

Methane index: NAV homepage and search page

Terhi Vahlsten
NAV communication

NAV

NAV homepage – News and NAV newsletters

Nordic Cattle Genetic Evaluation

Our mission is to carry out joint breeding value evaluations for dairy cattle in Finland, Sweden and Denmark to benefit Nordic farmers.

NAV = Nordic cattle genetic evaluation

The member organizations are Landbrug & Fødevarer, Faba co-op and Växa Sverige.

Read more



NAV newsletters



HOME NEWS ▾ DAIRY CATTLE ▾ BEEF X DAIRY ▾

2026

May 2026

- LATEST NEWS
- NAV NEWSLETTERS
- INTERBULL

- Read more: [The methane index is for all](#)

[April 2026 beef](#)

[April 2026](#)

[March 2026](#)



Nordisk Avlsværdi Vurdering •

News - NAV evaluation 5 May 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, methane 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 Fincattle.

Publication of methane index

NAV released the methane index for Holstein females, as well as for both bulls and females in RDC and Jersey. The methane index describes the genetic potential for lower methane production in the rumen of the cow, thereby reducing methane emissions. The data come from sniffer machines that measure methane and CO₂ concentrations in the cow's exhaled air while the cow is eating at the milking robot. The phenotypic trait used in the methane index is methane concentration. The underlying idea is that a lower methane concentration from a cow indicates lower methane production. A higher index value therefore corresponds to lower methane concentration.

For the calculation of the methane index, all available methane data from parities 1 to 5 and from day 1 to day 365 in milk are included in the model. Methane data collected from 2020 until now are used

Nordic Cattle Genetic Evaluation

NAV homepage - Methane



- NTM
- PRODUCTION
- FUNCTIONAL TRAITS
- CONFORMATION
- SAVED FEED
- METHANE**
- GENETIC TRENDS
- PHENOTYPIC VALUES
- GENOMIC EVALUATION
- GEBVS FOR CROSSBREDS
- GENETIC TRAITS - DAIRY CATTLE
- NORDIC DAIRY CATTLE

Nordic Cattle Genetic Evaluation

Our mission is to provide genetic value evaluations for dairy cattle in Finland, Sweden and Denmark to benefit Nordic farmers.

NTM

Merit

NTM is designed to give the best economic return

to help dairy farmers to give the

[Read more](#)



NAV homepage - Methane

Methane

[NAV Bull Search](#)

Methane index describes genetic potential for lower methane production in the rumen of the cow, thereby reducing methane emissions. The data comes from sniffer machines measuring the methane and CO₂ concentration from the cow's exhale air when they are eating in the milking robot. The phenotypic registration used in the methane index is the methane concentration. The idea is that a lower methane concentration from a cow indicates lower methane production.

Methane index is included in NAV Bull search.

Read more:

[The methane index is for all, May 2026](#)

[First Nordic methane index, May 2025](#)



Nordisk Avlsværdi Vurdering

Nordic Cattle Genetic Evaluation



May 2026

The methane index is for all

Jakob Lykke Voergaard, Terhi Vahlsten, Ida Hansson

Methane emissions from cows are a major topic in many countries, including the Nordic countries. In cattle breeding, there is a strong ambition to develop a reliable methane index that makes it possible to breed for lower methane production in the rumen of dairy cattle.

In May 2025, NAV released a methane index for Holstein AI bulls, and now the time has come for the next major step. In May 2026, NAV will release the methane index for Holstein females, as well as for





Nordisk Avlsværdi Vurdering

Nordic Cattle Genetic Evaluation



May 2025

First Nordic Methane Index

Jakob Lykke Voergaard, Terhi Vahlsten, Carolina Markey

In the May evaluation, the first Nordic methane index is released. It gives the Nordic cattle sector the possibility to move to an even more climate-friendly milk production. Earlier investigations have shown that increasing NTM levels will reduce the climate emissions from dairy cattle, and the new methane index provides an extra tool to reduce methane production from dairy cattle.

ONIMIT project has made the base

Data is still the king in breeding, and to make a methane index, it is necessary to collect many methane registrations. In the Danish project ONIMIT, funded by GUPD and the Mælkeafgiftsfonden, some of the goals are to collect methane registrations from a minimum of 10,000 cows and to develop a methane index. In total, across different projects, there are today methane registrations from 16,000 cows, including 8,000 Holstein cows, 5,000 Jersey cows, 2,300 RDC cows, and 700 crossbreeding cows. The data are collected in 40 herds, and at the moment, methane registrations are collected in 15 herds. The machine used to collect methane registrations is called a sniffer, and one sniffer can collect methane registrations from two milking robots if they stand close to each other. Today, registrations are done by 38 sniffers in 69 milking robots.



