

ACTIVITY REPORT

October 2025-September 2026



Find genetics news wherever you are by connecting with CDCB!

The CDCB CowCast

Monthly webcast and podcast where industry experts and producers discuss on-farm data, genetic tools, and much more — find a new episode on the second Tuesday of each month on YouTube or your favorite podcast streaming platform

Social Media

Follow the Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding on LinkedIn, YouTube, and Facebook for the latest news, educational materials, and industry updates

CDCB Connection

Monthly email newsletter designed to provide the dairy industry with genetic evaluation resources, scientific updates, news, and statistics

Farm Focus

Triannual email newsletter written to give dairy producers practical, real-world updates and perspective on evaluation tools to use on their farm

uscdcb.com

Your home for evaluation updates, trait resources, U.S. dairy history, and more. Search top animal lists, genetic trends and the National Performance Metrics in WebConnect



ACTIVITY REPORT

October 2025-September 2026

CEO Column	4
Personnel	5
Board Brief.	6
Board of Directors	7
Committees	8
Data Collaborators.	9
National Cooperator Database	10
CDCB By the Numbers	11
Year in Review.	12-13
Out and About	14-15
Genetic Evaluations.	16-18
Services and Data	19
Ongoing Research.	20-22
Financial Report	23

The Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding (CDCB) provides premier dairy genetic information services through industry collaboration to help optimize cow health and productivity in herds worldwide. A not-for-profit organization, CDCB is responsible for calculating and distributing genetic evaluations and genomic predictions, stewarding the National Cooperator Database, and analyzing and distributing dairy cattle data in the U.S. CDCB drives continuous animal improvement and maintains the integrity of the world’s largest animal database, building on a quality foundation of more than eight decades of recorded U.S. dairy animal performance. CDCB is a collaboration between four sectors of the U.S. dairy industry: dairy records providers (DRPs), dairy records processing centers (DRPCs), the National Association of Animal Breeders (NAAB), and the Purebred Dairy Cattle Association (PDCA).

MISSION

To drive global dairy cattle improvement by using a collaborative database to deliver state-of-the-art genetic merit and performance assessments for herd decision making.

VISION

To be the leading source of genetic information for dairy improvement.

VALUES



Dairy-driven



Cooperative



Science-based



Transparent



Data-driven

CEO COLUMN by João Dürr, Ph.D.



It is my privilege to present the industry with another Activity Report that makes CDCB staff and member sectors proud of our latest progress and achievements. The demand for CDCB services has continued to grow, especially in the foreign female category, showing how much the worldwide dairy industry relies on CDCB genomic evaluations for decision making and genetic progress. Yet despite this strength, CDCB continues to focus on setting the path for the future, given the rapid transformation of the reality around us. The uncertainty in the geopolitical landscape and the challenges to the business models still dominant in many dairy organizations create the need to be bold. This means proactively engaging in actions that can make CDCB and its stakeholders resilient enough to ensure that dairy farmers can continue to access the best dairy genetic resources and adopt the optimum herd management practices available to them.

In 2026, we celebrate 100 years of national genetic evaluations for dairy breeds in the U.S. This is one of the most beautiful chapters in the history of agricultural sciences, and we should be very proud to tell it. Not only did USDA researchers pioneer the development of genetic evaluations, but they also led the research on methodologies and evaluation strategies that shaped the entire field of quantitative genetics applied to livestock. Many of the most impactful researchers in this area have been associated with the Animal Improvement

Programs Laboratory (later the Animal Genomics and Improvement Laboratory, AGIL) in Beltsville, Maryland. The dairy sector had the privilege of benefiting firsthand from their scientific discoveries, as the national evaluation system was always kept up to date with the most recent developments in the field. These advances empowered an industry eager to innovate and ultimately resulted in steady progress that transformed American dairy genetics into one of the most valuable tools for improving cattle populations anywhere in the world. Some landmarks are impossible to forget, such as the adoption of animal models in the 1990s and the inception of genomic evaluations in 2008. We also cannot forget the last century of research supporting more efficient herd management strategies. It is nothing but fair that we publicly declare our gratitude to those visionary USDA researchers who dedicated their careers to writing the amazing success story that U.S. dairy genetics is today.

In 2013, CDCB inherited the stewardship of the National Cooperator Database and the responsibility to run the national genetic evaluations from AGIL. These were big shoes to fill, and we have humbly lived up to the challenge over these 13 years. In this effort, CDCB is now the protagonist of another major evolutionary step in the history of U.S. genetic evaluations. The modernization of our system includes the adoption of a single-step genomic evaluation method and a full reset in the way evaluations are produced, published, and distributed. In 2027, the whole industry will be finalizing preparations for this major change. Details on this progress can be found in this report, and more communication will continue to be shared through all of our channels before the new evaluations are adopted. They will not just be different; they will be better. Like our predecessors at USDA, we are committed to always providing the best available tools for the dairy industry to thrive.

My gratitude goes to the unwavering commitment of the CDCB staff, the keen leadership of the CDCB Board of Directors, the permanent support of our collaborators, and the reassuring trust that dairy farmers place in CDCB. We are ready for another great year!

Dam's name and number	Age at birth	Milk, lbs.	Fat, %	Fat, lbs.	Daughter's name and number	Age at birth	Milk, lbs.	Fat, %	Fat, lbs.
Bissel Bull Cattle	4	9517	33	316	Belle Dekal Pontiac	3	11200	31	442
Boubaa 10-200	11	9636	33	318	Belle Dekal Pontiac	3	11200	31	442
Boubaa 10-200	11	9636	33	318	Belle Dekal Pontiac	3	11200	31	442
Boubaa 10-200	11	9636	33	318	Belle Dekal Pontiac	3	11200	31	442
Boubaa 10-200	11	9636	33	318	Belle Dekal Pontiac	3	11200	31	442
Jenny	10	5404	36	193	Molly	2	5601	35	194
Kicker	10	5404	36	193	White	2	5601	35	194
Total 5 pairs		37097	34	1278			5318	30	1754
Average		7419	256				9264	251	

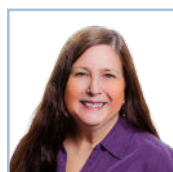
Daughters Exceeded Dams
Milk 1645 lbs. Butterfat 95 lbs.
22.2% 37.2%

This PTA sheet from 1926 for Maple Crest Dekal Pontiac Boy shows milk and fat records for five of his daughters (right column) compared to their dams (left column). In these lactations, the daughters of Pontiac Boy outperformed their dams by an average of 1,645 pounds of milk and 95 pounds of fat.

PERSONNEL



Katelyn Allen
Communication
Specialist



Lillian Bacheller
Senior Application
Developer



Nathan Blair
Chief Technology Officer



**Clarissa
Boschiero, Ph.D.**
Bioinformatics Scientist



Kat Buchholz
Strategic Marketing
Manager



**Javier Burchard,
Ph.D.**
Chief Innovation Officer



**Malia Caputo,
Ph.D.**
Associate Research Scientist



**José Carrillo,
Ph.D.**
Chief Data Officer



John B. Cole, Ph.D.
Chief Research and
Development Officer



Rob Cooper
Chief Administration
Officer



Rick Demory
Data Engineer



João Dürr, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer



**Heather Adams
Enzenauer, Ph.D.**
Applied Geneticist



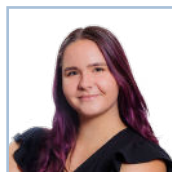
**Kristen Parker
Gaddis, Ph.D.**
Senior Research Geneticist



Fiona Guinan, Ph.D.
Livestock Data
Analytics Expert



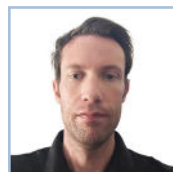
Tasmia Haider
Quality Assurance
Manager



**Courtney Hoff,
M.S.**
Data Support Specialist



**Andres Legarra,
Ph.D.**
Senior Geneticist



Adam Leppek
Senior Software
Developer



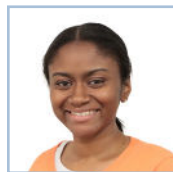
**Ashley Ling,
Ph.D.**
Support Scientist



