



ANAFIJ



Progetto presentato nell'ambito della Sottomisura 10.2  
PSRN-Biodiversità 2014-2020 ANAFIJ



"Fondo europeo agricolo per lo sviluppo rurale: l'Europa investe nelle zone rurali" - Autorità di gestione: MIPAAF  
Ministero delle Politiche Agricole Alimentari e Forestali

# The Use Of Economic Indexes And Genotyping In Practise On The Example of Italian Farms

***Giulio Visentin, Maurizio Marusi, Valentina Ferrari***

*Italian Holstein and Jersey National Breeders Association (ANAFIJ)*

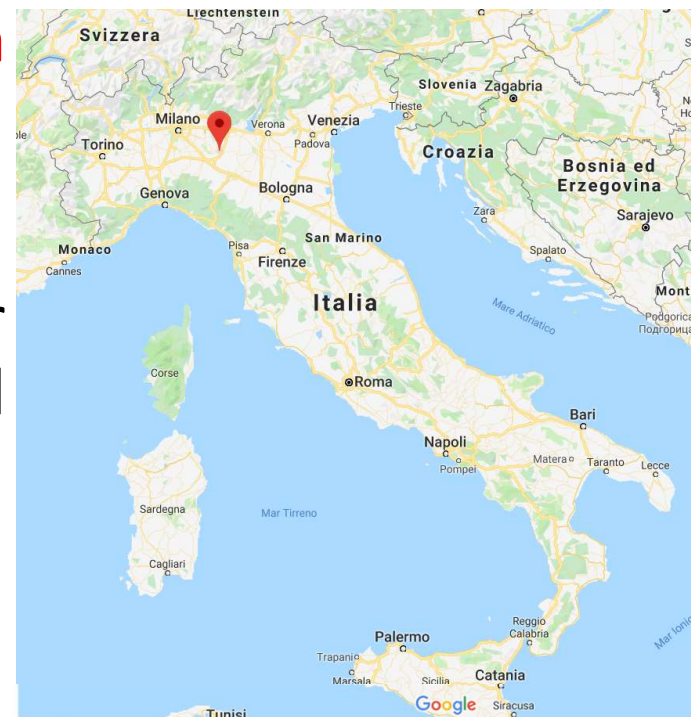


**II Forum Genetyczne: Indeks Ekonomiczny stworzony przez hodowców – dla hodowców**

Piątnica (Poland), November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019

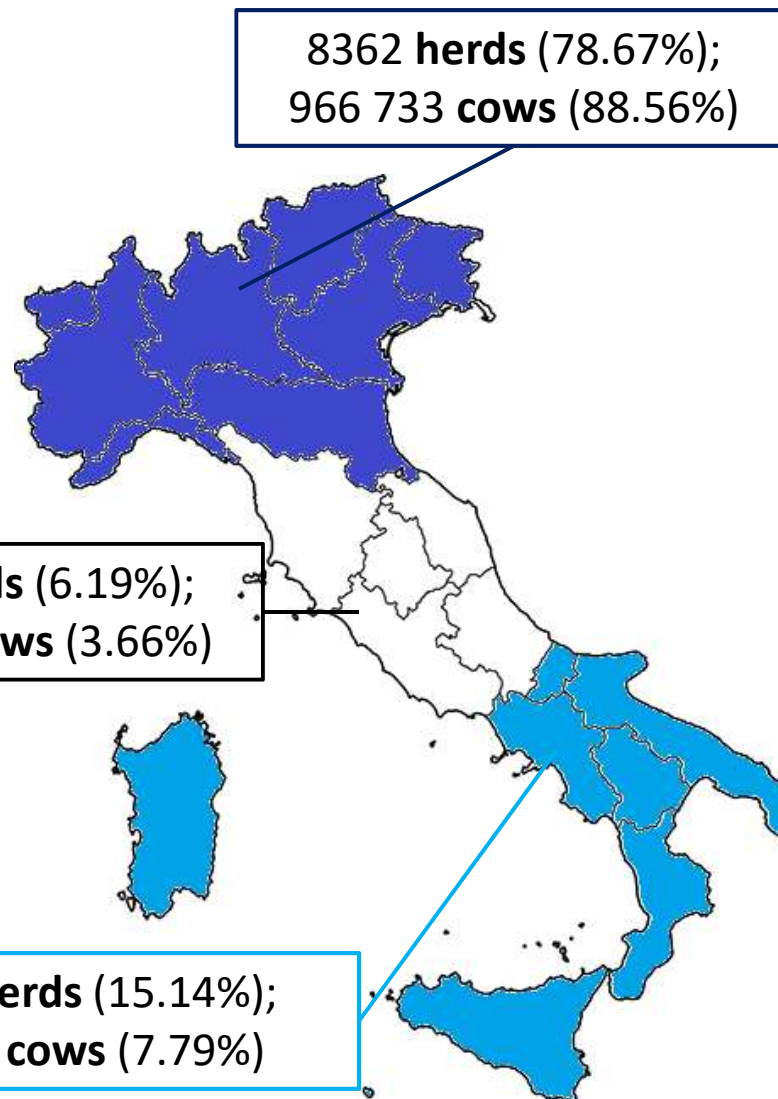
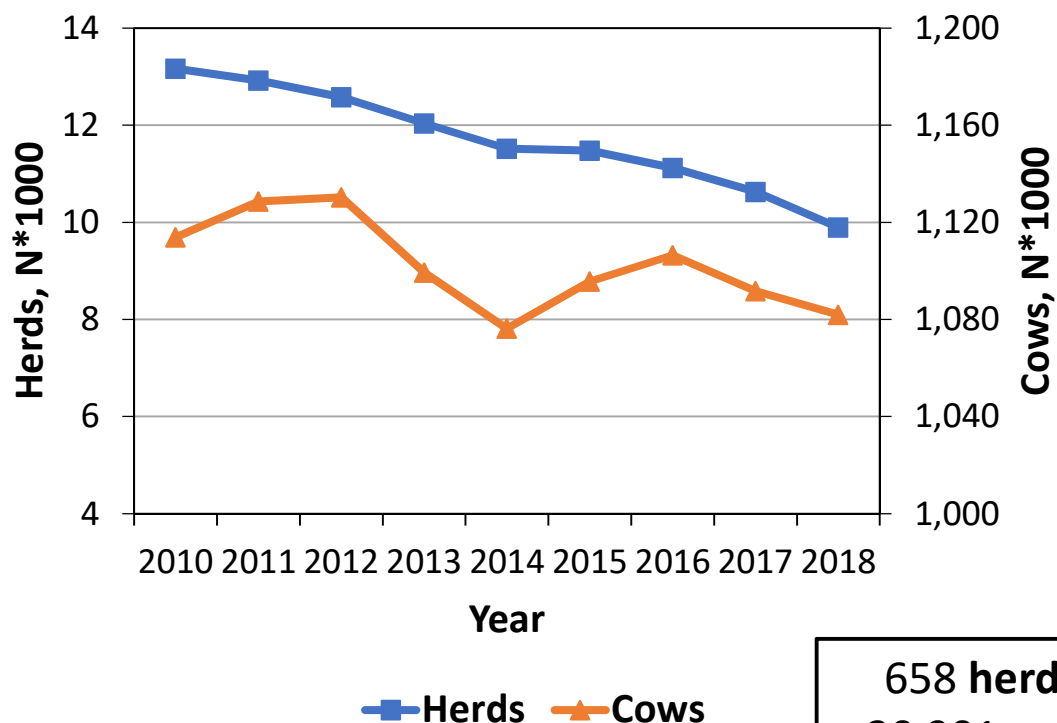
# ANAFIJ (ex ANAFI)

