

# **News - NAV evaluation**

## **3 February 2026**

### **Dairy cattle**

The latest NAV official evaluation for yield, fertility, conformation, udder health, general health, calving traits, milkability, temperament, growth, longevity, youngstock survival, claw health, saved feed and NTM took place as scheduled. NAV carried out three evaluations per trait group:

*Holstein evaluation*, including data from: Danish Holstein, Swedish Holstein, Norwegian Holstein, Finnish Holstein, Finnish Ayrshire and Finncattle.

*Red Dairy Cattle evaluation*, including data from: Danish Red, Swedish Red, Finnish Ayrshire, and Finncattle.

*Jersey evaluation*, including data from: Danish Jersey, Swedish Jersey, Finnish Jersey, Norwegian Jersey and French Jersey.

Dates for extraction of data from national databases for the latest official evaluations are given in Table 1.

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

Trait	Denmark	Finland	Sweden
<b>Yield</b>	9.12.2025	15.12.2025	4.12.2025
<b>Type, milkability and temperament</b>	9.12.2025	15.12.2025	6.12.2025
<b>Fertility</b>	9.12.2025	15.12.2025	6.12.2025
<b>Udder health and other disease</b>	9.12.2025	15.12.2025	6.12.2025
<b>Calving<sup>1)</sup></b>	9.12.2025	15.12.2025	6.12.2025
<b>Longevity</b>	9.12.2025	15.12.2025	6.12.2025
<b>Growth<sup>1)</sup></b>	9.12.2025	15.12.2025	6.12.2025
<b>Claw health</b>	9.12.2025	15.12.2025	6.12.2025
<b>Youngstock survival<sup>1)</sup></b>	9.12.2025	15.12.2025	6.12.2025
<b>Saved feed</b>	9.12.2025	15.12.2025	6.12.2025
<b>Pure beef cattle</b>	10.10.2025	14.10.2025	13.10.2025

<sup>1)</sup>Including data for the evaluation of beef bulls used on dairy

### **Data used in genomic prediction.**

Genotypes were extracted from the joint Nordic SNP data base 14 January 2026. INTERBULL information from December 2025 was included in the genomic prediction.

### **News in relation to NAV dairy genetic evaluation**

#### **Dairy pure**

- Missing update of methane registrations
- Update of reliability calculation for temperament

#### **DairyxDairy**

- No changes

#### **BeefxDairy**

- No changes

## **Beef pure**

- Latest evaluation took place 4.11.2025

## **Genetic evaluation of dairy breeds**

### **Missing update of methane registrations**

Methane registrations were not uploaded before the deadline. The Methane index is calculated on the same methane registrations as the November round. Smaller changes in the animal's methane indexes can happen according to updates of pedigree and genotype files.

### **Update of reliability calculation for temperament**

In the calculation process for reliability for temperament, a wrong configuration file was used in the November evaluation. In the February index round, the file is updated correctly, and the reliability for temperament will increase on average. The index calculation was not affected so all the temperament indexes calculated in November index round were correct.

### **Publication of NTM for Nordic and foreign bulls**

NTM is published if the bull has official EBVs (NAV (G)EBV or international EBV) for Yield, Mastitis and Type. By official means for NAV EBVs that the NAV thresholds are met, and for international EBVs (IB EBVs) that Interbull EBVs for the single bull exist. For traits without a NAV (G)EBV or an IB (G)EBV a NAV pedigree index is calculated.

For bulls with a Nordic herd book number the pedigree index follows the principles described in the October 2008 routine information. For foreign bulls without a Nordic herd book number the pedigree index is calculated in as  $\frac{1}{2}(\text{EBVsire}-100) + \frac{1}{4}(\text{EBVmgs}-100) + 100$ . If EBVsire or EBVmgs is not official NAV EBVs then 100 is used.

### **Publication of EBVs/GEBVs**

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

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

Interbull EBVs/GEBVs are published at the [NAV Interbull Search](#).

## **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 gestation length, birth, youngstock survival and carcass traits took place as scheduled. Extraction date for the data can be found in table 1. Breeding values for AI beef bulls are estimated four times per year, in connection to the NAV routine genetic evaluation for dairy breeds, and EBVs are published at [NAV Beef Search](#).

### **Genetic base**

The genetic base for beef bulls evaluated based on dairy crosses is defined as relative breeding values with a mean of 100 and standard deviation of 10. The genetic base animals for beef bulls evaluated based on dairy crosses constitutes of 2-5 year old crossbreds born after beef breeds which can be used in all 3 countries.

### Fee for EBV of beef bulls based on beef × dairy crossbred offspring

Nordic Cattle Genetic Evaluation (NAV) conducts a genetic evaluation of AI beef bulls based on beef × dairy crossbred offspring for young stock survival, gestation length, calving and carcass traits. A fee system was introduced 1.1.2020 for the service. It means a fee must be paid for all bulls getting publishable EBVs for the first time after 1.1.2020. No fee needs to be paid for bulls already having official EBVs before 1.1.2020. To get published EBVs the following criteria should be fulfilled for each bull:

- The EBV should meet the criteria for publication.
- A one-time fee of currently 1,300 euro per bull should be paid.

More information about the genetic evaluation and the publication criteria can be found at [NAV homepage](#).

### Genetic evaluation for Purebred Beef animals

The latest genetic evaluation of purebred beef animals took place on 4 November 2025. 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. Breeding values for growth, slaughter quality, and milk for the five breeds AAN, CHA, HER, LIM, and SIM are estimated in a genomic SS model. Breeding values for pure beef cattle are estimated four times per year (table 2), and all breeding values are published at [NAV Beef 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 2026/2027 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 2026/2027. 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>	INTER- BULL	NAV Pure Beef
January 2026	6			
February 2026		3		
March 2026	3			5
April 2026	7		7	14
May 2026		5		
June 2026	2			2
July 2026	7			
August 2026		11	11	
September 2026	1			
October 2026	6			
November 2026		3		3
December 2026	1		1	
January 2027	5			

<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)

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