AARHUS
UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF AGROECOLOGY

Meeting date: 23 November 2021 09:00 – 11:00
Meeting place: Teams
Meeting subject: Meeting # 2 – 2021, AGRO Data Management Committee

Attendees: René Gislum, Enoch Narh Kudjordjie, Maria Knadel, Karin Dyrberg, Mette Vestergaard Odgaard, Anders Almskou-Dahlgaard, Dennis Villadsen, Margit Styrbæk Jørgensen, Poul Lassen, Jens Grønbech Hansen, Christina Rønn Ingvardsen, Jytte Christensen

Agenda:
1. Approval of agenda
2. Messages:
    a. Strategy about the O-drive, security etc. / Jens
    b. Meta data platforms, DeiC and EUREKA / Jens
    c. Faculty strategy / Jens and Maria
3. Synthesis re. feedback from sections and from researcher days / Jens
    a. Discussion / all
4. Status from the Data management project re proof of concept, Crop Rotation Experiment / Margit, Ying and Poul
5. Recommendations from the committee on FAIR data management to the Agro Leadership (based on 2 and 3) / all
6. AOB - Mette
    a. Next meeting

Ad 1: Approval of agenda
Approved

Ad 2: Messages
Camilla Brodam will join our meetings when this is relevant.

Data management was at the agenda at the AGRO Researcher Days 3 – 4 November. First, Camilla presented the outline for file archiving at the O-drive. This initiative is to ensure that data and scripts regarding peer-reviewed articles are stored and easy accessible. The procedure for implementing this in the sections is not yet in place.

Second, Jens presented Research Data Management (RDM) and went through the principles and requirements for FAIR data management.

There was a discussion regarding security at the O-drive.

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Presentations is available here https://agro.medarbejdere.au.dk/filead-min/DJF/Agro/Medarbejderportal_AGRO/Institutledelsen/AGRO_Re-searcher_Days_2021/Datamanagement.pdf

AU is working with a strategy for Open Science and Jens presented the draft report. It is positive that this work has started. Jens is in close contact with Birte Christensen-Dalsgaard who is coordinating this task at AU. Jens would like to have influence on this work and has offered that AGRO can be a kind of test-pilot.

A webinar on Open Science was held 7 September https://www.deic.dk/da/events/webinar-OpenScience_assessment. Presentations are available here https://docs.google.com/document/d/1vriXXT37X6-EIkiYmOQlfEsS-jfuUi3puCWJMT3yPTRM/edit

There was a discussion on different kind of available repositories. It was decided that Jens and Maria look into the possibilities at AU and creates a roadmap for AGRO. It has to be a definition on what is nice-to-have and what is need-to-have.

Link to Data Management in AGRO https://agro.medarbejdere.au.dk/projektstyr-ing/data-management/browse

Ad 3: Synthesis re. feedback from sections and from researcher days
Jens has made a synthesis based on the input he has received from all sections. Due to the ongoing work at AU, he wants to keep the synthesis as a draft.

Some of the general issues is data flow from that laboratory equipment to the network. This is a budget issue, but has to be solved.

The uncertainty of the security at the O-drive, slow internet connection and lack of space at the O-drive is barriers in almost all sections.

At some of the field trials (e.g. climate data, MMM sites and VAP site) data can be ac-cessed via SECOMEA software. The software creates a paths to the field equipment and data are transferred to the O-drive.

Ad 4: Status from the Data management project re proof of concept, Crop Rotation Experiment
Jens gave a status on the work.

The Crop Rotation Experiment is now converted from Access to SQL by Margit and Poul. The Database is managed via an Agro Data Management Toolbox developed by Poul and Margit. Data can be uploaded, managed visualized and downloaded based on features with access right related to a user database. All staff at Agro is established as

user based on AU ID. The database is documented and described in the Toolbox. Chiara did test the database and all features and made feedback about feasibility and user friendliness. Next step will be to present the system at Foulumgaad, and make the system as the default replacing the exiting Access version.

Ad 5. Recommendations from the committee to the leadership about FAIR tools and data. Discussion all:

General recommendations from the committee to the leadership

- General information and training at all levels in the institute (section heads also need education)

- One Data Steward in each section

- Demonstrate and inform about best practice – identify best practices in our institute or related research groups

- Identify and get help from the forerunners

- Guidelines and templates for storage on O-drive

- Include a budget for data management in larger projects

- Form smaller network groups across sections to work with FAIR tools and services in practice – and get help from the experts

- Coordinate and integrate with the Faculty, AU, national and EU standards and procedures

- Include one or more persons from Agro in the Open Science Forum at the Faculty level – to feed our needs into this and to capture all relevant info about services from the University to Institutes and sections

Specific needs identified at the meeting

1. Equipment and software – data flows in the labs and fields must be considered as a part of our infrastructure (problems e.g. computers not on internet and software cannot run on new computers)
2. Human resources must be dedicated to FAIR data management. Training of existing staff. At group level – feed into GRUS.
3. Clear descriptions of which data should be saved and guidelines how, when and by whom.
4. A lot of data still exists in paper form. If those data are relevant then we need dedicated time to digitize the data

5. Consider a time frame and a roadmap – start date and milestones. Identify need to have or nice to have. Get overview of old relevant data (paper, floppy disk digital objects). Start with data related to policy support.
6. We need a meta data platform describing all our data – manpower needed for this.

Ad 6. Next meeting
18 March 2022