

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.

Changes in national procedures

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

JPN (HOL) Decreased information of daughters due to changes of pedigree
FRA (ALL) Base change
DEU (HOL,RDC,JER) Base change
ITA (HOL) Cut off one year of data, base change
CHE (BSW,HOL,SIM) Changed pre-adjustment for pregnancy based on number of days after conception for HOL, SIM and BSW. To account for stage of pregnancy, we pre-adjust the phenotypic data. Pregnancy effect estimates (from a previous study) are used for additive pre-adjustment of test-day records. Due to an error in a program code, pre-adjustment for days pregnant didn't work properly (since the introduction of the RRTDM in 2005). As a consequence of this error, nearly all the records got the maximum correction. Now, this error is fixed and the pre-adjustment for days pregnant should work correctly.
CHE (JER) First time
AUS (ALL) Changed to the rules for the official publication resulting in many bulls changing status to N, pedigree corrections
BEL (HOL) Change the "national standards" for official publication in our country (Walloon Region of Belgium) for type of proof = 21. Now, these "national standards" for this type of proof are the same than for type of proof= 11 or 12, i.e. if REL >=45
NLD (ALL) Minor adjustment in the EDC calculation for MAS
NZL (ALL) Continuous DNA parentage testing.
HRV (HOL,SIM) Changes in heritability due to estimated variance components based on larger (new) data set. Decrease in information due to pedigree changes and completeness
CAM (RDC) Base change
CAN (ALL) Base change
ITA (SIM) Base change
ITA (BSW) Base change
SVN (ALL) base change
URY (HOL) First time with scs data
USA (RDC) Corrected an error in the system related to RDC pedigrees. Previously cow heterosis had been computed as if mating AY to Scandinavian does not cause heterosis, whereas bull heterosis assumed they were different breeds. Now the same math to both sexes is applied. The correction is a post-adjustment to the PTAs, not part of the genetic model.

INTERBULL CHANGES COMPARED TO THE DECEMBER ROUTINE RUN

Subsetting:

As decided by the ITC in Orlando, new subsetting was introduced in the september test run. Subsetting is necessary for operational purposes and restrictions of time scales. To minimize the effect of subsetting, larger subsets with 10-12 countries and with 4 link providing countries have been applied.

Window:

According to the decision taken by ITC in Orlando, the following changes have been introduced in regards to the windows used for post processing:

The upper bounds have been set to 0.99 as these were judged to have very little effect on evaluations. The lower values have been set to about the 25% percentile value. The largest changes are for the lower values for conformation traits, with the lowest window being 40% for OFL otherwise it is about 50% for all other confirmation traits. It is anticipated that these low values may not have large impact on evaluations since there were very few countries combinations whose estimated correlations fell between the old limit of 0.30 and these new limits.

DATA AND METHOD OF ANALYSIS

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

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

NEXT ROUTINE INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION

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

NEXT TEST INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION

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

PUBLICATION OF INTERBULL TEST RUN

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 2018).

Number of records for milk somatic cells by breed

Country	BSW	GUE	HOL	JER	RDC	SIM
AUS		124	7510	1500	673	
BEL			1919			
CAN	214	97	11770	690	784	
CHE	2849		3233	82		3121
CZE			3772			
DEA	5454					21704
DEU			27021		420	
DFS			12843	2076	7675	
ESP			3570			
EST			1086		411	
FRA	372		16750			448
FRM						4170
GBR	107	269	6400	667	489	82
HUN			2677			165
IRL			2306			
ISR			1366			
ITA	1851		9289			1423
JPN			5787			
KOR			1190			
LTU			757		430	
LVA			528		564	
NLD	182		15148	144	70	332
NOR					4054	
NZL	49	57	7337	4351	1265	
POL			9953			
PRT			2329			
SVK			1085			554
SVN	350		496			584
URY			1627			
USA	1037	687	36439	4295	657	43
ZAF			1163	558	122	
HRV			722			799
MEX						
CAM					37	
=====						
No. Records	12465	1234	196073	14363	17651	33425
Pub. Proofs	10174	963	150026	11852	16899	30074
=====						

^LAPPENDIX I. Sire standard deviations in diagonal and genetic correlations below diagonal

BSW	scs									
	CAN	FRA	NLD	USA	CHE	DEA	NZL	ITA	GBR	SVN
CAN	0.24									
FRA	0.93	1.03								
NLD	0.90	0.92	3.73							
USA	0.92	0.91	0.88	0.21						
CHE	0.92	0.94	0.93	0.88	10.47					
DEA	0.93	0.96	0.92	0.88	0.97	11.90				
NZL	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.86	0.87	0.87	0.38			
ITA	0.90	0.90	0.88	0.88	0.95	0.91	0.87	17.13		
GBR	0.92	0.96	0.96	0.90	0.94	0.95	0.89	0.89	12.71	
SVN	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.88	0.89	0.89	10.51

