News - NAV routine evaluation 12 January 2010

The latest NAV routine evaluation for yield, fertility, type, udder health, other diseases, calving traits, milk ability, temperament, growth and NTM took place as scheduled. NAV carried out three evaluations per trait group:

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

Red Dairy Cattle evaluation, including data from: Danish Red, Swedish Red, Finnish Ayrshire, Finnish Holstein and Finn Cattle.

Jersey evaluation, including data from: Danish Jersey and Swedish Jersey (only yield and type).

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	06.12.2009	01.12.2009	28.11.2009
Type, milk ability and temperament	16.12.2009	01.12.2009	23.11.2009
Fertility	07.12.2009	01.12.2009	27.11.2009
Udder health and other disease	14.12.2009	01.12.2009	27.11.2009
Calving	14.12.2009	01.12.2009	27.11.2009
Growth	06.12.2009	01.12.2009	02.11.2009

News in relation to NAV genetic evaluation

No changes

Genetic base

EBVs for bulls and females are expressed on the same cow base. This genetic evaluation included cows born from 15.01.2005 to 15.01.2007 in the genetic base (average 100).

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

Table 2. Definition of genetic base for cows and bulls

Trait	Genetic base
Yield, type, milk ability and temperament	Cows born 15.01.2005 - 15.01.2007
Fertility, calving, mastitis resistance and resistance against other diseases	Bulls born 15.01.2001 - 15.01.2003

Publication of NTM for Nordic and foreign bulls

We have made some changes in the NTM calculation for foreign bulls to use the information more efficient. For bulls having a Nordic herd book number the NTM calculation is unchanged.

A NTM is published if the bull has official EBVs (NAV EBV or international EBV) for Yield, Mastitis and Type. By official means for NAV EBVs that the NAV thresholds are met and for

international EBVs (IB EBVs) that Interbull estimates EBVs for the single bull. EBVs are used in the following priority NAV EBVs, IB EBVs and Pedigree index. For traits without a NAV EBV or an IB EBV a NAV pedigree index is calculated.

For bulls with a Nordic herd book number the pedigree index follows the principles described in the October 2008 routine information. For foreign bulls without a Nordic herd book number the pedigree index is calculated in as ½(EBVsire-100) +1/4(EBVmgs-100) +100. If EBVsire or EBVmgs is not official NAV EBVs then 100 is used.

NAV – frequency and timing of routine runs

NAV performs 6 evaluations per year for all traits. The NAV evaluations are timed in a way that NAV can deliver updated EBVs to all the international evaluations. In Table 3, the NAV and INTERBULL release dates are shown. Interbull change the timing of international evaluations in the autumn 2010. NAV will discuss changes in timing and frequencies during the winter 2009/10

Table 3. NAV and INTERBULL release dates in 2010. EBVs released at NAV dates in bold will be delivered to international genetic evaluation.

	2010		
Month	NAV	INTERBULL	
January	12	12	
February			
March	15		
April		6	
May	17		
June			
July			
August	17	17	
September			
October	15		
November			
December	7	7	

You can get more information about the joint Nordic evaluation:

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

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