



*Make a difference to food production
internationally using science & technology*

Stakeholder survey – results Submissions

October 2020

Individual/association submissions

Holstein Friesian NZ (HFNZ)

National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
(NAWAC)

+ some anonymous and individual submissions

Individual/association submissions

Holstein-Friesian NZ

NBO should be based on **accurate data**, get the basics right before adding traits including niche traits

Suggest a major review of **liveweight, including non-linear weighting**

Review of the VCR (suggest 1:1 fat to protein value and 10-year average milk price)

Noted that Fonterra are removing the capacity adjustment which has implications for the **milk volume penalty**

Fertility – important but lack of accurate data, **more confidence in fertility BV required** before increase weighting

More weighting required on **udder overall**

Environmental traits need to have integrity before give up progress on profit traits

Validation required of new breeding company traits (environment trait examples given)

High output index of **lower priority**

Favour **3-5 year update**

Farmer confidence is key

Should aim to **enable farmers to tailor data** to their own needs by providing them tools/data to do this

Individual/association submissions

NAWAC

Recommend that **animal welfare issues**, including physical health, species-specific behaviour and mental health, **are considered when animals are selectively bred** for specific traits

NAWAC is encouraged by the **dairy industry's recent focus on animal welfare** and its proactive approach regarding dairy cattle genetics

Believe **breeding for more efficient nitrogen and GHG cows** will ultimately affect profitability based on customer views of NZ dairy systems

Would like NZAEL to consider whether **heat tolerance traits** should be included in BW

Support: increasing weighting on fertility (but are against direct selection on GL); using indirect selection of udder overall as part of functional survival; specific OAD index; consideration of FE tolerance (also raised polled-ness); stand-alone calving difficulty trait.

Concerns: over future viability of bobby calf industry; sustainable intensification to reduce the impact of livestock production on the environment could result in more emphasis on high-producing, biologically efficient livestock rather than welfare.

Individual/association submissions

VCR for Westland dropping to 0.738 for 20/21 season

Concern about liveweight penalty and non-linear argument

Questioned why breed difference for BCS not included in BW

The following organisations/people have given permission to share their submission

Please click on individual link to access original submission.

[Holstein Friesian NZ \(HFNZ\)](#)

[National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee \(NAWAC\)](#)

[Michelle Burgess](#)