HRV	0.85	0.87	0.87	0.85	0.87	0.85	0.88	0.87	0.87	0.82	0.88
0.85	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.84	0.84	0.87	0.86	0.88	0.88
0.88	0.88	0.86	0.87	11.77							
URY	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.85	0.88
0.86	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.86	0.86	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.89
0.89	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.20						

JER scs

	CAN	DFS	GBR	NLD	USA	AUS	ZAF	NZL	CHE
CAN	0.22								
DFS	0.91	12.51							
GBR	0.91	0.91	11.23						
NLD	0.92	0.95	0.95	3.72					
USA	0.91	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.19				
AUS	0.88	0.89	0.90	0.92	0.86	29.04			
ZAF	0.89	0.88	0.89	0.90	0.88	0.89	21.26		
NZL	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.86	0.96	0.86	0.38	
CHE	0.89	0.91	0.91	0.93	0.88	0.89	0.89	0.87	11.57

JER mas

	CAN	DFS	GBR	NLD	USA	AUS	ZAF	NZL	CHE
CAN	7.53								
DFS	0.94	12.36							
GBR	0.88	0.89	1.84						
NLD	0.88	0.88	0.89	4.06					
USA	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.19				
AUS	0.87	0.87	0.89	0.89	0.86	29.06			
ZAF	0.87	0.87	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.90	21.25		
NZL	0.89	0.88	0.89	0.89	0.86	0.96	0.86	0.38	
CHE	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.87	11.57

RDC scs

	CAN	DFS	GBR	NOR	USA	DEU	AUS	EST	ZAF	NZL	LTU
LVA	NLD	CAM									
CAN	0.24										
DFS	0.94	12.71									
GBR	0.93	0.92	11.48								
NOR	0.92	0.93	0.89	13.69							
USA	0.92	0.88	0.89	0.89	0.24						
DEU	0.93	0.95	0.94	0.90	0.89	13.46					
AUS	0.89	0.92	0.92	0.91	0.86	0.90	31.24				
EST	0.89	0.94	0.91	0.90	0.91	0.95	0.91	12.17			
ZAF	0.89	0.90	0.90	0.93	0.89	0.92	0.88	0.90	25.01		
NZL	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.85	0.87	0.96	0.88	0.86	0.41	
LTU	0.90	0.89	0.89	0.90	0.89	0.89	0.87	0.91	0.91	0.87	0.34
LVA	0.90	0.89	0.90	0.90	0.89	0.94	0.90	0.96	0.89	0.88	0.90
0.44											
NLD	0.91	0.95	0.96	0.90	0.88	0.95	0.92	0.92	0.90	0.87	0.89
0.90	3.79										
CAM	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.93	0.90	0.94	0.93	0.94	0.93	0.90	0.93
0.93	0.94	0.18									

RDC mas

	CAN	DFS	GBR	NOR	USA	DEU	AUS	EST	ZAF	NZL	LTU
LVA	NLD	CAM									
CAN	7.79										
DFS	0.91	13.07									
GBR	0.88	0.88	2.02								
NOR	0.92	0.88	0.89	13.69							
USA	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.24						
DEU	0.87	0.86	0.89	0.90	0.89	13.46					
AUS	0.86	0.84	0.90	0.90	0.86	0.89	31.30				

EST	0.86	0.85	0.89	0.90	0.89	0.93	0.87	12.17				
ZAF	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.93	0.89	0.92	0.88	0.90	25.11			
NZL	0.87	0.87	0.89	0.90	0.86	0.87	0.96	0.87	0.87	0.41		
LTU	0.87	0.86	0.89	0.90	0.88	0.89	0.87	0.92	0.90	0.87	0.34	
LVA	0.86	0.84	0.89	0.90	0.88	0.93	0.89	0.95	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.91
0.44												
NLD	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.90	0.89	0.93	0.89	0.91	0.89	0.88	0.88	0.89
0.90	4.10											
CAM	0.93	0.93	0.93	0.93	0.90	0.94	0.92	0.94	0.93	0.91	0.91	0.93
0.94	0.94	0.18										

SIM scs

	FRM	FRA	ITA	NLD	CHE	DEA	HUN	SVK	SVN	GBR	HRV
USA											
FRM	1.08										
FRA	0.93	1.02									
ITA	0.95	0.90	13.76								
NLD	0.91	0.93	0.88	3.90							
CHE	0.93	0.93	0.90	0.93	10.65						
DEA	0.92	0.93	0.88	0.90	0.89	12.15					
HUN	0.93	0.91	0.93	0.88	0.90	0.94	15.88				
SVK	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.91	0.90	0.88	0.94	0.38			
SVN	0.90	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.88	0.90	0.89	9.02		
GBR	0.92	0.96	0.89	0.95	0.91	0.93	0.89	0.88	0.88	11.81	
HRV	0.92	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.89	0.88	10.07
USA	0.89	0.90	0.89	0.88	0.89	0.90	0.92	0.89	0.89	0.90	0.88

