

FACTS ON APPLIED SIRE-EVALUATION PROCEDURES FOR DAIRY PRODUCTION TRAITS

COUNTRY	IRELAND
Breed(s)	Friesian
Traits evaluated and units of measurement	Milk, fat and protein (kg), fat and protein %, index _{F+P} (yield)
Number of lactations	1
Genetic parameters applied	$h^2 = 0.25$
Inclusion and extension of records	Sire and maternal grandsire have to be same breed Normal lact. 150-305 days Rec. from culled cows and rec. in progress are excluded Age at calving 18-38 months
Sire categories evaluated	Almost all are AI sires
Effects considered by preadjustments	Date of calving, age at calving and breed cross of dam
by model of evaluation	Herd-year-season, sire, group of sires
Base of age adjustment	24 months
Use of genetic groups/relationships/pedigree	Bull groups by year/rel. ship matrix used with sire and maternal grandsire
Method of evaluation used	Single trait BLUP
Expression of genetic merit	PD(kg, %) and RB-index estimated as $100 + PD \text{ fat(kg)} + 1,4 PD \text{ protein(kg)} - 0.025 PD \text{ milk(kg)}$
Genetic base, kind/definition	Fixed Base = Average of Bulls which had their first daughters recorded in 1981 or 1982
Minimum requirements for official publication of sire proofs	20 eff. daughters, $r_{pt} \geq 0.57$
Use of selection index or total merit index	No total merit index used
Name and address of organization responsible for sire evaluations and publishing of results	Department of Agriculture Kildare Street Dublin 2 Ireland
Key references on methodology	Department of Agriculture and Food - National Breeding programme for dairy cattle - Report Spring 1988 Department of Agriculture and Food, Kildare St., Ireland