

Fact sheet

VikingGenetics



VikingGenetics is one of the largest breeding companies in Europe and a world leader in breeding for health traits to achieve profitable dairy production.

Facts About VikingGenetics Foundation

- VikingGenetics is a cooperative built by farmers from Denmark, Sweden and Finland.
- Three cooperatives joined VikingGenetics: Växa Sverige (Sweden); VikingDenmark (Denmark) and Faba (Finland).
- 2008 Denmark and Sweden merged.
- 2010 Finland joins the merger.
- Today, VikingGenetics is owned by approx. 20,000 dairy and beef farmers.

Operations

- The company genomically tests >6,000 bull calves every year, to select 210 for progeny tests.
- The breeds are VikingHolstein, VikingRed and VikingJersey.
- 150 employees in five countries: Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Australia and UK.
- Exports to 50 countries and distributors in approx. 20 markets.
- VikingGenetics has a daughter company in Australia and UK

Others

- VikingGenetics uses latest technology such as genomic selection, embryo transfer and sexed semen in its breeding programs.
- The company is also providing a substantial financial support to the science, which contributes to the progress in bovine genetics worldwide.



Unique breeding profile

The Nordic countries were **pioneers of using fertility and health traits** in cattle breeding. In 1975 the breeding values for calving ease and daughter fertility started to be used in Sweden. Until 1994 **no other countries in the world** used health traits in cattle breeding. VikingGenetics provides sires with the most up-to-date and most **complete evaluation of health profile**. For example, health traits include unique traits, such as **resistance to reproductive and metabolic disorders** as well as **hoof health**. All fitness traits together with production and conformation traits are included into Nordic **Total Merit index (NTM)**, based on an **economical model** to provide the **best possible economy** of the dairy production.