

Base Change Summary - January 2009

Each year, the genetic base used to express genetic evaluations in Canada is updated in conjunction with the first official release. The definition of each genetic base used is therefore as follows:

Breed(s)	Traits	Genetic Base Definition Used
All	Production	Cows born during a 3-year period centred seven years ago (2001, 2002 or 2003) that have test day records in the Canadian Test Day Model genetic evaluation analysis.
Holstein	Conformation	Proven bulls born in the most recent complete 10-year period (1994 to 2003).
Coloured	Conformation	Proven bulls born in the most recent complete 15-year period (1989 to 2003). For Canadienne and Milking Shorthorn breeds, the base period starts with proven bulls born in 1984.

The table below indicates the amount of base change realized in 2009 compared to 2008 for each trait and breed.

Base Changes for 2009 Versus 2008

	AY	BS	CN	GU	HO	JE	MS
LPI ¹	92	101	-94	294	161	96	-82
Milk (kg)	56	59	8	19	85	31	5
Fat (kg)	2.4	2.8	0.1	1.0	1.8	1.4	-0.4
Protein (kg)	2.1	2.4	0.1	0.5	2.4	1.4	0.1
Conformation	.44	.51	.05	.53	.89	.41	-.76
Mammary System	.40	.41	.35	.23	.85	.34	-.63
Feet & Legs	.40	.28	-.58	.71	.47	.30	-.40
Dairy Strength	.28	.49	-.19	.53	.67	.36	-.16
Rump	.27	.46	-.13	-.05	.25	.29	.36
Herd Life ²	.27	.02	-.11	.39	.22	.30	-.17
Somatic Cell Score ³	-.02	.01	.02	.01	-.02	-.02	.02
Daughter Fertility ²	.11	-.06	.17	.03	-.20	.29	.00

1 – Base change for LPI is based on a direct calculation as for each of the individual traits.

2 – Traits expressed on scale of Relative Breeding Values.

3 – For Somatic Cell Score only, negative base change values represent a desirable trend in genetic progress.