

Make a difference to food production internationally using science & technology

Stakeholder survey – results

October 2020



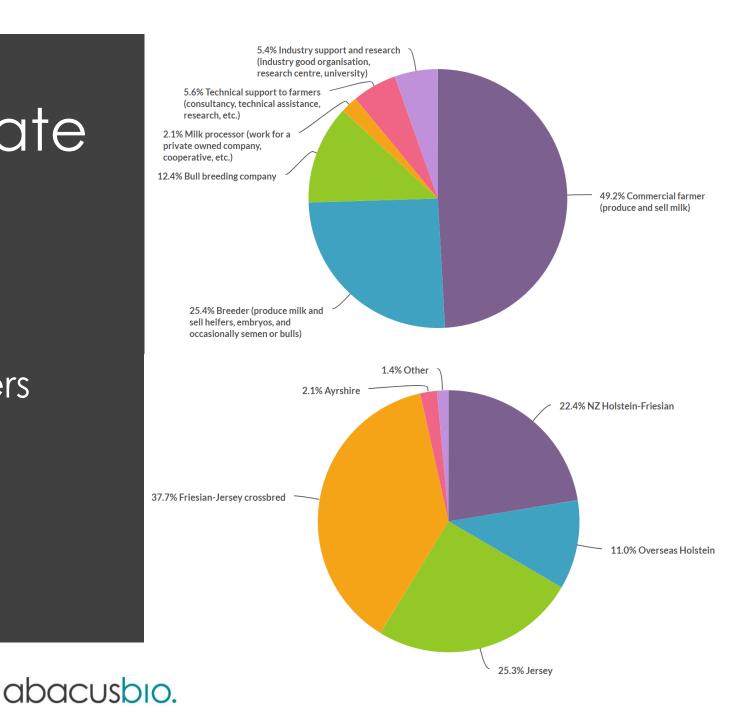
NZAEL is undertaking a review of the National Breeding Objective. As part of this review, we have initially gathered stakeholder opinions through a survey. The purpose of this slide deck is to present the raw results of the survey with minimal interpretation. In this way, we can convey a clear view of the results from the survey.

High response rate

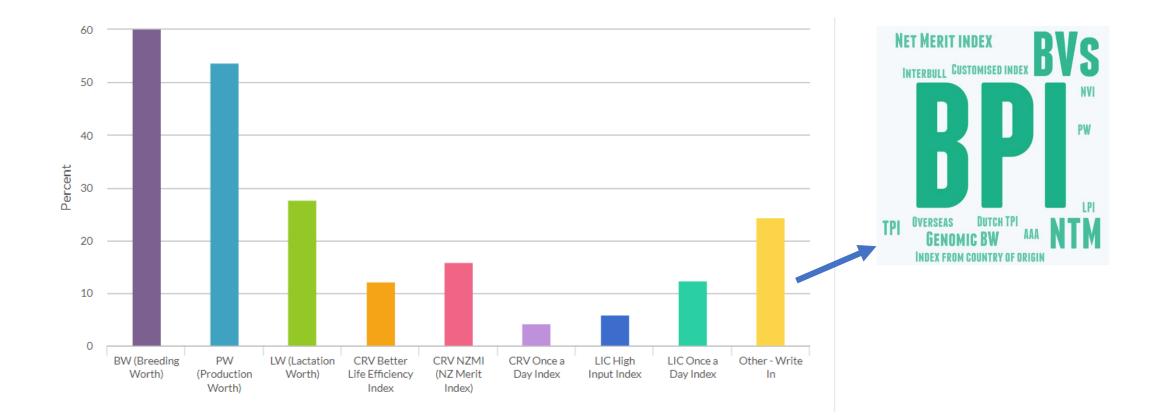
280 complete responses (+179 partial)

