

# *Documentos*

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## **Girolando Breed Genetic Improvement Program / Sire Summary / Progeny Test Results / June 2016**



*Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation  
Embrapa Dairy Cattle  
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply*

# ***Documents 190***

## **Girolando Breed Genetic Improvement Program Sire Summary Progeny Test Results - June/2016**

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Embrapa Dairy Cattle  
Juiz de Fora, MG  
2016

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# Presentation

The successful history of Girolando, which was initialized with the first official registration of the breed in 1996 by the Ministry of Agriculture, is been outlined along with its development, and have been strongly supported by genetic improvement initiatives held by the Girolando Breeders Association and Embrapa Dairy Cattle. Those initiatives include the progeny test, established in 1997, and the Girolando Breed Genetic Improvement Program, established in 2007.

The partnership between Girolando Breeders Association and Embrapa Dairy Cattle, held in order to produce and release this summary in behalf of the Girolando breed, involves efforts of a staff composed of approximately one hundred people, working in several fields of animal production and science. Their work encompasses from registering field data, prospecting, organizing and managing partner herds, by the Girolando association; until treating, storing and analyzing data, as well as designing and publishing this present document. Hence, as a result of this work, the Girolando Sire Summary and Progeny Test Results contain a synthesis of several information that are greatly valuable for producers as well as for the community that shares interest in the Girolando breed.

This Sire Summary/Progeny Test Results document has innovative tools and resources, for breeders and/or other professionals. Those include information regarding molecular markers, the Girolando Linear Evaluation System (SALG) and the updated genetic evaluation of age at first calving. The methods for analysis were modified for this current evaluation and are detailed further in this document.

Still, in order to convert this work into effective benefit for the Girolando breed, it is important that producers and people working in the field apply, more and more, those results as a primary source of information to support managerial decisions for improvement of their herds.

*Paulo do Carmo Martins*  
General Manager  
Embrapa Dairy Cattle



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# **Girolando Breed Genetic Improvement Program**

## **Sire Summary**

## **Progeny Test Results - June/2015**

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### **1. Introduction**

The Girolando breed progeny test was established in 1997, as a result of the partnership between Girolando and Embrapa Dairy Cattle. In 2007, the Programa de Melhoramento Genético da Raça Girolando – PMGG (Genetic Improvement Program of the Girolando Breed) was implemented. Besides interacting with previously existing initiatives of the Girolando Breeders Association, such as the genealogical register service, the progeny test and the dairy control service, the PMGG launched the Linear Evaluation System (SLAG). The main objectives of the PMGG comprises identification of genetically superior individuals, the technically-oriented multiplication of genetics, the evaluation of economic traits and the promotion of sustainable dairy activities.

The Program's results are remarkable. Currently, Girolando has the most growing rates of semen production in Brazil. More than 641,360 semen doses from Girolando sires were produced in 2015, representing an increase of more than 70%, in comparison to 2013. The increased milk yield during the first three lactations of Girolando cows is another important achievement of this Program. The average milk yield in up to 305 days a year of Girolando cows was 3,703 kg in 2000 and, in 2014, reached 5,220 kg, representing a rise of 41%.

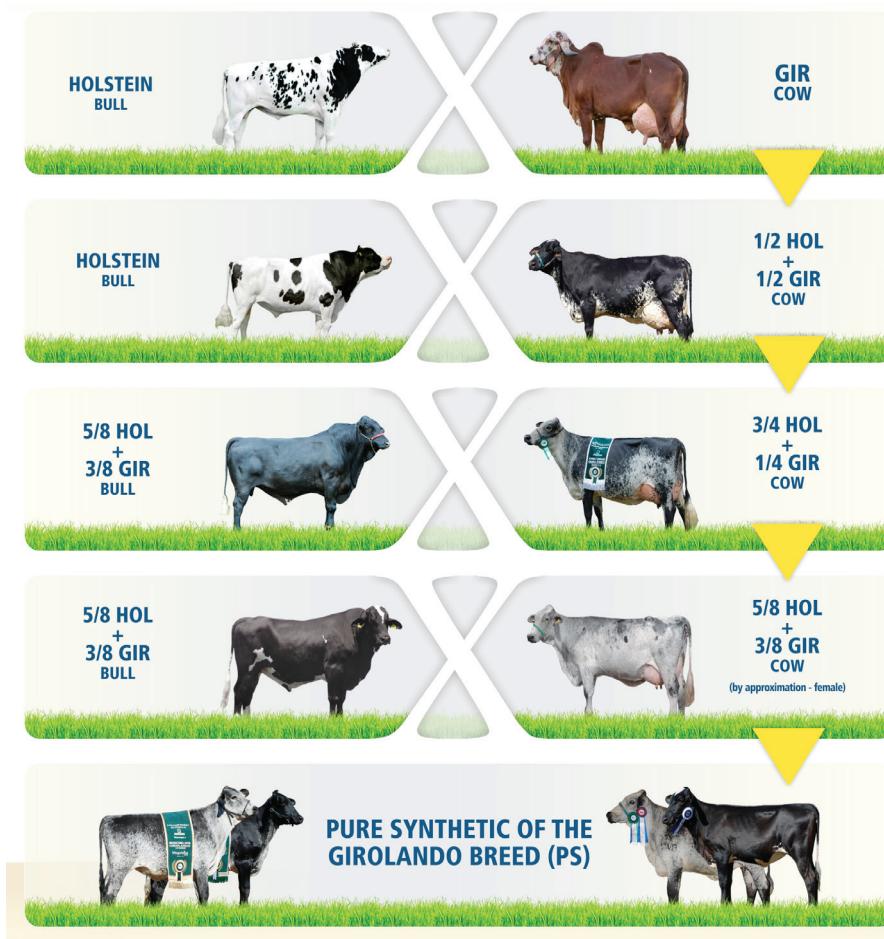
As a consequence of those and other factors, Girolando is achieving more recognition, nationally and internationally, and therefore, is being considered the preferable dairy breed in tropical regions. Because Girolando animals are capable to sustain an acceptable production level when raised in diverse types of management systems and environmental conditions, the breed is widely accepted in Brazilian dairy systems. In fact, 80% of the milk produced in the country originates from Girolando cows.

### **2. History of the Breed**

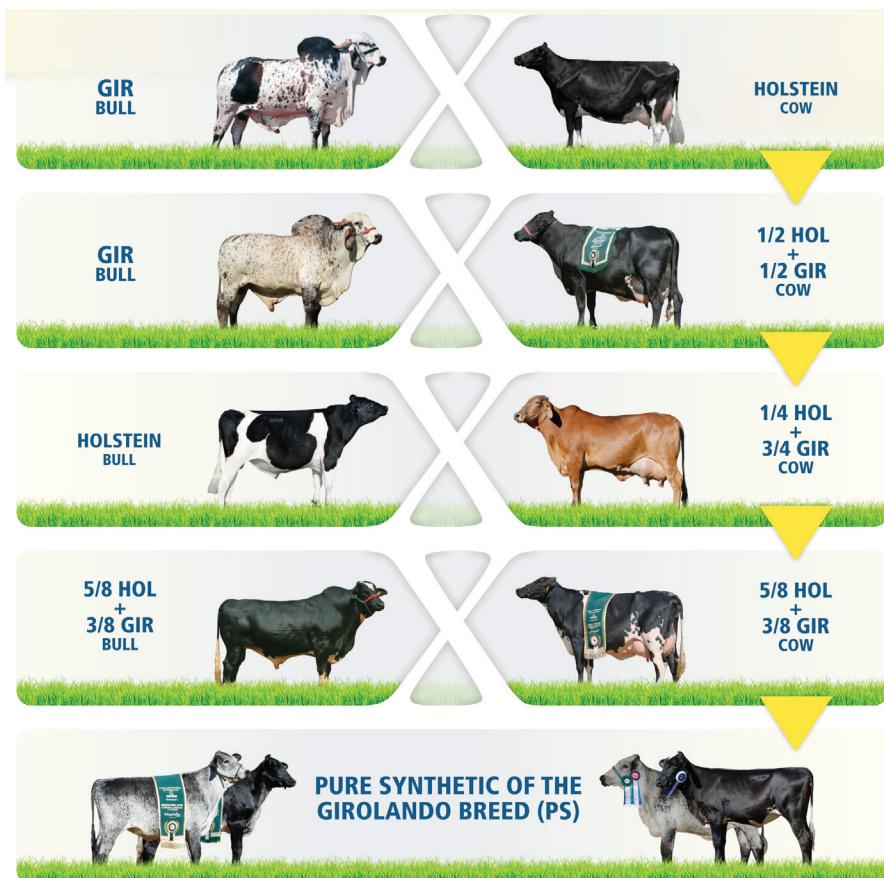
The first activities involving crossbreeding between Holstein and Gyr in Brazil emerged in the 40's. According to some older traditional dairy farmers, this crossing occurred mistakenly when a Gyr bull invaded a neighboring farm and mated Holstein cows. Nonetheless, the directed crosses were guided in order to generate offspring that would combine the high milk production capacity of the Holstein cattle and the rusticity of the Gyr breed. The crossbreds were noteworthy for excellent productivity, high fertility indexes and good vigor. Due to these advantages, the crossbreeding practice quickly spread around the entire country. Within a short period, Girolando became the predominant cattle breed on the majority of Brazilian dairy farms.

Over the years, dairy crossbred achieved great importance, and lead many research and rural extension institutions to study and apply the crossbred practice, with the objective of





**Figure 2.** Crossbreed strategies for obtaining PS animals using Holstein breed bulls in the first two generations and a 5/8 Girolando bull in the following generations.



