

# Estimation of Bull's Gene Effects for Milk Amount

---

Damir RIMAC<sup>1</sup>

Ivan JURIC<sup>2</sup>

Sonja JOVANOVAČ<sup>1</sup>

Nikola STIPIĆ<sup>2</sup>

Pero MIJIĆ<sup>1</sup>

## SUMMARY

---

In this paper we tried to estimate gene effects of three bulls that are mated with five populations of half-sisters by sire line for milk amount. We wanted to fortify whether the order of bull's gene effects was unchangeable or it was modified. Totally we analyzed 2824 lactation. Investigation was made on two different generations of Holstein cows (mothers and daughters). Analysis of results for milk production of mothers showed that between different populations of mothers exist significant differences ( $P < 0.05$  and  $P < 0.01$ ). It was fortified that order of bulls wasn't same i.e. that their breeding value (like sum of all present genes in one individual) was various on the different populations of cows.

## KEY WORDS

---

bulls, gene effects, milk amount, half-sisters

<sup>1</sup> University of Osijek, Faculty of Agriculture, Animal Breeding Department  
Trg sv. Trojstva 3, 31000 Osijek, Croatia

<sup>2</sup> University of Zagreb, Faculty of Agriculture, Animal Science Department  
Svetošimunska cesta 25, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia  
E-mail: drimac@pfos.hr

Received: May 29, 2003

## INTRODUCTION

Genetics and selection represent synonyms for continuous improvement of different economically important traits of domestic animals. Development of animal breeding in the world characterizes great genetic improvement of all traits in domestic animals with application of population and quantitative analysis (Lynch and Walsh, 1998) and also major application of molecular genetic and genetic engineering. Importance of artificial selection is big because by frequency modification of present and new mutated genes were created different genotype of animals' whit high production traits, which are used by people in realization of their economic benefits. Average value and variability of population depend of gene frequency and genotype frequency thus variation of traits in population is result of genotype variation and genes frequency variation. According to Jurić and Đikić (2001) existence of same character in population is a question of presence or absence of some genes in that specific population. Variations of gene frequency in practical selection performance provide a selection result (R). Each chosen parent has influence on modification of population with own gene effects while breeding value is represented by sum of all present gene in some individual. (Van Vleck and al., 1987; Falconer and Mackay, 1996). By investigation of bull's gene effects mated with different population of cows it will be given contribution to proficiency of estimated breeding values and also will be explored ratio between gene effects and gene interaction.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Investigation and estimation of bull's gene effects for milk amount in standard lactation (305 days) was made on five (5) "populations" of cows which were half – sisters by sire line. Each population of half – sisters (mothers) was mated with three different sires. In this way we obtained three subpopulations of mothers and daughters in each population of half – sisters by sire line. After logical control data were accepted and total number of individuals involved in this investigation was 2824 (1412 by each generation).

In this investigation, generations were designated with  $G_1$  (mothers) and  $G_2$  (daughters). Population of mother was marked like  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$  and  $M_3$ , versus daughters that we marked like  $D_1$ ,  $D_2$  and  $D_3$ . Table 1 represents the ways of mating from which we produce two generation of cows (mothers – M and daughters – D).

In mentioned schemes of mating, generation  $G_1$  (mothers) has 50 % genes from sire which made that population of half – sisters, while generation  $G_2$  (daughters) has 25 % portion of mothers sire blood (i.e. grandfather of mother) and 50 % portion of bull's gene which is mated with population of mother.