- **Selection, promotion, and valorization** of Italian Holstein and Jersey
- Herbook, genetic evaluation, linear type scoring, dairy show, bull quarantine, services for farmers and AI centers and importers





# Holstein In Italy ... In Numbers!



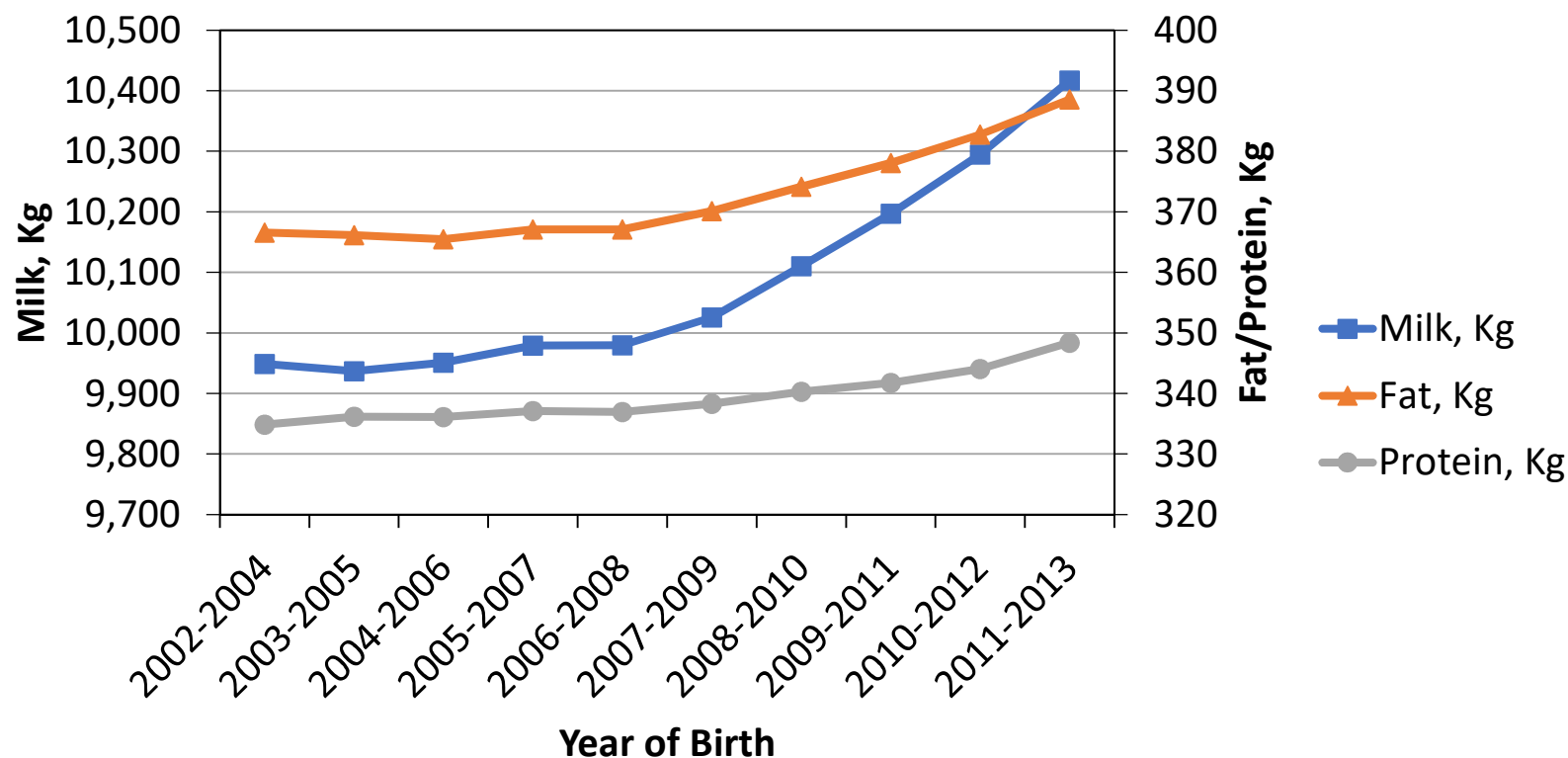


# Holstein In Italy ... In Pictures!



# Holstein In Italy ... Who Is She?

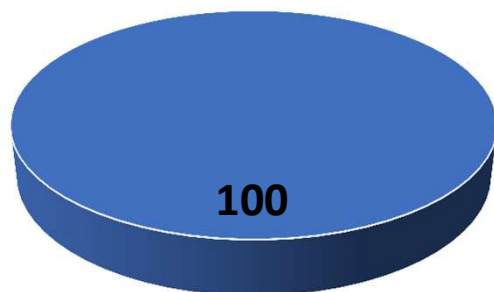
**Genetic Base Trend**



- +5% Milk Yield, +6% Fat Yield, +4% Protein Yield in 10 years
- 2.7 Lactations, 420 d Calving Interval, 3.73% Fat, 3.35% Protein

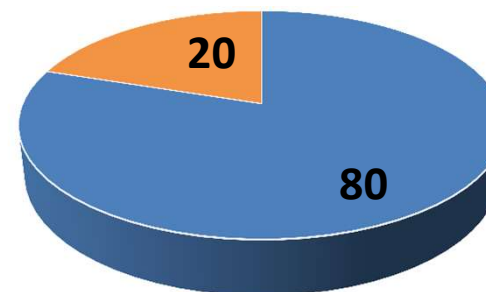
# Evolution Of Italian Breeding Objective