**Figure 3.** Crossbreed strategy for obtaining PS animals, using Gir and Holstein breed bulls in the first three generations and a 5/8 Girolando bull in the last generation.



Figure 4. Crossbreed strategy for obtaining PS animals, using Holstein breed bulls in the first generation, a 3/4 Giro in the second generation and a 5/8 Giro bull in the third generation.



Figure 5. Crossbreed strategy for obtaining PS animals, using a Gir bull in the first generation and a 5/8 Giro bull in the last two generations.

The diagrams presented in Figures 2, 3, 4 and 5 show the leading strategies for the formation of Pure Synthetic (PS) Girolando. However, any combination between the breeds, Holstein, Gyr and its crossbreeds can be used for obtaining PS.

Due to the greater availability of semen from Girolando bulls, the crossbreeding strategy using Girolando semen has become more viable. The main crossbreeding strategies using 5/8 of PS bulls are presented in Figure 6, and using 3/4 bulls are presented in Figure 7.

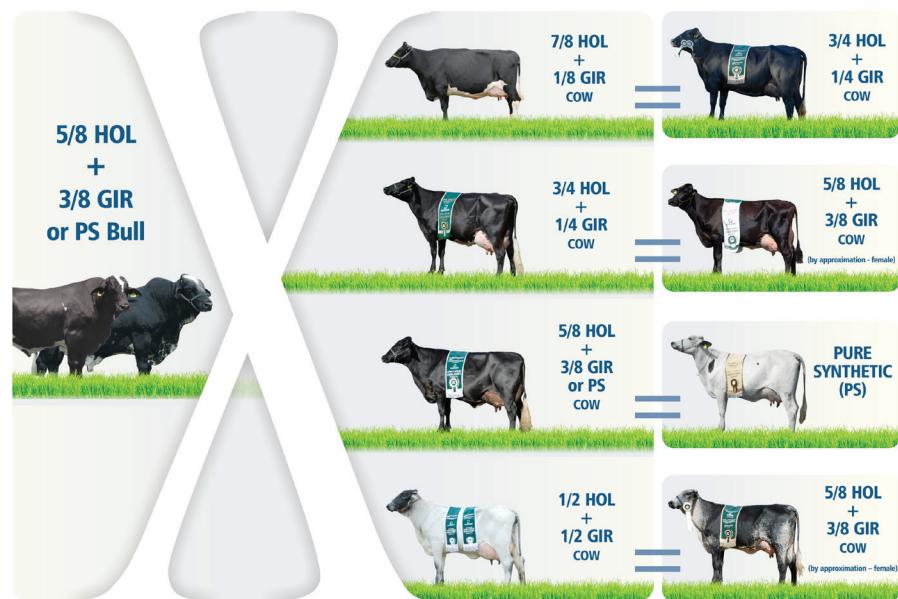


Figure 6. Most commonly used crossbreeds with Girolando 5/8 or PS bulls.



Figure 7. Most commonly used crossbreeds with Girolando 3/4 bulls.

## 4. Genotyping of Progeny Test Bulls

The evolution and recent advances achieved in the field of biotechnology allowed the use of molecular markers information for selection and mating programs. The knowledge about animal genotypes is of strategic importance and elevated economic value, as it allows for the identification of animals with greater potential for milk production, fat and protein milk content. Also this knowledge permits the identification of alleles linked to genetic diseases. With this information at hand, farmers can direct mating, choose semen, and therefore, apply the assisted selection through molecular markers for genetic improvement of Girolando breed.

### 4.1. Molecular Markers

**Kappa-casein (k-CN)** - The properties and quality of dairy are directly influenced by its protein content. The main proteins in milk are caseins, lactoglobulins and albumins. Molecular studies have identified that variants of Kappa-casein are strongly associated to a greater yield for cheese production. The BB-genotype animals produce more milk protein when compared to AA-genotype animals. The BB genotype is associated to superior cheese processing traits, such as less coagulation time and the formation of a denser coagulate. The production of BB animals are associated with yield 12% greater in terms of mozzarella and 8% for cheddar cheese in comparison to AA-genotype animals. AB animals have an intermediary yield comparing to BB and AA genotypes.

**Beta-casein** - This gene encodes a protein present in milk and has been correlated with allergies, type 1 diabetes and other effects. The two major alleles are A1 and A2. The A1 allele when digested in the gastrointestinal tract, giving rise to the BCM-7 peptide that was negatively correlated to health problems in humans. But the allele A2 is positively associated with increased production of milk and protein in cattle.

**Beta-lactoglobulin ( $\beta$ -LGB)** - This gene encodes a milk protein which corresponds to 50 to 55% of the proteins contained in whey. Twelve alleles have been identified for this gene, and A and B alleles are the most frequent in commercial herds. Allele A is the most favorable for milk production, while allele B is related to a larger percentage of fat and protein in milk. The milk from the animals with the AA genotype is recommended for *in natura* sale and milk from animals with the BB genotype is most recommended for the production of dairy, such as cheese.

**DGAT1** - The DGAT1 (diacylglycerol O-acyltransferase 1) gene is strongly associated to the percentage of fat in the milk. Two alleles of this gene were identified in bovines. The A allele, fixed in the majority of Zebu breeds, is associated to increased protein and milk production. The K allele, very common in European breeds, is associated with a reduction in protein production and an increase in the production of fat in milk.

**BLAD** - Bovine leukocyte adhesion deficiency (BLAD) is a genetic disorder common in Holstein breeds. This disease is caused by a recessive mutation of the CD18 gene. Animals which are homozygote for this mutation have retarded growth, tooth loss, immune system failure and premature death, generally driven by pneumonia. Heterozygote animals (carriers of the recessive allele) have normal development.

**DUMPS** - Deficiency of Uridine Monophosphate Synthase (DUMPS) is another important genetic disorder of Holstein breed. It is characterized by a recessive mutation in the *UMPS* gene, resulting in deficiency of the *UMPS*. This enzyme is part of the pyrimidine synthesis pathway, which comprises the process of RNA and DNA synthesis. Homozygote embryos for this mutation die around the 40<sup>th</sup> day, since pyrimidines are greatly needed during that embryonic stage. Heterozygote cows have elevated level of orotic acid in the urine and milk.

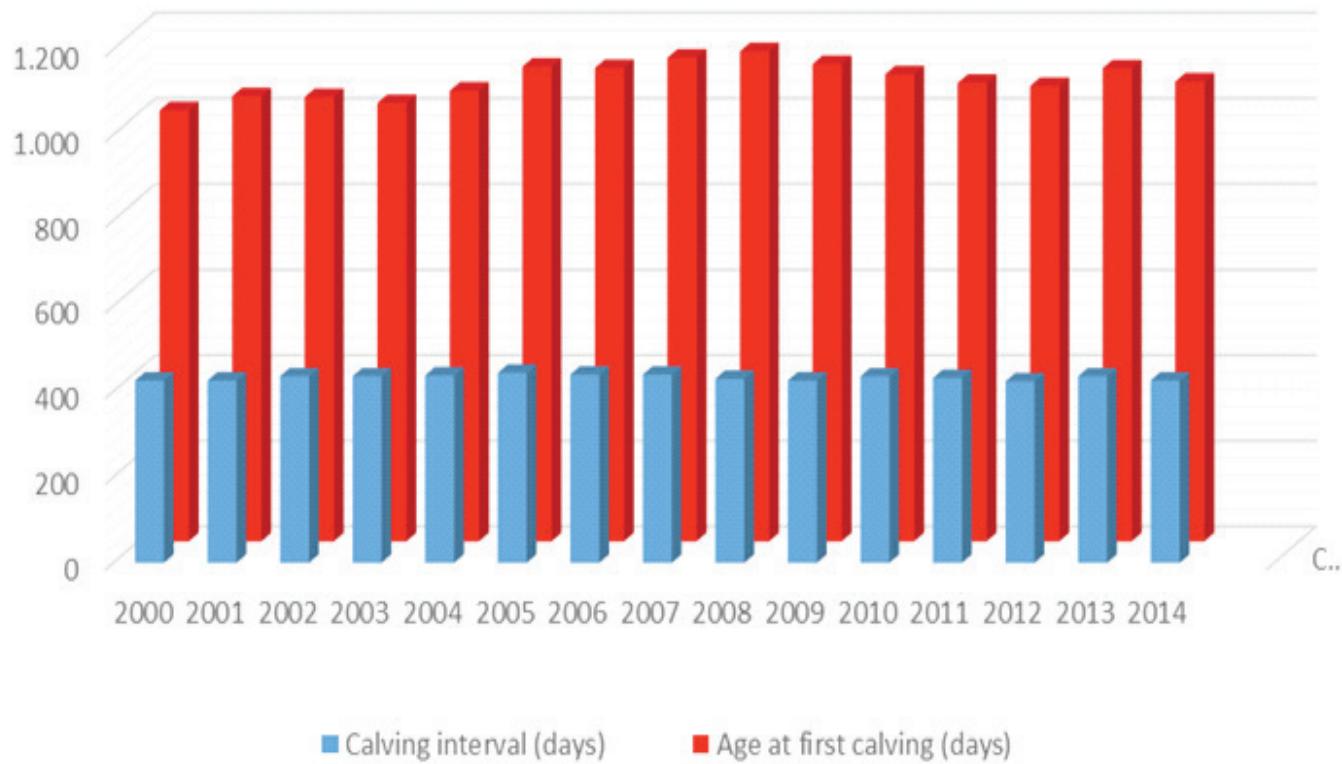
**CVM** - Complex vertebral malformation (CVM) is a syndrome that include congenital growth retardation, vertebral malformation and deformation of the ventricular septum. The syndrome is caused by a mutation in the *SLC25A53* gene, which encodes a protein that plays an important role in the formation of the vertebra. Similar to other recessive genetic diseases, such as DUMPS and BLAD, carrier animals develop normally, while recessive animals die shortly after birth.

