INTRODUCTION

The latest genomic routine international evaluation for calving traits took place as scheduled at the Interbull Centre. Data from fourteen (16) countries were included in this evaluation.

International genetic evaluations for calving traits of bulls from Australia, Austria-Germany, Belgium, Canada, Denmark-Finland-Sweden, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America were computed. Holstein data were included in this evaluation.

CHANGES IN NATIONAL PROCEDURES

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

DEU (HOL) Some bulls are no longer published as they are no longer AI bulls and some appear now with a new ID.

ITA (HOL) Cut one year of data (1999) and applied the base change

NLD (HOL) Base change

INTERBULL CHANGES COMPARED TO THE DECEMBER ROUTINE RUN

No changes in Interbull procedures

DATA AND METHOD OF ANALYSIS

Eleven 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 eleven 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.

SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE

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

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 routine 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 minimizing the need to resort to conversions.

At the same time, all recipients of Interbull results are expected to honor 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 2015

Country	Date
CAN	20150401
DEU	20150408
DFS	20150203
GBR	20150314
ITA	20150312
NLD	20150401

Table 2.

Number of bulls in reference population for dce

CAN	24703.0					
DEU	1491.0	25770.0				
DFS	1381.0	24049.0	24447.0			
GBR	23499.0	1340.0	1229.0	23568.0		
ITA	22739.0	1088.0	964.0	22639.0	23176.0	
NLD	1419.0	18745.0	18480.0	1281.0	1047.0	19821.0

Number of bulls in reference population for mce

CAN	18959.0					
DEU	1423.0	25977.0				
DFS	1325.0	24290.0	24678.0			
GBR	18084.0	1276.0	1180.0	18132.0		
ITA	17772.0	1065.0	948.0	17708.0	17957.0	
NLD	1351.0	19034.0	18765.0	1223.0	1017.0	19747.0

Number of bulls in reference population for dsb

CAN	22446.0					
DEU	1486.0	25399.0				
DFS	1377.0	23802.0	24212.0			
ITA	20569.0	1084.0	960.0	21001.0		
NLD	1400.0	18410.0	18249.0	1030.0	19166.0	

Number of bulls in reference population for msb

CAN	17286.0					
DEU	1410.0	25806.0				
DFS	1309.0	24146.0	24541.0			
ITA	16165.0	1056.0	935.0	16345.0		
NLD	1323.0	18916.0	18656.0	992.0	19554.0	