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## **Heritability of Growth Traits of Simmental Cattle in Balai Pembibitan Ternak Unggul-Hijauan Pakan Ternak (BPTU-HPT), Padang Mengatas, West Sumatra, Indonesia**

*Nilai Heritabilitas Sifat Produksi Sapi Simmental di Balai Pembibitan Ternak Unggul-Hijauan Pakan Ternak (BPTU-HPT) Padang Mengatas, Limapuluh Kota, Sumatera Barat*

**D. E. Putra<sup>1\*</sup>, Sarbaini<sup>1</sup>, T. Afriani<sup>1</sup>, H. Suhada<sup>2</sup>, dan F. Arlina<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Genetics and Animal Breeding, Faculty of Animal Science Universitas Andalas Padang 25163,

<sup>2</sup> Department of Balai Pembibitan Ternak Unggul Hijauan Pakan Ternak, Padang Mengatas, Limapuluh Kota District, West Sumatra

E-mail: dinoekap@yahoo.com

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### **ABSTRACT**

This study is proposed to determine the heritability of growth traits of Simmental cattle in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas, West Sumatra. Data were collected by observations and measurements of the cattle in the field, completed by the secondary data from BPTU-HPT recorded from 2010 to 2016. Data for heritability were collected from 455 offsprings belonged to 15 sires. Weight and body size are two parameters used to estimate the heritability and breeding value, the heritability was analyzed between weaning and yearling age and breeding value was only calculated for weaning age. The data were analyzed by using paternal half-sib correlation method. The heritability between bulls and offspring was varied in weaning age, ranged from 0.24 to 0.97, and yearling age was showed high heritability in all parameters, ranged from 0.56 to 0.64. The heritability of weaning weight was  $0.50 \pm 0.19$ , weaning body size (shoulder height, body length and heart girth) was  $0.97 \pm 0.31$ ;  $0.24 \pm 0.13$ ;  $0.44 \pm 0.19$ , yearling weight was  $0.56 \pm 0.08$  and yearling body size was  $0.58 \pm 0.08$ ;  $0.64 \pm 0.09$  and  $0.56 \pm 0.08$  respectively. This result found that the highest heritability was shoulder height and the lowest heritability was body length. Relative breeding value above 0 represented by six sires with the highest breeding value was 37.12. Sires with the highest BV can be selected for future breeding in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas, while the lowest BV is recommended to be culled.

Keywords: heritability, Simmental cattle, weaning weight, yearling weight

### **ABSTRAK**

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui keragaman genetik melalui estimasi nilai heritabilitas sifat pertumbuhan sapi potong yang dipelihara di BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas, Sumatera Barat. Jenis data yang dikumpulkan meliputi data primer dan sekunder. Data primer diperoleh dari pengamatan dan pengukuran ternak di lapangan. Data sekunder berasal dari Balai pembibitan Ternak Unggul-Hijauan Pakan Ternak, Padang Mengatas, Sumatera Barat yang berupa data recording masing-masing ternak. Materi penelitian lapangan terdiri dari data rekording 2010 sampai 2016. Variabel yang diamati adalah nilai heritabilitas sifat pertumbuhan pada sapi Simmental. Data yang diperoleh dianalisis dengan estimasi nilai heritabilitas menggunakan metode korelasi saudara tiri seapak. Catatan silsilah ditabulasi dari 455 ekor sapi Simmental siap sapih dari 15 ekor pejantan dan 455 ekor betina. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa nilai heritabilitas berat sapih, ukuran tubuh sapih (tinggi pundak, panjang badan dan lingkaran dada), berat satu tahun dan ukuran tubuh satu tahun secara berturut-turut adalah  $0,50 \pm 0,19$ ;  $0,97 \pm 0,31$ ;  $0,24 \pm 0,13$ ;  $0,44 \pm 0,19$ ;  $0,56 \pm 0,08$ ;  $0,58 \pm 0,08$ ;  $0,64 \pm 0,09$  dan  $0,56 \pm 0,08$ . Berdasarkan hasil penelitian dapat disimpulkan bahwa nilai heritabilitas sapi Simmental di BPTU-HPT Padang mengatas tergolong tinggi.

