

## Introduction

The latest routine international evaluation for udder traits took place as scheduled at the Interbull Centre. Data from thirty-three (33) countries were included in this evaluation.

International genetic evaluations for udder health traits of bulls from Australia, Austria-Germany, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark-Finland-Sweden, Estonia, France, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Slovak Republic, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Croatia, Slovenia, Portugal and Uruguay were computed. Brown Swiss, Holstein, Red Dairy Cattle, Guernsey, Jersey and Simmental breed data were included in this evaluation.

Countries sending real MAS data (other countries participate to the MAS evaluation using SCS data as predictor):

HOL : DFS, NLD, FRA, CAN, ITA, CHE, USA, DEU, GBR, AUS  
RDC : DFS, NLD, CAN, GBR, AUS  
BSW : NLD, FRA, CHE, GBR  
JER : DFS, NLD, CAN, GBR, AUS, USA  
SIM : NLD, CHE, GBR  
GUE : No evaluation for MAS yet

## Changes in national procedures

Changes in the national genetic evaluation of conformation traits are as follows:

NOR (RDC)	New models with: Regression on level of Heterozygosity; Fixed effect of milking-system within lactation; Fourth and fifth lactation included from 2009, New definition of genetic groups. Genetic parameters were re-estimated. Some daughters lost due to new criterion of phenotype being outside +- 4 std within lactation and calving year. The rolling definition of hys is causing the daughters to distribute somewhat differently over hys-classes at each evaluation. Therefore some bulls occasionally may loose EDC although the number of daughters stay the same	
IRL (HOL)	SCS: decrease in herd for some sires is due to a bug correction on the herd count by sire	
BEL (HOL)	Some bulls with type of proof showing an unexpected change are due to the program used to determine the type of proof for bulls	
AUS (ALL)	Drops of information due to data clean up such as pedigree changes or status changes leading to a good number of bulls no longer being qualified.	Decreases in EDC are also due to rounding.
ITA (SIM)	Base change, some drops in information due to parentage verification.	
ITA (HOL)	Base change plus 1 year cutoff data.	
ZAF (HOL)	Clean-up done on the data resulting in some of the lactations' test-day records not conforming to the BLUP-specs and were therefore omitted	
DEU (ALL)	Decrease in information due to pedigree and phenotype corrections, Base change	
CHE (ALL)	Base change. Decrease in information due to manual edits in the database	
DEA (ALL)	Some pedigree corrections were done by partners' organisations leading to decrease in reliabilities. Changes in EDC, affecting mostly SIM, are due to the software used	
ITA (BSW)	Base change	
NZL (ALL)	Daughter counts: New Zealand has continuous DNA parentage testing so daughters will always change. Herd Count: Affected by continuous DNA parentage testing. EDCs: Affected by continuous DNA parentage testing. Reliability changes.	
LVA (HOL,RDC)	New data for scs since 2013. Changes related to animals with missing parents now deleted	
HRV (HOL,SIM)	Drops in information due to data checks and pedigree verification, affecting especially SIM bulls	
KOR (HOL)	Data are provided by the institution collecting test data. Before only the last test day data were provided while now all the test date data for SCS were provided and used in the evaluation	
URY (HOL)	Drop in information due to pedigree verification	
CAN (ALL)	Base change	
GBR (ALL)	Drop in information due to data clean up	
LTU (HOL)	Based change	
USA (ALL)	Pedigree corrections and herd-year minimum edits causing drops in information	
FRA (ALL)	Base change, quite a lot of publication rules changed in relation with setting up of the single step EBV affecting HOL, SIM and MON breeds	

## INTERBULL CHANGES COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS ROUTINE RUN

### Post-processing Windows:

According to the decision taken by ITC in Orlando (2015) to review the post-processing windows every 5 years, during the 2020 the relative working group has been re-activated and new windows have been identified.

As before, the upper bounds have been set to 0.99 as these were judged to have very little effect on evaluations while the lower values have been reduced to the 10th percentile. This reduction would provide post-processed correlations to be closer to the real estimated ones. Over the past five years, in fact, the previous adopted lower value (25th percentile) had been found too high causing estimated and post-processed correlations to differ significantly from each other. The new lower values have been applied to all breeds and traits.

The weight assigned to the magnitude of the changes tested by each country has also been revised. The new weight will allow post-processed correlations to take more in consideration the value of the new estimated ones even when no changes are applied by the countries.