Statistical data analyses were made by statistical procedures of SAS (SAS Institute, 1996) and SPSS (Nie and al., 1975) programs. Existence of statistical differences between means was made by GLM procedure (proc GLM). Pearson correlation coefficient was used for fortifying linearity of

Table 1. Scheme of bull's mating in population of half – sisters

Scheme of mating	Generation $G_1$	Mated with sire	Generation $G_2$	Total numbers of individuals
I	Mothers ( $M_1$ ) – half-sisters by sire 1 (HB-74)		Daughters ( $D_1$ )	$G_1 + G_2$
	$M_{11}$	1 (HB-74)	$D_{11}$	78
	$M_{12}$	2 (HB-75)	$D_{12}$	142
II	Mothers ( $M_2$ ) – half-sisters by sire 2 (HB-75)		Daughters ( $D_2$ )	
	$M_{21}$	1 (HB-74)	$D_{21}$	684
	$M_{22}$	2 (HB-75)	$D_{22}$	88
III	Mothers ( $M_3$ ) – half-sisters by sire 3 (HB-76)		Daughters ( $D_3$ )	
	$M_{31}$	1 (HB-74)	$D_{31}$	652
	$M_{32}$	2 (HB-75)	$D_{32}$	226
IV	Mothers ( $M_4$ ) – half-sisters by sire 4 (HB-98)		Daughters ( $D_4$ )	
	$M_{41}$	1 (HB-74)	$D_{41}$	110
	$M_{42}$	2 (HB-75)	$D_{42}$	124
V	Mothers ( $M_5$ ) – half-sisters by sire 5 (HB-133)		Daughters ( $D_5$ )	
	$M_{51}$	1 (HB-74)	$D_{51}$	230
	$M_{52}$	2 (HB-75)	$D_{52}$	168
	$M_{53}$	3 (HB-76)	$D_{53}$	102

Table 2. F – test, influence of environment factors on milk production for mothers and daughters

F – test for mothers			F – test for daughters		
Source of variation	Degree of freedom	Milk (kg)	Source of variation	Degree of freedom	Milk (kg)
Herd	19	36.06***	Herd	20	28.32***
Year	19	7.59 ***	Year	14	3.09 ***
Season	3	10.11***	Season	3	11.10***
Share of interpret variance (R <sup>2</sup> )		36.5 %	Share of interpret variance (R <sup>2</sup> )		31.2 %

\*\*\* P &lt; 0,001

correlation between variables while regression analysis was used for fortifying relationships between each to each variable. Differences between means of each group were tested by t – test. Systematic influences of environment on milk production were evaluated by least squares method (GLM procedure). Fixed linear model used in this investigation includes three environmental factors:

$$y_{ijkl} = \mu + F_i + G_j + S_k + e_{ijkl}$$

where:  $y_{ijkl}$  = milk production

$\mu$  = mean value of model

$F_i$  = influence of i-th farm (i = 1...21 for daughters; i = 1...20 for mothers)

$G_j$  = influence of j-th year (j = 1...15 for daughters; i = 1...20 for mothers)

$S_k$  = influence of k-th season (k = 1 (December, January, February), k = 2 (March, April, May), k = 3 (Juny, July, August), k = 4 (September, October, November))

$e_{ijkl}$  = influence of random error

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Estimation of gene effects and bull's breeding value can be made correctly and precisely by elimination of systematic influence of environment on progeny productivity. Data were analysed by linear model which included three environmental factors. Their influence on milk production was fortified by F test and results are written in table 2.

From table 2 we can see that all systematic factors in the model have highly significant influence on milk production (P<0.001). Justification of define influence of herd, year and season in the model were proven in earlier investigation by numerous authors (Jovanovac, 1987; Jovanovac, 1989; Albuquerque and al., 1999; Dedkova and Wolf, 2001; Pribyl and Prybilova, 2001.). These systematic influences of environment represent important cause of variability in milk production. Also we can see that chosen model by mothers were clarified 36,5 % variance for milk amount while by daughters it clarified 31,2 % variance which is coincidental with results of the authors above.

Analysis of differences between groups (populations) of mothers that are half – sisters by sires line (table

3) has demonstrated highly significant difference (P < 0,01) between all groups except second and fourth. Also between third and fifth population of mothers it has not been fortified significant difference in productivity. This matches with results of major part of authors by whom sires have influence on phenotypic milk parameters of their daughters (Lazarević, 1982; Lazarević and al., 1983; citation by Petrović, 1987; Đikić, 1991; Stipić and Kapš, 1993; Đikić and Jurić, 1994.).