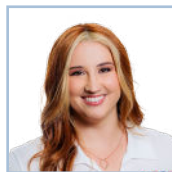
Darrin Long
Principal Software
Engineer



Jesse Malloy
I.T. Support Engineer



Vegas Martin
Executive Assistant



**Taylor
McWhorter, Ph.D.**
Geneticist



Jay Megonigal
Service Software
Manager



**Rodrigo Mota,
Ph.D.**
Applied Geneticist



**Ezequiel
Nicolazzi, Ph.D.**
Chief Operation Officer



**H. Duane
Norman, Ph.D.**
Technical Advisor



Dan Null
Senior Support Scientist



**George Onoh,
M.S.**
Data Specialist



Pavan Pydiganta
Technical Project
Manager



Frank Ross
Senior System
Administrator



**Simone Savoia,
Ph.D.**
Geneticist



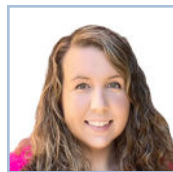
Katie Schmitt
Industry Relations
Manager



Michael Sullivan
Principal Software
Engineer



Ed Sunder
Software Engineer



Maggie Tetlak
Data Support Specialist



**Kaori Tokuhisa,
M.S.**
Genomic Data Analyst



**George Wiggins,
Ph.D.**
Technical Advisor



**Xiao-Lin (Nick)
Wu, Ph.D.**
Senior Biostatistician

BOARD BRIEF

by Jay Weiker,
CDCB Board Chair



Change is an essential part of progress. Organizations that continue to lead and deliver value do so because they are willing to evolve and invest in the future. As the philosopher Heraclitus famously observed, "The only constant in life is change." Today, CDCB finds itself at a pivotal moment of transformation, undertaking changes that will shape the future of genetic evaluations for decades to come.

Over the past year, CDCB has focused significant attention and resources on preparing for two major advancements: the implementation of a single-step genomic evaluation system and the transition to monthly genetic evaluations. These initiatives represent much more than technological upgrades. Together, they will modernize the genetic evaluation process, improve efficiency, strengthen reliability, and provide dairy producers with more timely information to support genetic improvement decisions.

The journey toward these changes began with a clear message from the dairy industry. Producers, breeding organizations, and allied partners expressed a desire for more frequent genetic evaluations and more timely access to information. In response, CDCB staff undertook the considerable task of examining existing methodologies and data infrastructure to determine how these goals could be achieved. The result is a comprehensive transformation that positions CDCB to meet future industry needs while maintaining the scientific integrity and reliability that stakeholders expect.

The move to a single-step genomic evaluation model is among the most significant methodological changes ever undertaken by CDCB, an evolution in how genetic evaluations will be calculated and delivered. It creates opportunities for faster processing, improved integration of genomic and pedigree information, and enhanced reliability across the evaluation system.

Equally important is the transition to monthly evaluations. While CDCB has long calculated evaluations more frequently than the traditional publication schedule through interim evaluations, moving to a monthly official publication cycle will create meaningful benefits. Producers and the entire dairy industry will gain access to updated genetic information more often, allowing

them to respond to new data in near real time. More frequent evaluations will also contribute to faster rates of genetic progress by reducing delays between data collection and decision making.

These changes will extend beyond evaluation calculations alone. Monthly evaluations will require revisions to business/publication rules and data flows throughout the industry. Communication and education will be critical as dairy producers, breed associations, A.I. organizations, software providers, and international partners adapt their own systems and processes. While there are still details to sort out, the allied industry has been actively engaged in this process and is working collaboratively to develop databases, reporting tools, and information systems that will ensure evaluation results remain accessible and useful to producers around the world.

While these initiatives represent substantial adjustments, they are not change simply for the sake of change. They are strategic investments designed to strengthen the genetic evaluation system, accelerate innovation, and provide dairy producers with the tools needed to make informed breeding decisions in an increasingly data-driven environment. Perhaps most importantly, they position CDCB to lead rather than react to the future needs of the dairy industry.

As we move forward, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the dairy producers whose data contributions make this work possible. I also thank my fellow Board members, CDCB staff, committee members, and industry partners for their dedication and collaboration. The progress we have achieved so far is the result of a shared commitment to advancing the genetic improvement of dairy cattle and supporting the long-term success of our industry.

Do not fear change; lead it. The future belongs to those bold enough to build it. Inspired by the message reflected throughout this year's work, CDCB remains committed to embracing innovation and delivering the next generation of high-quality genetic evaluation services for dairy producers worldwide.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors governs the continuous improvement of CDCB and its services in the interest of the dairy industry. Each of CDCB's four collaborating sectors is represented with three seats, and officers are elected to two-year terms by their peers.

In 2026, Paul Hunt of URUS Group and Jonathan Lamb of Oakfield Corners Dairy completed their terms on the Board. Francisco Bobadilla of STgenetics and Spencer Hackett of Melarry Farms joined the group. Steven Smith of Amelicor retired from the Board in August, and Ladd Muirbrook of Amelicor will complete his term.

National Association of Animal Breeders (NAAB):	Jay Weiker, Chair NAAB, Inc.	Francisco Bobadilla STgenetics	Sophie Eaglen Select Sires, Inc.
Purebred Dairy Cattle Association (PDCA):	Lindsey Worden, Vice Chair Holstein Association USA, Inc.	Spencer Hackett Melarry Farms	Neal Smith American Jersey Cattle Association
Dairy Records Providers (DRP):	Dan Sheldon, Secretary Woody Hill Farm	Susan Lee Idaho DHIA	Jay Mattison National DHIA
Dairy Records Processing Centers (DRPC):	Tony Allen, Treasurer AgriTech Analytics	Robert Fourdraine Dairy Records Management Systems	Ladd Muirbrook Amelicor



The CDCB Board at the August 2026 meeting. Standing, left to right: Susan Lee, Dan Sheldon, João Dürr, Jay Mattison, Tony Allen, Spencer Hackett, Lindsey Worden. Seated, left to right: Francisco Bobadilla, Sophie Eaglen, Jay Weiker, Steven Smith, Robert Fourdraine. Not pictured: Neal Smith. Following the August meeting, Ladd Muirbrook was appointed to complete Steven Smith's term.



THANK YOU Paul Hunt, Jonathan Lamb, and Steven Smith for your service to the dairy industry through the CDCB Board of Directors!

COMMITTEES

Producer Advisory Committee (PAC)

The Producer Advisory Committee (PAC) provides valuable dairy farmer feedback on CDCB strategy, policy, future priorities, and opportunities. It is also a chance for dairy producers to gain perspective on the genetic evaluation system. The committee meets virtually four times and twice in person each year. Established in 2019, the PAC expanded again in 2026 to include 10 farmers. Producers are appointed each spring by the Board.

"I value learning what goes into the evaluations and how complex all data collection is," says member Eric Grotegut of Newton, Wis. "I like that producer opinion is valued and that CDCB has been improving with new traits and refinements to old traits. The information is valuable if you milk cows!"

In 2026, Greg Andersen of American Falls, Idaho, completed his term on the PAC, including serving as chair. Greta Halahan of Imler, Pa., and Rick Roden of West Bend, Wis., joined the PAC. CDCB greatly appreciates the perspective and time of each PAC member.



With Industry Relations Manager Katie Schmitt, the 2026-27 PAC includes, from left to right, Brian Houin of Plymouth, Ind., Glenn Kline of Troy, Pa., Mack Drees of Peshtigo, Wis., Kent Buttars of Lewiston, Utah, Betsy Bullard of Turner, Maine, Matt Hendel of Caledonia, Minn., and Eric Grotegut of Newton, Wis. Not pictured are David Harvatine of King Ferry, N.Y., Greta Halahan of Imler, Pa., and Rick Roden of West Bend, Wis.

THANK YOU Greg Andersen for your years of service and leadership to CDCB through the Producer Advisory Committee!



Governance Committee

This group ensures the Board operates effectively, aligns with CDCB's mission, and upholds high standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability.

Jay Mattison, Chair, National DHIA
Sophie Eaglen, Select Sires, Inc.
Robert Fourdraine, Dairy Records Management Systems
Lindsey Worden, Holstein Association USA

Finance Committee

This group reviews the annual budget and financial reporting, monitors financial statements, and ensures CDCB's financial stability and sustainability.

