

## Introduction

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The latest routine international evaluation for udder traits took place as scheduled at the Interbull Centre. Data from twenty-six (26) countries were included in this evaluation.

International genetic evaluations for udder health traits of bulls from Australia, Austria-Germany, Belgium, Canada, 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 and Portugal were computed.

Brown Swiss, Holstein, Red Dairy Cattle, Guernsey, Jersey and Simmental breed data were included in this evaluation.

## Changes in national procedures

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

BEL (HOL) Definition of genetic groups were updated/improved. Genetic groups are always based on selection path, type of breed, degree of Holsteinisation, origin (North-America vs Europe) and time. Periods of time were updated and improved. Genetic reference base was changed on cows born in 2010  
CAN (ALL) Modified version of TD model (including a Herd-Year curve) and newly estimated parameters for scs.  
CHE (HOL,SIM) The formerly separate genetic evaluations of HOL-CHR/SIM-CHE and HOL-CHE have been joined to one single evaluation. The main differences are: Use of pooled data, Various changes in data edits, New genetic parameters, inclusion of Red Holstein (CHR) into B&W (CHE)  
DEA (BSW,SIM) Base change shifting 4 months ahead  
DEU (HOL,RDC) Relative breeding values on published scale, with a mean of 100 and standard deviation of 12, were submitted for MACE evaluation, instead of the original natural EBV.  
EST (HOL,RDC) Changed the definition of a HERD, more precisely the location of a cow.  
NLD (ALL) Base change, cow base is now 2010 and bull base is 2008  
GBR (ALL) The major changes are mostly data clean up and correction, so few bulls have become unofficial as herds/daughters have dropped.  
ITA (HOL) Base change plus deleted records with birth year=1999.  
NLD (ALL) Base change

## INTERBULL CHANGES COMPARED TO THE DECEMBER ROUTINE RUN

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- 1) Data submission for pedigree, EBV/PTA, and parameters is possible only through uploading of the data to the Interbull Data Exchange Area (IDEA);
- 2) Interbull Centre has moved to a completely new MACE evaluation software called "Dairy System for International Evaluation (DAISIE)", partly because of the extended use of IDEA for EBV/PTA, and partly because of our continuous efforts to make the system more effective than before;
- 3) All trait groups (including conformation traits) are now evaluated in-house.
- 4) The file containing heritability values now contain more decimal places for heritability, and one extra field for the definition of reference base population;
- 5) The file containing genetic correlations has changed name from rG\_columns\_all to cor{RUNID}.csv, and also contains one extra field for the number of common bulls;
- 6) The file containing sire genetic standard deviations has changed name from sire\_std\_columns\_all to std{RUNID}.csv;
- 7) Sire-MGS based pedigree files are not distributed anymore;
- 8) Parent averages in the "ipa" format are not distributed anymore;
- 9) An import AI bull (type of proof = 21) with official publication status 'Y' from a given country is included in the distribution file if the bull has a first country proof included from a different country OR a second country proof is included with minimum required

- number of daughters or EDC (20, 10, 150, 20, 20, and 80) and herds (20, 10, 150, 20, 20, and 80) for different breeds (BSW, GUE, HOL, JER, RDC and SIM), respectively;
- 10) Bulls with some missing pedigree information (sires and/or dam and/or birthdate) are excluded from evaluations;
- 11) Standardization factors are not used anymore;
- 12) Post-processing of genetic correlation are now applied to all trait groups.

#### 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 in the 01x-proof file.

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

NEXT ROUTINE INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION

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

NEXT TEST INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION

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

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 2015).

