

Nordic NTM promotion



NAV workshop
10th January 2013

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History of NTM

Nordic countries have unique history of total merit indices

Nationally:

- Total merit index in Nordic countries since 1980'ies
- More traits included when possible
- Economic background analyzed regularly

Nordic:

- Joint total merit index introduced in 2008

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NTM is an economic breeding index

- NTM has a pure economic background
 - Small modifications by users
- Tailor made for Nordic production circumstances
- Holstein herd 100 cows and +10 NTM units equals an extra yearly profit of 10.000 EURO

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NTM Promotion

Activities in 2012

- Publications and presentations
- Common tools that support NTM
- Farmers knowledge and satisfaction
- NTM practical proof

Future plans

- Cooperation

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Common NTM promotion in 2012

Papers for Viking Magazine – what is NTM and why should Nordic farmers use it?

- The Nordic Total Merit Index is yours
- NTM is tailor made for Nordic farmers
- Risk of losing money if you don't select sires by NTM
- NTM ensures balanced breeding – an example of udder health and milkability
- Check out the current genetic level and the development of the Nordic dairy breeds

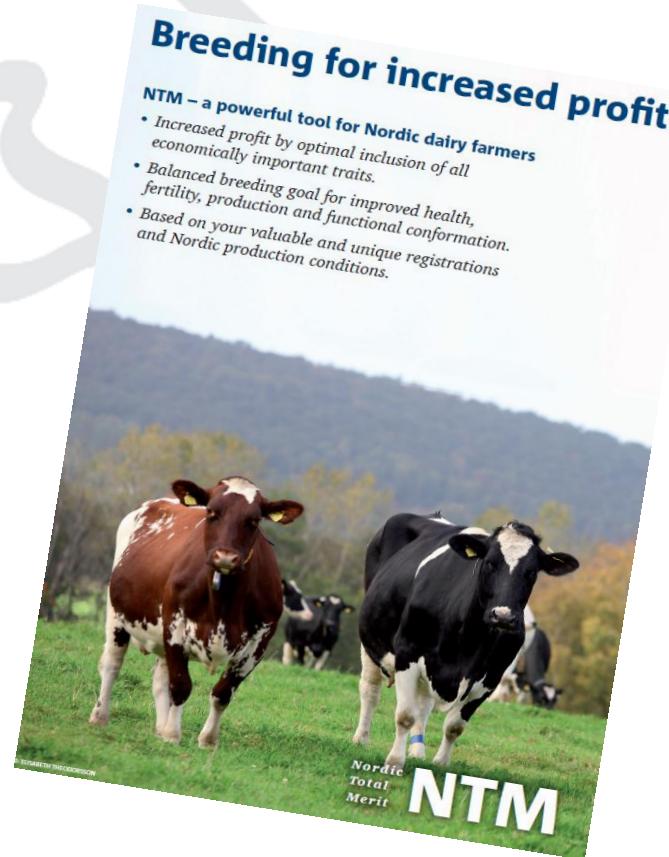
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Common NTM promotion in 2012

- NTM folder in 4 languages
(edited in Sweden)



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Swedish NTM promotion in 2012

- Presentations:
 - Holstein breed association yearly meeting (March 2012)
 - Regional courses for breeding advisors (Sept 2012) and seminar for young farmers (Oct 2012)
 - SRB yearly conference with theme "Breeding" (Dec 2012)
- Publications:
 - SRB breed magazine/leaflet
 - Magazine "Husdjur"

tema avel & fruktsamhet • NTM

NTM ger mer pengar över

NTM fungerar i praktiken, det konstateras i en danskt undersökning. Preliminära resultat visar att detsamma gäller i Sverige.

Det nordiska NTM-indexet som ska spägla in individuella totalekonomiska värde fungerar. Det visar en undersökning som gjorts i Danmark att kor med höga NTM har bättre beteckningar. Varje besättning delades upp i två grupper, kor med höga NTM och kor med låga NTM. Grupperna jämfördes sedan utifrån resultaten i sin första laktation.

– Resultatet visar att kor med höga NTM producerade i genomsnitt 6 kilo mer protein per år. Om man räknar om det till kilo mjölk så är det 382 kilo mjölk per ko och år i en svensk medelbesättning, säger Camilla Rosman, VikingGenetics.

I undersökningen jämfördes även

kor med fruktansamhet och hälsa, vilket också pekade på en fördel för de kor som hade höga NTM.

– De hade fem dagar kortare period mellan första och sista insemination och när det gäller hälsa så hade de två procent färre leverinfektioner, säger Camilla Rosman.

– Resultatet visar att NTM ger mer pengar över, säger Camilla Rosman.

Kor med höga NTM-värden hade 2 procent färre leverinfektioner.

