



Interbull Annual Meeting

31 May – 1 June 2026

Camera di Commercio Industria Artigianato Agricoltura

(The Verona Chamber of Commerce Congress Center), Verona, Italy

Programme

| Sunday 31 May | | |
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| 08.30-10.30 Session I - Experience with Single step evaluation Chair: Ezequiel Nicolazzi Auditorium | | |
| 8:30 | Welcome | Interbull Steering Committee Chair, ICAR President, |
| 8:45 | Timo Pitkanen | Variance Component Re-Estimation and Model Simplification in a Single-Step Random Regression Test-Day Model for Nordic Red Dairy Cattle |
| 9:00 | Hongding Gao | Variance component estimation in single-step model using MiX99 |
| 9:15 | Simone Savoia | Modernizing U.S. Calving-Traits Evaluation Under Single-Step |
| 9:30 | Ilia Rukin | Development of genomic evaluation of breeding value system for milk production traits with on-laboratory quality control of phenotypic data |
| 9:45 | Sophie Aguerre | Genetic correlations between juvenile mortality traits and traits in selection in French dairy cattle breeds |
| 10:00 | Hannah Kruger | Re-ranking of Imported Angus Sires Following Integration of Foreign Genotypes into a National Genomic Evaluation |
| 10:15 | Daniela Laurencio | Advances in single-step for national and multi-country dairy genomic evaluations |
| 10.30-11.00 Coffee break | | |
| 11.00 – 12.30 Business Meeting I Auditorium | | |
| 12.30-14.00 Lunch | | |



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| 14.00- 15.30 Session II - Implementing new traits in genetic and genomic evaluation systems. Chair: Daniele Vicario Auditorium | | |
| 14:00 | Attilio Rossoni | Estimation of Genetic Parameters for Lactation Persistency and Productive Maturity in the Italian Brown Swiss Breed |
| 14:15 | Taylor Mcwhorter | Refinement of U.S. Reproductive Performance Evaluations for the Modern Dairy Herd |
| 14:30 | Thuy Nguyen | 2025 National Breeding Objective review for Australian dairy cattle |
| 14:45 | Ignacy Misztal | Genetics of increased importance of health traits |
| 15:00 | Q&A session | |
| 15.30-16.00 Coffee Break | | |
| 16.00-17.30 Session III - Efficiency of Evaluations and Adaptation/Resilience Chair: Filippo Miglior Auditorium | | |
| 16:00 | Beatriz Castro-Dias-Cuyabano | Consequences of ignoring GxE interactions when estimating genetic parameters |
| 16:15 | Gabriella Dodd | Interaction between adaptation and mitigation traits in Canadian Holsteins |
| 16:30 | Freddy Fikse | Validating the impact of genetic progress for novel and difficult to measure traits in commercial herds |
| 16:45 | Nicolas Gengler | Walloon strategies targeting new traits for efficiency, mitigation, adaptation and resilience in dairy cattle |
| 17:00 | Karoline Bakke | Genetic residual feed intake and its genetic association to other breeding goal traits |
| 17:15 | Q&A session | |
| 19:30 | Interbull Dinner | Ristorante Maffei |



Monday 1 June

08.30-10.30

Session IV - Big Data for the benefit of genetic and genomic evaluation

Chair: Thuy Nguyen

Auditorium

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|-------|----------------------|---|
| 8:30 | Melissa Stephen | Using sensor-derived estrus dates to improve the genetic evaluation of fertility in the New Zealand dairy industry |
| 8:45 | Katarzyna Stachowicz | Assessing the impact of hormonal interventions on genetic evaluation of fertility in New Zealand |
| 9:00 | Jeremie Vandenplas | Combining environmental and genomic information in artificial neural networks for phenotypic prediction |
| 9:15 | Ferdinando Galluzzo | An integrated SaaS ecosystem for standardized phenotypic evaluation and predictive modeling in livestock breeding |
| 9:30 | John Cole | A Machine Learning Framework for Concurrent Identification of Favorable, Deleterious, and Lethal Variants in Bovine Populations |
| 9:45 | Renzo Bonifazi | Guidelines on combining genomic data across populations |
| 10:00 | Johannes Heise | European Bovine Evaluation – building joint genetic evaluations across Europe |
| 10:15 | Julius Mugambe | Including Females in MACE evaluation |

10.30-11.00 Coffee Break

11.00 – 12.30

Business Meeting II

Auditorium

12.30-14.00

Lunch



| 14.00-15.45 Session V - Meta-analytical methods Chair: Sebastian Mucha | | |
|---|----------------|--|
| 14:00 | Maciej Misztal | Visualization of changes in relationships among traits over time – example in type traits |
| 14:15 | Dawid Slomian | Estimation of genetic parameters for production traits in Polish Simmental cattle using a random regression test-day model |
| 14:30 | Audrey Martin | Pilot genomic evaluations of French crossbred dairy cattle |
| 14:45 | Nick Wu | Reassessing Wiggans' Method for Estimating Daily Yields in 3× Milking Systems over Four Decades: What Have We Learned? |
| 15:00 | Andres Legarra | Estimation of across-breed metafounder parameters in all-breed US dairy cattle. |
| 15:15 | Rodrigo Mota | Effects of weighting schemes and base adjustment on US genomic validation |
| 15:30 | Pete Sullivan | Using Interbull validations to improve national genomic predictions |
| 15:45 | Urs Schnyder | Closing of 2026 Interbull Open Meeting |
| 15.45 Coffee | | |