

FACTS ON SIRE EVALUATION PROCEDURES APPLIED FOR NON-PRODUCTION TRAITS

COUNTRY: UNITED KINGDOM

Trait(s):	<u>MILKABILITY</u> a) Ease of milking b) Udder conformation <u>LOCOMOTION</u> c) Legs <u>OTHER</u> d) Temperament e) Other body conformation traits
Breed(s):	Holstein-Friesian
Trait definition and unit(s) of measurement	a,d) Scored 1-9 b) Six udder and teat conformation traits scored 1-9 c) Rear legs side and angle (1-9) e) Total score (10-99), beef shape and 6 other conformation traits scored (1-9)
Method of measuring and collecting data	Field officers
Time period for data inclusion	Since 1983
Age groups considered	Heifers, age at inspection 21-59 mo.
Genetic parameters assumed	h^2 : 0.11-0.64
Sire categories evaluated	All
Environmental effects considered by pre-adjustment	Classifiers
by evaluation model	Age and state of lactation at inspection, month of calving, proportion of North American Genes
Base for age adjustment	-
Use of genetic groups and/or relationship	Yes
Method of evaluation	ST BLUP AM
Expression of proof	Number of SD
Genetic (reference) base	Mean EBV of UK-pedigree registered cows in 1988
Criteria for official publication of sire proofs	At least 20 effective daughters, no more than 50% in the same herd
Number of evaluations/publications per year	Two
Use in total merit index	$2 \times (\text{PTA fat(kg)} + \text{PTA protein(kg)}) + \text{Type merit}$
Name, address and faxnumber of organization responsible for sire evaluation and publication	University of Edinburgh ICAPB Zoology Building West Mains Road Edinburgh, EH9 3JT

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Key references on methodology applied	Meyer, K. and Burnside, E.B. 1988. Joint sire and cow evaluation for conformation traits using an Individual Animal Model. J.Dairy Sci. 71
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