When we were comparing third and fourth population of mothers ( $G_{III} : G_{IV}$ ) we fortified no homogeneity of variances by Levene test (t – value is indicated bold) which t – value was assigned by correction degree of freedom. Analysing differences between subgroups in all schemes of mating we fortified that between subgroups of mothers weren't valid differences in milk yield. It can be seen from table 4.

At bold values (table 4) we fortified non homogeneity of variances by Levene test, whence t – value was assigned by correction degree of freedom. According to Jurić (1986) in correlation and regression analysis we have taken deviations of mothers from average of mothers and deviations of daughters from average of daughters (table 5). Regression analysis on absolute value was made for the control of regression coefficients.

Analyzing milk production of daughters whose fathers are bull 1 (HB - 074), bull 2 (HB – 075) and bull 3 (HB – 076) which were mated with different

Table 3. t – values for compared means for milk amount (kg) in 305 days of lactation between populations of mother which are half – sisters by sire line

Compared populations of mothers (G)	t - value
$G_I:G_{II}$	3.11**
$G_I:G_{III}$	5.27**
$G_I:G_{IV}$	2.21*
$G_I:G_V$	4.78**
$G_{II}:G_{III}$	3.35**
$G_{II}:G_{IV}$	0.81 <sup>NS</sup>
$G_{II}:G_V$	2.37*
$G_{III}:G_{IV}$	<b>3.68**</b>
$G_{III}:G_V$	0.61 <sup>NS</sup>
$G_{IV}:G_V$	2.80**

\*\* P < 0,01; \* P < 0,05; <sup>NS</sup> = non significant

Table 4. t – test for compared means of milk amount (kg) between subpopulations of mothers in all five schemes of mating

Compared subpopulations of mothers (M)	t - value
M <sub>11</sub> : M <sub>12</sub>	1.03 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>11</sub> : M <sub>13</sub>	0.41 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>12</sub> : M <sub>13</sub>	0.99 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>21</sub> : M <sub>22</sub>	0.53 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>21</sub> : M <sub>23</sub>	0.71 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>22</sub> : M <sub>23</sub>	0.21 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>31</sub> : M <sub>32</sub>	2.05 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>31</sub> : M <sub>33</sub>	1.53 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>32</sub> : M <sub>33</sub>	0.33 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>41</sub> : M <sub>42</sub>	1.25 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>41</sub> : M <sub>42</sub>	0.20 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>42</sub> : M <sub>43</sub>	2.15 *
M <sub>51</sub> : M <sub>52</sub>	0.22 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>51</sub> : M <sub>53</sub>	1.31 <sup>NS</sup>
M <sub>52</sub> : M <sub>53</sub>	1.17 <sup>NS</sup>

<sup>NS</sup> = non significant; \* P < 0, 05

population of mothers, we have obtained significant regression ( $b \neq 0$ ) for all couples of mother – daughter (table 5), except in III. scheme of matting, when we analysed bull number 3 (HB – 076) and also in IV. scheme (half – sisters by bull's 4) when we observed bull number 1 (HB – 074). In these ways of matting, regression wasn't significant ( $b = 0$ ) although we can say that significant stream of regression was existed on 92<sup>nd</sup> % of level for bull number 1 in IV. scheme of matting. From table 5 it can be seen that all correlation coefficients were positive.

Genotypic value is also conditional with gene interaction, because parents transmit on their offspring only genes but not genotypic value, thus in animal breeding the main question is how we can change population mean from generation to generation. According to Van Vleck and al. (1987), Falconer and Mackay (1996), and Jurić and Đikić (2001) one of the main measure of change is that change which accrues if for the matting we choose one gene namely when the parent population mated with homozygous genotype  $A_1A_1$  or  $A_2A_2$ , respectively. We can assume that some bull fertilized cow's population with only one of allelic gene  $A_1$ , while another bull fertilized another cow's population with allelic gene  $A_2$ . The difference between population mean in which equilibrium exist and population which was created by picked gene is average gene effect (Van Vleck and al., 1987; Falconer and Mackay, 1996), i.e. average gene effect it's medial value in population with unrestricted fertilization.