**1983 Milk Quality Index (ILQ)**



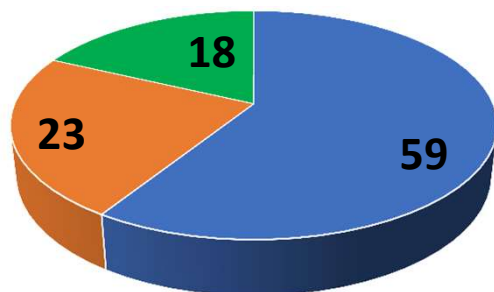
■ Production

**1993 ILQ + Morphology (ILQM)**



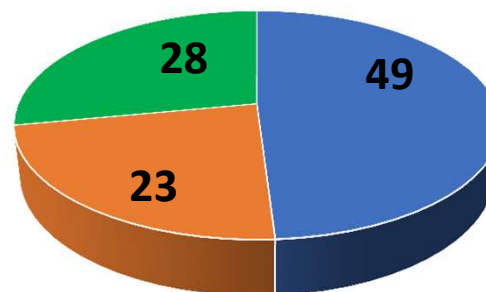
■ Production ■ Morphology

**2002 Prod. Functionality Type (PFT)**



■ Production ■ Morphol. ■ Functionality

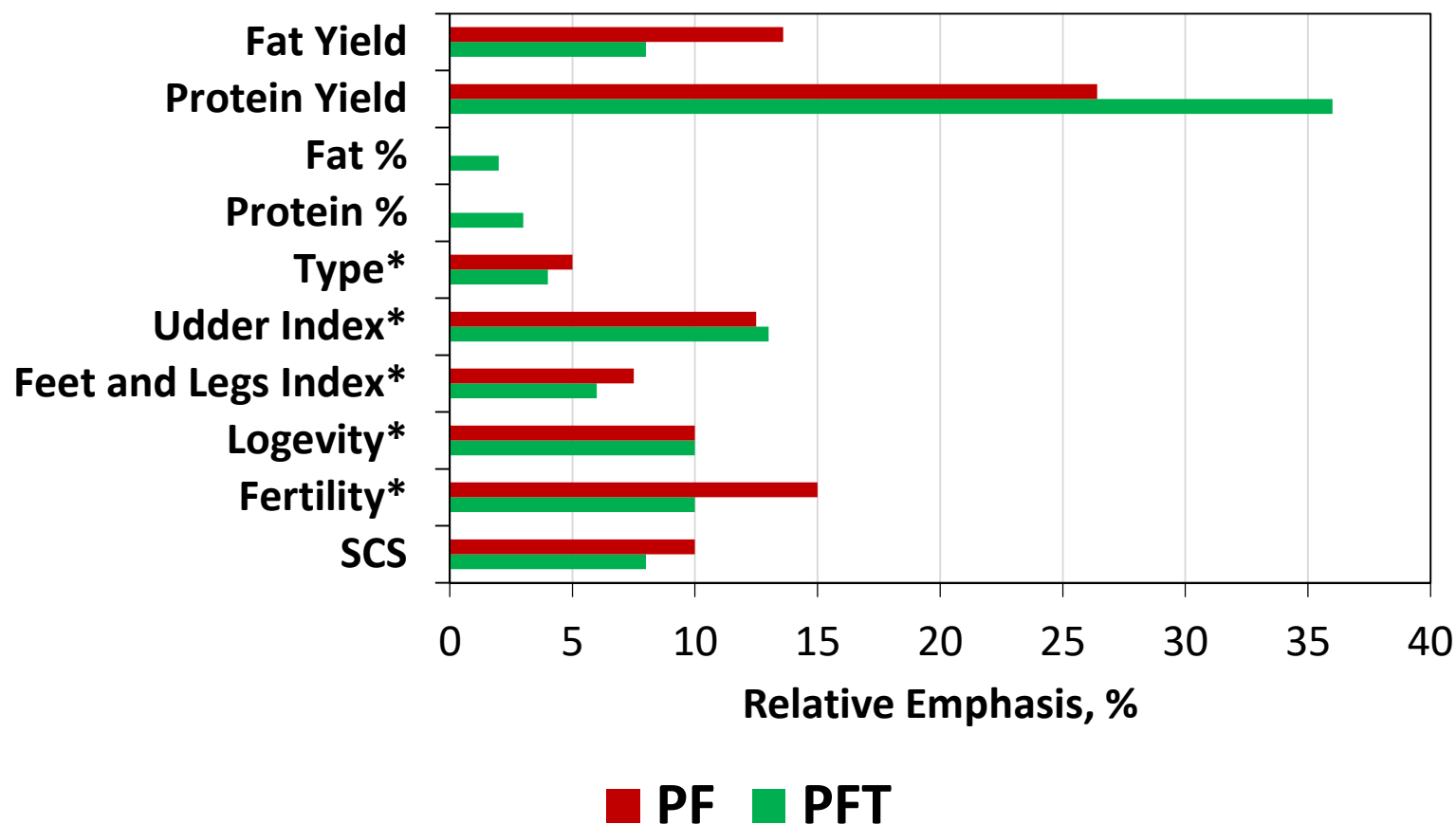
**2009 Prod. Functionality Type (PFT)**



■ Production ■ Morphol. ■ Functionality



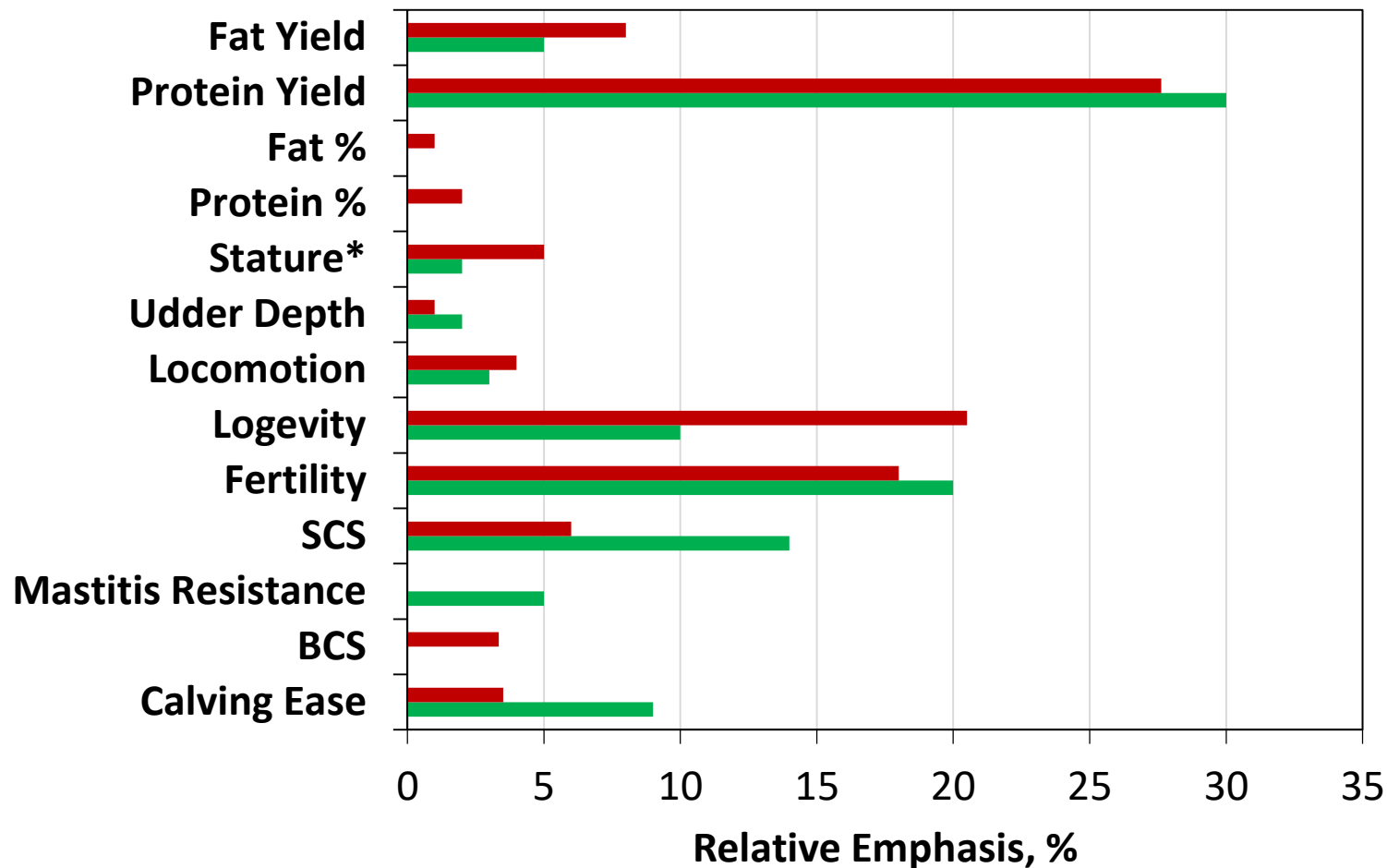
# PF vs PFT



\*Different traits included for calculation of aggregate indexes;  
Polish 'Type' combination of both Body Frame and Dairy Strength