**OPN (osteopontin)** - Studies with Holstein animals, showed that this gene is associated with milk yield and with fat and protein percentage in milk. Other studies also demonstrated that this marker is also associated with growth traits.

## 5. Zootechnical Performance

For the current evaluation, 368,350 records were used. Those included milk yield and genealogy data, originated from herds supervised by the Dairy Control Service, and provided by Girolando Breeders Association. The milk yield of first lactations (57,336) was edited for age at first calving (560 to 1,650 days), year of birth (1997 to 2014), year of calving (2000 to 2014), breed composition (2/8 to 7/8 HOL:G), causes of lactation termination, herd size and contemporary groups for herd-calving year. Lactations included in those analyses met the criteria of pertaining to a herd that had at least three controlled lactations and used at least two bulls in the same year.





**Figure 9.** Average first calving interval (FCI) and age at first calving (AFC) of Girolando cows from 2000 to 2014.

## 6. Progeny Test and Genetic Evaluation of Bulls

The Girolando Breed Genetic Improvement Program (PMGG) has been underway for 19 years, under technical coordination of Embrapa Dairy Cattle. The PMGG is geared toward dairy control and the use of artificial insemination in the herds of breeders (Annex 3) for the conduction of the Girolando Bull Progeny Test. The progeny test started in 1997 and 88 sires of the first 12 groups have already been tested. Five other groups that are currently under testing (Annex 1) and include 116 sires whose semen doses were distributed between 2009 and 2015 and 24 sires whose semen doses were distributed in 2016.

### 6.1. Distribution of Progeny Test Semen

For the Progeny Test to be conducted it is necessary that sires and dams are available to breeders. Sires must be of excellent genetic origin and be selected by a technical board. The criteria for selection are specified in the regulation for the participation of bulls in the Girolando Breed Progeny Test. The selected sires are divided into groups according to the year of registration. The dams to be inseminated with the coded semen from these bulls are called collaborative dams. For each group of bulls, the period from the distribution of the coded semen to the publication of the first results of the progeny test take in average six years. This is due to factors such as the period of distribution, use of semen by breeders, gestation period of the dams, age at first calving, lactation period of the bulls' daughters and time for analysis of dairy control and genealogy data (Table 2).

The average time estimated for the publication of the first results is 71 months, that is, 5 years and 11 months after the start of the distribution of semen to the collaborating herds. This period may be shorter or longer, according to the time necessary for the execution of each of the stages. The most relevant stages of the test are the use of the semen and the collection of data regarding age at the first calving for the bull's daughters. Another stage of high importance is the distribution of semen, as the faster this occurs, the less time is



The model used for the genetic evaluation milk yield included the fixed effects of herd-year of calving, season and age of the cow at calving as covariates, with the linear and quadratic components. Other effects included were the fixed cow breed composition (defined as the contribution of Holstein and Gyr breeds, in proportions varying from 2/8 to 7/8), and the random effects of the animal and experimental error. The predicted breeding values of each animal were obtained using the Best Linear Unbiased Prediction (BLUP) methodology within the software MTDFREML (1995). Table 4 contains the general information about the database, the values of the estimates of the variance components and heritability used in the model.

**Table 4.** Estimative of the heritability ( $h^2$ ) for milk yield in 305 days and age at first calving and the genetic correlation of those traits.

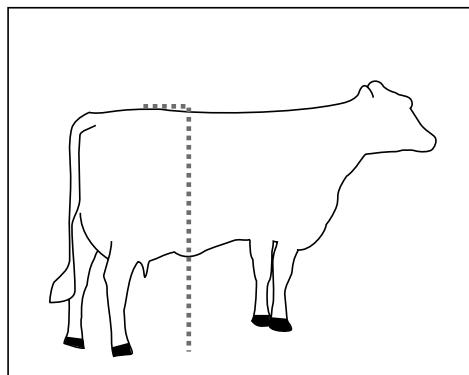
Trait	Heritability	Genetic correlation
Milk yield in 305 days	0.29	
Age at first calving	0.18	-0.60

The breeding values of the bulls were expressed as the Predicted Transmitting Ability (PTA) in relation to the genetic base, defined as the average of the breeding values of 742 cows born in 2000.

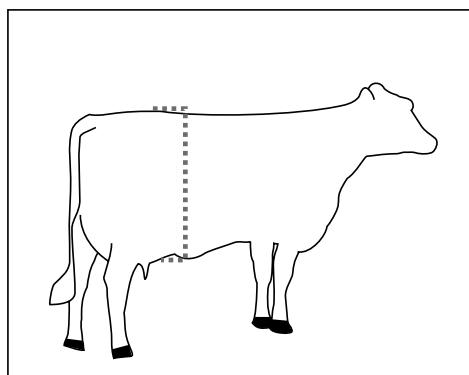
## 7. Girolando Linear Evaluation System – SALG

The aim of the Girolando Linear Evaluation System (SALG) is to measure and evaluate the conformation and handling traits of Girolando animals, and therefore, to generate highly reliable data that can be used for the prediction of breeding values for bulls in the progeny test. These predictions will be useful for breeders to select sires and dams, with the objective of improvement of economically important traits. This year, genetic values for an additional seven conformation traits were included in the Girolando sire report, totaling 12 evaluated traits. Below, the traits measured and evaluated through SALG are described briefly.

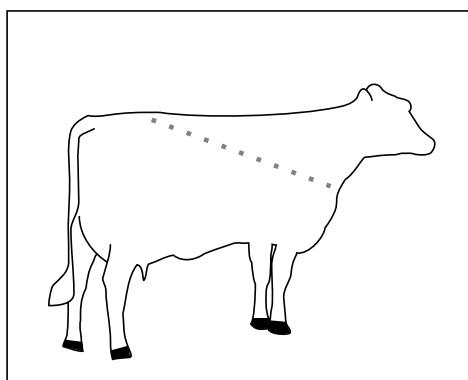
### 7.1. Body Capacity Measurements



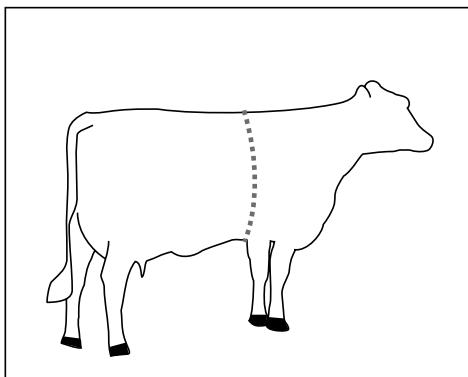
**7.1.1. Rump height:** measured using a measuring stick. The device is placed above the rump, close to the hook bone, to the ground. Ideally, the rump should be high enough for the udder to be sufficiently far from the ground in order to reduce the risks of injuries and contamination.



**7.1.2. Body depth:** measured using a measuring stick. The device is placed at the region immediately behind the rump, before the hooks (lumbar region), up to the lower line of the animal's belly, the cranial portion of the previous udder insertion. This trait is directly related to the animal's digestive and productive capacity. The body depth should be above the breed average.

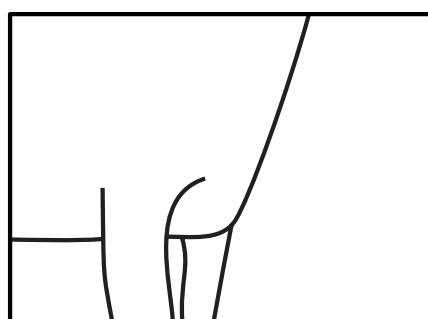
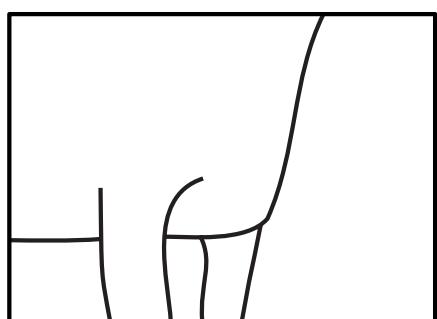
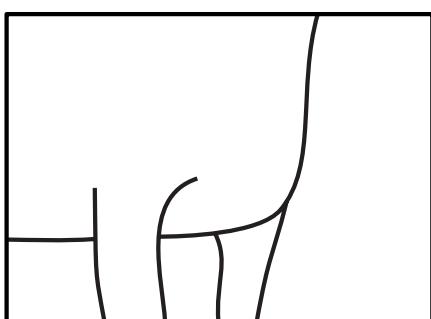


**7.1.3. Body length:** the measure is taken from the point of the scapula to the hook bone, using a measuring stick. It is related to the animal's respiratory, digestive and productive capacity. Body length should be above the breed average.

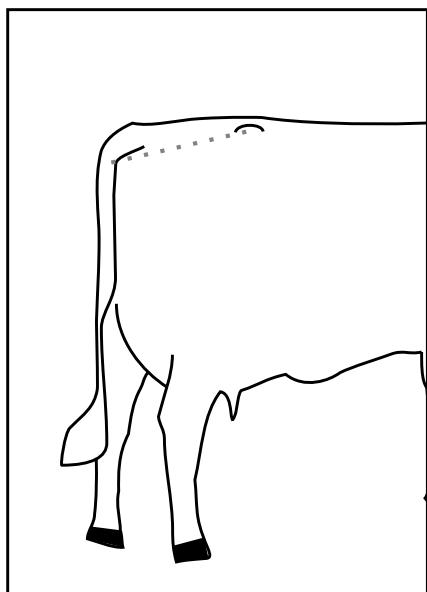


**7.1.4. Thoracic perimeter:** the circumference of the animal's thorax is measured using a measuring tape. It is strongly related to the cardiac and respiratory capacities. The thoracic perimeter should be above the breed average.