Mjölk har Emma Carlén undersökt hur situationen ser ut för svenska kor. Hon har fått på renasiga holstein- och SRB-kor födda mellan 2007 och 2009 samt räknat med deras första och andra laktation.

– Det återstår annu en del arbete med siffrorna, men jag kan säga så mycket att

NEDAP LACTIVATOR BY FAR THE BEST IN HEAT DETECTION

23m³ med stående skruvar

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Finnish NTM promotion in 2012

- Paper in Nauta magazine
- Advertisement in Faba magazine
- Talks for cattle owners in 4 different meetings



Tuottavaa terveyttä
NTM

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Common tools that support NTM

Nordic trend page developed in Sweden



DFS trends

HOL Holstein

NTM

Production

Sex Bulls Cows

Calving

Health

Joint sire and cow evaluation

Country

DFS

Denmark

Finland

Sweden

Other

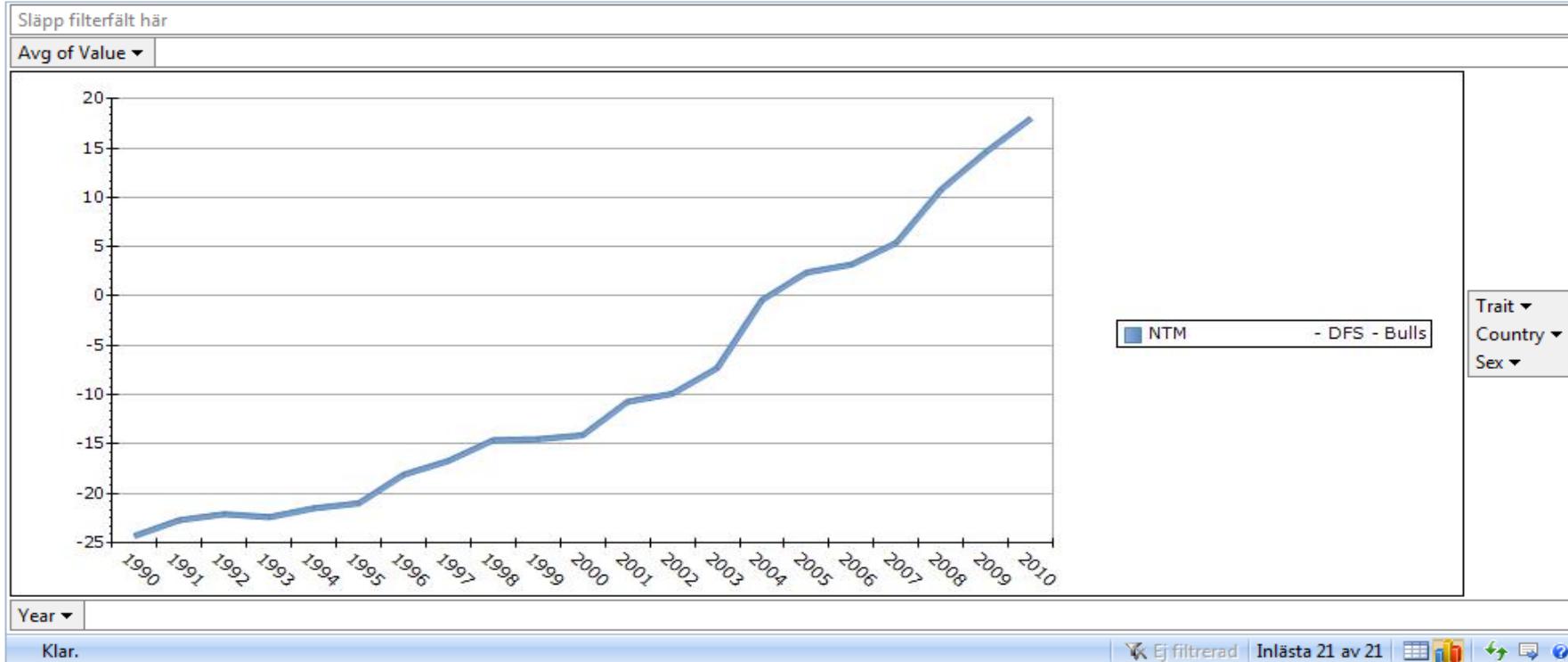
Conformation

Fertility/survival

Management

HOL

2013-01-02



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Common tools that support NTM

Nordic trend page developed in Sweden

- Documents a trend of approx. 2 NTM units per year
- Page described in Viking magazine
- Page can be found at:
 - <http://www.nordictrends.sweebv.info>
 - "Webbtjuren" (www.sweebv.info) - DFS trends
 - Landbrugsinfo.dk – kvæg – avl - Avlsværdital for malkekvæg
 - www.faba.fi – Jalostus – Lypsykarja – Jalostusarvon ennusteet – Pohjoismaiset trendit