Kata kunci: berat sapih, berat satu tahun, heritabilitas, sapi Simmental

## INTRODUCTION

In assisting meat supply the Balai Pembibitan Ternak Unggul dan Hijauan Pakan Ternak (BPTU-HPT) Padang Mengatas accelerates their cattle population, so as to produce superior and certified cattle. Breeding program which only focused for high genetic quality cattle is the most appropriate way to improve both quality and quantity. Breeding programs are primarily using character of body weight at different ages, this property is easily measured and positively correlated with other traits that have economic values and response to individual selection (Boligon *et al.*, 2010). Selection of cattle with high genetic quality can be done by controlling marriage pattern, limiting the expenditure of livestock and improving the management of livestock raising so as to boost the productivity and population. The growth of beef cattle is related by their genetic traits, environmental factors and the interaction between the two. These factors lead to different performances from one location to another. Growth traits such as birth weight, weaning weight, yearling weight and body size are important economic properties on beef cattle production system. One of the properties that can be used as selection criteria is weaning weight, according to Hardjosubroto (1994) weaning weight is the weight at the time of calf separated/divided?? by the dam. It is obtained through weighing at the age of six to eight months or 205 days (Hardjosubroto, 1994). The weaning weights can be used to determine the ability of the mother milk production, the ability to care and also the child's genetic growth information.

Simmental cattle as one of genetic sources of livestock which has contributed greatly in meat supply for the community must be improved, it can be done through selecting best genetic growth traits. The selection is aimed to produce superior Simmental cattle and which later improving meat availability for the national needs. Abovementioned, growth traits are one major component to determining best genetic

information by using heritability approach which later can be used to calculate the breeding values of parents. Growth traits are can be calculated by estimating the genetic parameters of production traits (Warwick *et al.*, 1990). The estimation of heritability value of cattle on the growth traits of several beef cattle was reported of many researchers in Indonesia (Duma, 1997; Suhada *et al.*, 2009; Putra *et al.*, 2014).

Based on the above description, the information about the genetic potential of quantitative traits is very important in preparing the breeding program of livestock. Efforts to overcome these conditions it is necessary to know the basic data on the nature of cattle growth in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas so conducted to research on the estimated heritability value of Simmental cattle for growth traits in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas, West Sumatra Indonesia.

## METHODS

This research was conducted from February until March 2017 BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas, West Sumatera. Data were collected by observations and measurements of the cattle in the field, completed by the secondary data from BPTU-HPT recorded from 2010 to 2016. Data for heritability were collected from 455 offsprings belonged to 15 sires. These data include the pedigree, cattle performances, weaning weight, yearling weight, body size, weaning age, yearling age and the age of the dams. Weighing is done by using a scale of 1000 kg capacity. The weighing result is expressed in kilograms (kg). Body length measurements were performed using a measuring stick and performed by measuring the distances of the shoulder blades and the furthest thigh (Anonymous, 2008). The measurement of the height of the shoulder is carried out with a measuring stick and is done by measuring the perpendicular distance from the ground to the peak of the shoulder behind the hump, and the measurement results expressed in centimeters (cm) (Anonymous, 2008). Heart

girth measurements were performed using a 200 cm measuring tape and performed by circling the chest through the 8th ribs behind the shoulder (Anonimus, 2008).