The new weights are as follows:

No changes :: 2

Small changes:: 1

Big changes :: 0

More information can be read on [https://interbull.org/ib/rg\\_procedure](https://interbull.org/ib/rg_procedure)

#### DATA AND METHOD OF ANALYSIS

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Data were national genetic evaluations of AI sampled bulls with at least 10 daughters or 10 EDC (for clinical mastitis and maternal calving traits at least 50 daughters or 50 EDC, and for direct calving traits at least 50 calvings or 50 EDC) in at least 10 herds. Table 1 presents the amount of data included in this Interbull evaluation for all breeds.

National proofs were first de-regressed within country and then analysed jointly with a linear model including the effects of evaluation country, genetic group of bull and bull merit. Heritability estimates used in both the de-regression and international evaluation were as in each country's national evaluation.

Table 2 presents the date of evaluation as supplied by each country

Estimated genetic parameters and sire standard deviations are shown in APPENDIX I and the corresponding number of common bulls are listed in APPENDIX II.

#### SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE

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The international genetic evaluation procedure is based on international work described in the following scientific publications:

International genetic evaluation computation:

Schaeffer. 1994. J. Dairy Sci. 77:2671-2678

Klei, 1998. Interbull Bulletin 17:3-7

Verification and Genetic trend validation:

Klei et al., 2002. Interbull Bulletin 29:178-182.

Boichard et al., 1995. J. Dairy Sci. 78:431-437

Weighting factors:

Fikse and Banos, 2001. J. Dairy Sci. 84:1759-1767

De-regression:

Sigurdsson and G. Banos. 1995. Acta Agric. Scand. 45:207-219

Jairath et al. 1998. J. Dairy Sci. Vol. 81:550-562

Genetic parameter estimation:

Klei and Weigel, 1998, Interbull Bulletin 17:8-14

Sullivan, 1999. Interbull Bulletin 22:146-148

Post-processing of estimated genetic correlations:

Mark et al., 2003, Interbull Bulletin 30:126-135

Jorjani et al., 2003. J. Dairy Sci. 86:677-679

<https://wiki.interbull.org/public/rG%20procedure?action=print>

Time edits  
Weigel and Banos. 1997. J. Dairy Sci. 80:3425-3430

International reliability estimation  
Harris and Johnson. 1998. Interbull Bulletin 17:31-36

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NEXT ROUTINE INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION  
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Dates for the next routine evaluation can be found on  
<http://www.interbull.org/ib/servicecalendar>.

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NEXT TEST INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION  
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Dates for the next test run can be found on  
<http://www.interbull.org/ib/servicecalendar>.

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PUBLICATION OF INTERBULL ROUTINE RUN  
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Results were distributed by the Interbull Centre to designated representatives in each country. The international evaluation file comprised international proofs expressed on the base and unit of each country included in the analysis. Such records readily provide more information on bull performance in various countries, thereby minimizing the need to resort to conversions.

At the same time, all recipients of Interbull results are expected to honor the agreed code of practice, decided by the Interbull Steering Committee, and only publish international evaluations on their own country scale. Evaluations expressed on another country scale are confidential and may only be used internally for research and review purposes.

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PUBLICATION OF INTERBULL TEST RUN  
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Test evaluation results are meant for review purposes only and should not be published.

^LTable 1. National evaluation data considered in the Interbull evaluation for udder health (April Routine Evaluation 2022).  
Number of records for milk somatic cells by breed

Country	BSW	GUE	HOL	JER	RDC	SIM
AUS		146	8624	1723	806	
BEL			2220			
CAN	270	105	13486	845	861	
CHE	3129		3268	97		3502
CZE			4594			
DEA	5928					24096
DEU			23545		288	
DFS			14029	2286	8068	
ESP			4324			
EST			1291		470	
FRA	430		17811			451
FRM						4645
GBR	144	300	7323	750	561	85
HUN			3163			190
IRL			2813			
ISR			1623			
ITA	2081		9425	73		1711
JPN			6692			
KOR			1556			







HUN	0.89	0.90	0.92	0.88	0.89	0.90	16.37				
SVN	0.88	0.83	0.83	0.83	0.85	0.82	0.85	9.17			
GBR	0.91	0.95	0.88	0.95	0.90	0.93	0.89	0.84	11.70		
HRV	0.87	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.81	0.80	0.84	0.80	0.81	9.74	
USA	0.84	0.90	0.87	0.87	0.86	0.82	0.91	0.81	0.90	0.81	0.20