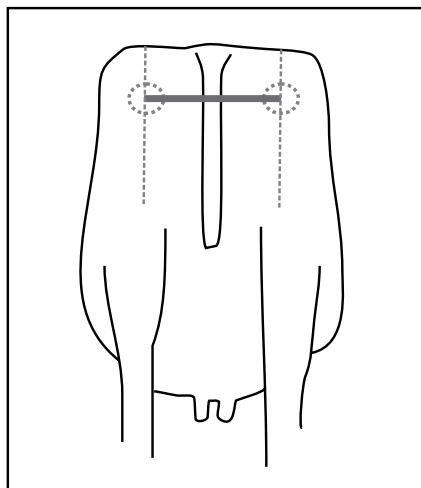
**7.1.5. Chest amplitude:** evaluated by means of a score. The distance between the back members is evaluated and refers to the animal's strength. The grades vary from 1 to 9: extremely closed chest is grades as 1, intermediary amplitude grades as 5 and an extremely ample chest is graded as 9.



## 7.2. Rump Measurements

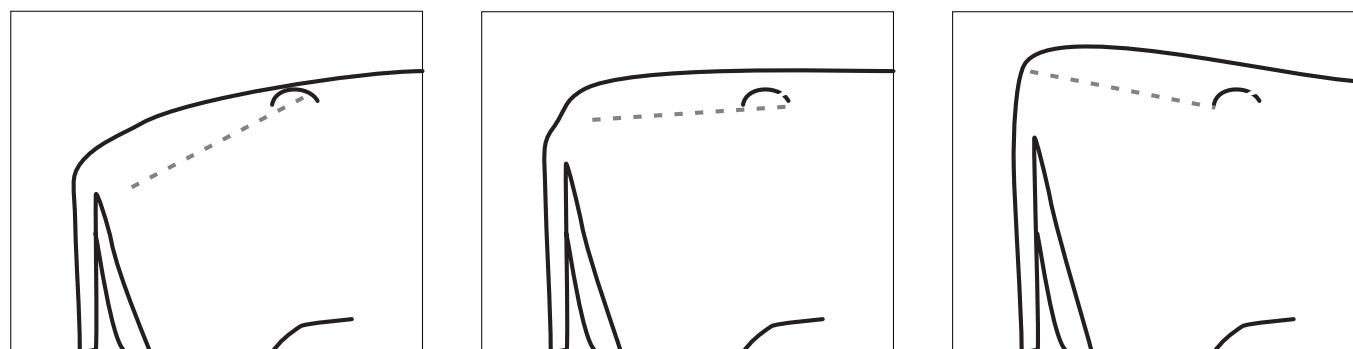


**7.2.1. Rump length:** is the distance between the point of the pin bone and the point of the hook bone, measured using a stick or tape. Rump length strongly influences the quality and the support of the mammary system, as it is the dorsal support of the udder. High values, above average, are favorable.



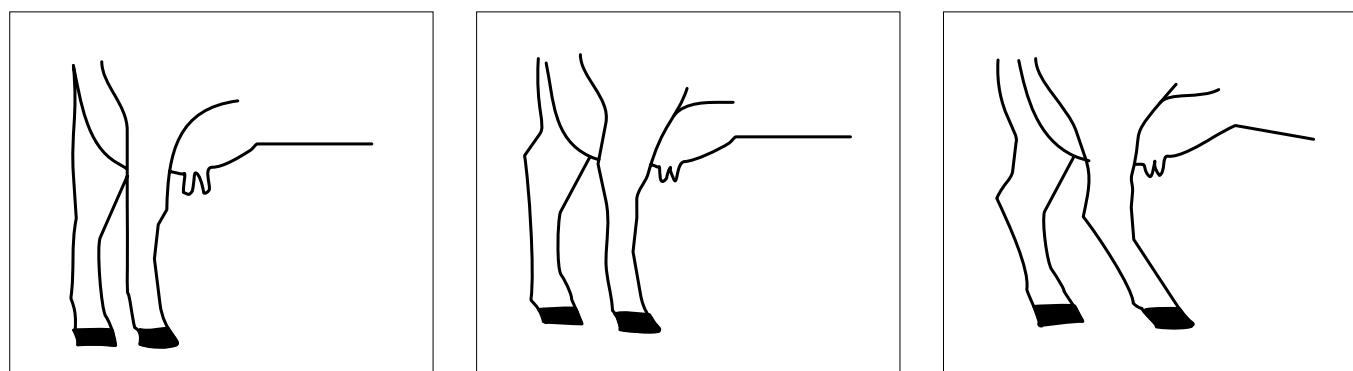
**7.2.2. Width between pin bones:** is the distance from the left point to the right point of the pin, measured using a measuring stick or tape. Higher values are related to greater calving facility for the animal and better dorsal support of the udder.

**7.2.3. Rump angle/inclination:** the angle of the rump is assessed by measuring the height of the hook bones, height of the pin bones and length of the rump. The inclination of the hook bone is calculated in relation to the pin bone. The value obtained can be either positive or negative. Above zero indicates a smooth rump. Below zero indicates an inverted rump, which leads to problems during calving and elimination of the placenta. The ideal value is as close to zero as possible.

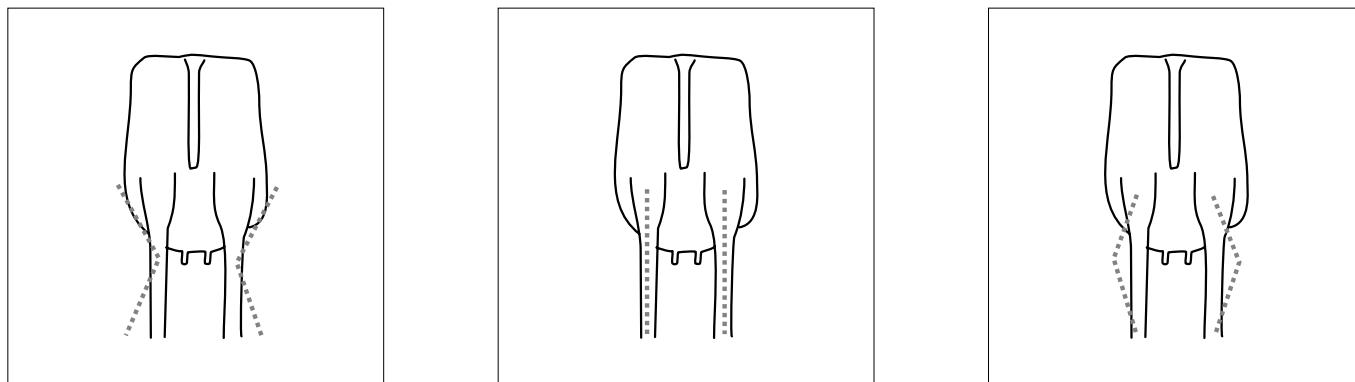


### 7.3. Legs and Feet

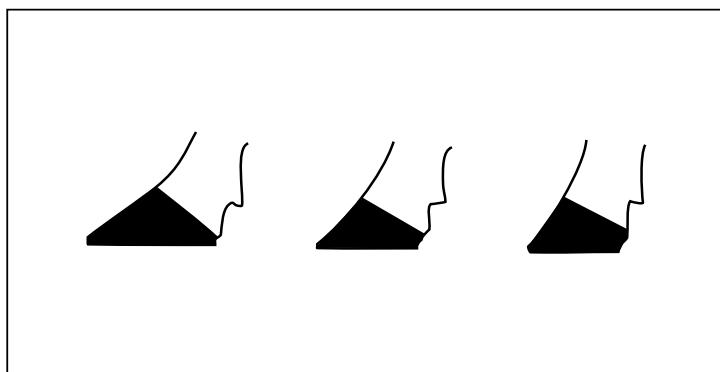
**7.3.1. Legs - side view:** the angle of the leg's curvature is evaluated through a score. Score 1 is given for very curved legs, 5 for intermediary legs (ideal) and 9 for extremely straight legs. At the height of the hock, the legs should have slight curvature, which should not be accentuated. Very curved legs may lead to wear of the hoof claws, making them cracked and very straight legs may cause mobility problems. The ideal score is close to 5.



**7.3.2. Legs - rear view:** the position of the back legs is evaluated based on a score from 1 to 9. Score 1 is given for legs with very closed hocks, 5 for parallel legs (ideal) and 9 for legs with open hocks. Legs with closed hocks may crush and reduce udder space, causing injury and increasing the occurrence of mastitis, while very open legs may cause mobility problems.

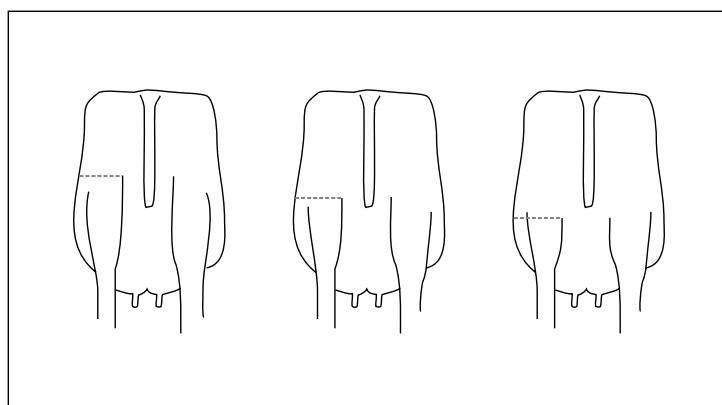


**7.3.3. Hoof angle:** is evaluated by means of a score. For good animal mobility, it is important that the hooves are strong and set at a good angle (close to  $45^{\circ}$ ). Score 1 is given for very low angle hooves, 5 for hooves with an angle close to  $45^{\circ}$  (ideal) and score 9 for extremely steep angle hooves.

