FACTS ON APPLIED SIRE-EVALUATION PROCEDURES FOR DAIRY PRODUCTION TRAITS

COUNTRY	BELGIUM
Breed(s)	Black and White, Red and White
Traits evaluated and units of measurement	Milk (kg), fat and protein (kg,%)
Number of lactations	1
Genetic parameters applied	$h^2 = 0.25$
Inclusion and extension of records	Records of culled cows used without extension Records in progress not used
Sire categories evaluated	AI sires
Effects considered by preadjustments	
by model of evaluation	Age, herd-level class, year, month of calving, group of sires, sire
Base for age adjustment	
Use of genetic groups/ relationships/pedigree	Group of sires by pedigree Relationship matrix used
Method of evaluation used	Single trait BLUP
Expression of genetic merit	BV (kg)
Genetic base, kind/definition	Fixed 1985–1986
Minimum requirements for official publication of sire proofs	50 daughters
Use of selection index or total merit index	Net Economic Merit
Name and address of organization responsible for sire evaluations and publishing of results	Ministry of Agriculture – Breeding Division Bruxelles Belgium
Key references on methodology applied	