We take a closer look at Dutch 305-day production figures

The facts behind the figures

How much milk do Classic's daughters produce in their second and third lactations? And what is the true production of Bertil's daughters? There's more to raw production data than meets the eye. Read on to find out more.

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A selection of popular bulls used in AI in the Netherlands (and also in the UK) is published on the opposite page: both black-and-white Holsteins and red-and-white Holsteins are represented. The criteria for publication are at least 75 completed first and second lactations in the Netherlands.
These figures need explaining since this is raw unadjusted data from CRV, in other words no account was taken of year of calving, age at calving and production of their dams. Also some currently popular bulls, including Ralma O-Man CF Cricket for example, and other imported bulls do not appear on these lists for various reasons. They may not yet have sufficient milking daughters in the Netherlands.

name	year of birth	breeding value (kg)	1st 305-day lactation (kg)
Paramount	2001	+1,413	8,173
Hole in One	2002	–224	7,257
Sunny Boy	1985	+55	6,899
Obelisk	1999	+96	7,707

Table 1: Comparison of breeding values and actual production of a number of bulls

A comparison between Delta Paramount and Hole in One shows how the actual production figures relate to the breeding values (see Table 1). Paramount has a Dutch breeding value of +1,413kg of milk and Hole in One –224kg of milk. The difference in genetics between these two bulls is more than 1,600kg of milk. Half of their genes would be transferred to the daughters, because a cow gets half its genes from its dam and half from its sire. Therefore the daughters of Paramount could, in theory, produce more than 800kg more milk than the daughters of Hole in One. In reality, the Paramount daughters in their first lactation produced 8,173kg of milk and the Hole in One daughters gave 7,257kg of milk (in 305 days) – more than 900kg difference.
It is also interesting to note the impressive progress of the Hole in One daughters from their first to fourth lactations. Clearly all bulls improve their production as they mature through the lactations but Surprise, Support and Twister are bulls that make greater than average progress.
An explanation for some imbalances between breeding values and production figures of offspring can be the difference in the period in which daughters were milking. The bulls Sunny Boy and Obelisk have a similar breeding value for milk. But Obelisk daughters produced more than 800kg of milk, as heifers, than Sunny Boy's. This is related to the difference in age between the bulls, when Sunny Boy's daughters were milking, which was predominantly in the early 1990s – the average national production was lower. However the population average in the meantime has increased, but the genetic potential of a bull does not change.
Anyone who is curious about the daughter performance of other popular bulls used in the Netherlands, including many imported bulls, can visit the website at www.veeteelt.nl and zoeken (search) 305 dagenproducties and find the zwartbont (black and white) or roodbont (red and white) lists. |

name/lactation no.	completed lactations	kg milk	% fat	% prot.	kg fat	kg prot.
black-and-white holsteins						
Fiction rf						
1st lactation	177	7,909	4.24	3.43	335	271
2nd lactation	123	9,415	4.20	3.45	395	325
Beekmanshoeve Bertil						
1st lactation	96	7,950	4.30	3.60	342	286
2nd lactation	82	9,392	4.26	3.62	400	340
Dudam Surprise						
1st lactation	215	7,442	4.33	3.51	322	261
2nd lactation	140	9,188	4.28	3.57	393	328
3rd lactation	119	9,927	4.26	3.50	423	347
Delta Canvas rf						
1st lactation	10,283	8,509	4.11	3.36	350	286
2nd lactation	3,519	10,106	4.10	3.41	414	345
3rd lactation	363	10,627	4.16	3.39	442	360
4th lactation	100	10,546	4.14	3.31	437	349
Delta Paramount						
1st lactation	7,018	8,173	4.10	3.41	335	279
2nd lactation	343	9,572	4.05	3.47	388	332
3rd lactation	123	10,311	4.06	3.42	419	353
4th lactation	77	10,068	4.14	3.41	417	343
Delta NY Yankee						
1st lactation	118	7,692	4.26	3.39	328	261
2nd lactation	95	9,014	4.18	3.45	377	311
Delta Roppa						
1st lactation	124	7,656	4.18	3.45	320	264
2nd lactation	95	9,178	4.13	3.48	379	319
Himster Grandprix						
1st lactation	50,633	7,548	4.41	3.42	333	258
2nd lactation	35,780	8,667	4.48	3.53	388	306
3rd lactation	21,537	9,186	4.51	3.48	414	320
4th lactation	9,185	9,311	4.55	3.47	424	323
5th lactation	1,876	9,334	4.54	3.45	424	322
Delta Onedin						
1st lactation	9,668	7,420	4.41	3.53	327	262
2nd lactation	2,282	8,843	4.39	3.57	388	316
3rd lactation	105	8,847	4.46	3.57	395	316
Barnkamper Support						
1st lactation	728	7,947	4.22	3.45	335	274
2nd lactation	145	9,381	4.14	3.44	388	323
3rd lactation	116	10,099	4.16	3.40	420	343
Hole in One						
1st lactation	893	7,257	4.24	3.44	308	250
2nd lactation	470	8,851	4.25	3.49	376	309
3rd lactation	292	9,325	4.25	3.47	396	324
4th lactation	103	10,153	4.19	3.44	425	349
red-and-white holsteins						
Delta Fidelity						
1st lactation	167	7,369	4.38	3.58	323	264
2nd lactation	101	8,596	4.49	3.69	386	317
Apina Curtis						
1st lactation	135	7,574	4.44	3.54	336	268
2nd lactation	119	9,071	4.44	3.59	403	326
Poos Stadel Classic						
1st lactation	8,929	7,617	4.19	3.48	319	265
2nd lactation	3,366	8,846	4.24	3.55	375	314
3rd lactation	205	9,401	4.17	3.47	392	326
Aalshorst Balaton						
1st lactation	120	7,016	4.52	3.55	317	249
2nd lactation	99	8,146	4.53	3.65	369	297
HS Twister						
1st lactation	173	6,879	4.23	3.50	291	241
2nd lactation	163	8,166	4.19	3.54	342	289
3rd lactation	112	8,987	4.21	3.49	378	314
Hookwood Delta Scooter						
1st lactation	245	7,282	4.45	3.49	324	254
2nd lactation	173	8,328	4.47	3.55	372	296
3rd lactation	126	9,047	4.51	3.51	408	318
Heihoeve Delta Spencer						
1st Lactation	545	7,238	4.39	3.61	318	261
2nd Lactation	238	8,147	4.49	3.71	366	302
3rd Lactation	190	8,953	4.49	3.66	402	328
4th Lactation	106	9,355	4.46	3.62	417	339
Kian						
1st lactation	58,007	6,908	4.68	3.62	323	250
2nd lactation	32,406	8,344	4.71	3.70	393	309
3rd lactation	16,990	8,901	4.70	3.66	418	326
4th lactation	7,143	9,067	4.69	3.65	425	331
5th lactation	1,524	9,150	4.64	3.63	425	332
Almere Pericles						
1st lactation	6,534	7,392	4.60	3.48	340	257
2nd lactation	5,522	8,414	4.64	3.60	390	303
3rd lactation	3,728	9,045	4.65	3.56	421	322
4th lactation	1,289	9,275	4.68	3.54	434	328
5th lactation	84	9,049	4.72	3.51	427	318

Table 2: 305-day production figures in the Netherlands

Visit www.veeteelt.nl and search for 305 dagenproducties