Breeding Objectives and Traits Preference in three Local Cattle Breed Production Systems in Burkina Faso

D. Ouédraogo1, A. Soudré2, S. Ouédraogo-Koné3, B. L. Zoma1, B. Yougbare1, N. Khayatzadeh1, P. Burger4, G. Meszárös5, A. Traoré6, A. M. Okeyo6, M. Wurzinger1, Sölkner1
1University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna, Dept. of Sustainable Agricultural Systems, Austria
2Université Norbert Zongo, Unite de Formation et de Recherche en Sciences et Technologies, Burkina Faso
3Université Nazi Boni, Institut du Développement Rural (IDR), Burkina Faso
4University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna ( VetMedU), Dept. of Integrative Biology and Evolution, Austria
5Institut de l’Environnement et de Recherches Agricole (INERA), Burkina Faso
6International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Kenya

Contact: ouuedom@mail.com / dominique.ouedraogo@students.boku.ac.at https://boku.ac.at

Introduction
Baoulé cattle (Bos taurus), locally called Lobi cattle, is the most important taurine population of Burkina Faso, from the South West part of the country. Known to be trypanotolerant, but threatened by uncontrolled crossbreeding with Zebu (Figure 1).

Aim of the study
To investigate preferred traits in pure Baoulé and crossbred production systems for the implementation of appropriate breeding programs to improve and conserve the breed.

Results
Three production systems according to dominant genotype and practice of mobility: Sedentary pure Baoule (SPB), Sedentary Crossbred (SCB), Transhumant Zebu and Crossbred (TZC).

Methods
- Household survey and own herd ranking (Jan 2017, Sep 2018)
- 194 farmers interviewed and asked to choose among 10 traits which they preferred for the selection of breeding bulls and cows
- 67 farmers with 268 cows involved in own herd ranking
- Ranking of traits based on their relative importance

Conclusions
Heterogeneity of breeding objectives and preference of traits in different cattle production systems in South West of Burkina Faso

Implementation of successful breeding programs must take into account the specificity of each production system

Community-based breeding programs aiming to improve body size and trypanotolerance are being implemented based on the result of this study

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