

Genomically tested cows have now breeding values with genomic information

For heifers, breeding values for all traits are usually calculated on the basis of pedigree information. However if the heifer is genomically tested her breeding values are also based partly on her genomic information.

When the heifer calves for the first time, the information sources in the breeding values changes. Until August 2012 pedigree information and animals own registrations were included in breeding values for yield, conformation, milking speed, temperament and udder health for all cows no matter if they had a genomic test or not. This means that genomic information has previously not been used to calculate breeding values for these five trait groups

For other traits breeding values are based on pedigree information for cows that has not been genomic tested, while they are also based partly on genomic information for cows with a genomic test.

Calculation of breeding values with genomic information is a new technique that is still under development. This is the reason why we previously did not include genomic information for cows for traits where animals own information was used.

Both registrations and genomic information in breeding values for genomically tested cows

Techniques have been improved and from August routine run the published breeding values for genomically tested cows include both registrations of own performance and information from genomic tests. This will give more accurate breeding values, but at the same time it can result in changes in breeding values for this kind of animals.

Comparison of breeding values for yield, conformation, milking speed, temperament and udder health from May and August routine runs shows that most genomically tested cows have less than 3 index units change in their breeding values, but for a few cows the change is more that 10 index units. There will therefore be some reranking of the cows

No change for other animals

For cows without a genomic test there will be no effect due to this change. The same is true for heifers and AI sires.