Methane in NAV Bull search

Search parameters

Evaluation	Nordic red breeds ▼
Birth country	All countries ▼
Name	<input type="text"/>
International ID	<input type="text"/>
Herdbook number	<input type="text"/>

Additional search parameters

Show only bulls with DFS progeny test ▼
 Show bulls with herdbook number in ▼
 Show only SRB bulls
 Show only bulls born between -

Filter with indices

[Select index](#)
[Select genetic trait](#)

Search

Show rows per page Top PDF Excel Evaluation published **05.05.2026** 1 2 3 ... > >>

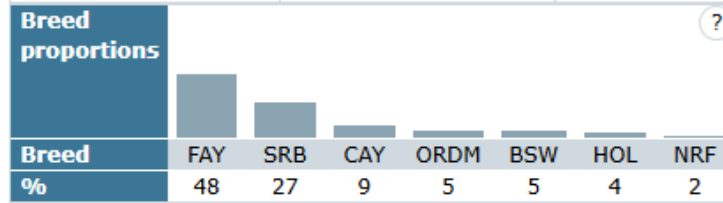
International ID	Name	Birth year	NTM	Yield	Growth	Fertility	Birth	Calving	Udder health	General health	Claw health	Frame	Feet & legs	Udder	Milkability	Temperament	Longevity	Youngstock survival	Save feed	Methane
RDCDNKM000000038290	VR Vesty	2019	44	132	94	99	103	109	106	104	93	107	100	107	102	87	124	101	117	92
RDCDNKM003899502856	VR Ehler	2024	40	115	96	128	112	107	114	120	118	86	113	95	96	96	117	107	112	101
RDCDNKM001761806493	VR Eris	2024	40	121	97	125	104	104	105	116	114	92	115	96	106	109	118	109	103	101
RDCDNKM004102907660	VR Faxi	2024	38	113	101	120	108	107	111	112	121	92	111	110	99	107	118	109	112	107
RDCSWEM029853320723	VR FLURI P	2023	38	124	84	104	113	103	99	102	109	89	122	104	95	102	104	113	120	98
RDCFINM000015208019	VR Setri	2024	38	122	93	102	107	102	106	98	107	91	109	117	116	99	115	107	110	97
RDCFINM000015005234	VR Unico P	2024	38	119	112	115	99	102	106	106	117	98	103	107	119	93	119	103	107	102
RDCSWEM000000099989	VR BERTIL	2021	37	122	102	107	101	106	95	104	109	114	112	110	124	110	107	110	108	112
RDCDNKM001314411170	VR Bronz	2024	37	112	88	120	116	103	122	109	108	82	120	105	104	103	128	106	109	106
RDCSWEM082384938325	VR UJE P	2025	37	123	108	108	95	105	107	101	98	108	97	111	102	101	108	103	112	92
RDCDNKM003031607908	VR Emus	2024	36	110	112	129	100	109	116	117	108	103	90	107	111	108	114	105	105	103
RDCDNKM000000038487	VR Exter	2021	36	117	98	127	107	109	103	118	121	81	116	97	94	106	113	105	105	105



Born	3/28/2024
Breeder	Tirronen Teemu
Evaluation	Nordic red breeds
International ID	RDCFINM000015005234

Herdbook number	
FIN	48969
SWE	124274
DNK	38649

Trait	# Daughters	# Herds
Yield	-	-
Udder health	-	-
Conformation	-	-



Sire	VR ULVAR RDCSWEM000000099264	PGS	VR Uppura RDCFINM0000
		PGD	RDCSWEF060:
Dam	Viking Ulfa P RDCFINF000014293158	MGS	VR Vilho P RDCDNKM000
		MGD	RDCSWEF084:
		MGDS	VR Ele

[Show phenotypic values](#) [Show genetic traits](#)

Evaluation published **05.05.2026**

Show Reliabilities Contribution to NTM Index types Previous evaluation All available breeding values

Trait	Current evaluation	70	80	90	100	110	120	130	Reliability	Index type
NTM	38									
Yield	119								84	NAV G
Growth	112								55	NAV G
Fertility	115								41	NAV G
Birth									70	NAV G
Calving									59	NAV G
Udder h									71	NAV G
Genera									46	NAV G
Claw he									48	NAV G
Frame									50	NAV G
Feet &									61	NAV G
Udder									58	NAV G
Milkabil									67	NAV G
Temper									48	NAV G
Longev									64	NAV G
Youngs									52	NAV G
Saved f										NAV G
Methane (not in NTM)	102									NAV G

Describes: Genetic potential for lower methane production in the rumen of the cow, thereby reducing methane emissions.

Data: Comes from sniffer machines measuring the methane and CO2 concentration from the cow's exhale air when they are eating in the milking robot. The phenotypic registration used in the methane index is the methane concentration. The idea is that a lower methane concentration from a cow indicates lower methane production. Higher index value means lower methane concentration.

Tooltip! 🌟😊

NAV Bull search – Bull's own page



NAV Bull search – Filter with indices

- Filter with indices and/or with genetic traits
 - Very handy to use
 - Possible to combine index values and genetic traits
 - Max 5 traits
 - Works together with other search options as well
 - Eg. birth country, birth year etc.

Search NAV trends - Dairy English

Filter with indices

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NTM	▼	> ▼	25	Remove
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yield	▼	> ▼	110	Remove
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Methane	▼	> ▼	100	Remove
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Milkability	▼	> ▼	100	Remove
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Saved feed	▼	> ▼	100	Remove
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Polled	▼	= ▼	Carrier, P ▼	Remove
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Polled	▼	= ▼	Carrier, PP ▼	Remove
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PIRM	▼	= ▼	Free ▼	Remove
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BTA12	▼	= ▼	Free ▼	Remove
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	BTA23	▼	= ▼	Free ▼	Remove