

80th PERCENTILE LIST FOR NET MERIT DOLLARS (NM\$)

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The guidelines for Phase 1 cost share dollars for the Dairy Genetic Improvement Program specify that dairy sires must be in the 80th percentile for Net Merit Dollars (NM\$). The NM\$ values for each dairy breed for the February 2006, February 2007 and May 2007 USDA Dairy Sire Summaries are listed below. To be in the 80th percentile (top 20 percent), a dairy sire must have a NM\$ value equal to or greater than the number listed. The latest genetic evaluations provide the most up-to-date information for making a decision regarding the genetic quality of an AI sire for which semen can be purchased. The genetic evaluations for May, 2007 were calculated on all-breed model which included all breeds and crossbreeds. Moving to an all-breeds base from a within-breed base caused a drop in PTA's of bulls in all breeds, particularly the breeds other than Holstein. Directions for looking up sire and cow genetic evaluation information on the web is also provided below. A list of the individual sires that qualify can be obtained as well.

List of NM\$ Values to Qualify for the 80th Percentile

<u>Breed</u>	Date of USDA Dairy Sire Summary		
	February 2006	February 2007	May 2007
Ayrshire	209	196	166
Brown Swiss	356	378	298
Guernsey	255	220	199
Holstein	373	372	369
Jersey	355	379	324

To access information on the current sire summary via the web, follow the directions listed below.

To Access Percentile Values for Net Merit Dollars:

1. The web site is <http://aipl.arsusda.gov>
2. Hit "EVALUATIONS"
3. Hit "Summary Data Tables and Lists"
4. Hit "Percentile Tables"

To Access a List of Sires Ranked on Net Merit Dollars:

1. The web site is <http://aipl.arsusda.gov>
2. Hit "EVALUATIONS"
3. Hit "Summary Data Tables and Lists"
4. Under "Bull Lists" Hit "Top sires and available sire lists"
5. Select "NM\$" for the breed you want under "Available in US"

Note: Active AI bulls in the 80th percentile or above are included for Holstein. For breeds other than

Holstein, the lists extend past the 80th percentile to include the top 30 bulls.
Sorted Lists from Previous Evaluations are also available

To Access the Previous Evaluation of a Bull

1. The website is <http://aipl.arsusda.gov>
2. Hit "EVALUATIONS"
3. Hit "Publicly Available Queries" under "Internet Animal Queries"
4. Hit "Get Bull Evaluation History" and key in the Bull's ID