Number of records for milk somatic cells by breed

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Country	BSW	GUE	HOL	JER	RDC	SIM
ARG						
AUS		121	6839	1372	602	
BEL			968			
CAN	198	91	10446	571	714	
CHE	2779		2717			2804
CZE			3321			
DEA	5083					20141
DEU			25115		391	
DFS			11923	1913	7163	
ESP			2869			
EST			895		370	
FRA	325		15571			355
FRM						3788
FRR			218			
GBR	92	252	5732	611	407	78
HUN			2328			150
IRL			1956			
ISR			1170			
ITA	1631		9079			1214
JPN			5098			
KOR			937			
LTU			592		375	
LVA			527		562	
NLD	153		13821	113	58	267
NOR					3693	
NZL	41	57	6486	3848	1135	
POL			7267			
PRT			2207			
SVK			949			499
SVN	301		375			494
URY						
USA	944	644	32873	3656	570	
ZAF		16	1076	506	119	
HRV			561			688
No. Records	11547	1181	173916	12590	16159	30478
Pub. Proofs	9479	926	137942	10480	15673	27748

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

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BSW SCS -----

	CAN	CHE	DEA	FRA	GBR	ITA	NLD	NZL	SVN	USA
CAN	0.25									
CHE	0.93	10.44								
DEA	0.92	0.97	11.87							
FRA	0.92	0.96	0.96	1.03						
GBR	0.92	0.94	0.95	0.96	13.45					
ITA	0.92	0.96	0.93	0.91	0.89	13.05				
NLD	0.89	0.92	0.91	0.93	0.96	0.87	4.09			
NZL	0.77	0.82	0.78	0.82	0.86	0.76	0.86	0.39		
SVN	0.87	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.87	0.86	0.86	0.77	10.68	
USA	0.90	0.85	0.85	0.91	0.90	0.87	0.86	0.75	0.87	0.22

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BSW mas -----

	CAN	CHE	DEA	FRA	GBR	ITA	NLD	NZL	SVN	USA
CAN	0.25									
CHE	0.92	10.44								
DEA	0.91	0.98	11.87							
FRA	0.66	0.53	0.49	1.09						
GBR	0.86	0.94	0.94	0.62	13.45					
ITA	0.91	0.96	0.93	0.63	0.89	13.05				
NLD	0.81	0.85	0.88	0.73	0.89	0.86	3.75			
NZL	0.72	0.81	0.77	0.53	0.85	0.76	0.73	0.39		
SVN	0.84	0.86	0.86	0.52	0.86	0.86	0.72	0.76	10.68	
USA	0.84	0.85	0.85	0.61	0.90	0.87	0.86	0.75	0.86	0.22

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GUE SCS -----

	AUS	CAN	GBR	NZL	USA	ZAF
AUS	29.64					
CAN	0.84	0.25				
GBR	0.92	0.92	13.30			
NZL	0.95	0.78	0.86	0.62		
USA	0.81	0.93	0.90	0.76	0.25	
ZAF	0.88	0.89	0.90	0.85	0.88	24.10





JER	SCS	AUS	CAN	DFS	GBR	NLD	NZL	USA	ZAF
AUS	28.96								
CAN	0.79	0.23							
DFS	0.87	0.88	12.50						
GBR	0.88	0.91	0.91	11.38					
NLD	0.91	0.92	0.93	0.96	4.24				
NZL	0.96	0.76	0.78	0.83	0.85	0.38			
USA	0.77	0.91	0.83	0.87	0.86	0.75	0.19		
ZAF	0.89	0.87	0.83	0.87	0.91	0.85	0.86	20.83	

JER	mas	AUS	CAN	DFS	GBR	NLD	NZL	USA	ZAF
AUS	28.98								
CAN	0.50	8.75							
DFS	0.57	0.88	12.45						
GBR	0.89	0.61	0.70	11.39					
NLD	0.81	0.84	0.82	0.88	4.17				
NZL	0.95	0.45	0.46	0.83	0.75	0.38			
USA	0.78	0.69	0.75	0.88	0.86	0.75	0.19		
ZAF	0.88	0.57	0.66	0.88	0.87	0.84	0.86	20.83	

