

# **News NAV evaluation**

## **4 March 2025**

### **Genetic evaluation of Dairy Cattle**

The latest Nordic Cattle Genetic Evaluation (NAV) official genomic prediction took place as scheduled. NAV carried out genomic prediction for Holstein, RDC, Jersey, and dairy crossbreds.

#### Data used in genomic prediction.

Genotypes were extracted from the joint Nordic SNP data base 31 January 2025. INTERBULL information from December 2024 and national information from 4 February 2025 run were included in the genomic prediction.

#### Publication of GEBVs

GEBVs for bulls and females are published monthly. Nordic phenotypic information is updated 4 times a year (February, May, August and November), and is used in the reference population for genomic prediction. The GEBVs for pure breed animals are expressed on the same cow base as in the February evaluation; cows born from 04.02.2020 to 04.02.2022. The GEBVs for crossbred are expressed on a genetic base of 1-7 year old crossbreds.

#### News in relation to NAV dairy genomic evaluation

- No changes in the methods

#### Publication of NAV EBVs

Official GEBVs for bulls used for AI in Denmark, Finland or Sweden are published at the [NAV Bull Search](#) page.

Official NAV GEBVs for foreign AI bulls not used for AI in Denmark, Finland and Sweden are published on the [NAV homepage](#) in an excel sheet. The excel sheet also includes GEBVs for bulls used for AI in Denmark, Finland and Sweden. The excel sheet includes AI bulls that are from 10 months to 5 years old at the date of publication. The excel sheet is mainly useful for foreign AI-companies.

Interbull EBVs/GEBVs are published at the [NAV Interbull Search](#) page. The Nordic total merit index (NTM) is not calculated based on GMACE GEBVs, since Interbull regulations do not require member countries to calculate Total Merit Indices based on Interbull GEBVs, and internationally it is not a common practice.

### **Genetic evaluation of beef bulls used in dairy herds**

The latest NAV official evaluation for AI beef bulls based on their crossbred offspring from dairy cows for birth, youngstock survival and carcass traits took place 6 February. Breeding values for AI beef bulls are estimated four times per year, in connection to the NAV routine genetic evaluation for dairy breeds (table 1), and EBVs are published at [NAV Beef Search](#).

## Genetic evaluation of pure beef cattle

NAV publish EBVs for calving, growth and carcass traits based on phenotypes from purebred beef Angus, Charolais, Simmental, Hereford, Limousine, Highland Cattle, Blonde d'Aquitaine, Belgian Blue, Dexter, Galloway, Grauvieh, Piemontese, Salers, Shorthorn cattle. Genomic breeding values are published for weight, growth, and carcass traits for the five largest breeds (AAN, CHA, HER, LIM, and SIM) for genotyped animals. Extraction date for the data used in the March evaluation can be found in Table 1. Breeding values for pure beef cattle are estimated four times per year (table 2), and all breeding values are published at [NAV Beef Search](#).

Table 1. Dates for extraction of data from the national databases

Trait	Denmark	Finland	Sweden
Pure beef cattle	6.2.2025	12.02.2025	13.2.2025

### News in relation to NAV Beef evaluation

- No changes in the methods

Nordic data is also included in the Interbeef evaluation. The Interbeef EBVs are published at the [NAV Interbeef search](#).

## NAV – frequency and timing of official runs

NAV has 4 large dairy evaluations per year, which include updated phenotypic and genomic data, and additional eight small runs including updated genotypes. In Table 2 the NAV and INTERBULL release dates for 2025 are shown. The beef evaluation based on beef × dairy crossbreeds take place along with the large NAV dairy runs 4 times a year. The NAV pure beef evaluation has its own time schedule.

Table 2. NAV and INTERBULL release dates in 2025/2026. EBVs released at NAV dates in bold will be delivered to international genetic evaluation.

Month	Dairy Cattle			Beef Cattle	
	NAV Small run <sup>1)</sup>	NAV Large runs <sup>2)3)</sup>	INTERBULL	NAV Pure Beef	INTERBEEF
January 2025	7				
February 2025		4			<b>25</b>
March 2025	4			4	
April 2025	1		1	15	
May 2025		6			
June 2025	3			3	
July 2025	1				
August 2025		12	12		
September 2025	2				
October 2025	7				<b>14</b>
November 2025		4		4	
December 2025	2		2		
January 2026	<b>6</b>				

<sup>1)</sup> Genotypes updated; <sup>2)</sup> Genotypes and phenotypes updated; <sup>3)</sup> Beef × dairy evaluation

You can get more information about the joint Nordic evaluation:

General about Nordic Cattle Genetic Evaluation: [www.nordicebv.info](http://www.nordicebv.info)

Denmark: [www.landbrugsinfo.dk](http://www.landbrugsinfo.dk)

Contact person: Ulrik Sander Nielsen, Seges Cattle, Ph. +45 29883403, [usn@segese.dk](mailto:usn@segese.dk)

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