News - NAV routine evaluation 15 January 2008

The latest NAV routine evaluation for yield, fertility, type, udder health, calving traits (only Holstein), milk ability and temperament traits took place as scheduled. NAV did three evaluations per trait group (except calving traits):

<u>Holstein evaluation</u>, including data from: Danish Holstein, Danish Red Holstein, Swedish Holstein, Finnish Holstein, Finnish Ayrshire and Finn Cattle.

<u>Red evaluation</u>, including data from: Danish Red, Swedish Red, Finnish Ayrshire, Finnish Holstein and Finn Cattle

Jersey evaluation, including data from: Danish Jersey

Extraction dates

Dates for extraction of data from national databases are given in table 1.

Table 1 Dates for extraction of data from the national databases

Trait	Denmark	Finland	Sweden
Yield	06.12.2007	02.12.2007	24.11.2007
Type, milk ability and temperament	16.12.2007	02.12.2007	10.12.2007
Fertility	06.12.2007	02.12.2007	04.12.2007
Udder health	12.12.2007	02.12.2007	04.12.2007
Calving	12.12.2007	02.12.2007	04.12.2007

News in relation to NAV genetic evaluation

No changes

Genetic base

EBVs for Bulls and females are expressed to the same cow base. At this genetic evaluation include the genetic base (average 100) cows born from 15.1.2003 to 15.1.2005.

For functional traits sire models are used and EBVs for cows are not estimated. For functional traits the genetic base includes bulls, which are sire of present cows – see table 2.

Table 2. Definition of genetic base for cows and bulls

Trait	Genetic base	
Yield, type, milkability and temperament	Cows born 15.1.2003 -15.1.2005	
Fertility, calving and mastitis resistance	Bulls born 15.1.1999-15.1.2001	

NAV data included in Interbull routine run January 2008

- Note for all traits it is NAV EBVs from 1.12.2007 which are included in the Interbull evaluation in January 2008
- NAV fertility data for RDC is included in the Interbull routine run in January 2008.
- NAV calving trait data for Holstein is included in the Interbull routine run in January 2008.

NAV – frequency and timing of routine runs

NAV has 6 evaluations per year for all traits. The NAV evaluations are timed in a way so NAV can deliver updated EBVs to all the international evaluations. In table 2 the current and future NAV and Interbull release dates are shown.

Table 3. NAV and Interbull release dates in 2008. EBVs released at NAV dates with bold will be delivered to international genetic evaluation.

	2008		
Month	NAV	INTERBULL	
January	15th	First Tuesday after 11th	
February			
March	15th		
April		1st Tuesday	
May	15th		
June			
July			
August	15th	3rd Tuesday	
September			
October	15th		
November			
December	1st	·	

NAV workshop

8th January 2008 NAV had a workshop discussion a Nordic Total Merit Index (TMI) and Nordic feet and legs registration. The workshop took place in Copenhagen with 54 participants representing Al-organisations, breed organisations, organisations responsible for national genetic evaluation and research institutes in Denmark, Sweden and Finland. At the workshop results from a Danish locomotion study, a Swedish study of claw trimmer data and results from the NAV TMI project were presented. The workshop forms the basis for further national discussions about a NAV TMI and joint feet and legs registration. The following time schedule has been decided for the further process:

Table 4. Time schedule for the process about Nordic Total Merit Index (TMI) and Nordic feet and legs registration

8 January - 30 April 2008	Within country process	
8 January - 30 April 2008	Follow up work by NAV TMI project group	
1 May 2008	National feed back in relation to TMI and F&L traits	
1 May – 15 June 2008	Across country process by a NAV TMI working group	
21 August 2008	NAV Board decision based recommendations from the NAV	
	TMI working group	
15 October 2008	First NAV TMI routine run	

You can get more information about the joint Nordic evaluation:

General about Nordic Cattle Genetic Evaluation: www.nordicebv.info

Contact person: Gert Pedersen Aamand, Ph.: +45 87405288 gap@landscentret.dk,

Denmark: www.landscentret.dk/nav

Contact person: Ulrik Sander Nielsen, Danish Cattle, Ph. +45 87405289, usn@landscentret.dk

Sweden: www.svenskmjolk.se

Contact person: Jan-Åke Eriksson, Swedish Dairy Association, Ph. +46 08-790 58 67

jan-ake.eriksson@svenskmjolk.se

Finland: www.faba.fi

Contact person: Jukka Pösö, Faba Breeding, Ph +358-(0)207472071 jukka.poso@faba.fi