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SIM	mas										
FRM	FRM	FRA	ITA	NLD	CHE	DEA	HUN	SVN	GBR	HRV	USA
FRM	1.08										
FRA	0.87	1.00									
ITA	0.90	0.82	12.54								
NLD	0.87	0.86	0.79	4.08							
CHE	0.84	0.89	0.87	0.85	9.57						
DEA	0.92	0.92	0.85	0.87	0.76	12.25					
HUN	0.87	0.83	0.89	0.86	0.85	0.89	16.37				
SVN	0.87	0.81	0.81	0.79	0.82	0.81	0.84	9.17			
GBR	0.77	0.88	0.77	0.81	0.89	0.79	0.83	0.79	2.75		
HRV	0.84	0.78	0.79	0.72	0.78	0.79	0.83	0.80	0.75	9.74	
USA	0.81	0.86	0.72	0.84	0.81	0.80	0.75	0.71	0.80	0.73	0.20

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^LAPPENDIX II. Number of common bulls

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BSW

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

	CAN	FRA	NLD	USA	CHE	DEA	NZL	ITA	GBR	SVN
CAN	0	88	56	185	145	154	31	139	68	37
FRA	78	0	86	122	168	223	27	196	58	62
NLD	52	69	0	88	105	159	30	136	43	52
USA	182	82	79	0	327	334	35	234	95	47
CHE	124	124	97	304	0	619	34	481	78	91
DEA	139	166	152	299	516	0	47	680	82	119
NZL	31	21	23	32	27	42	0	38	23	14
ITA	123	155	113	164	422	581	31	0	82	111
GBR	69	50	37	94	62	58	21	62	0	25
SVN	34	60	53	38	87	111	13	109	22	0

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BSW

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

	CAN	FRA	NLD	USA	CHE	DEA	NZL	ITA	GBR	SVN
CAN	0	82	52	185	70	154	31	139	31	37
FRA	73	0	70	107	71	209	23	186	29	62
NLD	46	59	0	76	44	142	30	126	21	49
USA	182	73	66	0	92	333	35	234	41	47
CHE	64	54	44	70	0	227	17	193	19	57
DEA	139	156	133	299	196	0	47	680	39	119
NZL	31	19	23	32	15	42	0	38	10	14
ITA	123	150	104	164	163	581	31	0	42	111
GBR	30	25	18	41	16	28	8	33	0	15
SVN	34	60	50	38	54	111	13	109	13	0

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GUE

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

	CAN	GBR	USA	AUS	NZL
CAN	0	29	74	51	14
GBR	25	0	86	38	13
USA	66	89	0	69	29
AUS	49	32	67	0	26

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LVA	223	30	317	276	101	171	245	151	418	48	293	193	272	174	170	215	94	146	107	288	76	493	149	0	389	251	129	257	263
PRT	661	120	409	779	136	709	844	421	822	76	851	638	718	673	460	812	385	473	358	674	215	1017	151	301	0	463	170	309	519
KOR	516	81	202	349	64	283	367	130	682	38	487	339	386	237	368	361	195	234	143	366	124	505	66	151	399	0	111	146	366
SVN	134	47	233	207	61	146	172	127	160	36	210	137	138	156	108	162	72	104	90	184	51	270	44	71	136	67	0	123	111
HRV	145	38	376	327	99	189	253	251	181	50	262	195	211	235	118	240	107	142	119	297	75	465	127	205	262	71	98	0	179
URY	476	71	230	448	87	315	560	199	772	55	494	571	440	303	375	454	288	465	274	444	151	584	109	159	491	317	69	118	0

JER

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter	sib group	above diagonal									
CAN	DFS	GBR	NLD	USA	AUS	ZAF	NZL	CHE	ITA		
CAN	0	121	168	46	475	274	155	191	41	36	
DFS	114	0	183	155	210	166	156	162	60	40	
GBR	172	178	0	100	249	231	170	232	74	46	
NLD	41	157	93	0	102	80	79	86	40	29	
USA	503	191	273	108	0	518	292	389	71	46	
AUS	281	136	235	71	564	0	237	449	58	44	
ZAF	151	139	171	75	308	227	0	202	57	43	
NZL	198	139	238	81	461	497	212	0	55	37	
CHE	35	59	71	34	72	49	50	47	0	32	
ITA	31	40	47	24	45	38	38	35	32	0	

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JER

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter	sib group	above diagonal									
CAN	DFS	GBR	NLD	USA	AUS	ZAF	NZL	CHE	ITA		
CAN	0	46	80	20	88	127	69	90	25	23	
DFS	41	0	116	115	63	133	133	136	58	37	
GBR	76	109	0	69	85	166	130	163	65	42	
NLD	13	110	65	0	36	75	74	79	37	29	
USA	80	52	84	33	0	163	118	122	37	26	
AUS	115	99	169	68	173	0	230	442	54	43	
ZAF	63	112	131	71	129	226	0	198	54	43	
NZL	81	110	166	74	124	489	209	0	51	37	
CHE	23	55	62	32	31	48	49	46	0	31	
ITA	19	35	41	24	25	37	38	35	32	0	