**Data Analysis**

Analysis of heritability values of weaning weight, yearling weight and body size using variance analysis paternal half west correlation method. The separation of the various components to estimate the value of heritability was done by a variety analysis using Completely Randomized Design One-Way Classification, with models (Warwick *et al.*, 1990; Becker, 1992; and Hardjosubroto, 1994):

$$Y_{ik} = \mu + \alpha_i + e_{ik}$$

where:

$Y_{ik}$  = observation on the kth individual on the sire i-th

$\mu$  = average population

$\alpha_i$  = effect of sire i-th

$e_{ik}$  = deviations of the uncontrolled environmental and genetic effects on each individual

Weaning weight was corrected for weaning age of 120 days, sex and the age of dams based on Hardjosubroto (1994) as follows:

- Correction factor of sex:

$$CF_{sex} = \frac{WW/YW_{bull}}{WW/YW_{heifer}}$$

Where:

$CF_{sex}$  = correction factor of sex

$WW/YW_{bull}$  = weaning weight and yearling weight of male cattle

$WW/YW_{heifer}$  = weaning weight and yearling weight of female cattle.

- Correction factor of dams age

$$CF_{dam\ age} = \frac{WW/YW_5}{WW/YW_a}$$

Where:

$CF_{dam\ age}$  = correction factor of dams age

$WW/YW_5$  = the weight of the dam at 5 years

$WW/YW_a$  = weaning weight at the actual age

**Weaning Weight.** Weaning weights were corrected for the weaning, sex age, and parental age according to the instructions (Hardjosubroto, 1994) as follows:

$$WW_{205} = \left| \frac{WW - BW}{WA} \times 205 + BW \right| CF_{sex} \times CF_{dam\ age}$$

Where:

$WW_{205}$  as corrected weaning weight at 205 days of age

$WW$  = actual weaning weight

$BW$  = birth weight

$WA$  = actual weaning age

**Yearling Weight.** The weight of a year is corrected to a weight of 365 days and sex of males (Hardjosubroto, 1994) as follows:

$$YW_{365} = \frac{YW_a - WW_a}{MA} \times 365 + WW_{205}$$

Where:

$YW_{365}$  as corrected yearling weight at 365 days of age

$YW_a$  = actual yearling weight

$WW_a$  = actual weaning weight

$WW_{205}$  = corrected weaning weight at 205 days of age

$MA$  = No. of days between measure ages

Table 1. Analysis of variance for heritability

Source of variance	Df	SS	MS	EMS
Sire (s)	s-1	$SS_s$	$MS_s$	$\sigma_w^2 + k\sigma_s^2$
Heredity in sire ( $\omega$ )	n-1	$SS_w$	$MS_w$	$\sigma_w^2$
Total	n-1			

The value of  $h^2$  is calculated from the equation:

$$h^2 = \frac{4\sigma_s^2}{\sigma_s^2 + \sigma_w^2}$$

Standard error estimates the value of heritability using the equation:

$$SE\ h^2 = \sqrt{4 \frac{2(1-t)^2 [1+k-1t]^2}{k(k-1)(s-1)}}$$

Where:

$s$  = number of sire

$\omega$  = offspring in sire

$n$  = total number of offspring

$n_i$  = the number of offspring in the sire i-th

$n.$  = number of individuals

Table 2. Mean and standard deviation of body size Simmental cattle in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas, West Sumatra

Variable	Sex				Average	N
	bull	N	heifer	N		
Weaning weight (WW) (kg)	197.11±45.73	238	186.65±46.50	217	192.03±46.40	455
Yearling Weight (YW) (kg)	255.13±93.96	119	237.22±71.83	158	241.63±80.70	277
Weaning High Shoulder (WHS) (cm)	103.94±6.30	238	103.47±7.77	217	103.71±7.06	455
Yearling High Shoulder (YHS) (cm)	110.49±11.46	119	110.03±8.33	158	109.86±9.94	277
Weaning Body Length (WBL) (cm)	108.28±10.40	238	107.14±7.73	217	107.72±9.22	455
Yearling Body Length (YBL) (cm)	115.49±12.15	119	114.10±9.74	158	114.62±11.13	277
Weaning Heart Girth (WHG) (cm)	130.48±13.02	238	128.93±14.00	217	129.73±13.53	455
Yearling Heart Girth (YHG) (cm)	141.74±21.69	119	138.56±15.33	158	139.28±18.60	277