Tony Allen, Chair, AgriTech Analytics
Dan Sheldon, Woody Hill Farm
Neal Smith, American Jersey Cattle Association
Jay Weiker, NAAB, Inc.

Genetic Evaluations Methods Group (GEM)

This group provides independent counsel, impartial advice, and strategic guidance to CDCB and USDA AGIL staff throughout the evaluation process.

Christian Maltecca, Chair, NC State University
Jason Graham, Holstein Association USA
Daniela Lourenço, University of Georgia
Francisco Peñagaricano, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Ryan Starkenburg, ABS Global, Inc.
Robert Templeman, Michigan State University

Dairy Evaluation Review Team (DERT)

This group provides independent, objective, and confidential review of the triannual genetic evaluation statistics prior to official publication to improve evaluation day data release.

Sam Comstock, Holstein Association USA
Jason Graham, Holstein Association USA
John Metzger, American Jersey Cattle Association
Mehdi Sargolzaei, Select Sires, Inc.
Ryan Starkenburg, ABS Global, Inc.
Bob Welper, PEAK Genetics

Data Providers Incentives Task Force

This group reviews incentives aimed at promoting data contributions to the National Cooperator Database and explores current and alternative options.

Neal Smith, Chair, American Jersey Cattle Association
Robert Fourdraine, Dairy Records Management Systems
Susan Lee, Idaho DHIA
Katie Olson, ABS Global, Inc.

DATA COLLABORATORS

More than 60 organizations collect dairy farm data and, with farmer permission, transmit it to the National Cooperator Database to support the development of genetic evaluations and industry research.

Dairy Records Providers

- AgSource Dairy
- Arizona DHIA
- Capstone Dairy Data Services
- Central Counties DHIA
- CentralStar Cooperative
- Dairy One Cooperative
- DHI Cooperative
- Eastern Wisconsin DHIC
- Idaho DHIA
- Indiana State Dairy Association
- Integrated Milk Testing Services, LLC
- Jim Sousa Testing
- Lancaster DHIA
- Minnesota DHIA
- Puerto Rico DHIA
- Rocky Mountain DHIA
- Texas DHIA
- United Federation of DHIA's
- Washington State DHIA

Certified Genomic Nominators

- ABS Global, Inc.
- American Jersey Cattle Assoc.
- AWE Group-ELEVEO ASBL
- Beijing Compass Agricultural Technology Co. Ltd.
- Bio-Genesys Ltd.
- BIORASCO
- CRV USA
- Czech Moravian Breeders' Corp., Inc.
- Eurofins BioDiagnostics
- Eurofins Genomics Denmark A/S
- Genetic Visions-ST
- Holstein Association USA, Inc.
- Holstein Canada
- Labogena DNA
- MolBreeding Biotechnology
- National Association of Animal Breeders, Inc.
- Neogen GeneSeek Operations
- National Livestock and Fisheries Development Program
- PEAK Genetics
- SEENERGI
- Select Sires, Inc.
- Semex Alliance
- Sexing Technologies
- SYNERGY
- Zoetis

Dairy Records Processing Centers

- AgriTech Analytics
- AgSource Dairy
- Amelior
- Dairy Records Management Systems

Purebred Dairy Cattle Association

- American Guernsey Assoc.
- American Jersey Cattle Assoc.
- American Milking Shorthorn Society
- Brown Swiss Cattle Breeders' Assoc.
- Holstein Association USA
- U.S. Ayrshire Breeders' Assoc.

International Collaborators

- Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (U.K.)
- ANAFI (Italy)
- BSW InterGenomics
- CONAFE (Spain)
- CRV B.V. (Netherlands)
- Eleveo ASBL (Belgium)
- Interbull
- Lactanet (Canada)
- National Livestock Breeding Center (Japan)
- Nordic Cattle Genetic Evaluation (Denmark, Finland, Sweden)
- Qualitas (Switzerland)
- SYNERGY (Italy)
- VIT (Germany)

Certified Genomic Laboratories

- Beijing Compass Agricultural Technology Co. Ltd.
- Bio-Genesys Ltd.
- BIORASCO
- Czech Moravian Breeders' Corporation, Inc.
- Eurofins BioDiagnostics
- Eurofins Genomics Denmark A/S
- Genetic Visions-ST
- IFN Schönnow GmbH
- Labogena DNA
- MolBreeding Biotechnology
- Neogen GeneSeek Operations
- SEENERGI
- VHLGenetics
- Zoetis



CDCB-certified genomic nominators and genomic laboratories serve a worldwide customer base as evaluations Powered by CDCB continue to be recognized as a global standard.



NATIONAL COOPERATOR DATABASE

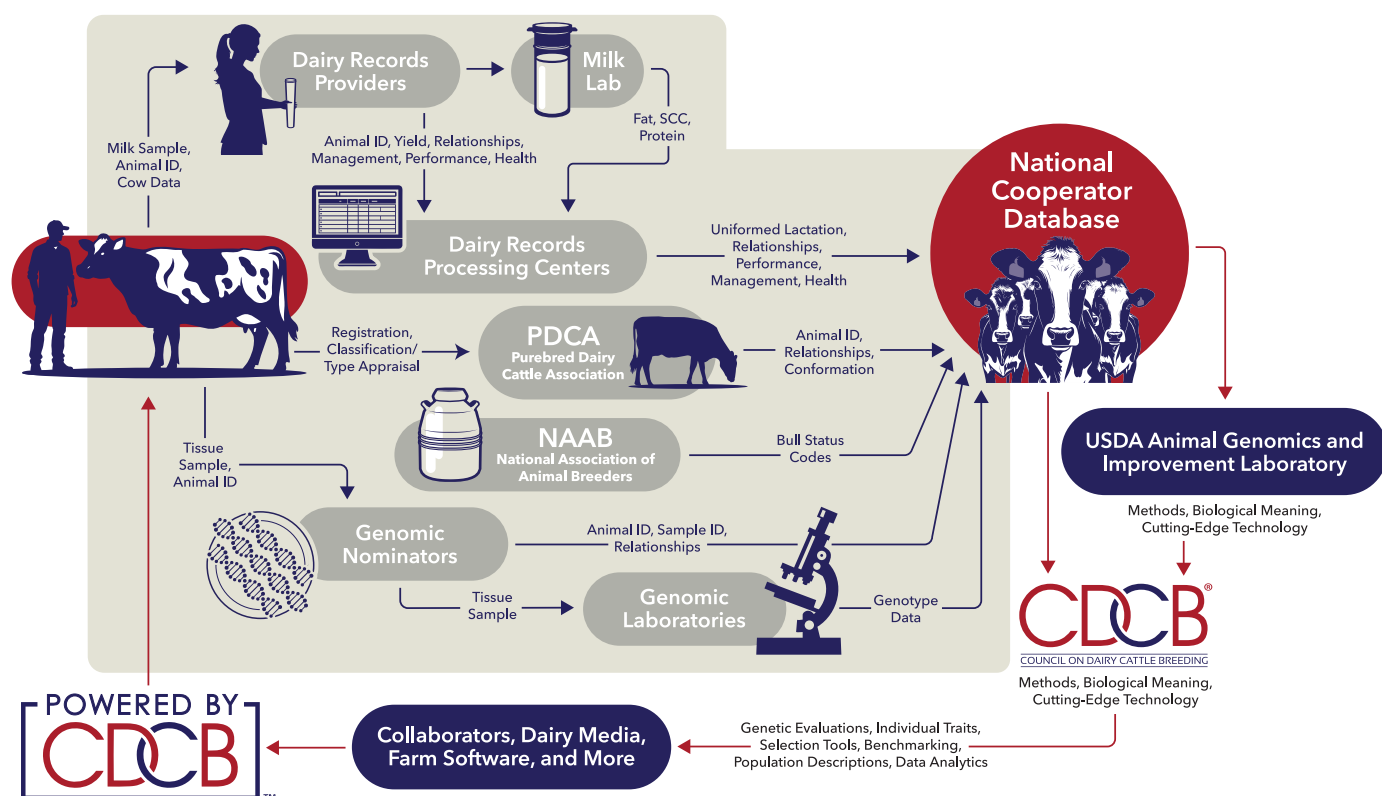
The National Cooperator Database has been built over several decades through cooperation by dairy producers, industry collaborators, international partners, and USDA. Combining unmatched data quantity with robust quality standards, it powers genetic evaluations that are viewed as the global standard. In 2013, stewardship of this industry resource was transferred from USDA to CDCB. It delivers value to dairy herds through genetic evaluations, national performance benchmarks, and research and development that leads to genetic improvement, all derived from the stored data. It is the engine that breeds better cows.

