e. Italian White, Italian Pied and Italian Silver, allows to constantly improve the productive and reproductive characteristics of each individual.





Italian rabbit breeders association

# The Italian selection of meat rabbit



Italian White



Italian Pied



Female Half-cast



Italian Silver



Meat rabbit

### **Quality selection**

Rabbit selection according to strict regulations and unique procedures is aimed at improving the productive and reproductive characteristics of rabbits, with special emphasis on the following features:

- Numerous brood
- Milk production
- Number of weaned individuals
- Growth speed
- Butchering yield
- Conversion index

- Rusticity
- Stoutness
- Muscular mass developed
- Strength to raising conditions
- Longevity

## The genetic assessment

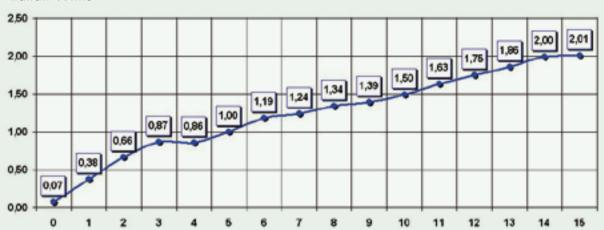
The Central Breeding Farm collects the productive and reproductive data concerning each reproducer under selection.

All individuals are identified and data is collected according to standard procedures and protocols. The resulting database is processed for the formulation of genetic indices according to the BLUP-Animal Model.

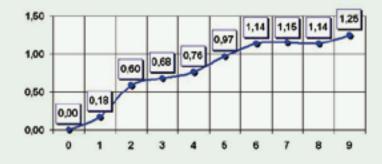
Only the reproducers reporting the best genetic indices are made to procreate the following generation, so as to obtain an offspring with a higher genetic average than their parent's generation.

#### The Average Genetic Progress per Generation (Total Merit Rate)

#### Italian White



#### Italian Pied





# The Rabbit Directory

This directory is used to preserve and safeguard the rabbit races raised in the Italian territory, with special reference to the preservation of their morphological standards and genetic variability, by limiting blood relationship.

Technical monitoring is carried out by ANCI Central Office through the Local Offices present in different regions and in cooperation with the Experts Directory in order to obtain a morphologic assessment of reproducers either at the registered breeding farms or at official exhibitions.

Avellino	Foggia	Potenza
Bergamo	Forli	Ragusa
Bologna	Gorizia	Ravenna
Bolzano	Latina	Reggio Emilia
Brescia	Lucca	Salerno
Caltanissetta	Milano	Torino
Caserta	Modena Modena	Trapani
Catania	Napoli	Trento
Como	Novara	Udine
Cosenza	Padova	Venezia
Cuneo	Pavia	Vercelli
Enna Enna	Pordenone	Verona Verona

#### **Aims of the Rabbit Directory**



# The races in the Rabbit Directory

#### HEAVY



01. Gigante



02. Gigante bianco



03. Gigante pezzato



04. Ariete

#### MEDIUM



17. Pezzata tricolore

18. Alaska

19. Lepre



15. Bianca di Vienna

20. Turingia 43. Leprino di Viterbo

16. Giapponese

#### LIGHTWEIGHT



#### SPECIAL HAIR











38. Angora

39. Volpe

40. Rex

41. Satin

#### Technical assistance and service

ANCI provides rabbit breeders with a wide range of specialised services to improve their commercial qualification and competitiveness.

# Technical services to breeders:

Planning of company development Reproduction plans Technical and estimative analyses Technical information and diffusion

#### Relations

with Public Administrations

#### Monitoring

of prices and market researches

#### R&D

in cooperation with Scientific Associations and Sector Companies

#### **Diffusion**

of laws and regulations concerning the rabbit productive chain

# Genetic assessment

of the reproducers in the Rabbit Genealogic Reference

#### **Certification**

of reproducers in the Rabbit Directory

SERVICES

# **Supply** of certified reproducers

Plans and programs

for artificial insemination

#### **Training**

on managerial procedures







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