# IES vs ICSP:R

Indice Economico Salute



\* Negative weight

# Why Two Economic Indexes?

- Italian dairy farmers: many and operating in **various market systems**
- Economic value of genetic indexes differs based on milk final destination (i.e., fluid vs cheesemaking)
- IES and ICS-PR give farmers a more realistic idea of the capacity of a 'breeding decision' to contribute to **farmers profit**
- Breeding goal is the same: **▲ Revenues ▼ Costs**



# Genomic Testing

## EFFORTS FOR FARMERS

- ✓ **Collection** of biological sample (hair/saliva)
- ✓ **Little cost** (30-40 €, paid back with  $\approx$  3 days in milk) once




## ADVANTAGES FOR FARMERS

- ✓ **Highly reliable** genetic merit **early** in life
- ✓ Opportunity to choose the **best cows as dams** for next generation
- ✓ Preciser **mating plans**
- ✓ **Parentage** verification
- ✓ Test presence of advantageous/deleterious **genetic factors/haplotypes**

# A Bit Of Refresh

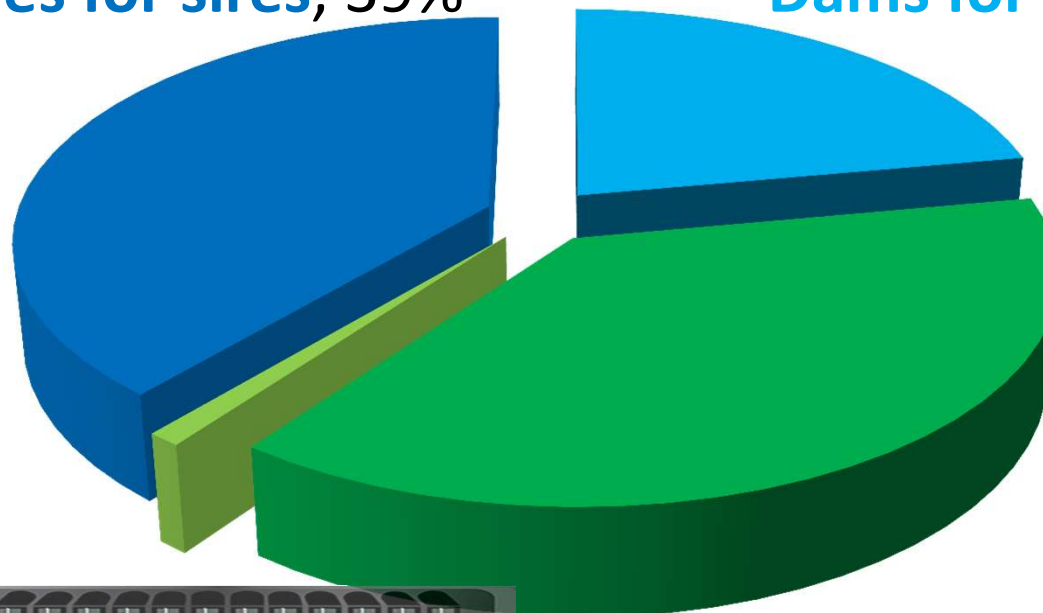
- (Annual) **Genetic gain** is a measurement of the **effectiveness** of a breeding program to **improve** animals genetic merit