The accurate prediction of genetic values is possible through the integration of both phenotypic records and genotypes.

- Phenotypic (performance) data such as milk production and components, calving records, health events, and type evaluation comes from milk testing organizations, breed associations, dairy records processing centers, and research institutions. The National Dairy Herd Information Association and Quality Certification Services set data certification standards and uniform data collection procedures.
- Genotype data comes from laboratories and nominators that are quality-certified by CDCB and audited annually.

Why are phenotypes needed in the age of genomics? They give meaning to genetic data. While genomic information indicates how animals differ at the DNA level, phenotypes are needed to determine which genetic differences actually impact performance, health, or efficiency. A continuous flow of both accurate phenotypes and genotypes is needed to keep genetic and genomic models updated, refined, and validated over time. Animal records also allow for research into new genetic selection options and the development of new traits — including four since August 2025!

The “Powered by CDCB” mark lets dairy producers know the genetic information they are using comes from this objective, independent, and precompetitive source. They can be confident in the results that are based on actual cow performance data from 10,000 herds of all types of sizes across the U.S. that contribute to the National Cooperator Database.



CDCB BY THE NUMBERS

Outreach and Communications

Oct. 2025-Sept. 2026

61

INVITED TALKS
presented globally

53

PAPERS PUBLISHED
in conference proceedings
and academic journals

25+

**ARTICLE AND
PODCAST**
appearances

20

**EVENTS &
CONFERENCES**
attended globally

2,780

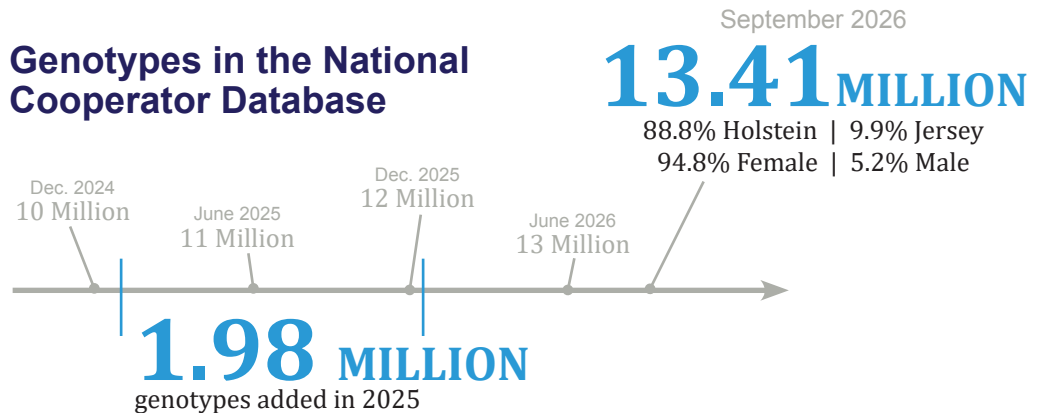
COWCAST LISTENS

1,125+

**NEW SOCIAL MEDIA
FOLLOWERS**

In 2025, the National Cooperator Database saw the largest annual genotype growth in history, with that pace continuing into 2026. Females now account for 94.8% of the total genotypes in the national database. A year ago, this was 93%. The total number of countries represented also grew from 72 to 77 this year.

Genotypes in the National Cooperator Database



August 2026 Official Evaluations

3 New Traits

First Service to Conception (FSC)
Resistance to Diarrhea (DIA)
Resistance to Respiratory Problems (RSP)

4 Revised Traits

Cow Conception Rate (CCR)
Daughter Pregnancy Rate (DPR)
Early First Calving (EFC)
Heifer Conception Rate (HCR)

94.8 MILLION ANIMALS

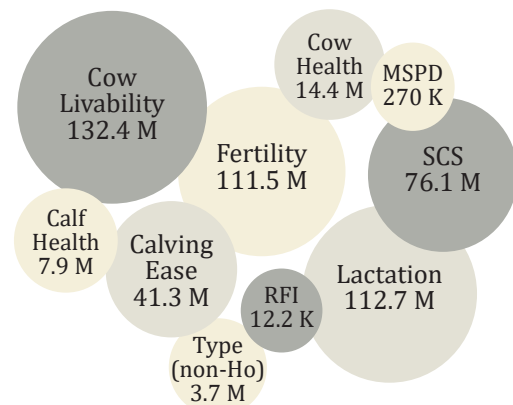
received a new evaluation Powered by CDCB in August 2026



Usable Genotypes by Breed

Ayrshire	22,896
Brown Swiss	98,282
Guernsey	12,966
Holstein	10,959,570
Jersey	1,044,950
Crossbred	480,019

Animal Records Used



3.07 MILLION

lactation records added to the National Cooperator Database in 2025

YEAR IN REVIEW

OCTOBER

Approximately 200 in-person and 375 virtual attendees joined the CDCB Industry Meeting, “Introducing the Next Genetic Tools,” at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis., on October 1.

During World Dairy Expo, George Wiggans, Ph.D., and Paul Van Raden, Ph.D., were jointly recognized as National Dairy Shrine Pioneers.

Dan Null joined CDCB as Senior Support Scientist.



JANUARY

Annual audit of genomic nominators and laboratories certified 25 nominators and 14 labs to share and receive data from CDCB. One more nominator and one more lab have since been certified.



FEBRUARY

The CDCB CowCast, a monthly webcast and podcast featuring

staff, producers, and industry guests discussing genetic and industry topics, launched.

Staff gathered at the office in Bowie, Md., for an in-person week of meetings and professional development.

NOVEMBER



“Data Fuels Genetic Improvement: Communicator Insights” webinar hosted for communications staff of data collaborators.

Chief Research and Development Officer John B. Cole, Ph.D., spoke at the International Girolando Congress in Uberlandia, Brazil.

DECEMBER

Over 91.5 million animals received an updated genetic evaluation.

- » The data extraction process for health phenotypes was refined.
- » Genomic evaluation software efficiency was improved.
- » Holstein Association USA adjusted the population for female type trait evaluation.

The Board of Directors met in Jacksonville, Fla., and was joined by the CDCB Producer Advisory Committee to discuss data incentives, genetic evaluation modernization, and producer needs.

The National Cooperator Database recorded its 12 millionth genotype just six months after the 11 millionth. In 2025, the database set a new annual record for genotyped animals added: 1,982,752.

MARCH

Data Fuels Genetic Improvement social media campaign launched.



APRIL

Approximately 93 million animals received an updated genetic evaluation.

- » The Breed Base Representation (BBR) reference population was updated.

The Board of Directors met in Columbus, Ohio, and approved implementing the female reproductive performance trait updates and new calf health traits in the August evaluations.

A new email newsletter for dairy producers, “Farm Focus,” launched.

Chief Research and Development Officer John B. Cole, Ph.D., was recognized as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

USDA geneticists Paul Van Raden, Ph.D., Curtis Van Tassell, Ph.D., and Randy Baldwin, Ph.D., received a Service to America medal for their work in dairy cattle DNA research and genetic testing.

JULY

Eleven staff members presented talks and posters at the 13th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production in Madison, Wis., which marked only the second time the conference has been held in the U.S.

Darrin Long joined CDCB as Principal Software Engineer.

Chief Data Officer José Carrillo, Ph.D., spoke at the Advanced Molecular Breeding Symposium in Shijiazhuang, China.



SEPTEMBER

CDCB began offering whole-genome SNP parentage verification certificates.

Chief Operation Officer Ezequiel Nicolazzi, Ph.D., celebrated 10 years with CDCB.

MAY

The CDCB Genomic Nominator and Laboratory Workshop in Washington, D.C., brought together staff from CDCB and 15 collaborating organizations to discuss animal genotypic data flow and data quality.

Seven staff members attended and presented at the joint International Committee on Animal Recording (ICAR) Annual Conference and Interbull Meeting in Verona, Italy.



