DataConnect
Information for early connectors

Key points

- Dairy businesses with GEA on farm software are invited to connect to DataGene's Central Data Repository via a secure system.
- Connected businesses can access more accurate meaningful herd and animal reports on DataVat.
- Some data will also be used in the industry's genetic evaluation system, so your connection will contribute to more accurate (and potentially new) Australian Breeding Values and indexes.

Invitation to connect: GEA dairies

Dairy businesses with GEA dairies are invited to join DataGene's DataConnect project to become an early connector to DataGene's Central Data Repository (CDR). By connecting, data from your on-farm software (Dairy Plan) with be sent to the CDR daily via automated transfer. This has benefits to both your business and the industry.

Benefits to your business include:

- More accurate breeding values for your animals. This is particularly the case for health and fertility traits. If you have in-line milk meters, we are working on ways to enable this data to be used to generate breeding values and potentially herd test reports.
- Being able to access more meaningful reports about your business via DataVat such as the Genetic Progress Report, Mastitis Focus Report and Fertility Focus Report.

We are also working on ways to integrate data from on-farm systems that currently don't talk to each other.

Benefits to the industry include:

- More accurate breeding values for bulls and other animals. Performance records of the progeny of

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DataConnect is a multi-year project that explores ways the industry can work, pre-competitively and collaboratively, to tackle the challenges farmers experience when exchanging and integrating data.

This is a step towards the vision of enabling farmers to make data-driven decisions with a pipeline that allows single data entry; multiple uses.

DataGene is working with a variety of milking equipment manufacturers, on-farm software providers and dairy farmers to identify the best mechanisms to connect their data to the Central Data Repository and to provide customised solutions as needed.

Proof-of-concept connections have been achieved with farms using GEA and DeLaval systems. This demonstrated the potential to feed into the CDR large volumes of historical as well as an ongoing transfer of daily data, including new types of data.

DataGene is now working with individual farmers to connect their systems to enable data exchange with the Central Data Repository.

animals will be added to genomic information to provide a more accurate prediction of genetic merit.

- Larger, more complete data sets for research projects.

Is my business eligible?

At this stage, the IT systems are only in place for GEA Dairy Plan installations running on more recent versions. DataConnect is a multi-year project with a schedule for addition of other software installations over time. Following are the eligibility requirements for this first stage of early connectors:

- Australian dairy farm.

- Reliable and continuous internet connection to the shed computer.

- GEA installations: running DairyPlan version 5.2 or more recent.

Process

After receiving your expression of interest, DataGene will contact you to make an appointment for an online meeting at a mutually convenient time. During this meeting our IT staff will take you through a once-off connection process. The online meeting with our IT staff takes about 10 minutes although the whole installation process takes up to an hour. You only need to be present for the 10- minute meeting; the rest happens in the background on your computer.

The process involves giving DataGene's IT staff, temporary remote access to your system. We usually do this via Team Viewer or a product called Any Desk.

When we use Team Viewer, we receive a secure one-time password for access. Our access is cancelled once we disconnect.

We only have to set up the connection once unless we notice data is not flowing. In that case our IT staff would contact you to address the issue.

Data-sharing system

During the connection process, we install software called Ori-Automate and a script. Combined, these enable your data to be shared with DataGene's Central Data Repository and DataVat. Data is transferred via a Managed File Transfer (MFT) server. Our MFT server is protected by Cloudstrike, giving you peace of mind of a secure data transfer pipeline.

If you are concerned, our script can be verified by your IT provider before installation. Just let us know if you would like the information to do this.

Support

Once you are connected, DataGene's support staff can help you get set up for DataVat, where you can access herd reports including breeding values for your cows, the Mastitis Focus Report and Fertility Focus report.

How to get involved

If you'd like to participate, and think you meet the eligibility criteria, click on this link or scan the QR code to fill in an expression of interest form.

Contact us

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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.