$$\Delta G_{annual} = \frac{i * r * \sigma_a}{L}$$


AI  
Center

Sires for sires, 39%

Dams for sires, 22%













Farmer

Dams for dams, 1%

Sires for cows, 38%

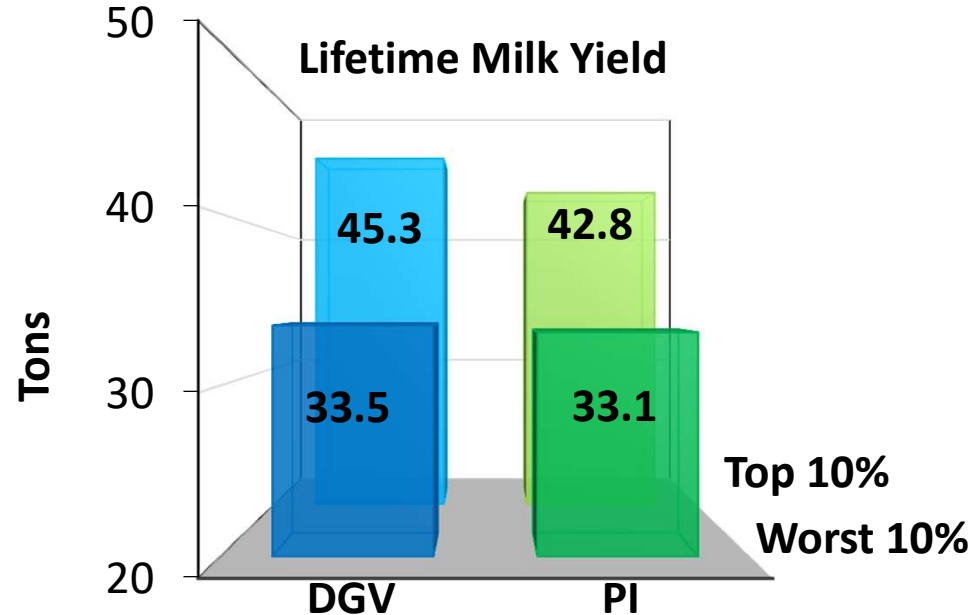
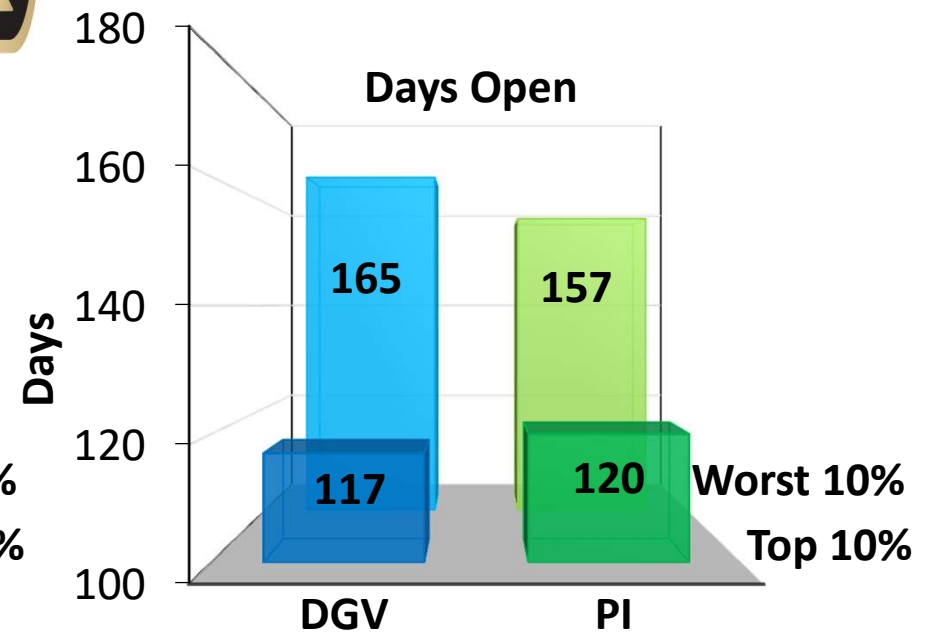
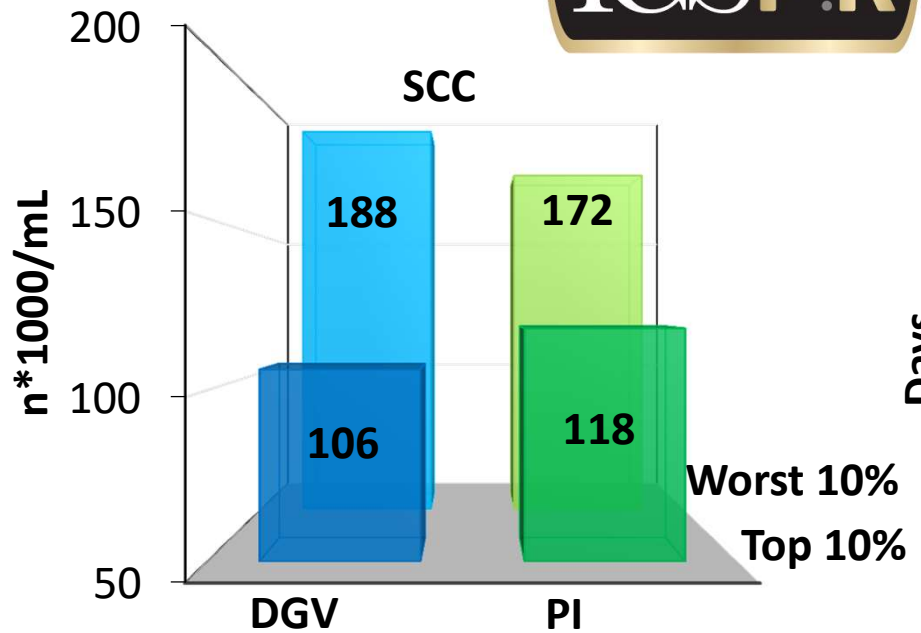
# 'Preciser' Ranking ... Is This True?

- 22,514 genotyped cows with phenotypes, 3 indexes available:

|                       |  |  |    |    |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Pedigree Index</b> | Parental average  | -   |    |    |
| <b>DGV</b>            | Sum SNP effects   | 30-40 €   |    |    |
| <b>GEBV</b>           | Blended EBV   | 30-40 €   |  |  |

