

### **Sire Appraisal Regarding Type of Offspring**

The Department of Animal Science at the University of Guelph, in Canada's province of Ontario, conducts a detailed analysis of type characteristics of the progeny of bulls. This information is gathered from official classification forms and distributed throughout Canada.

Bulls of the Holstein, Ayrshire and Guernsey breeds are reported on the percentage of their daughters that are graded Good Plus, Very Good, and Excellent in the final class rating. The Canadian Jersey Cattle Club bases its sire comparisons on the average score of daughters rather than the percent of Good Plus or better.

The reports on each sire under each item in all breeds are significant only when compared with the breed average figures that are listed above the sire's summary. It is important to note that bulls are rated on the difference from the rolling breed average and therefore can always be compared to the average of the current population. Revised semi-annually, the reports are available across Canada in editions for each breed.

The published material facilitates corrective mating and improvement and has had a considerable impact on the development and progress of Canada's national herd. These proofs are used extensively by the AI industry in determining which bulls are to be kept and which ones are to be culled.

Dairy character – a component of type – is a useful indicator of production and is strongly correlated with genetic productive ability.

Research is constantly underway to find the combination of type characteristics that will allow the highest possible production over the longest period of time.

### **Show Ring Standards**

The show ring provides the display case for many of Canada's foremost breeders of purebred livestock. It is here that the end products of many years of breeding selection are compared. Judging is based on breed standards as set in True Type models and official score cards.

Productive ability is an integral part of the traditional ring entry requirements. It ensures that the winning animals not only display good type but are capable of producing at a rate commendable for the breed.