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Common tools that support NTM

Nordic Interbull database developed in Finland

Interbull EBVs		Suomeksi		På svenska		Dansk		In english		Русский [Русский]	
Breed	Country	Int.ID									
RDC	--	--									
Interbull name											
<input type="button" value="Search"/>											
Indices from evaluation: 03.12.2012											
Page 1/50 Next											

1 [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#) [10](#) [11](#) [12](#) [13](#) [14](#) [15](#) [16](#) [17](#) [18](#) [19](#) [20](#) [21](#) [22](#) [23](#) [24](#) [25](#) [26](#) [27](#) [28](#) [29](#) [30](#) [31](#) [32](#) [33](#) [34](#) [35](#) [36](#) [37](#) [38](#) [39](#) [40](#) [41](#) [42](#) [43](#) [44](#) [45](#) [46](#) [47](#) [48](#) [49](#) [50](#)

Int.ID	Interbull name	Born	NTM	Pr	Fer	Birth	Cal	Uh	Ms	Te	Lg	F&L	Uc	Mkg	Fkg	Pkg	Sbs	Sbmgs	Ces	Cemgs	Cc	Body	St	An	Cw	Bd	Ra	Rw	Rlsw
DNK-000000036560	R Harvard	2006	31	120	99	104	96	115	107	106	110	113	103	121	115			104	96	113	107	108	113	91	97	77	99	93	
DNK-000000036678	Viking Red Cirkel Cigar	2007	30	120	99	97	95	101	108	100	109	115	112	123	117			97	95	99	117	111	100	113	112	87	114	88	
SWE-000000092671	Buckarby	2006	28	109	111	102	103	114	115	101	110	115	101	105	108			102	103	98	97	98	107	100	93	102	85	104	

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Knowledge and satisfaction

Danish survey

Representative cattle farmers (117 persons)

- Age
- Use AI technician: no (21%) - yes (79%)
- Breed: HOL (57%), RDC (17%), Jersey (15%), cross (11%)
- Herd size: below 200 cows (67%), above 200 køer (33%)

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What do you achieve by using sires with high NTM?

	Percent
Cows with higher profit	66 %
Cows with higher production	48 %
Cows with lower costs	50 %
Cows with longer production life	45 %
Nothing	7 %

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How much higher profit is expected during the lifetime of a heifer calf with +10 in NTM compared to an average heifer calf?

	Procent
0 EURO	7 %
65 EURO	15 %
200 EURO	38 %
265 EURO	17 %
400 EURO	29 %
665 EURO	4 %

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What affect selection of sires used for AI?

	Percent
NTM	54 %
Price	12 %
Foreign indeces	3 %
Pictures of daughters	2 %
Breeding advisor	47 %
Indices for special traits	47 %
Personal relations	3 %
I do not select sires	29 %
Other	7 %

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If a colleague asked what sires to use in his herd, would you recommend ONLY to select based on NTM?

Yes	53 %
No	47 %

Among "No" the most important traits are: NTM and single traits

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From where do you have your knowledge?

	Percent
Farmers school	50 %
Colleagues	17 %
Viking breeding advisors	86 %
Viking Magazine	70 %
Viking homepage	17 %
Meetings	35 %
Breeding advisors - other companies	5 %
Other magazines	37 %
Other	5 %

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Do you have acces to sufficient information?

Genomic selection

Yes	87 %
No	13 %

Breeding values

Yes	91 %
No	9 %

NTM

Yes	79 %
No	21 %

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Knowledge and satisfaction

Conclusion from Danish survey

- NTM is well known and recognized
- Users know the concept behind NTM
- Level of information is adequate

HOWEVER, situation might be different in Sweden and Finland – similar survey will be done!

Outcome: might need to inform differently in countries

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NTM practical proof

Result within herd



Half with lowest NTM

Half with highest NTM

Difference in yield, fertility, health ect.
between high and low group

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Results for 60 large Danish HOL herds

Highest half compared på lowest half
- 1. lactation

Protein yield	+ 13 kg
Days from 1 st to last insemination	- 5 days
Cows with mastitis	- 2 %
Cows that survive to 2 nd lactation	+ 4.5 %

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Results for 60 large Danish HOL herds

Highest half compared på lowest half
- 2. lactation

Protein yield	+ 12 kg
Days from 1 st to last insemination	- 3 days
Cows with mastitis	- 1.5 %
Cows that survive to 3 rd lactation	+ 8 %