Practically, theory about gene effect is base of breeding value like sum of gene effects, while additive variance is rate of breeding value (Car, 1984; Hohenboken, 1985; Van Vleck and al., 1987; Falconer and Mackay, 1996; Jurić and Đikić, 2001). Table 6 represents bull's gene effects for milk amount in different population of cows and also bull's order. In table 6 we can see that order of bulls on different cow's populations wasn't the same, namely that the bull's gene effects were dissimilar on different population of cows, which bulls were matting.

Different results of production traits like milk amount, of bull's daughters in various population

Table 5: Correlation and regression coefficients for milk amount of mothers (X) and milk amount of daughters (Y) in all five schemes of matting

Ratios	N of couples mothers - daughters	Correlations analysis		Regression analysis		
		r	$Y_1 = a + bx$	$Y_2 = a + bx$	t	R <sup>2</sup>
M <sub>11</sub> : D <sub>11</sub>	39	0.662**	- 64.19 + 0.77x	1378.99 + 0.77x	5.38**	0.439
M <sub>12</sub> : D <sub>12</sub>	71	0.811**	97.94 + 0.77x	1507.07 + 0.77x	11.51**	0.657
M <sub>13</sub> : D <sub>13</sub>	16	0.688**	107.14 + 1.18x	- 849.89 + 1.18x	3.55**	0.474
M <sub>21</sub> : D <sub>21</sub>	342	0.759**	24.23 + 0.77x	1574.55 + 0.77x	21.47**	0.575
M <sub>22</sub> : D <sub>22</sub>	44	0.374*	- 175.06 + 0.40x	3490.30 + 0.40x	2.61**	0.140
M <sub>23</sub> : D <sub>23</sub>	35	0.508**	- 66.71 + 0.51x	2933.44 + 0.51x	3.39**	0.258
M <sub>31</sub> : D <sub>31</sub>	326	0.855**	6.17 + 0.93x	659.42 + 0.93x	29.63**	0.730
M <sub>32</sub> : D <sub>32</sub>	113	0.777**	78.44 + 0.76x	1671.11 + 0.76x	13.02**	0.604
M <sub>33</sub> : D <sub>33</sub>	22	0.090 <sup>NS</sup>	25.79 + 0.14x	4975.08 + 0.14x	0.41 <sup>NS(31)</sup>	0.008
M <sub>41</sub> : D <sub>41</sub>	55	0.241 <sup>NS</sup>	122.29 + 0.24x	4581.79 + 0.24x	1.81 <sup>NS(92)</sup>	0.058
M <sub>42</sub> : D <sub>42</sub>	62	0.417**	21.14 + 0.46x	3277.37 + 0.46x	3.55**	0.174
M <sub>43</sub> : D <sub>43</sub>	37	0.338*	- 120.61 + 0.29x	4095.87 + 0.29x	2.12*	0.114
M <sub>51</sub> : D <sub>51</sub>	115	0.678**	68.03 + 0.67x	2290.57 + 0.67x	9.79**	0.459
M <sub>52</sub> : D <sub>52</sub>	84	0.794**	7.12 + 0.73x	1887.04 + 0.73x	11.83**	0.630
M <sub>53</sub> : D <sub>53</sub>	51	0.672**	- 59.956 + 0.64x	2359.13 + 0.64x	6.34**	0.451

\*\* P < 0,01; \* P < 0,05; <sup>NS</sup> = non significant; <sup>NS(31)</sup> <sup>(92)</sup> = significant on 31<sup>st</sup> % and 92<sup>nd</sup> % - of level

$Y_1$  = regression equation for mother deviation from average of mothers and daughter deviation from average of daughters