JUNE

Livestock Data Analytics Expert Fiona Guinan, Ph.D., was recognized by the American Dairy Science Association with a Highly Cited Award for her 2023 *Journal of Dairy Science* paper, “Changes in genetic trends in U.S. dairy cattle since the implementation of genomic selection.”

The National Cooperator Database recorded its 13 millionth genotype.

Three new interns arrived for the 10th year of the CDCB internship program.

Pavan Pydiganta joined CDCB as Technical Project Manager; Vegas Martin joined CDCB as Executive Assistant; and Rick Demory joined CDCB as Data Engineer.

AUGUST

Nearly 95 million animals received an updated genetic evaluation.

- » DPR, CCR, HCR, and EFC revisions implemented.
- » New traits First Service to Conception (FSC), Resistance to Diarrhea (DIA), and Resistance to Respiratory Problems (RSP) introduced.

The Board of Directors and Producer Advisory Committee both met in Bowie, Md., to discuss evaluation modernization policies and hear research and project updates, respectively.

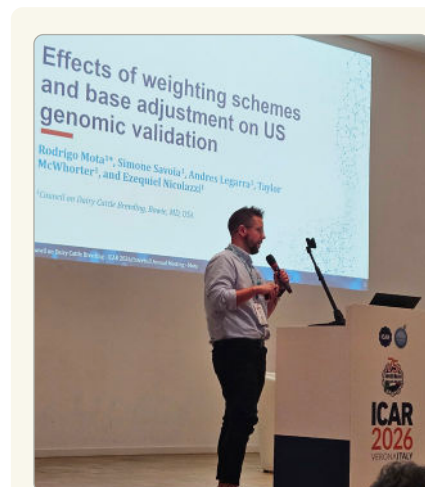
Maggie Tetlak joined CDCB as Data Support Specialist.

OUT AND ABOUT

Over the past year, CDCB's presence continued to grow in the United States and around the globe through invited talks, podcast appearances, submitted papers in journals, and articles in trade publications. Staff members could also be found in audiences and on industry committees learning alongside producers and fellow colleagues.

Genomic Nominator and Laboratory Workshop

CDCB welcomed staff from 15 data collaborators to Washington, D.C., in May for the 2026 Genomic Nominator and Laboratory Workshop to discuss quality guidelines, new technologies, animal identification, and more.



ICAR and Interbull

During the joint International Committee on Animal Recording (ICAR) Annual Conference and Interbull Annual Meeting in Verona, Italy, seven CDCB team members gave invited presentations.

World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production

Fourteen CDCB team members and all three summer interns attended the World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production in Madison, Wis., in July. They gave eight talks, presented five posters, and networked with animal breeders from around the world.



Work Showcased

John Cole
Taylor McWhorter
Ezequiel Nicolazzi
Ashley Ling
Xiao-Lin (Nick) Wu
Rodrigo Mota
Fiona Guinan
Andres Legarra
Kristen Gaddis
Simone Savoia

How does the continuous addition of new traits affect U.S. selection indices?
Aligning U.S. reproductive performance evaluations with contemporary dairy cattle
Extending ICAR parentage verification certification to whole-genome SNP comparisons
Genomic reliabilities for a prospective hoof health trait in U.S. dairy cattle genetic evaluations
Modeling asymmetrical misclassification errors for genetic evaluations of binary traits
GEBV validation using truncated MACE
Genetics of dairy cow resilience in U.S. Holsteins
How to compare genetic trends estimates across models and software
Implementation of a national genetic evaluation for calf health traits in the U.S.
Replacing unknown parent groups with metafounders in traditional pedigree-based U.S. dairy genetic evaluations

CDCB Industry Meeting

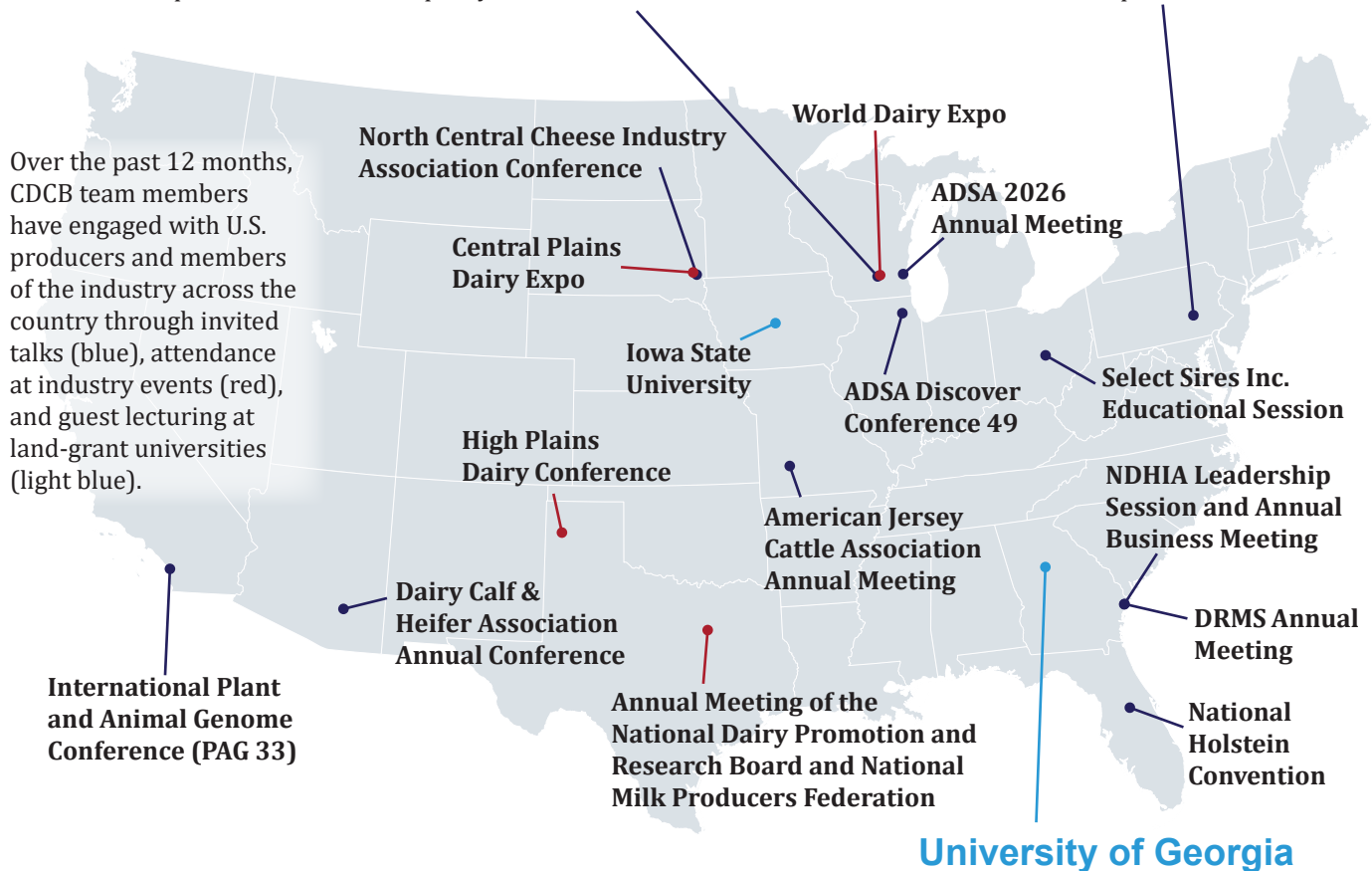


The 11th annual CDCB Industry Meeting, "Introducing the Next Genetic Tools," was hosted at World Dairy Expo on Wednesday, October 1. The program highlighted worked surrounding upcoming traits to address calf health, hoof health, and reproductive performance. A producer panel took the stage to discuss, "Cows Can Live Longer — Are We Letting Them?" after a brief presentation on the topic by Dr. Albert De Vries.

Pennsylvania Dairy Summit



Katie Schmitt, CDCB Industry Relations Manager, presented "The Data that Makes Better Cows" to an audience of producers at the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit in February. The presentation focused on the management data that has additional value for genetic progress when shared with the National Cooperator Database.



Preparing for More

In August, CDCB team members participated in a training with strategic communications partner Look East to further position staff as a speaker resource to the dairy and scientific communities.

