FACTS ON SIRE EVALUATION PROCEDURES APPLIED FOR GROWTH AND BEEF PRODUCTION TRAITS

COUNTRY: FINLAND

Breed(s):	Finnish Ayrshire, Finnish Friesian, Finncattle
Trait definition and unit(s) of measurement	a) Bulls own growth (kg) b) Live weight of daughters, tape measurements by recording technicians
Type of evaluation	a) Performance test b) Progeny test
Time period for data inclusion	a) 1985 and onwards b) 1978 and onwards
Animal groups considered	a) 90-365 days
Genetic parameters assumed	a) h^2: 0.4 b) h^2: 0.4; t: 0.6
Sire categories evaluated	All sires

Environmental effects considered
  by pre-adjustment
 	
  by evaluation model
	a) Year and month of birth, year*month
	
	b) Herd*year, lactation number, month, PE

Base for age adjustment	-
Use of genetic groups and/or relationship	b) All relationship. Groups are assigned to animals with unknown parents according to the breed, sex and birth year of the animal
Method of evaluation	a) SI based on bulls own record b) ST BLUP AM
Expression of proof	EBV, standardized with mean=100 and SD=10
Genetic (reference) base	a) Five months station average b) Rolling, average of three latest batches of young bulls, 1990: 82-84
Criteria for official publication of sire proofs	a) All bulls with completed test b) Minimum of 20 daughters
Number of evaluations/ publications per year	a) Every month b) Twice a year
Use of total merit index	a) Growth index is used in total merit index with weight 0.075 b) No
Name, address and faxnumber of organization responsible for sire evaluation and publication	The Finnish Animal Breeding Association P.O.Box 40, SF-01301 Vantaa Finland Fax: +358 0 833949
Key references on methodology applied	b) Mäntysaari E.A. and I. Strandén, 1991. Animal model evaluation for production traits in Finnish Dairy Cattle. 42nd Annual meeting of EAAP, Berlin.