



CANADIAN CENTRE
FOR SWINE IMPROVEMENT INC.

GOATS ON THE WEB

The Canadian Centre for Swine Improvement (CCSI) website has a section dedicated to dairy goats which offers members a variety of valuable tools that will help producers make informed breeding decisions for their herds. Using CCSI's database, you will have access to pedigree information, estimated breeding values (EBVs), milk records and inbreeding coefficients. The following is a short description of each of the tools available on the website and how they can assist producers in their selection work.

SEARCH

The *Search* page allows users to search for a specific goat using a CLRC registration number (ie: ca77777) or the goat's name (TayShire's Radhagast or just Radhagast) or the goat's tattoo number (ABC 123L). The search can also be used to find multiple goats from the same breeder. Once you have found the goat you are searching for you will immediately see its sex, birth date, sire and dam. You will also have access to any available pedigree information (up to 6 generations back) as well as progeny information. You will also have access to estimated breeding values (EBVs) and milk and type records if they are available for this particular animal. You can also access this information for any animal in the goat's pedigree simply by clicking on the name of the animal whose records you would like to view. Please be aware that while pedigree information is generally available to all users, EBVs and milk records may not be presented unless you have permission to access that herd's information.

REPORTS

The CCSI "Goats on the Web" site also offers producers tools that can be used to view and print graphs for their herds for *generation intervals* and *inbreeding coefficients*. It will also return a list of all matings with yet unknown kids. In addition, there are new reports that can track genetic changes using your herd's available information. It will produce graphs for any of the indices, milk production and type classification variables.

TOP KIDS

Top Kids is a tool that breeders can use to rank the kids in their herd. The program can rank either buck or doe kids within breeds and you can decide by what factors you wish to have them ranked. Choices include combined, production and type index as well as milk characteristics such as fat and protein yield, or by type classification markers such as general appearance, udders and leg conformation etc. The program is set to show all kids, highlighting the top 10 %, however you can change these settings to highlight any percentage you choose. This program allows producers to easily rank bucks and does based on genetic information from ancestors to be used when making breeding decisions.

ADD MATINGS

This feature allows you to enter in matings in order to keep your herd information as up to date as possible. This information can be used immediately in the other website features, such as Top Kids. Matings can be entered at anytime after they have taken place, birth dates and ID numbers for offspring can be updated manually or when the animal is registered with CLRC. This tool offers a convenient and fast way of managing and recording mating information online.

MAA-MAA LIFE

Maa-Maa Life is likely one of the most useful tools that CCSI has to offer producers. This feature allows users to see predicted inbreeding coefficients, EBVs and index values for potential offspring between any dam and sire. These EBVs are based on the EBVs for ancestors. Only inbreeding coefficients will be presented if the potential parents do not have enough EBV information to calculate any further data. This tool can be used as an additional resource to help manage inbreeding and make mating decisions. It is also an invaluable tool to be considered when applying a juvenile selection breeding scheme.

CCSI's "Goats on the Web", when used frequently, can be an invaluable tool to manage and keep track of your herd. All EBVs, registration tattoos, milk records and pedigree information are the most recent and up-to-date because of our contacts with DHAS, CGS and the CLRC. In the coming months, we are hoping to expand our services even further with improvements to our current programs, as well as new features. We hope to include a more involved online dating feature so that multiple dams and sires can be entered to test predicted EBV values for progeny, as well as reports on herd phenotypic and genetic trends.

Clickable icons to access lots of information!

In any web tool, you can click on any goat name (underlined, blue links) to see breeding values. Moreover, beside each animal name there are several fancy icons you can click on to see even more information.

Meaning of the icons:



Link to the pedigree



Link to progeny if it exists



Link to available performance records



Link to information known for this animal on CLRC website



Inbred animal : access to inbreeding coefficient