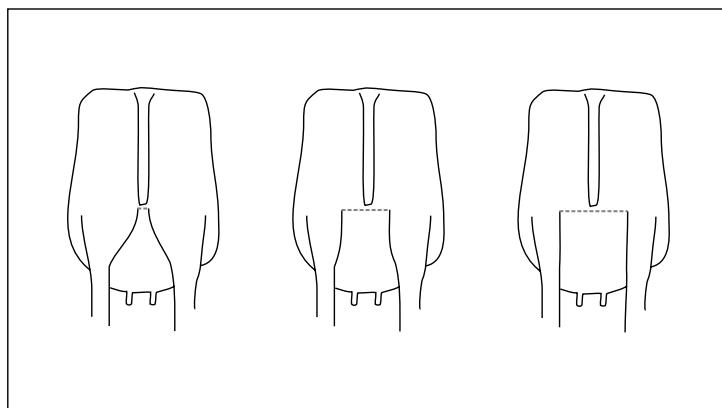


#### 7.4. Posterior Udder

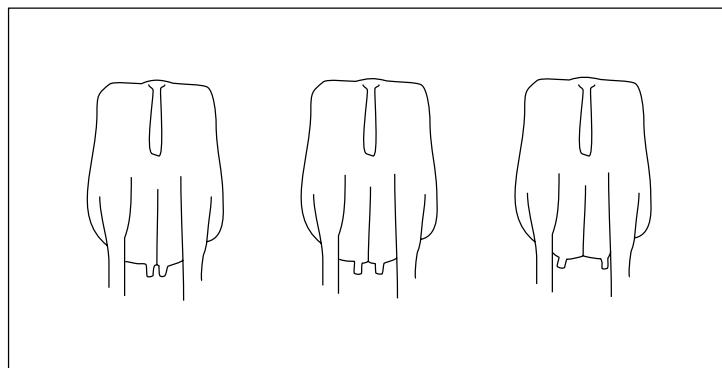
**7.4.1. Rear udder height:** is the distance between the base of the vulva to the fore udder insertion, in the perineal region. It is measured using measuring tape. It is related to the length and milk storage capacity of the fore udder. The higher, the better.



**7.4.2. Rear udder width:** is the distance between the left and right rear ligament of the udder. It can be measured with a measuring tape or ruler. It is strongly related to milk production and storage capacity.

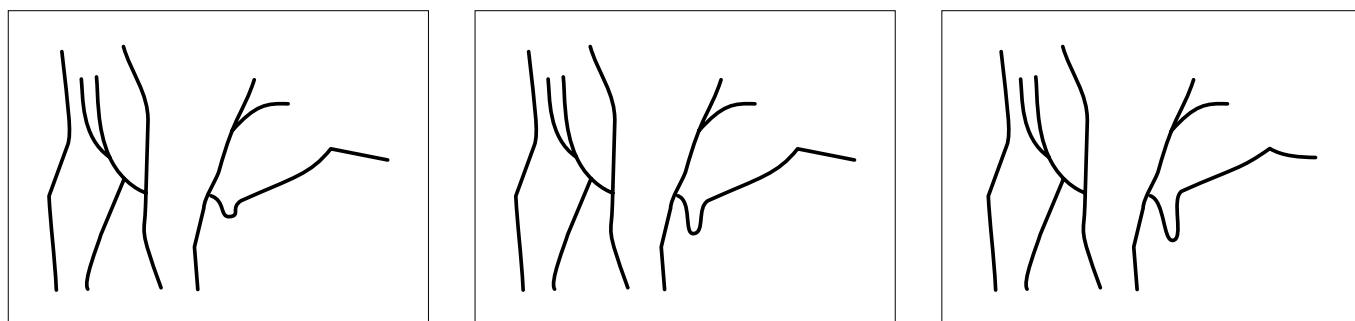


**7.4.3. Rear teat placement:** is evaluated based on a score from 1 to 9, 1 given for low quality placement, 5 for intermediary placement and 9 for extreme quality placement. The rear teats must be centered in the udder quarters. Values close to 9 are preferable, indicating more centralized teats than low values, which means open teats, placed on the sides of the quarters and which complicates mechanized milking.



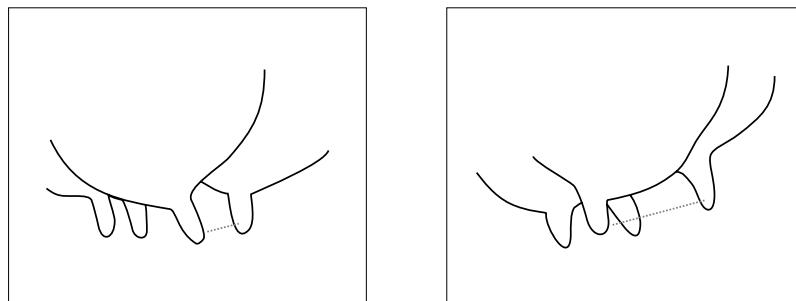
## 7.5. Anterior udder

**7.5.1. Teat length:** the front teats of the animal are measured using a measuring tape or ruler. The ideal length of the teats is around 5 to 7 cm. Long teats are associated with inefficient colostrum nursing and mechanized milking. Also, they are related to increased incidence of teat loss and mastitis.

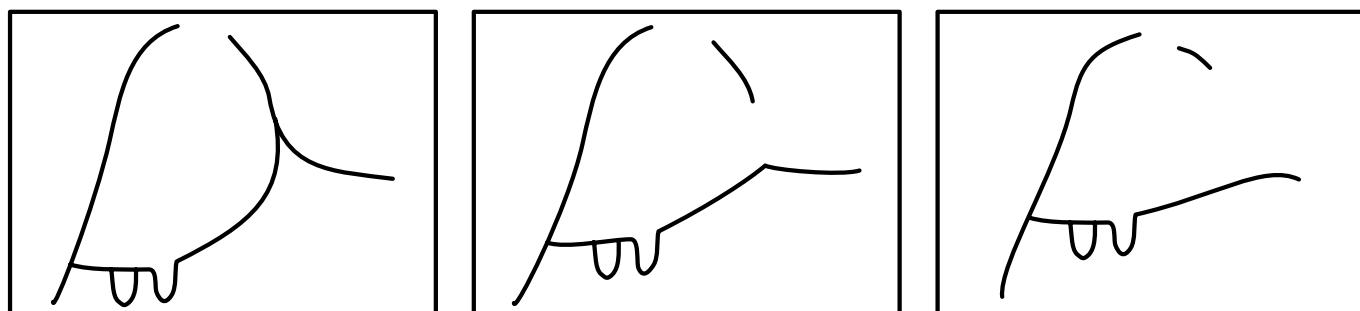


**7.5.2. Teat diameter:** is measured using a caliper, placed on the teat base. Wide teats are associated with inefficient colostrum nursing and mechanized milking. Also, they are related to increased incidence of teat loss and mastitis.

**7.5.3. Front teat placement:** the placement of the front teats is evaluated through a score. The score varies from 1 to 9: 1 is given for low quality placement, 5 for intermediary placement and 9 for extreme quality placement. The front teats must be centered in the udder quarters. Values close to 9 are preferable, indicating more centralized teats than low values, which means open teats, placed in the sides of the quarters and which complicates mechanized milking.

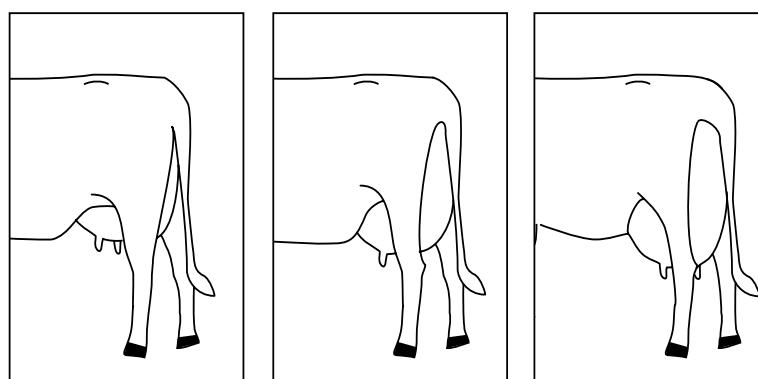


**7.5.4. Ligament:** the quality of fore udder insertion and support is assessed through visual evaluation (by means of a score). The evaluator can also press the area in order to feel the quality of the tissue. The fore udder must be firmly attached to the animal's ventral region, preventing the formation of swelling. This trait is of great importance, as it strongly influences the longevity of the mammary system. The score varies from 1 to 9: 1 is given for an extremely weak ligament and 9 for an extremely strong ligament.



