



Q: Where does Accelerated Genetics conduct their genomic scanning?



COWAN

A: All of our sires are genomically scanned through Genetic Visions, Inc., Accelerated Genetics research subsidiary, located in Middleton, Wis. Once the genomic scan data is complete, the raw data is forwarded to the USDA where they transform the information into genotypes using their reference populations. The USDA then uses a subset of genotypes to calculate a Genomic PTA for each of the 29 traits presently listed.

Genetic Visions, Inc. has been leading the industry in bovine research since 1988. Genetic Visions recently achieved Illumina's CSPro Certification for Infinium Whole-Genome Genotyping. While this certification is not required for a lab to conduct genomic scans, the certification demonstrates that additional steps are in place to maintain quality assurances. At present there are three commercial labs in the United States conducting bovine genomic scans.

Further, Genetic Visions is the only research lab with extensive records and blood work of bull dams existing prior to 1996. This crucial information helped the USDA complete the genomics evaluations now adopted by the rest of the industry!

Q: Can producer's get there own Holstein or Jersey animals genomically tested?



COWAN

A: Currently, only NAAB members can receive Genomic PTAs for males, but dairy producers can test and receive Genomic PTAs for all females. Most females are tested through the Holstein Association USA or the American Jersey Cattle Association. At present the Holstein and Jersey breeds are the only dairy breeds with genomically scanned reference populations large enough to provide Genomic PTAs. Once DNA from a cow or heifer has been scanned, information converted into genotypes and Genomic PTAs calculated, the breed association provides the owner with the results and publishes the results on an official pedigree.

In closing, further research at the USDA and Genetic Visions will increase the reliabilities of futuresire evaluations and further uncover the bovine genetic map, continuing genetic progress at an increasing rate. Accelerated Genetics and Genetic Visions are dedicated to continuing research dedicated to the discovery of genetic selection or omission tools to advance genetic progress for cattle producers around the world. Accelerated Genetics will continue providing the best genetics available through our PACE young sire sampling program and GeneFORCE elite genomic young sire groups.

GENETIC VISIONS RECEIVES NEW CERTIFICATION

Recently, Genetic Visions, Inc. passed their final lab audit for Illumina's CSPro Certification Process for Infinium® Whole-Genome Genotyping. This was the final phase in the certification process. The entire certification process involved written exams, data generation, demonstration of lab proficiency, data analysis and quality control.

"Ultimately, we went through this certification process to better utilize Illumina's genotyping technologies," says Dr. Mike Cowan, General Manager of Genetic Visions, Inc. "We have met the standards that Illumina requires in-house to use its equipment, procedures and data analysis. Our lab's certification ensures that our genomic scans will be of the highest quality."

TOP SIRES AVAILABLE IN



ACC-SS sexed semen is available from breed-leading sires like: 014HO04876 Paxton, 014HO4924 Kramer, 014HO03597 Potter, 014JE00473 Louie, 014JE00472 Alexander and 014BS00314 Driver. Accelerated Genetics is excited to offer its top genetics to customers interested in increasing their heifer ratios through the use of sexed semen.

For a complete listing of ACC-SS sires available, contact your local representative or go to www.accelgen.com for the most current listing.



TAKE PHOTOS, WIN A DIGITAL CAMERA

Do you enjoy taking photos? Well if so, have you ever thought about entering a photo contest? This year Accelerated Genetics' Annual Photo Contest is giving away a digital camera to the winning entry along with some other great prizes. The themes for this year's contest are: 'Favorite Cows' and 'Picturesque Pastures'.

For full contest details check out the January 2009 Genetic Trends or go to www.accelgen.com.

