FOCUS ON TECHNOLOGY

Illuminate Your Herd's Genetic Potential with Enlight™

New online resource puts your herd's genetic data at your fingertips

Every month, the Holstein Association USA Genetic Services department fields a number of calls from breeders wanting more efficient and flexible access to data on their Holstein cattle. Whether it's wanting faster access to interim genomic predictions or a spreadsheet updated with the latest PTAs for their herd, the message is clear – there is a real demand for higher level of service when it comes to your herd's genetic information. At the National Holstein Convention last month, we were excited to unveil a new product that will help Holstein breeders manage their herd genetics more effectively – Enlight™.

What is Enlight?

Enlight is a unique tool that provides convenient, timely, web-based access to your herd's genetic information, easily accessible on a computer or tablet. It includes a variety of reports, graphing and analytical tools to help Holstein breeders make more informed selection and mating decisions in their herds, speeding genetic progress. This exciting and valuable resource is a collaboration between Holstein Association USA and Zoetis, combing the strengths of both organizations for the benefit of all dairy producers breeding Holstein cattle, making the process of obtaining and utilizing genetic and genomic data easier and more efficient for Holstein Association USA members and Zoetis customers.

Breeders enrolled in Enlight will have access to the most up-to-date, official genetic information on the animals in their herd. Enlight displays pedigree and genetic data just as it appears in the Holstein herdbook, and the web site is refreshed nightly, meaning that as soon as a new calf is registered in the herdbook, her information will appear in Enlight the next day. Additionally, when new genomic results become available, they will be accessible in Enlight the morning they are released, and users will be able to log in and view reports containing the updated genomic PTAs.

While Enlight includes a variety of intuitive tools to work with herd data, reports can also be exported as spreadsheets, so breeders can customize them further in a program such as Microsoft Excel. Being a web site, Enlight is not tied to a specific operating system, and works equally well on PCs or Macs, and iPad or Android-based tablets.

Comprehensive Reports

Enlight provides breeders with access to Holstein reports they are familiar with, but in a more timely and convenient format. The reports allow users to sort, filter and drill down into data to help find the information that is valuable for decision making.

BY LINDSEY WORDEN

- **Youngstock Report** mimics the traditional Youngstock Genetic Report that is distributed twice a year to herds participating in the TriStar™ program. It contains non-milking animals in the herd, defined by age and coded status. In addition to basic pedigree information, this report contains genetic information on all of the major traits.
- **Herd Report** closely resembles the Genetic Herd Report that is distributed to TriStar herds. It contains milking animals in the herd, defined by age and coded status, and contains all of the same fields as the Youngstock Report.
- **Individual Genomic Prediction** provides a report of genomic information compared to traditional PTAs for animals with new interim predictions, very similar to what producers genomic testing through Holstein USA currently receive.
- **CLARIFIDE® Report** will be familiar to anyone who has genomic tested through Zoetis, and contains information on genomic tested animals, broken down into several tabs, including Core Traits, Composite Indexes, Genetic Conditions and Type Traits.
- **Genetic Conditions Report** aids breeders in monitoring genetic conditions that are recorded for Holstein cattle, including both haplotype and specific gene test information.

Flexible Graphing Tools

Enlight includes a variety of graphing tools that allow you to view information and analyze trends in a variety of ways.

- **Animal Snapshot** is a graph that focuses on individual animals, while the others look at information on a herd level. This is a one-of-a-kind tool that is unique to Enlight, and allows breeders to quickly assess the strengths and weaknesses of animals for a variety of traits.
- **Analyze Genetic Variation** is designed to help producers understand the variation in predicted genetic merit in their herds. There are two types of graphs – histograms help demonstrate the average and range in PTAs of the herd; scatterplots can be used to examine the relationships among traits and identify animals that excel in different combinations of traits.

- **Evaluate Genetic Progress** allows a herd to benchmark the genetic merit of their herd versus breed average for the past 10 years for a variety of traits.
- **Inbreeding Evaluation** allows breeders to monitor inbreeding trends in their herd over the past 10 years, looking at the median, minimum and maximum inbreeding levels for each year, as well as identifying outliers.
- **Sire Genetic Distribution** illustrates the number of offspring from a bull in a herd, and can be broken down by birth year.

Register Your Calves Online

Starting in August, breeders will have the ability to register calves directly within Enlight through the ID tab. This section will closely mimic the Association's longstanding electronic application system – EASY ID, and will be familiar to those who have used that program before. Breeders can register calves, order custom ear tags and request genomic tests directly from Enlight.
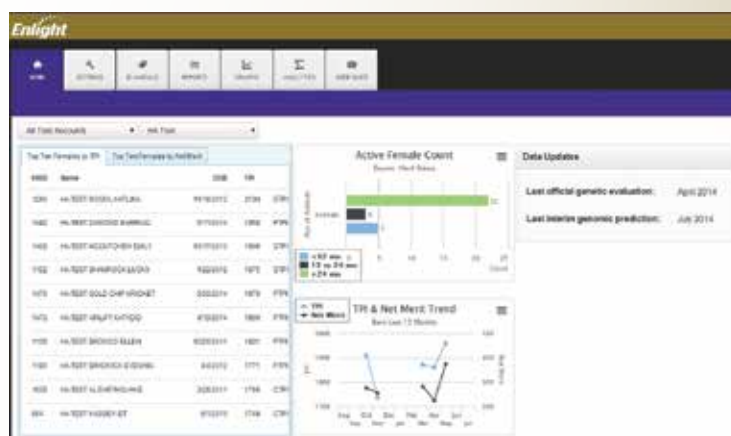
Helpful User Guides

Enlight is packed with many features, but the information is not valuable if users cannot figure out how to access the data they are looking for. The User Guide section includes several tutorial videos for every section of the web site, designed to help users understand all of the features of the various reports and graphs, as well as how the information can be used on the farm to make more informed decisions. The videos can be watched at your leisure, so help is always available when you need it.

Who is eligible to use Enlight?

Any producer who is participating in genomic testing is eligible to use Enlight. Once enrolled, all genomic tests ordered by accounts that are affiliated with an Enlight login will be genotyped by Zoetis using their CLARIFIDE chip. All historic genomic results for animals owned by an Enlight herd, regardless of which lab they were tested by, will be available through the tool, a benefit of Enlight directly reflecting information contained in the Holstein USA herdbook. Because of that link, in order to appear in Enlight, all animals must be officially identified, either registered or Basic ID. There is no charge to enroll in Enlight; it is available for free as a benefit to producers utilizing the CLARIFIDE product for genomic testing.

Enlight's principal goal is a core mission of your Association – Holstein breed improvement. Ultimately, Enlight provides the resources necessary to translate genetic and genomic data into effective selection, management and mating decisions, leading to a more profitable herd of Holstein cows. Learn more about this exciting new tool at **www.enlightdairy.com**, contact your Holstein Association USA regional representative to schedule a demo, or call Customer Service at 800.952.5200 to enroll.

— Lindsey Worden
is Executive Director, Holstein Genetic Services

Enlight

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Home Dashboard

Animal Snapshot Graph

Genetic Progress Graph

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