



Minnesota 4-H Dairy Production and Genetic Information for Cows

Reviewed May 2026

Due: Aug. 3 at Animal Science night

County _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Animal Birthdate: (Month/Day/Year) _____

Phone Number _____ Breed _____

Registration Name or Barn Name/Number: _____

Registration Number or Cow Permanent ID: _____

All dairy exhibitors of cows are strongly encouraged to provide genetic and/or production information. Cows' Genetic Values for Net Merit Dollar Value (NM\$) will be used to rank cows in the Total Merit placings. For cows that have been genomically tested, the genomically enhanced NM\$ will be used to rank cows. The CDCB publishes PTAs for NM\$ for eligible DHIA cows with sire ID's. If a cow does not have a PTA for NM\$, to be eligible for the Total Merit class, animals must be sired by a bull with a published PTA NM\$ or by a young A.I. bull with a pedigree index. The dam must have a PTA NM\$ or the dam's sire must have a published PTA NM\$.

Where to find the genetic information:

- A. The CDCB offers the most up-to-date genetic information site (<https://www.uscdcb.com/>). Click on "WebConnect". Or click on <https://webconnect.uscdcb.com/#/queries> This step is free but now required to get information.
- B. A cow PTA NM\$ may be obtained by clicking on "Animal ID (17 bytes/ Animal ID)". Enter 1-letter breed code (eg. H for Holstein) and ID number (registration number (eg. H15862265)); Complete RFID code with 2-letter breed code and 15-digit RFID (eg. HO840003008328790); or breed and DHIA ear tag number (eg. H41WUC6326). Sire or dam information can be found in a similar manner.
- C. Another source of information is the Predicted Transmitting Ability report (DHI-250) or the Cow Page (sent to DHIA clients after each genetic evaluation). If these are not available, sire values may be found on the DHI Reproductive Report, USDA sire summary lists or from A.I. stud information.

NM\$ Genetic Value

Cow PTA NM\$ x 2 = Cow NM\$ Genetic Value

If the cow PTA NM\$ is unavailable the following formula is used:

=

Sire PTA NM\$ + Dam PTA NM\$ = Cow NM\$ Genetic Value

If the cow PTA NM\$ and the Dam PTA NM\$ are unavailable the following formula is used:

Sire PTA NM\$ + $\frac{1}{2}$ x Dam's Sire PTA NM\$ = Cow NM\$ Genetic Value

Complete as much information as possible. It may help with the verification of the genetic values.

Sire's Registration Name: _____

Sire's Registration number: _____

Sire's NAAB Code: _____

Sire's PTA NM\$: _____

Dam's Reg Name or Barn Name/Number: _____ Dam's Sire's Name: _____

_____ Dam's Sire's Name Registration number: _____

Registration or Permanent ID: _____ Dam's Sire's Name NAAB Code: _____

PTA NM\$: _____ Dam's Sire's Name PTA NM\$: _____

To be eligible for the dairy production class, a cow must have either a) 305 days in milk, or b) a completed record. If a lactating cow has not milked at least 305 days in her current lactation, her most recent 305-d or completed previous lactation should be used. First lactation animals with less than 305 days in milk are not eligible for the production class but exhibitors should still provide the genetics information. [Average ME production by breeds is here.](#)

Production information will be used in the following ways:

1. reported in the show catalog;
2. used to rank the animals for ribbon placings in the dairy production class.

Ranking will be based on the combined value of ME milk, fat, and protein. The formula for \$ Value is:

$[(.031 \times \text{ME milk lb}) + (2.10 \times \text{ME fat lb}) + (2.17 \times \text{ME protein lb})]$.

The preferred source of the production information is the DHI Cow Page. If a cow page is not available, 305-2X-Milk ME can be obtained from Dairy Comp 305 or Scout (under PrevLacts tab), PCDart (under F5-Lact tab), or the DHIA Lactation Report (DHI-312). In cases where only the standardized 305 ME milk is available, the \$ Value is calculated by multiplying standardized ME milk x \$0.1743.

Please include a photocopy of the Cow Page or computer printout from your software program for verification.

If you have any questions, contact Brad Heins, dairy specialist, at (320) 589-1711 ext. 2118.

COW PAGE		Test Date: 03-13-2010 Processed: 03-14-2010		55-99-9999 HENRY SMITH		String 1																																																																																																																																																																																																																		
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1 Calving Date of Most Recent Record: ____ / ____ / ____
(Complete or at least 305 days) Month Day Year

2 Lactation # ____

3 305-2X-ME ____
Milk Lbs.

4 ____
Fat Lbs.

5 ____
Protein Lbs.

6 Process Date of Cow Page: ____ / ____ / ____
Month Day Year

7 ____
sire name or ____
sire code

8 DHIA 8-digit herdcode: ____