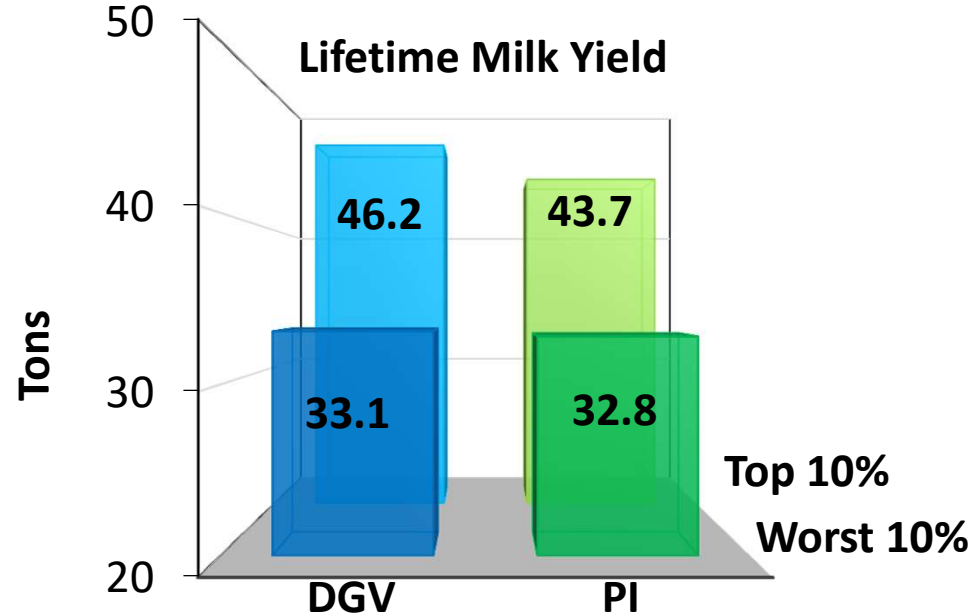
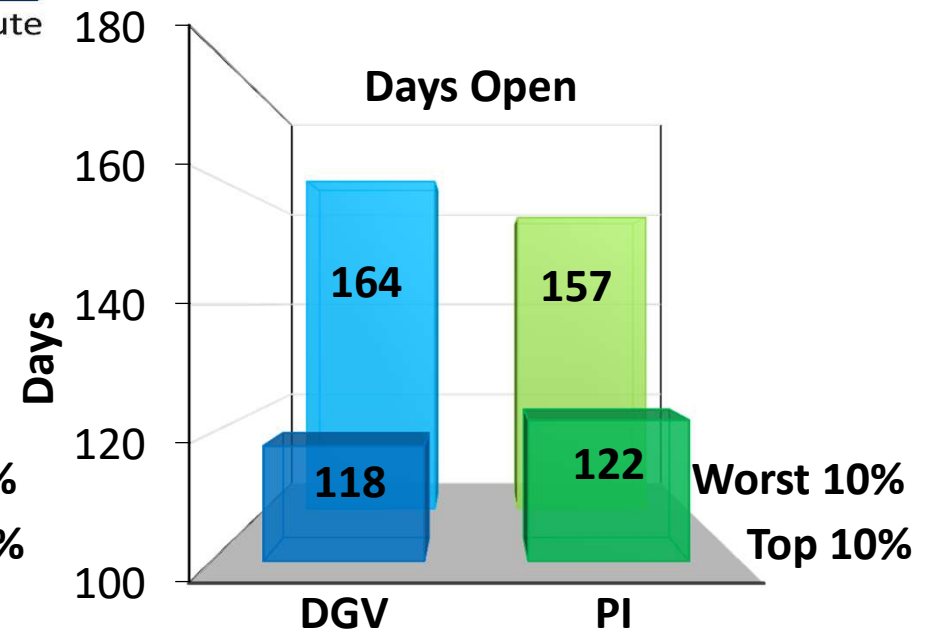
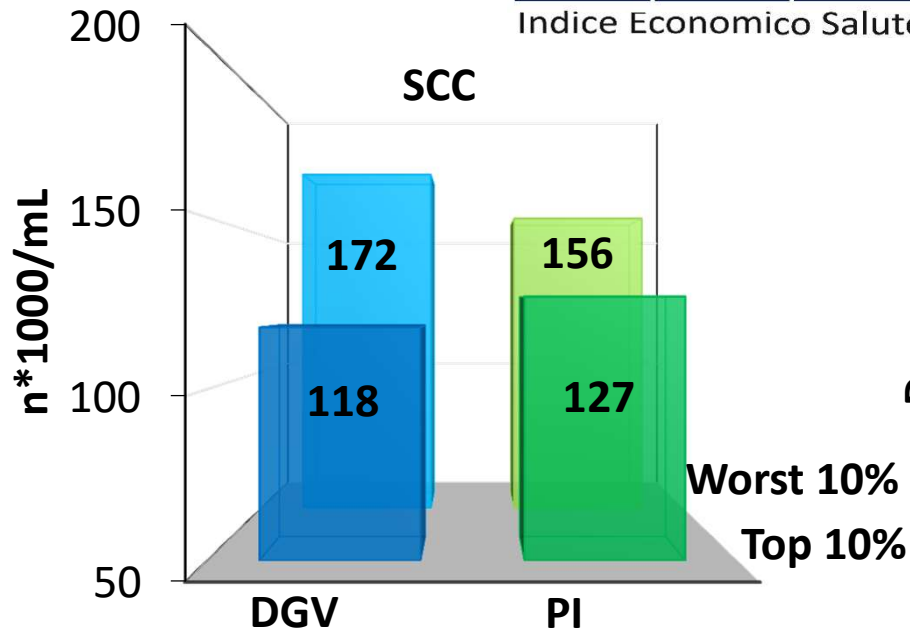
- Sort these cows for IES / ICS-PR both PI and DGV (like if they are heifers!!!) and compare their performances ...

