

High NTM = increased profit!

High NTM gives you high production, lower costs and less work = increased profit.

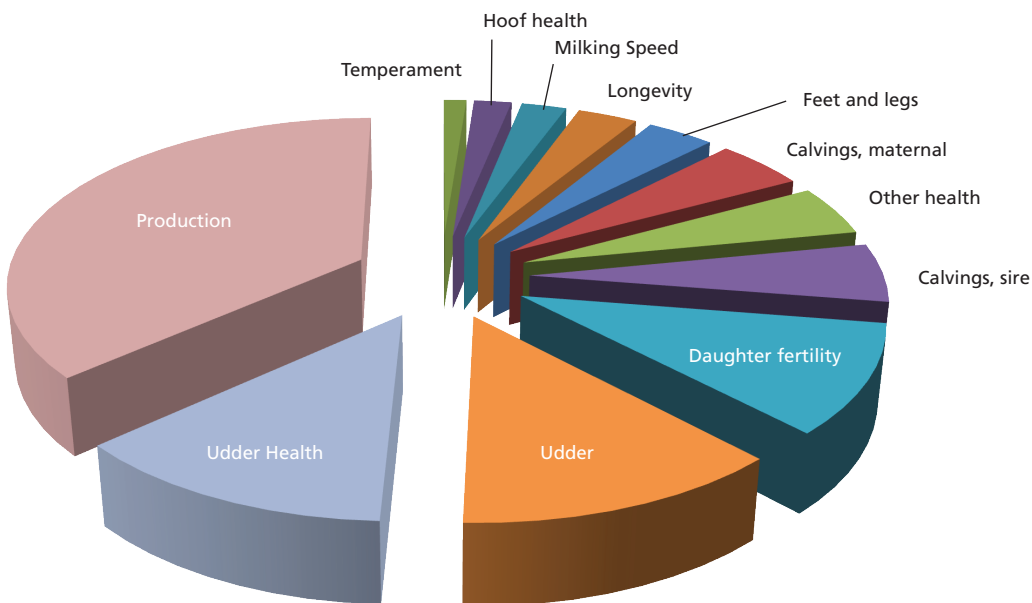
What is NTM?

NTM (Nordic Total Merit) is one of the most complete total merit indexes in the world. NTM consists of more than 40 subtraits divided into 14 main traits as shown in figure 1.

When you use NTM as selection criteria, you obtain positive progress for all traits of economic importance in the dairy cattle industry. You obtain the highest progress from the "most expensive traits" such as fat and protein yield and health traits as shown in figure 1.



Figure 1: Weight of main traits in NTM (Viking Red)



Longevity index and production index have the highest correlation of all traits to the NTM, showing that the NTM is optimized to produce long living and high producing cows.

How are the indexes in NTM expressed?

The average is a rolling base of 3-5 year-old cows = 0 for the NTM and 100 for all other traits. The standard deviation is 10, meaning that a bull with an index of +10 (NTM) or 110 (all other traits) is among the best 17% within the breed and a bull within +20/120 is among the best 2.5% within the breed.



VIKINGGENETICS[®]

The profitable choice



Roger Arvidsson, Sweden
with his Buckarby daughter



R David daughter from
Ernst Leif Nørgaard, Denmark

The value of NTM

The value of **+10 NTM units** for the sire is the same as **100 Euro added value** for the heifer under Scandinavian conditions.

Table 1. The value of +10 units for functional traits (Viking Red)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Daughter fertility | Days open reduced by 6.6 days and 0.08 less services per pregnancy |
| Calvings, Sire (Maiden heifers) | Reduction in difficult calvings with 2% and 1% less stillborn calves |
| Calvings, Maternal (Maiden heifers) | Reduction in difficult calvings with 2.5% and 1% less stillborn calves |
| Udder health | 1.5% less mastitis treatments in first lactation. 2.5% less mastitis treatments in second and third lactation |
| Other diseases | 1.5% less treatments for reproduction diseases, metabolic disorders and diseases in hooves, feet and legs in first and second lactation. 2.5% less treatments for the same diseases in third lactation |
| Milking speed | 9.5 g fat + protein more per minute (robots and farmer observation, average 150 g fat + protein more per minute) |
| Longevity | 34 days longer productive life |
| Temperament | measured by famer observations |

+10 units for production traits (Viking Red)

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Milk index | + 219 kg milk |
| Fat index | + 9.9 kg fat |
| Fat percentage | + 0.12% |
| Protein index | + 7.2 kg protein |
| Protein percentage | + 0.08% |
| Production index | (-0.25 x Milk + 0.25 x Fat + 1 x Protein) |
| Growth | + 11 g/day. Higher weight gain of bull calves |

Type guides for selected type traits

VikingGenetics breeds for functional type - medium sized cows, strong feet & legs and shallow, well attached udders with correct teat placement. In short cows that fit perfectly into modern productions systems!

If you want to learn more about NTM: www.nordicebv.info

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The profitable choice

• NTM – all you need for profit!
• NTM – health, production and conformation!