

PREFACE

One of the objectives of INTERBULL is to provide information on sire evaluation procedures applied in various dairy producing countries (Bulletins 2 and 3). To date, these Bulletins have focused on dairy production traits. Increased interest and importance of evaluating cattle for traits other than production has extended the need to standardized documentation for the so-called "secondary" traits as well.

This bulletin includes information on sire evaluation procedures applied for non-production traits in 18 countries (Part A); facts on sire evaluation procedures for growth and beef production traits practiced in 9 countries are also included (Part B). Information is summarized from individual country responses to the most recent INTERBULL surveys (1990-1992).

The non-production traits are classified into five categories: **Reproduction** (male and female fertility, calving performance), **Health** (disease resistance, mastitis, ketosis etc.), **Milkability** (milking speed, udder/teat conformation, etc.), **Locomotion** (feet and legs), and **Other traits** (temperament, other body conformation traits, stayability, survival etc.). This is considered essential in effectively combining information from several countries that differ substantially in number and definition of traits evaluated and apply different evaluation methods.

To facilitate the reading of this publication, each trait is identified with a letter (a, b, c, etc.) within country. Further, each breed or group of breeds is identified with a roman number (I, II, III, etc.), if different information apply. For example, in the case of Germany (page 13) there are four groups of breeds. The field "**Breed**" indicates what breed group is evaluated for what trait, e.g. all groups are evaluated for fertility (a); the field "**Time period for data inclusion**" indicates that, regarding fertility (a), data is included since 1983 for breed group **[II]**, 1985 for breed groups **[III]** and **[III]**, and 1980 for group **[IV]**. In some cases, if no information is available for specific trait-breed combinations, a range of estimates may be given. Information that apply to all breeds and/or all traits are listed without any indication letter or number.

Information published here may be used in international bull catalogues, by AI studs or breeders, for educational or research purposes, or anywhere considered necessary.

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