

What's ahead in this ABV release

August 2024 ABV Release Update

HIGHLIGHTS

- Improved reliability for Heat Tolerance ABV
- National Breeding Objective review
- 2025 ABV release schedule

Note animal rankings are not official until 1 pm Monday 19 August

Heat Tolerance ABV now more reliable

A recent update to the Heat Tolerance ABV has improved reliability of the trait in Holsteins and Jerseys.

The reliability for Holsteins increased 10 percentage points while Jerseys had a modest 1% improvement. As a result, the reranking for Heat Tolerance ABV was greater for Holsteins than Jerseys.

Heat Tolerance ABV reliability

	2017	2024
Holsteins	38%	48%
Jerseys	38%	39%

The model for the Heat Tolerance ABV has not changed. The update involved using an expanded reference population and more SNP markers utilised in the evaluation. The expanded reference population includes records from 9,020 herds in six states.

Read more

- [Heat Tolerance ABV fact sheet](#) (a quick read)
- [Heat Tolerance ABV tech note](#) (technical detail)

Jetstream included in Good Bulls App

Bulls sold by Jetstream Genetics are now included in the Good Bulls App.

Good Bulls App

DataGene's media campaign for the August ABV release is the Good Bulls App. The campaign includes farmer testimonials, print media editorials, social media and direct emails to industry stakeholders.

National Breeding Objective review

DataGene's review of the National Breeding Objective is now under way.

The first phase of industry consultation has been completed: preparation of a discussion paper, an

online survey and in-depth interviews with farmers. During August and September DataGene will be holding face-to-face and online workshops with stakeholders in the herd improvement industry to discuss key learnings from the survey and interviews and implications for the National Breeding Objective. If you would like your organisation to be involved in this process, please contact [Peter Thurn](#)

Other elements of the review process include detailed scientific and economic analysis followed by further discussion on options and recommendations. This process will be overseen by the Genetic Evaluation Standing Committee, with the view to implementation in DataGene's December 2025 public ABV release.

[Read more](#)

Genetic Progress Reports

Just a reminder that Genetic Progress Reports are updated after every public ABV release. They are published on DataVat and available for herds that herd test or genotype their animals.

2024/25 ABV Release Schedule

	Release	Bull rankings
December 2024	Tue 3	Mon 9
April 2025	Tue 1	Mon 7
August 2025	Tue 12	Mon 18
December 2025	Tue 2	Mon 8
Full details: 2024 release schedule 2025 release schedule		

Acknowledgement

DataGene is an initiative of Dairy Australia and the herd improvement industry. DairyBio provides the research pipeline to develop and maintain Australian Breeding Values.

More information

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