Many dairy producers are technologically savvy and seek out tools to help them better manage their herds. On the genetic front, the CDN website is one such tool, highly utilized by those keen on monitoring and querying genetic data. There are two ways to query animals on the CDN website: individually and by group. This article will cover tips and tricks for using the Group Query, while the previous article described the best ways to use the Individual Animal Query.

**Group Query**

There are two parts to the Group Query: the Quick Search, seen below, and the Advanced Search. Quick Search is used to easily query top male and Canadian-owned females for each breed simply by selecting the breed from the drop down list and then either Male or Female. If desired, you can also use the list of countries provided to select animals born in any specific country of interest. You can also select specific groups of animals based on their Evaluation Type whereby EBV refers to sires with a domestic progeny proof or cows with Canadian lactation and classification data included, MACE refers to foreign animals with a MACE evaluation provided through Interbull, and PA refers to animals with a Parent Average for production and/or type traits. The search can also be narrowed to include only genotyped animals and/or only animals considered to be active in Canada.

The Advanced Search, on the other hand, includes the same options as the Quick Search but can be used to return more specific query results for top male and female lists for each breed. It can be used to limit the query to only return animals with certain recessive and/or haplotype carrier results, from certain A.I. Controllers (males), from specified parents and/or born within defined date ranges.
Recessives and Haplotypes

Users of the Advanced Search can limit output results by the following recessive or haplotype carrier results:

- Coat Colour - for Holstein males and females
- Beta Casein - for Holstein, Jersey, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss and Guernsey bulls with a known Beta Casein test result submitted to CDN
- Polled – for all breeds and both sexes
- Brachyspina – for Holstein males and females
- Haplotypes - Haplotypes affecting fertility including Holstein (HH1, HH2, HH3, HH4, HH5), Jersey (JH1 and JH2), Ayrshire (AH1 and AH2) and Brown Swiss (BH1 and BH2) males, as well as the Haplotype affecting Cholesterol Deficiency (HCD) in Holstein

A.I. Controllers

Using this filter, the query will return results including sires from only selected A.I. companies. There are nearly 20 A.I. companies listed that are members of CDN, which includes both major international companies as well as organizations unique to Canada. One or multiple A.I. companies can be selected, while the default is to display sires from all companies.

Province

When querying females, results can be limited by province, which is usually determined based on the province associated with a DHI herd number. Females that are not part of a herd enrolled on DHI are included in the group identified as "Unknown – Canadian Owned".

Checking the "Non-Canadian" field will include foreign females in query results but, by default, the CDN queries only include Canadian-owned females.

Parentage

Both Females and Males of a certain parentage can be targeted in the Advanced Search. For example, perhaps the user would like to see if daughters of a certain sire are on the ground, or search for sons of a certain dam x sire combination. Both of these example searches can be accomplished by using the parentage section of the Advanced Search. The appropriate fields for this selection are automatically filled in when you select "Group Query" at the top of the page when viewing the Progeny list of any given animal, as shown below using Comestar Lautrust as an example.
Date of Birth

Use this final part of the Advanced Search when targeting males or females born after or within a certain date range. This feature can be used on its own or in conjunction with any of the other search tools.

Putting it all Together

The true power of the Advanced Query tool is revealed when refining a search for either males or females using various combinations of the options described above. Looking to query genomic young sires from a particular A.I. company that are A2A2? Wanting to limit search results to only include red carrier sires free of HCD? Hoping to find out where your polled female out of a given sire ranks in the world? The Advanced Query can do all these things and more! Try it out and discover the hidden power of this popular feature of the CDN website.

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