0.22

SIM mas

	FRM	FRA	ITA	NLD	CHE	DEA	HUN	SVK	SVN	GBR	HRV
USA											
FRM	1.08										
FRA	0.92	1.00									
ITA	0.95	0.88	13.77								
NLD	0.88	0.88	0.89	3.93							
CHE	0.92	0.87	0.90	0.88	10.65						
DEA	0.91	0.92	0.88	0.88	0.89	12.15					
HUN	0.92	0.88	0.92	0.91	0.90	0.93	15.88				
SVK	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.88	0.94	0.38			
SVN	0.90	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.89	0.89	9.02		
GBR	0.90	0.88	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.90	0.88	0.89	0.89	2.60	
HRV	0.92	0.88	0.88	0.87	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.89	0.88	10.07
USA	0.89	0.88	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.90	0.92	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.88

0.22

^LAPPENDIX II. Number of common bulls

BSW

common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

	CAN	FRA	NLD	USA	CHE	DEA	NZL	ITA	GBR	SVN
CAN	0	76	49	156	117	122	22	109	57	28
FRA	65	0	80	116	151	200	21	174	50	49
NLD	46	66	0	75	89	139	23	117	37	38
USA	142	78	64	0	303	298	27	212	76	37
CHE	91	113	80	284	0	543	24	407	63	68
DEA	99	149	132	261	441	0	32	581	65	92
NZL	20	17	16	24	19	27	0	26	17	8
ITA	90	139	97	146	350	482	19	0	65	86
GBR	53	41	30	72	49	45	15	47	0	20
SVN	25	48	39	30	65	86	7	85	16	0

NZL	298	307	694	480	62	347	599	858	915	80	441	1073	362	387	272	371	279	0
577	528	236	598	144	111	529	267	117	192	461								
IRL	216	286	540	409	54	362	633	583	471	52	346	444	277	377	206	358	223	457
0	372	167	451	112	93	383	163	91	142	287								
CZE	404	310	1176	578	143	493	532	1067	1015	78	691	439	689	413	307	474	217	350
229	0	415	1150	211	182	703	404	184	310	468								
SVK	146	111	525	170	49	157	189	337	330	19	210	147	212	171	112	150	91	143
84	319	0	412	84	95	304	183	75	121	215								
POL	645	475	1761	932	193	752	860	1327	1571	96	945	622	730	657	450	634	286	440
332	882	279	0	300	251	938	485	214	408	561								
LTU	78	41	430	132	34	47	101	142	189	17	107	73	107	62	50	79	35	64
47	131	39	223	0	73	182	116	46	127	123								
LVA	71	79	207	115	63	77	95	147	207	20	128	78	99	92	66	93	58	54
52	118	47	186	52	0	188	99	44	115	118								
PRT	569	421	1085	708	123	644	777	987	1264	72	824	564	664	635	409	742	365	430
323	566	209	947	113	143	0	413	148	288	503								
KOR	365	153	354	258	47	216	296	271	824	31	394	269	328	183	285	280	182	189
104	279	111	402	54	59	352	0	86	118	346								
SVN	94	93	253	161	49	111	134	183	153	31	165	112	109	130	86	124	64	81
66	136	43	193	21	27	119	51	0	92	92								
HRV	106	121	578	243	80	138	204	348	244	43	214	158	176	199	91	197	92	111
96	223	61	357	87	90	234	53	75	0	155								
URY	367	222	514	366	72	268	472	473	1247	43	429	455	394	267	309	391	273	373
222	308	137	470	70	79	454	278	53	89	0								

JER

common bulls below diagonal
common three quarter sib group above diagonal

	CAN	DFS	GBR	NLD	USA	AUS	ZAF	NZL	CHE
CAN	0	74	135	33	365	220	131	157	35
DFS	58	0	133	88	148	120	120	113	52
GBR	138	120	0	74	203	181	146	188	64
NLD	26	85	68	0	73	64	65	64	37
USA	376	117	223	77	0	434	257	328	59
AUS	224	84	190	54	467	0	202	385	47
ZAF	127	97	148	60	269	195	0	178	51
NZL	167	85	194	56	398	429	187	0	47
CHE	29	47	62	32	59	39	46	39	0