Contact Katie Schmitt, katie.schmitt@uscdb.com, to request a CDCB expert for your next meeting or conference!



Senior Geneticist Andres Legarra, Ph.D., and Geneticist Simone Savoia, Ph.D., helped instruct students attending a UGA short course on programming and computer algorithms in animal breeding.

GENETIC EVALUATIONS

At a glance...

In the last year, the following changes were made for each official triannual evaluation:

December 2025

- Genomic evaluation software and pipeline efficiency improved
- Data edits implemented for health phenotypes
- Transitioned results from anonymous FTP to secure HTTPS access
- More animals able to be included in Holstein Association USA type evaluations

April 2026

- Annual Breed Base Representation (BBR) reference population updated

August 2026

- Female reproductive performance trait review implemented
 - » DPR, CCR, HCR, and EFC calculations updated
 - » FSC introduced
- RSP and DIA introduced for Holsteins and Jerseys

2027 EVALUATIONS*

April 6
August 10
December 7



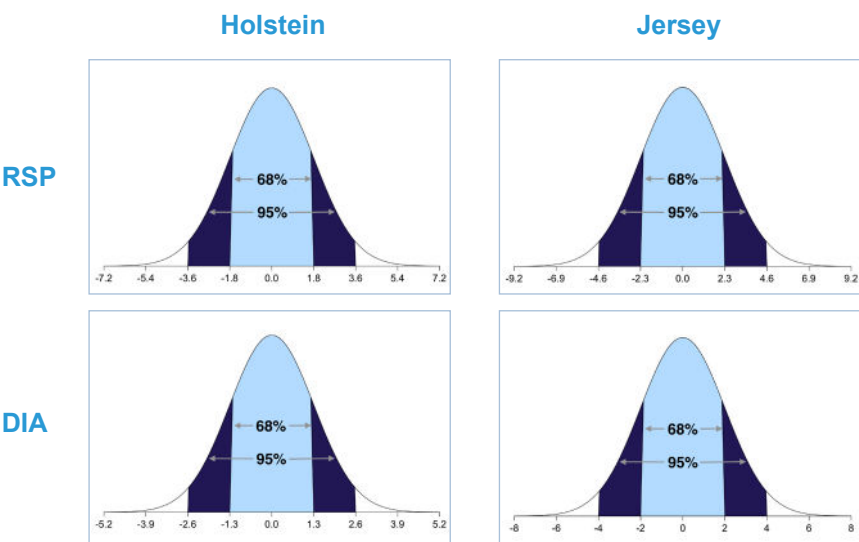
**These dates are subject to change in accordance with the future implementation of single-step methodology and monthly evaluations. See page 18 for more details.*

First National Calf Health Traits Available

Raising replacement animals is one of the costliest aspects of dairy production, and calfhood disease makes it even more expensive. After CDCB first introduced cow health traits in 2018, research began on applying similar methodology to calf health. Scientists at USDA's Animal Genomics and Improvement Laboratory and CDCB studied calf health records stored in the National Cooperator Database, most of which were for the two most common calfhood diseases: respiratory disease and scours.

To develop the new traits, the research team used more than 768,000 records of respiratory disease in animals between 3 and 365 days old and more than 200,000 diarrhea records in calves between 3 and 60 days. In August, Resistance to Respiratory Problems (RSP) and Resistance to Diarrhea (DIA) became available for Holsteins and Jerseys, which had the most records in the database.

RSP and DIA predict the expected resistance of an animal's offspring to calfhood respiratory disease or diarrhea, expressed in percentage points above or below the breed average. Larger, positive PTAs are desirable, indicating greater resistance. The graphs below show where 68% and 95% of Holstein and Jersey bulls fall in relation to their breed average PTAs based on standard deviations.



For Further Reading

Neupane et al. 2025. Improving dairy calf health through inclusion of diarrhea and respiratory health data into a U.S. national genetic evaluation. J. Dairy Sci. 108:11164-11172.

Neupane et al. 2026. Implementation of a national genetic evaluation for calf health traits in the U.S. In: 13th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production 23590.

Reintroducing Reproductive Performance Traits

A genetic evaluation for female reproductive performance was first available in 2003 with the introduction of Daughter Pregnancy Rate (DPR). Six years later, Cow Conception Rate (CCR) and Heifer Conception Rate (HCR) were added, and in 2019, Early First Calving (EFC) was introduced. Over these last two decades, reproductive management has changed substantially: the adoption of synchronization programs, greater use of sexed and beef semen, and variable voluntary waiting periods (VWPs) have all impacted a cow's reproductive performance. In 2024, a foundational review of the reproductive trait portfolio began to assess how the current traits were keeping up with modern reproduction and farm practices.

In August 2026, following extensive testing, review by CDCB's GEM and DERT committees, and validation by Interbull, 10 changes were implemented to the reproductive performance traits, including the introduction of First Service to Conception. These updates better capture an animal's genetic capability rather than a farm's management choices around breeding and timing.

What is First Service to Conception (FSC)?

FSC is an interval trait measured as the number of days from an animal's first service to the insemination that results in a confirmed pregnancy. It captures reproductive performance independent of VWP. FSC PTA predicts a cow's genetic ability to conceive after her first insemination. It is measured in days, and a positive PTA is more desirable.

Trait	Expressed In	Application
Daughter Pregnancy Rate (DPR)	Percent (%)	Useful for farms that use a herd-level VWP
Cow Conception Rate (CCR)	Percent (%)	Best for farms that want to improve conception rate success per service
First Service to Conception (FSC)	Days	Useful for farms that apply VWP on an individual cow basis

Interpreting FSC PTAs

All PTAs are expressed as deviations from a breed average. A Holstein bull with an FSC PTA of +5.0, for example, is expected to have daughters that take five fewer days (50.60 days) to conceive after their first service, compared to the August 2026 breed base of 55.60 days. On the other hand, a Holstein bull with an FSC PTA of -5.0 is expected to have daughters that take five additional days to conceive on average (60.60 days).

For Further Reading

Graham et al. 2026. Accounting for voluntary waiting period changes in U.S. dairy herds: Adjusting daughter pregnancy rate and introducing first-service to conception. J. Dairy Sci. <https://doi.org/10.3168/jds.2026-28734>.

McWhorter et al. 2026. Refinement of U.S. reproductive performance evaluations for the modern dairy herd. Interbull Bulletin Vol. 62.

McWhorter et al. 2025. Foundational review of U.S. female fertility trait evaluations. Interbull Bulletin Vol. 61.

McWhorter et al. 2026. Aligning U.S. reproductive performance evaluations with contemporary dairy cattle. In: 13th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production 23632.

The 10 Changes

1. Utilize herd-year and lactation group-specific VWP in the calculation of DPR instead of a fixed 50 days and 20-day grace period
2. Implement First Service to Conception (FSC)
3. Account for service sire breed in addition to mating type and short cycling in CCR and HCR pre-adjustments
4. Reduce data-driven bias in young bulls' PTAs by waiting to include daughter data in DPR, CCR, and FSC until 36 months after a cow's birth
5. Apply stricter edits to raw data
6. Improve programs that extract raw data from the National Cooperator Database
7. Include a days-in-milk at first insemination covariable in CCR and FSC
8. Move EFC to a single-trait model
9. Employ stricter convergence criteria in the iterative solving procedure
10. Estimate new variance components

Modernizing the Genetic Evaluation System

The most significant change for the U.S. genetic evaluation system since the introduction of genomic evaluations in 2008 is approaching.

Over the past five years, the team at CDCB has been investigating the potential transition to single-step genomic best linear unbiased prediction (ssGBLUP) evaluations. Developed at the University of Georgia, single-step is a methodology that considers pedigree, genotype, and phenotypic information in one step.

While other species and countries have successfully implemented single-step, road blocks prevented an earlier adoption by the U.S. dairy genetic system, including the size of the database and system. Including the hiring of Andres Legarra, one of the creators of ssGBLUP, in 2023 and Simone Savoia in 2025, CDCB has heavily invested in research, development, and solutions to the challenges blocking the implementation.

The move to single-step is the catalyst for a complete modernization of the U.S. dairy genetic evaluation system from end-to-end. It provides the opportunity to adopt an annual genetic base change, monthly evaluations, and a modern publication and distribution policy.

