

INTRODUCTION

The latest genomic test international evaluation for longevity trait took place as scheduled at the Interbull Centre. Data from 21 populations were included in this evaluation.

International genetic evaluations for direct longevity of bulls were computed from: AUS BEL CAN CHE CZE DEU DFS ESP FRA GBR HUN IRL ISR ITA NLD NZL POL SVN USA ZAF JPN Holstein breed data were included in this evaluation.

CAN, DEU, ESP, FRA, DFS, GBR, ITA, NLD, HUN and POL submitted GEBVs.

dlo: CAN, DEU, ESP, FRA, DFS, GBR, ITA, NLD, HUN, POL

CHANGES IN NATIONAL PROCEDURES

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

CAN (HOL)	Base change
CAN (HOL)	Some bulls changed from official to unofficial due to change in qualification for publication
FRA (HOL)	Base change
FRA (HOL)	Some bulls changed from official to unofficial due to change in publication rules from breed societies
ITA (HOL)	Base change
ESP (HOL)	Base change
DEU (HOL)	Base change
NLD (HOL)	Base change
NLD (HOL)	Drop in information due to introduction of DGV BLUP
BEL (HOL)	Participating with MACE data due to very old data and no more qualifying young bulls

INTERBULL CHANGES COMPARED TO THE DECEMBER ROUTINE RUN

No changes in Interbull procedures

DATA AND METHOD OF ANALYSIS

Thirteen Holstein populations sent GEBV data for up to 38 traits, while classical EBVs for the same traits were used in the analyses. Young bull GEBVs from the GEBV providers have been converted to the scales of all countries participating in classical MACE. A bull will get a MACE EBV or a GMACE EBV but not both.

From those thirteen countries, National GEBVs of bulls less than seven years of age and with no classical MACE proofs were included for the breeding value prediction with a further requirement of either a MACE-PA or a GMACE-PA (for young genomic bulls with young genomic sires) being available.

The parameter-space approach is used for the GMACE genetic evaluations (Sullivan, 2016)

SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE

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

Sullivan, P.G. 2016. Defining a Parameter Space for GMACE. Interbull Bulletin 50, p 85-93.

VanRaden, P.M. and Sullivan, P.G. 2010. International genomic evaluation methods for dairy cattle. Gen. Sel. Evol. 42:7

Sullivan, P.G. and Jakobsen, J.H. 2012. Robust GMACE for young bulls methodology. Interbull Bulletin 45, Article 1.

Sullivan, P.G. 2012a. GMACE reliability approximation. Report to the GMACE working group of Interbull. GMACE_rels 2013

Sullivan, P.G. 2012b. GMACE variance estimation. Report to the GMACE working group of Interbull. GMACE_vce 2013

Sullivan, P.G. 2012c. GMACE Weighting Factors. Report to the GMACE working group of Interbull. GMACE_gedcs 2013

Jakobsen, J.H. and Sullivan, P.G. 2013. Trait specific computation of shared reference population. Reference sharing Nov 2013

NEXT ROUTINE INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION

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

NEXT TEST INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION

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

PUBLICATION OF INTERBULL ROUTINE RUN

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 minimising the need to resort to conversions.

At the same time, all recipients of Interbull results are expected to honour 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.

Table 1. National evaluation dates in GMACE run April 2026

Country	Date
CAN	20260401
DEU	20260408
DFS	20260204
ESP	20260320
FRA	20260408
GBR	20260312
ITA	20260302
NLD	20260401
HUN	20260318
POL	20260310

Table 2.

Number of bulls in reference population for	dlo
CAN 47336.0	
DEU 13822.0 50628.0	
DFS 7532.0 41858.0 42815.0	
ESP 46728.0 50374.0 42691.0157648.0	
FRA 5786.0 37914.0 37282.0 39768.0 39780.0	
GBR 40255.0 14912.0 8548.0 42794.0 6266.0 43339.0	
ITA 41397.0 13875.0 7456.0 42580.0 5288.0 40794.0 43121.0	
NLD 4236.0 36854.0 36276.0 38691.0 34890.0 4564.0 3564.0 38696.0	
HUN 2290.0 8292.0 7824.0 9060.0 7645.0 2512.0 2271.0 7827.0 9111.0	
POL 5015.0 34267.0 34024.0 35876.0 32653.0 5514.0 4530.0 31992.0 7640.0 35918.0	