$Y_2$  = regression equation for mothers and daughters absolute values

Table 6: Bull's gene effects for milk amount (kg) in 305 days of lactation and bull's order

Bull	Population of mothers (M)	Sire	Population of daughters (D)				Gene effect	Bull's order	
			n	$\bar{x}$	s	VK			
074	5853.09 n = 126	074	39	5772.74	694.59	12.03	98.63	- 80.35	3
		075	71	6064.49	881.98	14.54	103.61	211.40	1
		076	16	5809.77	966.00	16.63	99.26	- 43.32	2
075	5617.23 n = 421	074	342	5914.71	809.57	13.69	105.30	297.48	1
		075	44	5685.64	690.04	12.14	101.22	68.41	3
		076	35	5770.34	728.93	12.63	102.73	153.11	2
076	5439.64 n = 461	074	326	5686.60	908.04	15.97	104.54	246.96	3
		075	113	5909.42	797.82	13.50	108.64	469.78	1
		076	22	5771.64	631.72	10.95	106.10	332.00	2
098	5671.64 n = 154	074	55	5925.95	619.65	10.46	104.48	254.31	1
		075	62	5913.64	685.02	11.58	104.27	242.00	2
		076	37	5669.3	566.72	10.00	99.96	- 2.34	3
133	5476.37 n = 250	074	115	5939.5	622.65	10.48	108.46	463.13	1
		075	84	5859.05	795.26	13.57	106.99	382.68	3
		076	51	5902.1	626.54	10.62	107.77	425.73	2

of mothers is consequent of specific combinatory capacity i.e. some non additive effect of genotype like it was pointed out by Rönningen (1975), Falconer (1977), Robertson (1977), Shested (citation by Đikić and Jurić, 1994), Gimelfarb and Willis (1994), Misztal and al. (1996), Mbagha and Hill (1997), hence on the various population of cows exanimated bulls didn't have the same order of gene effect and analogously of that these bulls didn't have the same breeding value. According to Đikić (1991) assigned differences can be imputed to object of knowledge that alone individuals in some population give subpopulations of offspring within exists various variability of production traits.

## CONCLUSION

The gene effects of bulls and their breeding value weren't the same in different populations of cows, which are half – sisters by sire line. We can exemplify modification of gene effect by interaction, in explanation of non additive gene effects which gets more and more meaning today because by accepting of non additive variances we can precisely estimate genetic parameters for domestic animal production traits.

## REFERENCES

- Albuquerque, M.D.M., de Freitas Mar, Teodoro, R.L. (1999). Genetic and phenotypic parameters of productivity traits of the first three lactation in Gyr cattle herds, *Genetics & Molecular Biology* 22 (2): 177 – 181.
- Car, M. (1984). Ocjene uzgojne vrijednosti bikova u Hrvatskoj i njihove teorijske osnovice, *Poljoprivredna znanstvena smotra*, 65:259 – 276.
- Dedkova, L. Wolf, J. (2001). Estimation of genetic parameters for milk production traits in Czech dairy cattle population, *Zivocisna Vyroba*. 46(7):292-301, 2001

Đikić, Marija (1991). Utjecaj razine proizvodnje progenih grupa bikova na povezanost svojstava mliječnosti i vrijednosti proizvodnje, *Poljoprivredna znanstvena smotra* Vol 56, broj 3 – 4 , str. 331 – 344.

Đikić, Marija, Jurić, I. (1994). Differences in the between progenies of two lines sows within same sires. *Proceeding of the 5th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production*. Volume 19 : 493 – 496.

Falconer, D.S. (1977). Why are mice the size they are? *Proceedings of the international conference on Quantitative genetics*, 19 – 21.

Falconer, D.S., Mackay T.F.C. (1996). *Introduction to Quantitative Genetics* Edit. Longman group Ltd

Gimelfarb, A., Willis, H.J. (1994). Linearity Versus Nonlinearity of Offspring-Parent Regression: An Experimental Study of *Drosophila melanogaster*, *Genetics*, 138 : 343 – 352.