SIM	SCS	CHE	DEA	FRA	FRM	GBR	HRV	HUN	ITA	NLD	SVK	SVN
CHE		10.28										
DEA		0.90	12.11									
FRA		0.91	0.92	1.00								
FRM		0.93	0.94	0.92	1.08							
GBR		0.89	0.91	0.95	0.91	11.07						
HRV		0.85	0.85	0.86	0.91	0.85	10.26					
HUN		0.88	0.93	0.91	0.92	0.89	0.87	16.27				
ITA		0.90	0.90	0.90	0.96	0.88	0.85	0.92	14.78			
NLD		0.91	0.91	0.94	0.92	0.95	0.86	0.87	0.86	4.29		
SVK		0.87	0.85	0.88	0.88	0.86	0.86	0.92	0.90	0.87	0.38	
SVN		0.87	0.86	0.86	0.88	0.85	0.86	0.87	0.86	0.86	0.86	8.98

SIM	mas	CHE	DEA	FRA	FRM	GBR	HRV	HUN	ITA	NLD	SVK	SVN
CHE		10.28										
DEA		0.89	12.11									
FRA		0.76	0.91	1.00								
FRM		0.92	0.93	0.88	1.08							
GBR		0.89	0.89	0.76	0.91	11.07						
HRV		0.82	0.85	0.83	0.87	0.82	10.26					
HUN		0.87	0.89	0.83	0.88	0.89	0.85	16.27				
ITA		0.91	0.90	0.87	0.96	0.88	0.85	0.92	14.78			
NLD		0.82	0.87	0.84	0.86	0.88	0.64	0.87	0.86	3.93		
SVK		0.86	0.85	0.85	0.86	0.84	0.85	0.90	0.90	0.82	0.38	
SVN		0.84	0.85	0.84	0.86	0.82	0.86	0.84	0.85	0.73	0.85	8.98

## ^APPENDIX II. Number of common bulls

BSW

common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

	CAN	CHE	DEA	FRA	GBR	ITA	NLD	NZL	SVN	USA
CAN	0	103	108	72	53	94	44	19	22	138
CHE	85	0	493	133	55	355	73	17	52	281
DEA	93	392	0	175	57	492	118	26	72	278
FRA	65	95	131	0	43	149	72	17	41	114
GBR	55	45	40	37	0	52	29	13	15	69
ITA	82	306	395	117	39	0	99	17	67	188
NLD	40	66	111	59	25	80	0	18	32	66
NZL	19	14	21	13	11	13	11	0	4	23
SVN	20	52	68	41	12	68	33	3	0	29
USA	136	264	246	75	68	128	57	21	23	0

BSW

common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

	CAN	CHE	DEA	FRA	GBR	ITA	NLD	NZL	SVN	USA
CAN	0	103	108	63	53	94	40	19	22	138
CHE	85	0	493	129	55	355	64	17	52	281
DEA	93	392	0	156	57	492	98	26	72	278
FRA	57	94	118	0	39	137	53	13	37	98
GBR	55	45	40	37	0	52	27	13	15	69
ITA	82	306	395	110	39	0	82	17	67	188
NLD	34	57	87	44	22	62	0	17	29	58
NZL	19	14	21	10	11	13	10	0	4	23
SVN	20	52	68	37	12	68	29	3	0	29
USA	136	264	246	66	68	128	46	21	23	0

GUE

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

AUS CAN GBR NZL USA ZAF

AUS	0	43	33	26	54	3
CAN	40	0	26	13	60	1
GBR	26	21	0	13	72	3
NZL	26	11	11	0	29	2
USA	51	51	75	29	0	6
ZAF	2	0	2	0	3	0

HOL

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common bulls below diagonal

HOL

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common bulls below diagonal

JER

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

AUS CAN DFS GBR NLD NZL USA ZAF

AUS	0	182	103	162	53	334	378	176
CAN	185	0	65	119	28	135	295	106
DFS	68	49	0	121	63	105	137	110
GBR	167	121	109	0	61	164	183	132
NLD	46	22	61	56	0	56	65	56
NZL	376	148	78	167	47	0	291	160
USA	411	305	109	199	69	364	0	220
ZAF	169	103	86	130	51	165	232	0

JER

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

AUS CAN DFS GBR NLD NZL USA ZAF

AUS	0	63	94	162	46	333	378	176
CAN	55	0	23	46	8	44	101	37
DFS	57	18	0	116	45	96	126	101
GBR	167	45	104	0	46	163	181	131
NLD	42	3	38	42	0	47	51	48
NZL	375	41	66	167	39	0	291	160
USA	411	89	88	199	55	364	0	220
ZAF	169	31	75	130	44	165	232	0