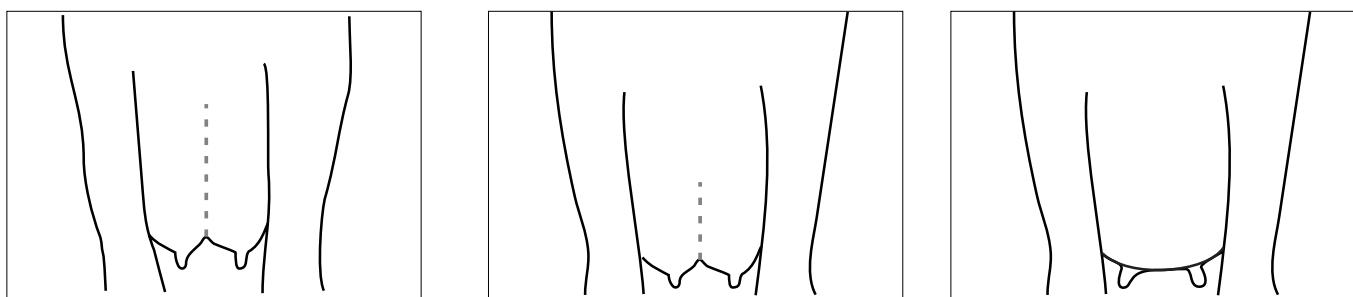
## 7.6. Mammary System

**7.6.1. Udder depth:** is the distance from an imaginary line traced from the level of the hocks to the base of the udder. It is measured using a measuring tape or ruler. This trait strongly influences the longevity of the mammary system and the quality of the fore, rear and central ligaments. The ideal udder has its base at approximately 10 cm above the hocks. Deep udders are subject to trauma.



**7.6.2. Central ligament:** the quality and support of the central ligament is evaluated visually. It is directly related to the longevity of the mammary system. The score varies from 1 to 9: 1 is given for an extremely weak ligament and 9 for an extremely strong ligament.

It is one of them most important udder traits, as this ligament keeps the udder attached to the animal's abdomen. To support high production for a number of lactations, this ligament should be very strong. The more positive, the better.



## 7.7. Dairy Characterization

**7.7.1. Angularity:** the bone quality and dairy form of the animal is evaluated visually, considering the femininity and the angular form, also known as a wedge. The evaluation score ranges from 1 to 9: 1 given for extremely angular cows, 5 for intermediary angularity and 9 for extremely thickset cows.

## 7.8. Auxiliary Traits

**7.8.1. Temperament:** is evaluated by means of an animal docility score. More docile animals have better productive and reproductive performance. Scores vary between 1 and 9: 1 given for extremely aggressive animals and 9 for exceptionally docile animals.

**7.8.2. Milking ease:** is associated to the time and effort involved at the time of milking the animal. It is directly linked to milk production. Cows that are harder to milk tend to be more vulnerable to disease and to retain more milk (residual milk). For the evaluation of that trait, a score from 1 to 9 is given, very hard to milk cows are scored as 1 cows extremely easy to milk score a 9.

**7.8.3. Calving ease:** is related to the size of the calf and the need for assistance at the time of calving. Cows that calve easy resume post-partum estrus faster and, consequently, have better reproductive performance. This traits is evaluated by means of a score that varies from 1 to 9: 1 assigned to cows with extreme calving difficulty and 9 to cows with extreme facility in calving.

## 7.9. SALG Results

The averages for the traits described above are presented in Table 5. The averages for daughters of Girolando bulls participating in the Progeny Test are described.

## 7.10. How to Interpret the Results

In order to understand better the results of the evaluations published in this report, an example of results obtained and their interpretations are presented bellow (Table 6). Right after the sire's registration number XXXXX, and its general classification by PTAL (XX° - in parenthesis) and its name, are the registration numbers and the names of the sire's father, mother, and the PTA for milk production (PTAL), followed by reliability (REL).

In the Table, the results for productive traits are in the left and the genetic evaluations, STAs (standardized PTAs) for some of the evaluated conformation and management traits are in the right. STA is the standardized predicted transmitting ability (PTA) of the handling and conformation traits that allows comparison of the traits, even when they were measured in different units, as they are expressed as standard deviations. Thus, the breeder can evaluate a sire's ability to improve a specific trait, in case of the sire is bred with an average cow of the herd. STA values vary from -3 to 3 standard deviations.

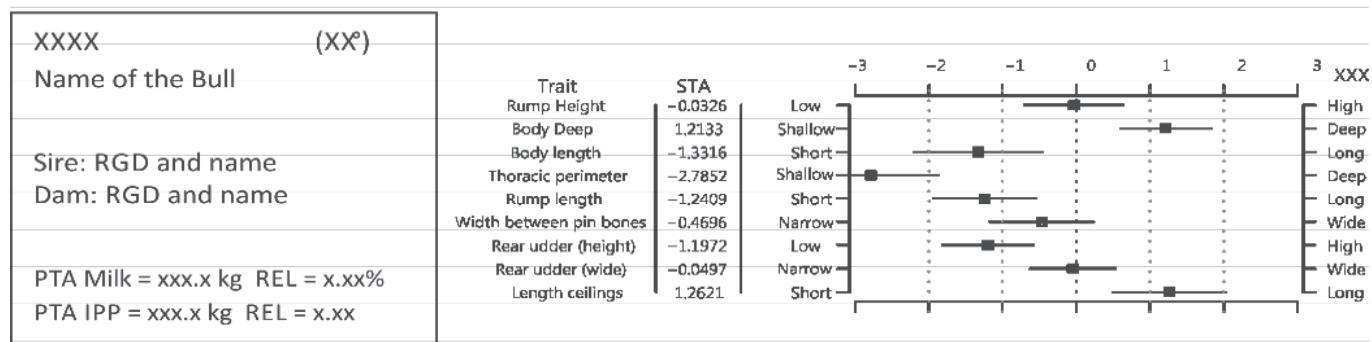
**Table 5.** Averages of conformation traits and handling of cows that are daughters of Girolando bulls, measured and evaluated through SALG.

	Trait	Number of Observations	$h^2 \pm SE^{**}$	Trait Average	Standard Deviation
<b>Body Capacity</b>	Height at the rump (cm)	965	$0.37 \pm 0.14$	138.7	6.8
	Body depth (cm)	741	$0.34 \pm 0.15$	71.0	5.6
	Body length (cm)	967	$0.10 \pm 0.11$	110.8	9.5
	Thoracic perimeter (cm)	869	$0.01 \pm 0.07$	186.4	13.9
	Chest amplitude (cm)	822	-	3.07	0.64
<b>Rump</b>	Rump length (cm)	968	$0.32 \pm 0.14$	48.0	3.6
	Width between pin bones (cm)	968	$0.24 \pm 0.12$	19.2	2.8
	Hook bone height (cm)	741	-	135.5	6.1
	Pin bone height (cm)	741	-	128.3	5.8
<b>Legs and Feet</b>	Legs - side view (*)	822	-	2.93	0.6
	Legs – rear view (*)	823	-	2.84	0.5
	Hoof angle (*)	823	-	2.8	0.6
<b>Posterior Udder</b>	Rear height (cm)	764	$0.32 \pm 0.15$	17.4	3.8
	Rear width (cm)	763	$0.23 \pm 0.13$	10.1	2.9
	Teat placement (*)	770	-	3.1	0.8
<b>Anterior Udder</b>	Teat length (cm)	704	$0.08 \pm 0.10$	5.8	1.7
	Teat placement (*)	769	-	3.4	0.7
	Ligament (*)	770	-	3.3	0.7
<b>Mammary System</b>	Udder depth (cm)	703	$0.09 \pm 0.15$	13.9	4.8
	Central ligament (*)	768	-	3.3	1.7
<b>Dairy characterization</b>	Angularity (*)	965	$0.37 \pm 0.14$	138.7	6.8
<b>Auxiliary traits</b>	Temperament (*)	741	$0.34 \pm 0.15$	71.0	5.6
	Milking ease (*)	967	$0.10 \pm 0.11$	110.8	9.5
	Calving ease (*)	869	$0.01 \pm 0.07$	186.4	13.9

\* Traits evaluated through scores.

\*\* Heritability  $\pm$  Standard error.

**Table 6.** Example for interpretation of results.



The first column, under the title Traits, contains the names of the traits and under the name STA, are the traits' respective standardized predicted transmitting abilities (standard deviation values of -3 to 3). The line in front each of the traits indicates its confidence interval, a measure related to the average and the reliability of the STA estimation. The dot on the line corresponds to the STA estimate. The smaller the line, the greater the reliability of the STA value, and contrariwise. Furthermore, the line expresses the confidence for the estimated STA averages within these limits that is expected for future mating, in 95% of the cases. It is important to stress that this information must be used with the aim of complementarily in mating.

It is important to highlight that this information should be used with the aim of achieving complementarity in breeding. The right or left deviations in conformation and management

traits imply that there will be genetic progress in the selected direction. As an example, if a cow has very large teats (above average), the ideal scenario includes mating this cow with a sire that has an STA close to zero for teat length, seeking to correct this problem in the next generation. The same rationale should be applied to other traits.

The publication of a graph containing one sire's characteristics will only occur if the following criteria is met:

- the sire must have a positive PTA for milk yield (Table 8);
- the sire's daughters must have measures within SALG enough to guarantee reliability of the results.

### **7.11. STAs for Conformation**

This year will not be published the results of STAs for conformation. New data were collected in 2015/2016 and are being analyzed. The results will be published later.

## **8. PTAs for Milk Production and Age at First Calving**

The results of the genetic evaluation of sires, pertaining to the 12 groups tested since 1997, are presented in Tables 7 and 8. Those contain the registration number, the genetic composition, and the name of each Girolando sire, the PTA for milk yield, the age at first calving (IFC), the reliability of each test, with the respective numbers of daughters and herds evaluated, as well as the sire's genotypes. These results are presented for sires used in at least three herds, with a minimum confidence interval of 60% for milk yield PTA, if the bull does not have more daughters to be assessed and has no semen available in the market, the result will be released even with a lower reliability at minimum.