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RDC

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter	sib group	above diagonal												
CAN	DFS	GBR	NOR	USA	DEU	AUS	EST	ZAF	NZL	LTU	LVA	NLD	CAM	
CAN	0	181	85	7	214	14	105	3	70	92	17	10	7	0
DFS	186	0	112	135	210	59	204	121	51	177	110	126	60	0
GBR	87	108	0	57	118	14	90	10	39	89	27	16	40	0
NOR	6	109	60	0	80	15	74	25	0	47	25	19	48	0
USA	200	207	114	81	0	23	144	24	59	129	34	25	48	25
DEU	13	50	14	14	22	0	42	24	1	19	29	35	15	0
AUS	106	178	86	63	146	41	0	37	34	156	45	39	39	12
EST	2	108	9	25	23	24	34	0	0	13	26	50	19	0
ZAF	72	48	35	0	53	1	34	0	0	35	5	2	3	0
NZL	90	174	85	47	131	19	156	12	30	0	28	17	23	12
LTU	16	98	25	22	29	28	42	25	5	25	0	53	15	0
LVA	10	85	16	17	22	29	35	43	2	14	47	0	15	0
NLD	7	58	39	47	47	14	37	18	3	23	14	14	0	0
CAM	0	0	0	0	25	0	12	0	0	12	0	0	0	0

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RDC

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter	sib group	above diagonal											
CAN	DFS	GBR	NOR	USA	AUS	EST	ZAF	NZL	LTU	LVA	NLD	CAM	
CAN	0	78	29	3	74	33	0	35	35	13	7	3	0

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DFS	77	0	75	137	201	219	121	46	174	109	126	57	0
GBR	28	71	0	53	80	56	6	27	60	21	14	30	0
NOR	3	110	56	0	80	74	25	0	47	25	19	41	0
USA	74	199	79	81	0	133	24	54	126	34	25	46	25
AUS	33	196	54	63	136	0	37	31	148	42	38	35	10
EST	0	108	6	25	23	34	0	0	13	26	49	18	0
ZAF	36	46	26	0	52	33	0	0	33	5	2	2	0
NZL	35	169	59	47	131	149	12	30	0	28	17	21	12
LTU	12	97	19	22	29	40	25	5	25	0	53	14	0
LVA	7	84	14	17	22	35	42	2	14	47	0	14	0
NLD	3	55	30	40	46	33	17	2	21	13	13	0	0
CAM	0	0	0	0	25	10	0	0	12	0	0	0	0

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SIM

common bulls below diagonal												
common three quarter sib group above diagonal												
	FRM	FRA	ITA	NLD	CHE	DEA	HUN	SVN	GBR	HRV	USA	
FRM	0	2	175	128	228	270	2	17	67	2	67	
FRA	1	0	132	73	9	239	4	55	0	94	3	
ITA	200	116	0	237	95	944	18	147	46	308	33	
NLD	152	69	235	0	91	366	8	70	49	156	28	
CHE	279	7	98	95	0	354	2	5	53	2	32	
DEA	314	194	859	387	319	0	37	257	49	690	34	
HUN	0	3	15	8	1	24	0	12	0	19	0	
SVN	17	50	139	67	5	235	11	0	0	125	1	
GBR	83	0	50	49	60	52	0	0	0	0	19	
HRV	1	84	296	154	2	723	17	114	0	0	4	
USA	81	3	40	30	31	40	0	1	26	4	0	

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SIM

common bulls below diagonal												
common three quarter sib group above diagonal												
	FRM	FRA	ITA	NLD	CHE	DEA	HUN	SVN	GBR	HRV	USA	
FRM	0	2	157	104	5	228	2	17	25	2	36	
FRA	1	0	85	31	1	161	3	34	0	59	1	
ITA	183	74	0	225	7	943	18	147	18	308	33	
NLD	127	30	222	0	6	330	8	67	18	146	26	
CHE	5	1	7	6	0	83	0	0	1	0	4	
DEA	276	124	859	350	74	0	37	257	20	690	34	
HUN	0	2	15	8	0	24	0	12	0	19	0	
SVN	17	29	139	64	0	235	11	0	0	125	1	
GBR	34	0	23	20	1	25	0	0	0	0	16	
HRV	1	51	296	145	0	723	17	114	0	0	4	
USA	51	1	40	28	4	40	0	1	22	4	0	