Hohenboken, F. (1985). *Prediction and Measurement of Response to Selection, General and Quantitative Genetic*, Elsevier science, Publishers B.V. Amsterdam – Oxford – New York – Tokio

Jovanovac, Sonja (1987). Utjecaj sistematskih faktora okoline na mliječnost krava holstein – friesland pasmine, *Znan. prak. poljop. tehnol.* 17 (3 – 4), 303 – 314.

Jovanovac, Sonja (1989). Kako povećati točnost ocjene uzgojne vrijednosti bikova, *Stočarstvo*, 43 : (3 – 4), 259 – 265.

Jovanovac, Sonja, Knežević, I., Jakopović, I. (1992). Utjecaj genetskih grupa na procjenu uzgojnih vrijednosti holstein – friesland bikova za mliječne osobine, *Stočarstvo*, 46 (9 - 10), 259 – 265.

Jurić, I. (1986). Istraživanje zakrivljenosti regresije potomak – roditelj proizvodnje mlijeka kod holstein krava, *Agronomski glasnik* br. 4, 3 – 8.

Jurić, I., Đikić, M. (2001). Uzgojne metode i promjene frekvencije gena u populaciji. *Biološka raznolikost u stočarstvu Republike Hrvatske*. Zbornik radova, 39 – 50.

- Lazarević, R. (1982). Ispitivanje uticaja bikova – očeva na trajanje laktacije i važnije osobine mliječnosti kćeri crno – bele rase goveda. *Stočarstvo*. 36, 11 – 12, str. 389 – 396.
- Lynch, M., Walsh, B. (1998). *Genetic and Analysis of Quantitative Traits*, Sinauer Associates Inc Publishers, Sunderland, Massachusetts, USA.
- Mbaga, S.H. and Hill, W.G. (1997). Linear versus nonlinear offspring-parent regression in unselected random – breed mice. *J. Anim. Breed. Genet.* 114, 299 – 307.
- Misztal, I., Fernando, R.L., Grossman, M., Lawlor, T.J., Lukaszewicz, M. (1996). Non additive (nicking) effects in genetic evaluation. <[www.ads.uga.edu/annrpt/1996/96\\_121.htm](http://www.ads.uga.edu/annrpt/1996/96_121.htm)>.
- Nie, N.H., Hull, C.H., Jenkins, G.J., Steinbener, K., Dale, H.B. (1975). *Statistical Package for the Society Sciences*, 2-ed New York, mc. Grow Hill.
- Petrović, M. (1987). Utjecaj očeva – bikova na fenotipske osobine mliječnosti kćeri crno belih goveda tokom četiri laktacije. *Stočarstvo*. 41, 11 – 12, str. 381 – 389.
- Pribyl, J., Pribylova, J. (2001). Variability of milk production within the contemporary groups in prediction of breeding value, *Zivocisna Vyroba* 46 (12), 514 – 522.
- Robertson, A. (1977). The non – linearity of offspring – parent regression. *Proceedings of the international conference on Quantitative genetics*, 297-304.
- Rönningen, K. (1975). Estimation of non – additive genetic variation and crossbreeding effects, and use of crossbreeding effects in animal breeding, *Institutionen för husdjursförädling. Raport Nr 9*.
- SAS Institute (1996). *SAS/STAT User's Guide*, Release, 6.12. edn. SAS Institute, Cary NC, USA.
- Stipić, N., Kapš, M.. (1993). Utjecaj različitih provijenci bikova na promjenu (ko)varijanci i genetskih parametara mliječnosti krava, *Stočarstvo*, 47:(7 - 8), 267 – 271.
- Vleck Van Dale, L., Pollak, J. E., Brandford Oltenacu, E. A. (1987). *Genetics for the Animal Sciences*, W. H. Freeman and Company, New York.

---

acs68\_14