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NTM practical proof

Used by Viking advisors in Denmark

- Herd specific results are a part of farm visits

Example from Jersey herd

Parameter	NTM u. 10	Antal dyr	NTM o. 10	Antal dyr2	Forskel
1. lak kg mælk	5182,6	60	5523,4	31	340,8
Kg. Fedt	319,8		336,8		17
kg Protein	216,2		234,1		17,9
Kg F+P	536		570,9		34,9
2. lak	5831	39	6483,2	28	652,2
Kg. Fedt	349,8		394,3		44,5
kg Protein	249,8		283,1		33,3
Kg F+P	599,6		677,4		77,8
Overlevende 2. lak	74,5	59	93,5	31	19
Overlevende 3. lak	46,1	52	63,1	19	17
Pct. Kør med mastitis beh, 1 lak	15	60	12,9	31	-2,1
Pct. Kør med mastitis beh, 2 lak	29,1	38	21,4	28	-7,7

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NTM practical proof

Used by Viking advisors in Denmark

- Advisors feedback: Herd owner acknowledge results
 - Important that it is on the basis of own cows

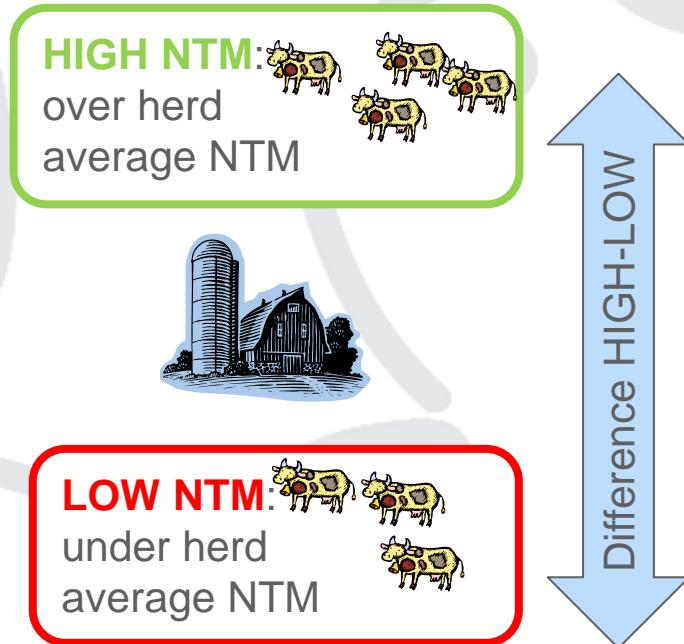
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NTM practical proof: Preliminary Swedish results

- Similar analyses but different material
 - All Holstein and RDC herds
 - Cows with 1st calving 2009 with pedigree index in Dec 2008 and at least 5 AI-sires used within herd-year
 - Model with NTM class (low/high) and herd as effects



DIFFERENCE IN INDICES AFTER DIVIDING ON NTM		
Breeding value	HOL	RDC
NTM	8,1	8,1
MIN	8,2	5,4
Mastitis	3,0	1,8
Birth index	2,4	1,1
Calving index	1,4	1,7
Fertility	-0,7	1,0
Longevity	2,4	5,4

NTM practical proof: Preliminary Swedish results

Value per 10 NTM-units – here first lactation results		
Trait	HOL	RDC
Milk (305d), kg	270	110
Protein, kg	12	9
Fat, kg	9	11
Mastitis (-10-150d), %	-0,9	-0,2
Calving difficulties, %	-1,5	-1
Stillbirths, %	-1,7	-0,8
Calving to First Ins, d	-0,6	-0,4
Number of ins	0,04	0,03
Calving Interval, d	0,5	1,1
First to Last Ins, d	0,9	1,1
Survival 2nd lact, %	2	5
Survival 3rd lact, %	4	5

NTM practical proof: What's next

- Extend Swedish analyses
 - Increase the material with more years and traits
 - Compare with theoretical expectations
- Test another measure for fertility i.e. non-return
 - Less affected by that high index female get more chances to become pregnant
- Common NAV meeting in February to discuss and compare methods and results

**Similar results will be available
in Denmark, Sweden and Finland**

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Future plans

Cooperation

- More close Nordic cooperation on information – as stated in NAV strategy
- Survey to decide if information must be differentiated
- Herd specific results to document NTM
- Common leaflet NTM
- More focus on describing the phenotypic and economic effect of breeding values

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More close Nordic cooperation on information

*By doing communication jointly between Denmark, Sweden and Finland we can do **more and better!***

Until today only Viking Magazine:

- Backbone is common yearly communication plan – schedules work
- Papers are done in English and translated

More close Nordic cooperation on information

From 2013 also cooperation on:

- Variety of national magazines, conferences etc.
- Homepage
- Documentation and monitoring
- Information to Viking Genetics