Table 7 contains the results of the tests of 11 bulls, 8 from the eleventh group and 3 from twelveth group of the progeny test. The PTA for milk yield ranged from -65.33 kg to 503.76 kg, and 10 sires had positive genetic values and one had negative values. Out of the positive PTA sires, one is a PS, six are 5/8 HOL:G and three are 3/4 HOL:G. The PTA for age at first calving ranged from -8.75 to 39.95 days, positive values were observed in nine sires and negative values were observed in two sires (Table 8).

Table 8 contains the general results and the genotypes for all sires tested since 1997. The PTAs for milk ranged from -444.76 kg to 504.19 kg, and 53 sires had positive genetic values and 35 had negative values. Among the 53 sires that had a positive PTA for milk yield, four are PS, 33 are 5/8 HOL:G and 16 are 3/4 HOL:G. The PTA for age at first calving ranged from -9.75 to 66.57 days, positive values were observed in 72 sires and negative values were observed in 16 sires (Table 8).

The negative genetic correlation of milk yield in 305 days during the first lactation and age at first calving (Table 4) indicates that genes related to the former trait have an opposite effect under the later trait. It seems that daughters of sires that have a higher genetic value for milk yield in up to 305 days tend to have a more accelerated growth or earlier maturity. Hence, it can be concluded that selection for milk yield results also in earlier calving heifers. In this case, it should be stressed that sires that have a negative value for age at first calving (AFCPTA) are desirable, as daughters of a sire that has a AFCPTA of -10 days are prone to firstly calve 10 days earlier than daughters of sires that have AFCPTA equal to zero.

**Table 7.** Milk yield and genotypes results of the Girolando Breed Progeny Test of sires tested for the first time, ranked according to PTA milk in 2016.

Rank.	Group	Reg.	Genetic composition	Sire	N Daughter	N Herd	PTA milk (kg)	R. PTA Milk (%)	PTA AFC <sup>9</sup> (days)	R. AFC <sup>9</sup> (%)	Molecular markers					Semen available	AI Company			
1	12	1487	5/8	Thor FIV da Prata JAC	11	10	503.76	69	17.81	79	AB	NG	AB	AK	TL	TV	CT	Semex		
2	12	0990	3/4	Curitó FIV Paramount JGVA	23	8	483.18	75	-5.45	86	AA	A2A2	AA	AK	TL	TD	TV	CRV Lagoa		
3	11	9117	5/8	Jacuba Prime Bem Feitor Lou*	4	3	448.95	54	32.83	58	AB	NG	AB	AK	AK	TL	TD	CT	Not available	
4	11	1413	5/8	Limão TE JRS	10	8	422.37	63	34.01	69	AA	A2A2	AB	AK	AK	TL	TD	TV	CT	Not available
5	11	1400	5/8	RBC Arquiteto	9	4	410.33	60	25.61	73	AA	A2A2	BB	AK	TL	TD	TV	CT	CRV Lagoa	
6	12	1021	3/4	Chamoso Wildman Tannus	43	20	293.27	83	39.95	91	AA	A1A1	BB	KK	TL	TD	TV	TT	Alta Genéticos	
7	11	1313	5/8	Sabiá IT	35	18	284.93	76	-8.75	88	AA	A2A2	AB	AK	AK	TL	TD	NG	ABS Peçan	
8	11	944	3/4	Artsteu Billy Linda Santa Lucia	9	6	145.47	62	10.91	73	AA	A1A2	AA	KK	AK	TD	TV	CT	Semex	
9	11	0131	PS	Héros Florin Dom Natio	8	8	142.94	61	37.88	73	AA	A2A2	AA	AK	TL	TD	TV	CT	CRV Lagoa	
10	11	812	5/8	Falcon Ribeirão Grande TE	23	14	5.39	74	5.71	83	AB	NG	BB	AK	TL	TD	TV	TT	Semex	
11	11	0053	PS	Rato das Arábias	7	6	-65.33	60	26.80	67	AA	A1A2	AA	AK	TL	TD	TV	TT	ABS Peçan	

<sup>1</sup>AFC - Age at first calving (days).

<sup>2</sup>Allele A - High yield for cheese, **Allele B** - low yield for cheese.

<sup>3</sup>Allele A1 - associated with nutritional and health problems in humans, A2 - higher milk production and protein.

<sup>4</sup>Allele A - High milk yield **Allele B** - High protein and fat milk content.

<sup>5</sup>Allele A - Increase in milk and protein production, **Allele K** - Reduction in milk protein content and increase in milk fat content.

<sup>6</sup>BL - Heterozygote animal - carrier of the allele for BLAD, **TL** - Homozygote animal - non-carrier of the allele for BLAD

<sup>7</sup>DP - Heterozygote animal - carrier of the allele for DUMPS, **TD** - Homozygote animal - non-carrier of the allele for DUMPS

<sup>8</sup>CV - Animal - Heterozygote animal - carrier of the allele for CVM, **TV** - Homozygote animal - non-carrier of the allele for CVM

<sup>9</sup>Allele C - Associated to increased protein and fat milk content, **Allele T** - Associated to elevated weight gain.





## 9. Acknowledgments

We would like to thank all people that collaborated, directly or indirectly, with the Girolando Breed Genetic Improvement Program (PMGG). Acknowledgments are due to breeders, technicians, milk controllers, trainees, students and employees of the Instituto Federal do Triângulo Mineiro (IFTM), the Brazilian Association of Girolando Breeders and Embrapa Dairy Cattle that collaborated with data recording, provision, editing and processing, for the genetic evaluations and for publication of this report. We would also like to thank the collaborating herds, AI companies, associated institutions, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply and the Federal Government, who all believed in our work and supported the PMGG and the development of the Girolando breed in Brazil. Thank you very much.

## 10. Collaborators

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 Jean Carlos: Coordinator of data processing – SCL – Girolando  
 Jessica Miranda: Collaborator for data processing – SCL – Girolando  
 José Wagner Borges Junior – Department of Zootechnical Tests – Girolando  
 Karla Luiza Nunes de Oliveira – Department of Zootechnical Tests – Girolando  
 Manuel Fernando Márquez Molina – Undergraduate student – Epamig  
 Rael Magalhães Ferraz – Department of Zootechnical Tests – Girolando  
 Rafael Henrique Machado Stacanelli – Department of Zootechnical Tests – Girolando  
 Rodolfo Nogueira – Girolando  
 Tiago Duarte Rocha – Technician in charge of the Girolando Performance Center

## 11. Glossary of Technical Terms

**Additive Genetic Variance** - The variation in the genetic values among animals of a population (breed), for a specific trait.

**Allele** - The alternative form of a specific gene located in the region of a homologous chromosome (locus). There are two alleles for each gene in diploid bovine cells, with each allele passed down from a progenitor.

**Animal Model** - The procedure used to estimate genetic values or PTAs, using the registers records from the databases provided by breeder associations.

**BLUP (Best Linear Unbiased Prediction)** - Statistical method for data analysis, aiming to obtain solutions for the effects considered in a specific model. Among its statistical properties, the simultaneous estimation of equation solutions for fixed and random effects (genetic values) stands out as noteworthy. In practical ways, the genetic values (PTAs) are estimated simultaneously to the adjustment to the effects of the environment (contemporary herd-year groups, time, age at calving, genetic groups, etc.)

**Genetic Base** - The mean genetic value of cows born in a specific year, for each trait. Composed of the genetic merit reference of the breed for the comparison of bulls.

**Genetic correlation** - The probability that two distinct traits are determined by the same group of genes. Positive values mean that the group of genes increase the value of both traits, and negative values mean that one trait is increased and the other is decreased in response of the activation of the genes.

**Genotype** - The allelic constitution of a homologous chromosome region. Example: AA, Aa or aa.

**Heritability** - The parameter that describes the proportion of total variance for a specific trait that is due to the genetic differences among the individuals of the population (breed).

**Heterozygote** - The individual or genotype carrier of different alleles in one locus. Example: Aa.

**Homozygote** - The individual or genotype that presents two copies of the same allele in one locus. Example: AA or aa.

**MTDFREML** - The abbreviation for the set of programs written in the Fortran language (Multiple Trait Derivative Free REML), which uses the Restricted Maximum Likelihood methodology with the algorithm that does not use derivatives for the estimation of variance components and the prediction of animals' genetic values, in accordance with the model applied in the analysis of a specific database.

**PTA (Predicated Transmitting Ability)** - The measurement of the bull's genetic value, obtained through the performance of its daughters and its relatives in different herds, expressed as the difference (superiority or inferiority) of the breed's genetic base. Example: a bull with a PTA equal to 100 kg means that its progeny, on average, has an expected production potential of 100 kg of milk greater than the breed average.

**Reliability (R)** - The measurement of the amount of information used in the estimation of the genetic value. It indicates (in percentage) the confidence that can be placed on the PTA estimated for each bull. The greater the reliability, the greater the certainty that the value of the estimated PTA represents the real genetic value of the bull.





























(continuation...)