RDC

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

AUS CAN DEU DFS EST GBR LTU LVA NLD NOR NZL USA ZAF

AUS	0	82	33	139	16	44	39	26	18	46	110	94	29
CAN	82	0	11	107	1	58	14	7	5	4	68	158	66
DEU	32	10	0	57	21	5	30	28	13	17	14	20	1
DFS	115	103	48	0	74	47	100	89	33	91	134	130	47
EST	16	1	20	64	0	1	21	34	8	11	3	10	0
GBR	42	59	5	46	1	0	11	5	13	12	44	65	33
LTU	35	13	28	83	20	10	0	35	12	22	23	27	5
LVA	25	7	23	59	28	5	31	0	9	16	12	11	1
NLD	16	5	13	33	7	13	11	8	0	27	9	25	3
NOR	38	4	17	71	11	13	17	14	26	0	31	47	0
NZL	112	67	14	132	2	41	19	10	9	30	0	83	29
USA	95	145	20	130	9	61	20	9	23	47	83	0	54
ZAF	29	68	1	44	0	29	5	1	3	0	25	49	0

RDC

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

AUS CAN DEU DFS EST GBR LTU LVA NLD NOR NZL USA ZAF

AUS	0	25	33	157	16	42	39	26	17	46	109	92	27
CAN	24	0	5	59	0	27	10	4	3	3	24	61	33
DEU	32	5	0	57	21	5	30	28	13	17	14	20	1
DFS	136	54	48	0	74	44	99	90	29	92	131	122	43
EST	16	0	20	64	0	1	21	34	8	11	3	10	0
GBR	41	27	5	43	1	0	11	5	10	12	42	63	30
LTU	35	9	28	82	20	10	0	35	11	22	23	27	5
LVA	25	4	23	59	28	5	31	0	7	16	12	11	1
NLD	15	3	13	29	7	10	10	6	0	23	7	22	1
NOR	38	3	17	71	11	13	17	14	22	0	31	47	0
NZL	111	24	14	127	2	41	19	10	7	30	0	81	27
USA	94	62	20	121	9	61	20	9	20	47	83	0	50
ZAF	29	35	1	42	0	28	5	1	1	0	25	49	0

SIM

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

CHE DEA FRA FRM GBR HRV HUN ITA NLD SVK SVN

CHE	0	239	8	141	48	0	1	70	68	27	4
DEA	205	0	170	194	45	408	26	623	175	316	140
FRA	5	129	0	2	0	63	3	92	37	39	37
FRM	181	220	1	0	62	2	2	142	100	52	17
GBR	54	43	0	78	0	0	0	42	46	8	0
HRV	0	427	58	1	0	0	8	174	67	71	59
HUN	0	14	2	0	0	8	0	7	2	6	5
ITA	74	522	82	171	46	167	7	0	129	114	74
NLD	73	180	36	123	45	65	2	125	0	45	35
SVK	19	322	33	52	3	55	5	97	38	0	37
SVN	4	126	34	17	0	49	4	70	33	37	0

SIM

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common bulls below diagonal

common three quarter sib group above diagonal

CHE DEA FRA FRM GBR HRV HUN ITA NLD SVK SVN

CHE	0	239	8	141	48	0	1	70	62	27	4
DEA	205	0	158	194	45	408	26	623	146	316	140
FRA	5	121	0	2	0	58	3	85	29	38	34
FRM	181	219	1	0	62	2	2	142	89	52	17
GBR	54	43	0	78	0	0	0	42	41	8	0
HRV	0	427	51	1	0	0	8	174	60	71	59
HUN	0	14	2	0	0	8	0	7	2	6	5
ITA	74	522	75	171	46	167	7	0	112	114	74
NLD	65	150	27	108	41	58	2	109	0	40	29
SVK	19	322	30	52	3	55	5	97	34	0	37
SVN	4	126	29	17	0	49	4	70	29	37	0