News NAV evaluation
3 March 2026

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 4 February 2026. INTERBULL information from 2 December 2025 and national information from 3 February 2026 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 03.02.2021 to 03.02.2023. 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 3 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 2), 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	11.2.2026	11.2.2026	12.2.2026

News in relation to NAV Beef evaluation
- Reliabilities including genomic information for AAN, CHA, HER, LIM and SIM for traits in the weight, growth and carcass evaluation

Calculation of reliabilities

A new approach is implemented to estimate reliabilities for AAN, CHA, HER, LIM, and SIM for weight, growth, and carcass traits. This method includes genomic information directly into the reliability calculations, rather than relying only on pedigree and performance records.

Under the genomic-based reliability, animals without own phenotypes, genotypes, or progeny no longer retain the pedigree-based reliability that was previously inflated through recursive ancestry. Consequently, even animals that had relatively high pedigree-based reliabilities may lose effective information when evaluated using the new method.

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 1 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[1]	**NAV Large runs**[2][3]	**Interbull**	**NAV Pure Beef**
January 2026	6			
Februay 2026		**3**		
March 2026	3			3
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			

[1] Genotypes updated; [2] Genotypes and phenotypes updated; [3] Beef × dairy evaluation

You can get more information about the joint Nordic evaluation:
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