

# What's ahead in this ABV release

## August 2025 ABV Release Update

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Free workability reporting via HerdData App
- Auto upload of genomic information
- Changes coming in December
- 2026 ABV release schedule

*Note animal rankings are not official until 1 pm Monday 18 August*

### Top cow report

DataGene's top cow report is now published in a sortable excel file. Previously it was published only in pdf format, listed by region. [Available on DataVat here](#) (scroll down to Top cows – cows and herds).

### Cow ABVs and indices uploaded on HerdPlatform weekly

In case you missed it: Since February 2025, cow ABVs and indices have been updated on Herd Platform with every run (>40 times a year). In the past they were only updated three times a year, with public ABV releases. Having more up-to-date information available enables farmers and their trusted advisors to make more informed decisions, based on their herd's actual data.

### Auto upload of genomic information

System enhancements implemented in mid-2025 have enabled automated uploading of information for genomic testing. Genomic service providers and labs can now load genotypes and related information to a secure MFT with direct links to DataGene's database. The information is processed hourly everyday between 6 am - 3 pm (AEST). Users have direct access to a log file to view the results of the upload. This pipeline also enables direct submissions of genetic conditions and haplotypes data to DataGene's system.

### Workability reporting via HerdData App

DataGene recently released an updated version of the HerdData App. The app includes two new features:

- User management that allows the user to control who has access to their herd data.
- Free workability recording (no subscription required).

The old app no longer works. Users need to visit the App Store or GooglePlay and upgrade to version 3.

More info:

[About the HerdData App](#)

[Updating to HerdData Version 3](#)

### 2025/26 ABV Release Schedule

|   | Release | Bull rankings |
|---|---------|---------------|
| <b>December 2025</b>  | Tue 2   | Mon 8         |
| <b>April 2026</b>   | Wed 8   | Mon 13        |
| <b>August 2026</b>  | Tue 11  | Mon 17        |
| <b>December 2026</b>  | Tue 1   | Mon 7         |
| Full details: <a href="#">2026 release schedule</a> <a href="#">2025 release schedule</a> |         |               |

### Haplotypes in Good Bulls Guide

Haplotypes are now included in the Good Bulls Guide spreadsheet, available on [DataVat](#).

### Changes coming in December

Expect significant re-ranking of animals in the December public ABV release as a result of implementing the key recommendations from the review of the National Breeding Objective and delivery of the new Survival ABV. There will also be changes to the way intermediate optimum type traits are expressed. Bull owners will receive information from test runs in the lead up to the public release.

Changes coming in December:

1. Updated pricing for milk components and input costs (all breeds). Specifically, this means:
  - Changing the protein:fat ratio from 2:1 to close to 1:1.
  - Shifting to using forecasted milk prices.
  - Updating feed and management costs.
2. Calving ease and gestation length included in the Health Weighted Index.

3. Updated base (the average animal for breeding values).
4. Implement new Survival ABV
5. Change to the expression of intermediate optimum type traits.

**Read more:**

[Fact Sheet: NBO recommendations \(a quick read\)](#)  
[Updating the base tech note \(with technical detail\)](#)

## Connecting data pipelines

Dairy businesses with GEA and DeLaval on farm software are invited to join the [DataConnect](#) project which will link their data with DataGene's Central Data Repository.

Connected businesses can access more accurate meaningful herd and animal reports on DataVat. Some data will also be used in the industry's genetic evaluation system, so the connection will contribute to more accurate (and potentially new) Australian Breeding Values and indices. For more information contact Peter Thurn or complete the [expression of interest form](#)

## Understanding single step evaluations

The National Association of Animal Breeders (NAAB) in the US has recently published a video explaining single step evaluation. [Watch it here](#)

## Recent journal articles

Haile-Mariam, M et al (2025) Use of termination events and mortality data recorded during the lactation as a proxy to predict the genetics of resilience and health of dairy cattle. [Journal of Dairy Science 108 \(5\)](#)

## More information

Peter Thurn  
Stakeholder Relations Specialist, DataGene  
Ph: 0417 575 986 E: [pthurn@datagene.com.au](mailto:pthurn@datagene.com.au)

## Acknowledgement

DataGene is an initiative of Dairy Australia and the herd improvement industry. DairyBio provides the research pipeline to develop and maintain Australian Breeding Values.