JER

common bulls below diagonal
common three quarter sib group above diagonal

	CAN	DFS	GBR	NLD	USA	AUS	ZAF	NZL	CHE
CAN	0	30	61	13	131	89	55	62	22
DFS	24	0	84	73	135	107	109	104	51
GBR	57	76	0	50	154	131	109	127	59
NLD	8	66	46	0	67	61	63	59	35
USA	123	95	163	72	0	434	257	327	59
AUS	79	69	133	54	467	0	202	384	47
ZAF	50	84	110	59	269	195	0	178	51
NZL	61	73	129	51	398	428	187	0	47
CHE	18	46	54	30	59	39	46	39	0

RDC

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	136	74	5	184	15	91	2	69	78	16	7	6	0
DFS	136	0	94	112	166	67	162	88	50	151	114	91	43	0
GBR	74	87	0	42	98	19	72	6	36	68	26	11	27	0
NOR	5	84	44	0	64	19	55	14	0	39	27	16	31	0
USA	170	161	93	65	0	27	110	14	58	104	37	14	33	20
DEU	14	57	18	19	26	0	41	25	2	21	38	29	15	0
AUS	91	134	68	46	111	40	0	23	32	123	43	27	25	9

EST	2	78	5	14	13	24	22	0	0	6	25	36	13	0
ZAF	71	47	32	0	52	2	32	0	0	32	5	1	3	0
NZL	76	148	64	38	104	20	125	5	28	0	27	13	15	9
LTU	15	97	24	22	30	34	39	24	5	23	0	37	16	0
LVA	7	59	11	14	11	23	25	28	1	10	31	0	9	0
NLD	6	43	26	30	32	15	23	12	3	15	14	8	0	0
CAM	0	0	0	0	20	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	0	0

RDC

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	65	23	3	66	8	29	0	35	29	12	4	3	0
DFS	65	0	62	114	157	67	180	88	45	148	113	92	40	0
GBR	23	58	0	38	63	17	47	4	22	47	20	9	19	0
NOR	3	85	40	0	63	19	55	14	0	39	27	16	27	0
USA	65	153	62	64	0	27	108	14	53	101	36	14	31	20
DEU	8	57	17	19	26	0	41	25	2	21	38	29	14	0
AUS	29	154	45	46	110	40	0	23	30	122	43	27	22	9
EST	0	78	4	14	13	24	22	0	0	6	25	36	11	0
ZAF	36	45	21	0	51	2	32	0	0	30	5	1	2	0
NZL	29	143	46	38	104	20	124	5	28	0	27	13	13	9
LTU	11	96	18	22	29	34	39	24	5	23	0	37	15	0
LVA	4	59	9	14	11	23	25	28	1	10	31	0	8	0
NLD	3	39	19	26	30	14	20	10	2	13	13	7	0	0
CAM	0	0	0	0	20	0	9	0	0	9	0	0	0	0

SIM

common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

	FRM	FRA	ITA	NLD	CHE	DEA	HUN	SVK	SVN	GBR	HRV	USA
FRM	0	3	154	112	179	222	2	56	17	65	2	28
FRA	1	0	134	54	12	250	5	53	53	0	84	0
ITA	187	121	0	160	84	751	14	134	99	44	206	20
NLD	136	54	157	0	83	227	6	60	44	47	83	15
CHE	230	9	86	86	0	291	2	31	5	51	1	18
DEA	262	209	652	237	255	0	30	359	175	46	503	17
HUN	0	4	11	6	1	19	0	9	8	0	15	0
SVK	55	45	113	51	25	366	8	0	44	10	86	3
SVN	17	50	94	42	5	161	7	42	0	0	69	0
GBR	82	0	47	47	58	49	0	5	0	0	0	18
HRV	1	78	197	82	1	526	13	69	59	0	0	0
USA	43	0	27	18	19	24	0	3	0	25	0	0

SIM

common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

	FRM	FRA	ITA	NLD	CHE	DEA	HUN	SVK	SVN	GBR	HRV	USA
FRM	0	2	151	103	171	209	2	56	17	24	2	28
FRA	1	0	86	31	8	159	3	39	34	0	58	0
ITA	185	75	0	151	84	751	14	134	99	18	206	20
NLD	124	30	147	0	79	207	6	57	41	17	78	15
CHE	222	5	86	79	0	291	2	31	5	20	1	18
DEA	250	122	652	217	255	0	30	359	175	17	503	17
HUN	0	2	11	6	1	19	0	9	8	0	15	0
SVK	55	31	113	48	25	366	8	0	44	4	86	3
SVN	17	29	94	39	5	161	7	42	0	0	69	0
GBR	29	0	20	18	23	21	0	4	0	0	0	16
HRV	1	51	197	79	1	526	13	69	59	0	0	0
USA	43	0	27	18	19	24	0	3	0	20	0	0