



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		
08.30-10.30 Session I - Experience with Single step evaluation Chair: Ezequiel Nicolazzi Auditorium		
8:30	Welcome	Interbull Steering Committee Chair, ICAR President, Italian Ministry representative
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 Laurencó	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		



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	Yueh-Tung Chen	Difference of lactation curve in 305-day milk yield between automatic and conventional milking system
15:15	Po-An, Tu	A Mobile Infrared Thermography System for Precision Phenotyping and Health Monitoring of Dairy Cows under Heat Stress Conditions

15.30-16.00 Coffee Break

16.00-17.30

Session III - Efficiency of Evaluations and Adaptation/Resilience

Chair: Filippo Miglior

Auditorium

16:00	Po-An, Tu	Localized Assessment of the Impacts of Heat Stress on Production, Health, and Animal Welfare of Dairy Cows in Subtropical Environments
16:15	Beatriz Castro-Dias-Cuyabano	Consequences of ignoring GxE interactions when estimating genetic parameters
16:30	Gabriella Dodd	Interaction between adaptation and mitigation traits in Canadian Holsteins
16:45	Freddy Fikse	Validating the impact of genetic progress for novel and difficult to measure traits in commercial herds
17:00	Nicolas Gengler	Walloon strategies targeting new traits for efficiency, mitigation, adaptation and resilience in dairy cattle
17:15	Karoline Bakke	Genetic residual feed intake and its genetic association to other breeding goal traits
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

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		