## ICSP:R



## IES

Indice Economico Salute



# 'Preciser' Ranking ... Is This True?

## SCC

|                          | DGV                    | PI                     |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Δ Top-Worst, n/mL</b> | 54 000                 | 29 000                 |
| <b>€ Premium TOP</b>     | 239                    | 226                    |
| <b>€ Premium WORST</b>   | 85                     | 85                     |
| <b>€ Δ Top-Worst</b>     | 153<br><b>(653 zł)</b> | 141<br><b>(601 zł)</b> |

## Days Open

|                          | DGV                     | PI                      |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Δ Top-Worst, days</b> | 46                      | 35                      |
| <b>€ Lost TOP</b>        | 0                       | 16                      |
| <b>€ Lost WORST</b>      | 352                     | 296                     |
| <b>€ Δ Top-Worst</b>     | 352<br><b>(1876 zł)</b> | 280<br><b>(1492 zł)</b> |



## Lifetime Milk Yield

|                        | DGV                        | PI                         |
|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Δ Top-Worst, Kg</b> | 13 100                     | 10 900                     |
| <b>Kg DM/Kg milk</b>   | 0.44                       | 0.44                       |
| <b>€ Kg DM</b>         | 0.30                       | 0.30                       |
| <b>€ Kg Milk</b>       | 0.40                       | 0.40                       |
| <b>€ Extra profit</b>  | 3511<br><b>(14 973 zł)</b> | 2921<br><b>(12 457 zł)</b> |

# Genotyping In Italy

- All AI bulls (**pre-selection**), exchange with US, CA, UK and CH
- Farmers initially interested in genotyping top cows
- Some farmers starting to **genotype all females** in the herd
- **Research stimulus/i** (e.g. LATteco) to show benefits of herd genotyping and facilitate farmers

| Year        | Holstein        | Jersey |
|-------------|-----------------|--------|
| <b>2017</b> | 8000 + 120 HD   | 400    |
| <b>2018</b> | 11 000 + 120 HD | 400    |
| <b>2019</b> | 11 000 + 120 HD | 400    |

- 30/10/2019: 61 258 ♀ with DGV/GEBV

# Which Strategy?



**THE 'CONSERVATIVE'**



**THE 'PROGRESSIVE'**

## WHAT THEY SHARE

|                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Adult cows, n               | 100 |
| Culling rate, %             | 30  |
| Stillbirth rate, %          | 10  |
| Calf-heifer culling rate, % | 15  |
| Age first calving, months   | 26  |



|                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Replacement heifers, n         | 96        |
| >7 mo. heifers non pregnant, n | 45        |
| Pregnant heifers, n            | 35        |
| <b>Replacement animals, n</b>  | <b>77</b> |

# Which Strategy?



**THE 'CONSERVATIVE'**



**THE 'PROGRESSIVE'**

**WHAT THEY SHARE**



**GENOTYPE ALL FEMALES!!**

# How They Differ



## THE 'CONSERVATIVE'



- ✓ **Sexed semen** not admitted
- ✓ **Conventional semen** used in both heifers and cows
- ✓ **Beef semen** used in cows exceeding replacement (low genetic merit cows)



## THE 'PROGRESSIVE'

- ✓ **Sexed semen** in high genetic merit heifers, eventually cows
- ✓ **Conventional semen** used in remaining animals needed as replacement
- ✓ **Beef semen** used in cows exceeding replacement (low genetic merit cows)

# A Few Values

|                                       |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Value purebred<br/>Holstein ♂</b>  | 75<br>(1.5€*50 kg)  | 320 zł  |
| <b>Value CROSSbred<br/>Holstein ♂</b> | 280<br>(4€*70 kg)   | 1194 zł   |
| <b>Conventional semen<br/>dose</b>    | 15-20   | 64-85 zł  |
| <b>Sexed semen dose</b>               | 40-50   | 170-213 zł  |
| <b>Beef semen dose</b>                | 5-8   | 21-34 zł  |

# How Is He Doing?

---



## THE 'CONSERVATIVE'

- Pregnant animals/year  $\approx$  110, beef semen used in 33 (110-77)  
low genetic merit cows

 Higher conception rates (less semen doses to buy)

 Some Crossbred males to sells

 Lower selection intensity (more animals to breed)

 Income from males selling = 12 165 € (51 871 zł)

# How Is He Doing?




## THE 'PROGRESSIVE'

- Pregnant animals/year  $\approx$  110, beef semen used in  $\approx$ 65 (110-45)  
low genetic merit cows

 More selection intensity (less animals serviced for next gen.)

 More crossbred animals to sells (3-4 times more valuable!)

 Lower conception rate (more semen doses to buy)

 Income from males selling = 18 650 (79 523 zł)

# Who is the winner? IT DEPENDS!



**THE 'CONSERVATIVE'**



**THE 'PROGRESSIVE'**

- Both are looking at **preciser ranking**, good for genetic gain!!
- Both are **quantifying heifers** needed, good for environment
- Good market situation for **crossbred animals** (as nowadays) may give some advantage to **'the progressive'**
- **'The progressive'** needs **higher managment** capacity for fertilitv



**ANAFIJ**



Progetto presentato nell'ambito della Sottomisura 10.2  
PSRN-Biodiversità 2014-2020 ANAFIJ



"Fondo europeo agricolo per lo sviluppo rurale: l'Europa investe nelle zone rurali" - Autorità di gestione: MIPAAF  
Ministero delle Politiche Agricole Alimentari e Forestali

# Dziękuję Bardzo!

[giuliovisentin@anafij.it](mailto:giuliovisentin@anafij.it)



**II Forum Genetyczne: Indeks Ekonomiczny stworzony przez hodowców – dla hodowców**

Piątnica (Poland), November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019