Development of the system and improvements to the model continue to progress at CDCB, though a timeline for implementation in the industry has not yet been determined.



Sign up for the CDCB Connection to receive updates about this project and other happenings at CDCB by scanning the QR code.



The current genetic evaluation system has been built piece by piece over many years and remains effective, similar to a generational dairy farm that has gradually evolved. However, it lacks some modern efficiencies. Similar to building a dairy on a "green site," evaluation modernization provides the opportunity to build a new system with both current and future needs in mind from the ground up. (Credit: Lester Buildings)

What Will Change with Modernization

- Evaluations with the most up-to-date phenotypic information will be published monthly instead of triannually.
- The genetic base will be updated annually instead of every five years.
- Some traits (Productive Life, calving traits, and low heritability traits) will be revised.
- Traditional and genomic information will be blended into a single evaluation and calculated using ssGBLUP.

What Won't Change with Modernization

- Genetic evaluations for 50-plus traits and the Lifetime Merit Indexes will continue to be produced by CDCB using the National Cooperator Database.
- Holstein Association USA will continue producing Holstein type evaluations.
- Weekly evaluations, parentage verification, haplotype calls, and Quick Turnaround services will remain.
- Interbull collaboration for validation and international exchange will continue.

For Further Reading

Legarra and Aguilar. 2025. Tools to refine unknown parent group definitions. *J. Dairy Sci.* 108(2):1747-1756.

Tabet et al. 2025. Correcting overestimation of approximate traditional reliabilities with herd-sire interactions when young genomic bulls are used in a few herds. *Genet. Sel. Evol.* 57(1):33.

Tabet et al. 2025. Computational and modeling approaches for U.S. threshold genetic evaluations of calving ease. *JDS Comm.* 7:191-194.

Savoia et al. 2026. Modernizing U.S. calving ease evaluation under single-step. *Interbull Bulletin Vol.* 62.

Savoia et al. 2026. Replacing unknown parent groups with metafounders in traditional pedigree-based U.S. dairy genetic evaluations. In: 13th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production 23589.

SERVICES AND DATA

Whole-Genome SNP Parentage Verification Certificates

CDCB performs SNP-based parentage verification and discovery services at the reception of every genotype. In March 2019, CDCB was certified by the International Committee on Animal Recording (ICAR) as a SNP-based parentage verification center, also known as a DNA Data Interpretation Center. ICAR certification for parentage validation centers is recognized as the international standard.



**CERTIFIED DNA DATA
INTERPRETATION CENTRE**
for Parentage Verification by SNP

Since then, countries have gradually transitioned from microsatellites/SSR/STR-based parentage certificates to SNP-based approaches. A CDCB-led initiative with the ICAR DNA working group resulted in an update to ICAR guidelines in May 2026 to extend parentage certification to whole-genome SNP data.

CDCB began offering whole-genome SNP parentage verification certificates in September 2026. These certificates can be used to meet export requirements for U.S. animals into global markets. This service is currently available to U.S.-based genomic

nominators, breed associations, and NAAB at no additional cost, and the certificates may be printed and/or shared to any third party without CDCB consent. To request service, users must submit a file containing parentage information, including target animal, sire, and dam IDs. SNP genotype data of the target animal must also already be loaded in the National Cooperator Database.

For Further Reading

Nicolazzi et al. 2026. Extending ICAR parentage verification certification to whole-genome SNP comparisons. In: 13th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production 23419.



CDCB data collaborators can learn more about this service by following the QR code to the Redmine documentation page.

Finding Haplotypes More Effectively

A "haplotype" refers to any short section of DNA inherited together by an offspring from its dam or sire. They are often referred to with a negative connotation because they are a useful tool to find genetic conditions and lethal recessives. But some haplotypes have neutral or even desired effects, such as polled or coat color. In either case, knowing the carrier status of a population's males and females allows breeders to make informed mating decisions.

CDCB staff recently reviewed and improved the methodology for identifying polled haplotypes, specifically, to produce haplotype calls that are more consistent with gene test results and phenotypic status. Subsequently, a machine learning model for predicting haplotype carrier status was developed. In testing, the "HapchIQ" system showed high accuracy and avoided the need for complete reimputation of genotypes.

Meetings with breed association staff and NAAB helped inform a proposed implementation timeline. Test files for Brown Swiss Haplotype 6 (BH6) and polled for Brown Swiss, Holstein, and Jersey were first distributed in August 2026. During this testing period, feedback is being collected to confirm accuracy and finalize the prediction pipeline. If no major concerns are found during testing, the results will likely be made official in the December 2026 evaluations.

Enhancing Data Ingestion

The National Cooperator Database is the largest storehouse of animal information in the world. Consider that just in 2025, over 3 million lactation records were added! Farm records like these flow into the database from dairy records processing centers through software infrastructure developed over three decades. CDCB is working to update and expand this data ingestion process to ensure the system continues to support the industry by making use of new technologies and skills.

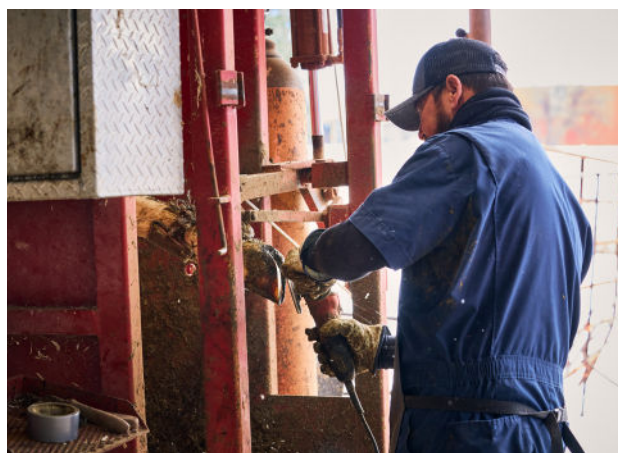
ONGOING RESEARCH

Applying Lameness and Hoof Health Data to Genetic Evaluations

CDCB researchers have continued to investigate how lameness and hoof health records in the National Cooperator Database — and generated by on-farm camera systems — can be used to develop genetic tools to select for animals with fewer mobility and hoof health problems. Preliminary estimates of heritability indicate 2.2% for infectious lesions (digital and interdigital dermatitis, abscesses, heel erosion, and foot rot) and 1.4% for other, noninfectious lesions using hoof health data stored in the database. These heritabilities are similar to those of other traits dairy producers have successfully selected for, including health and reproductive traits. They indicate that progress is gradual but cumulative and therefore possible over time.

In initial testing completed so far, between 500,000 and 800,000 phenotypic records have been utilized for each of the two intended traits, infectious lesions and noninfectious lesions. Using records of which cows experience a hoof lesion and which do not, genetic predictions of hoof health can be modelled similar to how genetic evaluations for diseases like mastitis and ketosis are calculated.

CDCB is also part of a project additionally funded by the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research to develop potential genetic evaluations from mobility data captured by on-farm camera systems. So far, 12 herds have shared daily mobility scores, collected by the CattleEye system, on roughly 80,000 cows for research purposes.



Early estimates suggest that hoof health, as measured by lesion incidence, and mobility, as measured by automatic monitoring, are moderately genetically correlated. While similar, they represent distinct ways of addressing the core issue of lameness. Currently, CDCB geneticists are investigating a potential mobility selection trait in addition to traits specifically addressing hoof health from on-farm records.

Measuring Enteric Methane Emissions

Identifying and selecting animals that produce less enteric methane while maintaining high levels of productivity could be a vital piece of dairy farm sustainability moving forward. Through a project co-funded with the Greener Cattle Initiative, research data collection of methane emissions remains ongoing at collaborating institutions and commercial farms. Phenotyping has increased to 4,500 cows. Results so far show that methane emission traits are heritable and repeatable, and methane production is favorably correlated with feed efficiency, which CDCB continues to support with the processing of residual feed intake records for genetic evaluations.

For Further Reading

Ling et al. 2026. Genomic reliabilities for a prospective hoof health trait in U.S. dairy cattle genetic evaluations. In: 13th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production 23806.