$\sigma_s^2$  = component of sire variance

$\sigma_w^2$  = component of offspring variance

k = estimate middle value  $n_i$

The estimate of breeding values (BV) according to Hardjosubroto (1994) is based on individual weight data in the population with the following equation:

Breeding value (relative):

$$BV = \frac{n \cdot h^2}{1 + (n - 1)R} (\bar{P} - \bar{\bar{P}})$$

Where:

BV = Breeding value

$h^2$  = Heritability value

R = Repeatability value

$\bar{P}$  = the average performance of sire

$\bar{\bar{P}}$  = average performance population

n = data total

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Body Size Simmental Cattle

The average body size of weaning weight and yearling weight, shoulder height, body length and heart girth of Simmental cattle in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas were presented in Table 2. The differences in weight and body size happened because the differences in the parent's age at given births and parity of offspring born and the sex of offspring. In another hand, environmental aspect also influenced the differences in weight and body size such as cattle health and feed supply are important because they have a direct effect on cattle performance, eg through food, disease, and management (Taylor, 1984; Pane, 1990).

### Heritability value

Heritability of weaning ages and yearling ages using paternal half-sib

correlation data was in high category ( $h^2 > 0.3$ ). Estimation of weaning ages and yearling ages Simmental cattle with 15 and 11 sires and 455 and 277 offspring respectively were presented in Table 3.

The result of the estimation analysis of heritability value weaning weight and yearling weight of Simmental cattle in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas may indicate that the diversity of weaning weight and yearling weight in a population of 50%, 56% respectively, it was influenced by the additive genes and 50%, 44% respectively was influenced by environmental factors and nonadditive. This heritability belongs to the high category since it has a value  $> 0.40$  (Martoyo, 1990). This high estimate of heritability is theoretically attributable to the increased genetic variation in the population. If the heritability increases, then this increase occurs because of the influence of increased genetic variation assuming constant environmental variation (Karnaen, 2008).

The estimation heritability of weaning weight and yearling weight of this research was higher than the heritability reported by Suhada *et al.* (2009) in the same cattle and place and the same maintenance management that was  $0.39 \pm 0.16$  and  $0.43 \pm 0.19$  as well as the heritability of beef cattle reported by Warwick *et al.* (1990) that is equal to 0.35 to 0.45. The estimate of heritability value is also higher than the estimate of heritability performed by Sari *et al.* (2016); Son *et al.* (2014); Rastosari *et al.* (2014); Intaratham *et al.* (2012); Gunawan and Jakaria (2011) Khatab *et al.* (2009); Kurnianto (2009); Karnaen (2008); Van Nlekerk *et al.* (2006) and Wasike *et al.* (2006) but lower than the heritability that

Table 3. Estimation heritability of Simmental cattle at weaning age and yearling age at BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas, West Sumatra

Variable	Total of sire	Total offspring	Heritability and Standard Error
Weaning weight (WW) (kg)	15	455	0.50±0.19
Yearling Weight (YW) (kg)	11	277	0.56±0.08
Weaning High Shoulder (WHS) (cm)	15	455	0.97±0.31
Yearling High Shoulder (YHS) (cm)	11	277	0.58±0.08
Weaning Body Length (WBL) (cm)	15	455	0.24±0.13
Yearling Body Length (YBL) (cm)	11	277	0.64±0.09
Weaning Heart Girth (WHG) (cm)	15	455	0.44±0.19
Yearling Heart Girth (YHG) (cm)	11	277	0.56±0.08

Table 4. Breeding value estimation of corrected weaning weight on Simmental cattle bulls at BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas, West Sumatra

