



PREPdb: Recent Developments

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Background

Performance Recording Evaluation Publication database (PREPdb) is developed and hosted at the Interbull Centre within the context of the Centre's function as the European Union Reference Centre (EURC) for Zootechnics (Bovine breeding) with the role in the promotion of harmonization or improvement of the methods of performance testing and/or genetic evaluation. PREPdb is an online platform for all breed societies and National Genetic Evaluation Centres (NGECs) to submit and share descriptive information regarding performance recording, national genetic evaluation systems and publication policies (Interbull Centre, 2026). The aim of PREPdb is transparency, comparison and harmonization of such provided data.

Currently, different electronic forms are available for both dairy and beef cattle. There are seven conventional forms covering all trait groups evaluated in MACE in dairy, as well as three forms for beef cattle. In 2024, a general electronic genomic form for dairy cattle was also introduced on PREPdb (Nazari 2024). Recently by introducing direct gestation length as the fifth trait in dairy calving group trait, the conventional electronic form has been updated with both direct and maternal traits.

PREPdb also includes additional sections, such as “**Submissions**” and “**Data queries**”, which are accessible to both Interbull users and non-users. The data query section provides access to a wide range of information, including trait definitions, statistical models, recording systems, etc. that can be extracted and downloaded in various formats. PREP is a continuously evolving database, with ongoing upgrades and developments aimed at keeping it up to date and improving its usability. These updates are essential for making the system more user-friendly and enabling more efficient use.

Work performed and achievements

Recent developments in PREPdb are as follows:

- **Overview/form improvements for users submitted the forms**
 - In any case that a new trait adding to the given trait group or any changes need to be done in the form, the related form will be updated. Recently, electronic Dairy Calving form has been updated with the added **gestation trait (ges)**, both direct and maternal.
- **Data queries' improvement**





- A new “**edit**” option has been added to the forms, while viewing information through the data queries, available **ONLY** for users who submitted the form from the organization
- **New under” Help” tab**
 - There are many abbreviations regarding statistical models or names of reliability estimations, or traits, etc. All abbreviations now are available under “**Help**” tab and are publicly available
 - The list of countries and organizations along with their abbreviations are also publicly available under “**Help**” tab

Results and Impact

These developments help both users and non-users gain more transparent and user-friendly access to PREPdb. All changes and improvements have been incorporated into the PREPdb user manual under the” **Help**” tab and via the link below.:

https://interbull.org/ib/prep_user_manual

Recent updates to the overview/forms and data query sections have made it easier and more practical to provide information and edit forms for specific traits. These improvements simplify the editing process for the “Other Traits” form for PREPdb users.

References

Interbull Centre. 2026. PREPdb - Performance Recording, Evaluation and Publication database [Online]. Interbull Centre- Department of Animal Biosciences, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala, Sweden. Available: <https://prep.interbull.org/> [Accessed date 2026/05/10].

Nazari, A., 2024. The PREP database: Extension to Genomic Form. *Interbull Bulletin*, (60), pp.207-211.