Bilginer et al. 2026. Genetic parameters of methane emissions traits in U.S. Holstein cows. In: 13th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production 24220.

Martinez-Boggio et al. 2026. Predicting methane production in dairy cows using milk spectra and genomic data. In: 13th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production 23507.

Martinez-Boggio et al. 2026. Lifetime Net Merit Index (\$NM) and the correlated response on methane emissions. In: 13th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production 23717.

Putting Milk Samples to Work



Taking a milk sample for testing allows lactation yields to be predicted, components to be evaluated, and even additional biomarkers to be identified. CDCB has been collecting milk samples to help update estimation factors for production traits, assess fatty acid references, and understand how information from lab infrared spectrometry can facilitate novel trait development.

Data collection is nearing completion on the estimation factors project, with more than 615,000 milk samples collected from 11 farms so far. This dataset is being used to understand errors in test-day estimates, assess the accuracy of current prediction models, and develop new and updated models for daily yield estimates. This work is crucial in disseminating accurate lactation predictions that influence genetic evaluations for yield traits.

Infrared spectrometry is a technique used by milk analysis labs to determine a milk sample's fat, protein, lactose, and milk urea nitrogen (MUN) content. This spectral data could also be used to determine insight on other animal biomarkers. In collaboration with European Milk Recording and Walloon Agricultural Research Center in Belgium, a six-month testing period to assess indirect and direct standardization methodologies within the U.S. DHI instrument network is beginning in the fall of 2026. At the end of this period, the standardization methods will be deployed on a routine basis.

For Further Reading

Wu et al. 2026. Identifying data anomalies in milk component measurements from partial-day milking records. JDS Comm. 7:204-209.

Wu et al. 2026. An analytical framework for prediction accuracy of estimated daily yields in three-times-daily milking herds. JDS Comm. <https://doi.org/10.3168/jdsc.2026-1072>.

Wu et al. 2026. Reassessing Wiggans' method for estimating daily yields in 3x milking systems: What have we learned over four decades? Interbull Bulletin Vol. 62.

Supporting Dairy Research Around the Country

One strategic purpose of the National Cooperator Database is to provide current and historical data to assist in research and development tools that support dairy cattle improvement. In addition to internal work and projects at USDA AGIL, university partners across the country may be granted access to the phenotypic, genotypic, and pedigree information shared with and stored in the database for approved research projects. Researchers at the following schools have put dairy farmer data to work for the industry.

UC DAVIS



UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY



NC STATE UNIVERSITY



UConn
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT



VT
VIRGINIA TECH



INTERNSHIP RESEARCH

In 2026, CDCB welcomed its 10th cohort of summer interns to participate in research projects in collaboration with staff and USDA scientists. Each year, internship projects are chosen based on industry need as well as student interests, supporting the dairy community and future scientists at the same time. The work of these three students provides valuable insights to future genetic evaluation tools.



Alejandra Álvarez

Ph.D. student at the University of Georgia

Project: Multi-trait analysis of calf health traits

Objectives: Evaluate HLX, RSP, and DIA within a multi-trait modeling framework that accounts for genetic correlations among traits, estimate variance components and genetic correlations among traits, and provide a recommendation for the most appropriate modeling approach for the traits.

Conclusions:

- Estimated genetic parameters were similar to those reported in the literature, with moderate genetic correlations observed among the traits.
- The multi-trait model improved estimated breeding value reliability and reduced prediction bias.
- Results support the feasibility of implementing a multiple-trait U.S. national genetic evaluation for these three traits in the future.

Project: Implications of errors in response modelling in test-day and lactation yield and genetic evaluations

Objectives: Evaluate how measurement errors in test-day milk records affect predicted lactation yield and subsequent genetic evaluations, understand measurement errors in partial milkings and how they propagate, and develop strategies for mitigating the impact of such errors.

Conclusions:

- Errors can propagate from partial milk yield to daily milk yields and subsequently to lactation milk yield.
- Errors can then be incorporated into genetic evaluations, affecting variance components and heritabilities.
- Errors can be corrected and calibrated to the original scale.



Adebisi Ogunbawo

Ph.D. student at Purdue University



Sergio Sanchez

Ph.D. student at the University of Georgia

Project: Variance component estimation and development of novel camera-based mobility traits

Objectives: Propose novel definitions of cow mobility traits based on camera-derived phenotypes, estimate variance components for various trait definitions of cow mobility, and estimate genetic correlations between newly-developed mobility traits and established traits.

Conclusions:

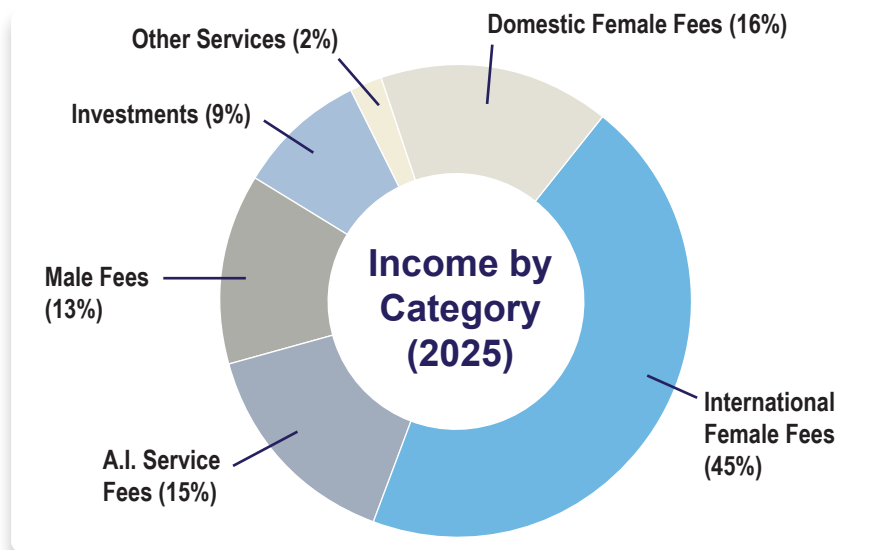
- Camera-based mobility traits showed meaningful genetic variation, with heritability estimates ranging from 3% to 22%.
- Novel mobility traits showed biologically meaningful genetic relationships with established health, production, reproduction, and functional traits.
- Large scale camera data is an opportunity to address dairy cattle lameness.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Demand for CDCB genetic evaluations showcases the value that the U.S. and international dairy industries place on quality data, methodologies, and results. Service fees, as shown below, drive income that is then invested in continually improving the genetic evaluation system.

CDCB's research and innovation components have grown consistently in recent years to ensure that relevant selection traits continue to be introduced to the industry and that existing traits remain useful. Pages 20 to 22 describe current projects underway, and pages 16 and 17 illustrate how recent research into calf health and reproductive performance have been implemented in the industry. Evaluation modernization efforts including single-step processes and data ingestion improvements are designed to set the system up with modern efficiencies and for future needs. See pages 18 and 19 for more information on this work. Finally, education plays an important role in helping the industry apply genetic selection tools effectively. Pages 14 and 15 show some of these efforts of the past year.

This work would not be possible without the continuous flow of dairy farm records into the National Cooperator Database. To encourage these contributions, dairy producers who share milk yield, conformation, and/or health records with the national database receive credits on female genomic testing.



In 2025, U.S. data-contributing producers saved a combined

\$1.46 million

on female genomic testing.

Credits available on each female genomic test for U.S. producers:

Female born in a U.S. herd.....	\$4
Milk yield data provider.....	\$2
Conformation data provider....	\$1
Health data provider.....	\$1

Dedicated oversight by the CDCB Finance Committee and Board of Directors, coupled with another strong year of investment performance, has positioned CDCB well for continued success in serving the dairy industry.

	2025	2024
Net Assets, Beginning	\$17,666,641	\$15,791,633
Total Revenues	\$12,783,264	\$10,806,691
Total Cost of Operations	\$12,302,270	\$9,294,800
Net Assets, Ending	\$18,755,947	\$17,666,641

Investments in Projects Supporting the Dairy Industry (2025)

58% Research and Innovation

35% Evaluation Modernization

7% Industry Education



COUNCIL ON DAIRY CATTLE BREEDING

4201 Northview Drive, Suite 302 • Bowie, Maryland 20716

www.uscdcb.com