Rank	Sire	N	Derived averages	BVr
1	W. DROVIN	65	229.15	37.12
2	W. DERMONT	31	220.40	28.37
3	RED DENSITY	26	219.72	27.69
4	AUKONIO RNC	14	216.98	24.95
5	KS SUDANCE	16	207.06	15.03
6	DOMINO	9	200.26	8.23
7	LOUIS	31	191.39	-0.64
8	DAJARA	15	189.35	-2.68
9	CHAN BRAVO	24	189.03	-2.99
10	BRINKTON	17	187.23	-4.80
11	PFF EVRON	13	186.26	-5.78
12	LX MAYOR	30	185.62	-6.42
13	SG EVAN	34	176.49	-15.54
14	BBE	58	176.08	-15.95
15	E JOE	72	153.94	-38.09

Said *et al.* (2016) and Kaswati *et al.* (2013). Lasley (1978) and Chapman (1985) suggest that the difference in heritability in each study is thought to be due to heritability, not a constant and dependent on population, estimated time and livestock used. A property with a low heritability needs to be enhanced by its genetics of breeding methods available if the selection is less effective or less efficient using other breeding methods (Martoyo, 1990).

The estimated heritability of body size in this study differ from those reported by Baiduri *et al.* (2012) such as shoulder height, shoulder height one shoulder length, weaning body length, one-year body length, breastplate breasts, and chest circumference one year are  $0.76 \pm 0.0014$ ;  $0.56 \pm 0.001$ ;  $0.92 \pm 0.0019$ ;  $0.85 \pm 0.0015$ ;  $0.56 \pm 0.0013$  and  $0.44 \pm 0.0009$ . Sari *et al.* (2016) reported

estimates of heritability of body size such as shoulder height, shoulder height one shoulder length, weaning length, one-year body length, breast bush wings and one-year chest circumference were  $0.216 \pm 0.357$ ;  $0.022 \pm 0.277$ ;  $0.320 \pm 0.395$ ;  $0.039 \pm 0.285$ ;  $0.295 \pm 0.385$  and  $0.240 \pm 0.366$ . Warwick *et al.* (1990) explain that environmental influences can lead to greater genetic expression and increase genetic diversity and estimation of heritability.

#### Breeding Value of Weaning Weight

Breeding value (BV) weaning weight in 15 (fifteen) Simmental cattle were presented in Table 4. In this study, there were 9 (nine) males with negative BV of weaned weights, mean weighing weight was below average population. Estimated breeding values (EBVs) is important to selecting animals for a range of traits that

have direct impacts on productivity (Johnston *et al.*, 2007). Weaning heritability value is used to calculate the breeding value of 15 (fifteen) Simmental cow's tail which is used as a male in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas.

The sire with the number W. DROVIN has the highest BV relative was 37.12 which means that the superiority of the W. DROVIN offspring is relatively 37.12 kg above the average of the population. According to Hardjosubroto (1994) if a livestock has a high BV then the livestock will have a high potential that can be inherited to the offspring. Several previous studies showed the higher BV in Kebumen Ongole Grade (KOG), Sumba Ongole (SO), Ongole crossbreed (PO) and Nalore cattle were 49.76 kg, 66.05 kg, 45.96 and 20.75 kg respectively (Sumadi *et al.*, 2017; Said *et al.*, 2016; Paputungan *et al.*, 2015; Rodriguez and Guerra, 2013). The magnitude of a male's performance can be estimated by breeding value (BV) so that cattle with high growth potential result in continuity of selection program. The five sires of Simmental cattle (W. Drovin, W. Dermont, Red Density, Aukonio RNC and KS Sudance) that can be recommended as the best sire Simmental cattle in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas. Furthermore, the sire with a lower BV can be culled in order to keep livestock productivity.

### CONCLUSION

This result found that the highest heritability was shoulder height and the lowest heritability was body length. Relative breeding value above 0 represented by six sires with the highest breeding value was 37.12. Sires with the highest BV can be selected for future breeding in BPTU-HPT Padang Mengatas, while the lowest BV is recommended to be culled.

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