

INTRODUCTION

The latest genomic international evaluation for dairy **production traits** took place as scheduled at the Interbull Centre. Data 32 countries were included in this evaluation.

International genetic evaluations for milk, fat and protein yields of bulls from Australia, Austria-Germany, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark-Finland-Sweden, Estonia, France, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Republic of South Africa, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Portugal, Korea, Argentina and Uruguay were computed. Holstein breed data were included in this evaluation.

BEL, CAN, DEU, ESP, FRA, AUS, DFS, GBR, ITA, NLD, POL submitted GEBVs.

fat: BEL, CAN, DEU, ESP, FRA, AUS, DFS, GBR, ITA, NLD, POL

mil: BEL, CAN, DEU, ESP, FRA, AUS, DFS, GBR, ITA, NLD, POL

pro: BEL, CAN, DEU, ESP, FRA, AUS, DFS, GBR, ITA, NLD, POL

CHANGES IN NATIONAL PROCEDURES

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

FRA HOL New base and Inclusion of FRR population in HOLFRA

AUS HOL New base

DEU HOL New base

INTERBULL CHANGES COMPARED TO THE DECEMBER ROUTINE RUN

The Parameter-space approach (Sullivan, 2016) was used for this GMACE run:

- New residual correlations were derived to account for different heritabilities among country-traits
- Parameter space restrictions were used to bound GMACE results on the scale of each country
- The use of Predicted National Reliabilities (the MP.5 approach) is no longer used for the GMACE genetic evaluations. For reliability approximations, MP.5 is no longer used for reliabilities that have a defined parameter space, but MP.5 continues to be used to improve reliability predictions in countries where a bull does not have a national GEBV (i.e. where a parameter space is not defined)
- Information about bull controlling country (file 734) and genotyped animals (file 733) is now extracted directly from IDEA

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

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.

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 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 2017

 Country Date

 CAN 20170401
 DEU 20170404
 DFS 20170306
 FRA 20170405
 ITA 20170306
 NLD 20170401
 GBR 20170304
 AUS 20170228
 BEL 20170401
 ESP 20170307
 POL 20170215
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Table 2.

 Number of bulls in reference population for mil

 CAN 34305.0
 DEU 2487.0 34393.0
 DFS 2297.0 32063.0 33336.0
 FRA 2669.0 30919.0 30904.0 33324.0
 ITA 27812.0 1851.0 1551.0 1856.0 28287.0
 NLD 2619.0 32655.0 32537.0 31464.0 1842.0 34789.0
 GBR 27510.0 2232.0 1998.0 2307.0 26326.0 2289.0 27933.0
 AUS 1013.0 560.0 533.0 585.0 590.0 655.0 1014.0 4020.0
 BEL 1324.0 962.0 868.0 1017.0 1147.0 986.0 850.0 319.0 2643.0
 ESP 2338.0 32427.0 32577.0 31404.0 1582.0 33036.0 2042.0 551.0 924.0 33605.0
 POL 2701.0 27803.0 27909.0 27071.0 1890.0 28419.0 2039.0 524.0 1441.0 28324.0
 30002.0