Owner	Farm	City	State
José Carlos Reis	Fazenda São Luiz Velho	Valença	RJ
José Valter Lima Monteiro	Sítio São José	Valença	RJ
Miguel Bruno Conceição	Sítio Guimarães	Valença	RJ
Eloi Chaves de Oliveira	Fazenda São Luis	Taipu	RN
Antônio Rodrigues Filho	Fazenda Primavera	Ariquemes	RO
Clorides Primo Carnevalli	Fazenda Ligiana	Ariquemes	RO
Valdir Rutsatz	Sítio Capixaba	Cacoal	RO
Fernando Rogério de Souza Magalhães	Sítio Primavera	Candeias do Jamari	RO
Osmano José Ramos	Sítio Piquiá	Candeias do Jamari	RO
Lourival Caetano Rodrigues	Sítio Buraco Fundo	Costa Marques	RO
Celso Pires Maciel	Rancho Paraíso	Vale do Paraiso	RO
Antônio Sancho de Souza Neto	Fazenda Retiro da Esperança	Altair	SP
Higo Carlos de Freitas	Sítio Carvalho	Altair	SP
João Monteiro da Gama	Fazenda São Pedro São Paulo	Arandú	SP
Paulo Gabriel Reis Nader	Fazenda Santo Antonio Bela Vista	Caconde	SP
Luciano de Carvalho Pontes	Estância Mana	Guaiçara	SP
Roberto Almeida Oliveira e outros	Estância Sto Antônio	Guapiaçú	SP
Antônio de Oliveira	Fazenda Oliveira	Icem	SP
José Miranda Alves de Paiva	Estancia Paraíso	Itapetininga	SP
Kenyi Okano	Fazenda Santo Antônio	Ituverava	SP
ETEC Cônego José Bento	Escola Agrícola	Jacareí	SP
Alexandre Augusto Corteze	Fazenda Santo Antônio	José Bonifácio	SP
Anderson Santos Senna	Chácara Senna	Junqueirópolis	SP
Homero N. De Paiva	Sítio Santo Antonio	Lavrínhas	SP
Joaquim Eurovaldo Junqueira	Sítio São Sebastião	Lavrínhas	SP
Célio Alves da Luz	Fazenda Diamante	Lins	SP
Waldir Junqueira de Andrade	Fazenda Santana	Lins	SP
Márcio Barreto Ribeiro	Fazenda Boiada	Mococa	SP
Eugenio Deliberato Filho	Sítio Beira Rio	Mogi das Cruzes	SP
Fructuoso Roberto Lima Filho	Estância Paineiras	Nova Granada	SP
Carlos Alberto Luiz de Almeida	Fazenda Bacuri	Orinduva	SP
Lourenço Olívio Barbosa Munhoz	Estância Bela Vista	Orinduva	SP
Luiz Antonio de Almeida	Fazenda Barreirão	Orinduva	SP
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Eneas Rodrigues Brum	Fazenda Monastério	Paraibuna	SP
Joao Geraldo Ribeiro Lobato	Sítio JM	Paraibuna	SP
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Rafael Santos Faria	Faz Maria Andrade	Paraibuna	SP
Renato Pazzini	Fazenda Do Espírito Santo	Paraibuna	SP
Sergio Luis Neves de Oliveira Andrade	Fazenda São Francisco	Paraibuna	SP
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Agnaldo Alves Lírio	Sítio Duas Estrelas - Lote 62	Presidente Epitácio	SP
Aisson Neri Barboza	Estância Espelho D'Água	Presidente Epitácio	SP
Antônio Alixandre dos Santos	Sítio Dias	Presidente Epitácio	SP
Celso Souza de Oliveira	Sítio Porto Esperança	Presidente Epitácio	SP
Erick Luciano dos Santos	Sítio Boa Fé	Presidente Epitácio	SP
Gilberto Ricardo Gomes	Estância Gegi - Lote 81	Presidente Epitácio	SP
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João de Andrade	Sítio São João	Presidente Epitácio	SP
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José Eduardo Soares da Silva	Sítio Santo Antônio	Presidente Epitácio	SP
Miguel Batista dos Santos	Sítio 3 Pinheiros	Presidente Epitácio	SP
Nelson Antônio Neto	Sítio Paraíso Vale da Benção	Presidente Epitácio	SP
Nilza Duarte Fernandes	Sítio São Gabriel Lote 12	Presidente Epitácio	SP
Paulo Lima de Santana	Sítio Três Irmãos	Presidente Epitácio	SP
Rogério Miguel	Sítio São José	Santa Branca	SP
Heitor de Mello Dias Gonzaga	Fazenda Boa Esperança	Santa Maria da Serra	SP

(to be continued...)

(continuation...)

Owner	Farm	City	State
João José Roberto	Sítio Cascata	Santa Rita do Passa Quatro	SP
Nelson Vizioli	Sítio São João da Barra	Santa Rita do Passa Quatro	SP
Schumann Joubert Camargo e outros	Sítio Estância Colina	Santa Rita do Passa Quatro	SP
João Eduardo Benine Reis	Sítio São Paulo	São Joaquim da Barra	SP
João Eduardo Benini Reis	Sítio São Paulo	São Joaquim da Barra	SP
Bráulio Conti Júnior	Fazenda Sobrama	Socorro	SP
Pedro Paulo Silveira Motta e Outra	Fazenda Bom Jesus	Sta Rita do Passa Quatro	SP
Haendel Brasílio Camargo	Estancia Zilah	Tambáu	SP
Joaquim Carlos Carneiro Siqueira	Faz Açude	Tambáu	SP
Mario César Bertoli	Sítio São João	Taubate	SP
Humberto Cavalheiro Andrade	Fazenda Boa Esperança	Vargem Grande do Sul	SP
Maquis Ranzani Júnior	Fazenda Cláudia	Vargem Grande do Sul	SP

## Brazilian Association of Girolando Breeders

### EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COMMITTEES – 2014/2016 TRIENNIAL

**President:** Jônadan Hsuan Min Ma

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President:** Magnólia Martins da Silva

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President:** Nelson Ariza

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President:** João Domingos Gomes dos Santos

**4<sup>th</sup> Vice-President:** Olavo de Resende Barros Júnior

**1<sup>st</sup> Administrative Director:** José Antônio da Silva Clemente

**2<sup>nd</sup> Administrative Director:** Jorge Luiz Mendonça Sampaio

**1<sup>st</sup> Financial Director:** Luiz Carlos Rodrigues

**2<sup>nd</sup> Financial Director:** Odilon de Rezende Barbosa Filho

**Institutional and Commercial Relations:** Ronan Rinaldi de Souza Salgueiro

#### Audit Committee

##### Holders

Thiago Bianchi Silveira

Alexandre Honorato

Ricardo Miziara Jreige

##### Substitutes

Afonso Celso de Resende

Eire Ênio de Freitas

Roberto Almeida Oliveira

#### Advisory Board

##### Holders

Everardo Leonel Hostalácio

Renato Cunha Oliveira

José Geraldo Vaz Almeida

Roberto Antônio Pinto de Melo Carvalho

Marcelo Machado Borges

##### Substitutes

Aurora Trefzger Cinato Real

Silvão de Castro Cunha Júnior

Leonardo Xavier Gonçalves

José Ricardo Fuiza Horta

Guilherme Marques de Resende

### Board of State Representatives

AL – Domicio José Gregorio A. Silva  
AL – Marcos Ramos Costa  
BA – Ângelo Lucciola Neto  
BA – Luiz Hage Rebouças (REP)  
BA – Valdemir Acácio Osório (REP)  
CE – Francisco Teógenes Sabino  
DF – Cézar Mendes  
DF – Geraldo de Carvalho Borges  
DF – Rúbio Fernal Ferreira e Souza  
DF – Walter Alves de Queiroz  
ES – Elimário Perterle Fiório  
GO – Itamir Antônio Fernandes Vale  
GO – Luiz Fernando Della Corte  
GO – Thiago Araujo Dias da Costa  
MG – Ângelo André Fernandes Júnior  
MG – Breno Barbosa Costa  
MG – Emílio Afonso França Fontoura  
MG – Fabiano Rodrigues Lopes  
MG – Fabrício Siqueira  
MG – Fernando Peres Nunes  
MG – Gustavo Frederico Burger Aguiar  
MG – Horácio Moreira Dias  
MG – João Machado Prata Júnior  
MG – Jorge Papazoglu  
MG – José Afonso Mota Ronzani  
MG – Luciano Gouveia Fulgueiras  
MG – Luiz Fernando Reis  
MG – Luiz Paulo Levate  
MG – Márcio Luiz Mendonça Alvim  
MG – Maria Cristina Alves Garcia  
MG – Minoro Hélio Maurício Yamamoto Júnior  
MG – Paulo Henrique Machado Porto  
MG – Paulo Melo Salomão Gonçalves  
MG – Paulo Roberto Andrade Cunha  
MG – Plácido Borges Campos  
MG – Rodrigo Ribeiro Inácio  
MS – Adão Paes Sandim  
MS – Anísio Manoel da Silva  
MS – Nilo Alves Ferras  
MT – Aylon Neves (REP)  
MT – João Nilson Pinto de Barros  
MT – Luciano Lacerda Nunes  
PA – José Luiz Dantas  
PE – Alexandre Saraiva de Moraes  
PE – Gustavo Alberto Concentino de Miranda  
PE – José Adilson da Silva  
PE – Waldemar de Brito Cavalcanti Filho  
PR – Ronald Rabbers  
RJ – Jean Vic Mesabarba  
RJ – José Gabriel Souza Machado  
RJ – Roberto Pimentel de Mesquita  
RO – Darcy Afonso da Silva Neto  
RO – Walter Waltenberg Silva Júnior  
RS – Carlos Jacob Wallauer  
SP – Danilo Carvalho Michelin  
SP – Eduardo Lopes de Freitas (REP)  
SP – Fructuoso Roberto de Lima Filho  
SP – Guilherme Ribeiro Meirelles  
SP – João Carlos de Andrade Barreto  
SP – João Eduardo Reis Benini  
SP – Lauro Texeira Pena  
SP – Mateus Ribeiro Abdal  
SP – Miltom Okano  
SP – Paulo Yamamoto  
SP – Virgílio Pittom  
SP – Waldir Junqueira de Andrade





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Dairy Cattle



MINISTRY OF  
AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK  
AND FOOD SUPPLY