50% farmers/25% breeders

45% Waikato



Preferred indexes



Support for BW

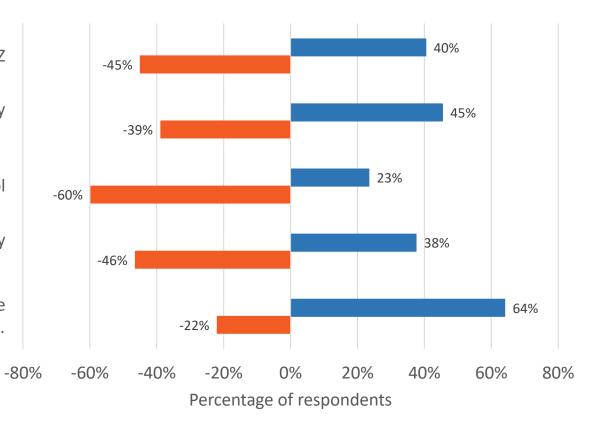
The BW is the best way to rank bulls for profit in NZ

Indexes are not an accurate indication of the quality of my/my customers/farmers herds

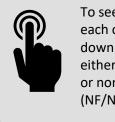
I am not convinced that indexes are a useful tool

NZ dairy indexes include all traits that are important to me/my customers/farmers when selecting bulls

The use of breeding values (and indexes) is a better way to improve traits compared to other ways of picking bulls (such as daughter...



Strongly agree/agree
Strongly disagree/disagree



To see stakeholder opinions on each of these issues, broken down by stakeholder type, click either farmers/breeders (F/B) or non-farmers/non-breeders (NF/NB) next to each point.

Traits stakeholders want to see in BW

63% F/B and NF/NB -16% 71% F/B and NF/NB -9% 61% F/B and NF/NB -21% 53% F/B and NF/NB -31% 29% F/B and NF/NB -45% -40% -20% 0% 20% 40% 60% 80% Percentage of respondents

Strongly agree/agree

-60%

Strongly disagree/disagree

abacusbio.

I believe there are specific TOP traits that should be included in BW

Ability of cows to hold a steady level of milk production throughout the season (i.e. lactation persistency) should be included in BW

Lameness is important and breeding values should be produced for this trait

Further health traits, such as clinical mastitis and facial eczema, should be included in BW in addition to somatic cell score

Environmental traits should be included in BW - for example, low nitrogen and low methane production

Majority of respondents agreed that there are specific TOP traits they'd like to see in BW

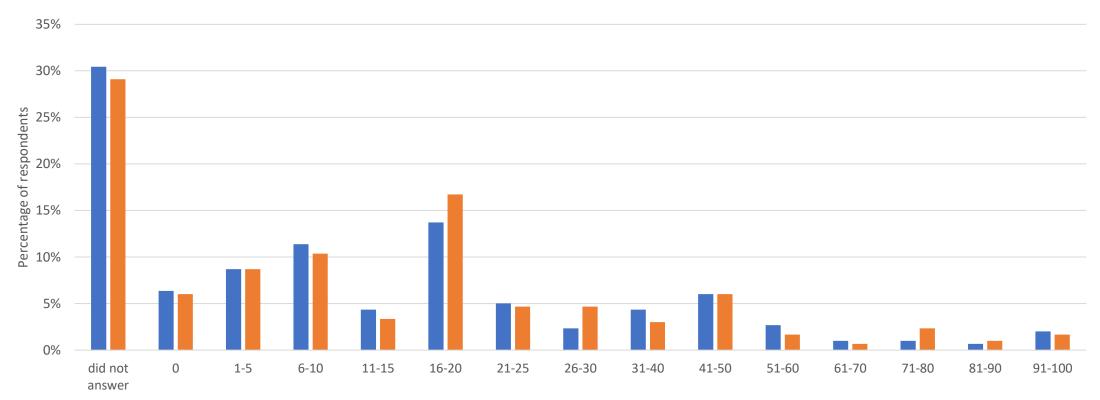


TOP trait 1

TOP trait 2

TOP trait 3

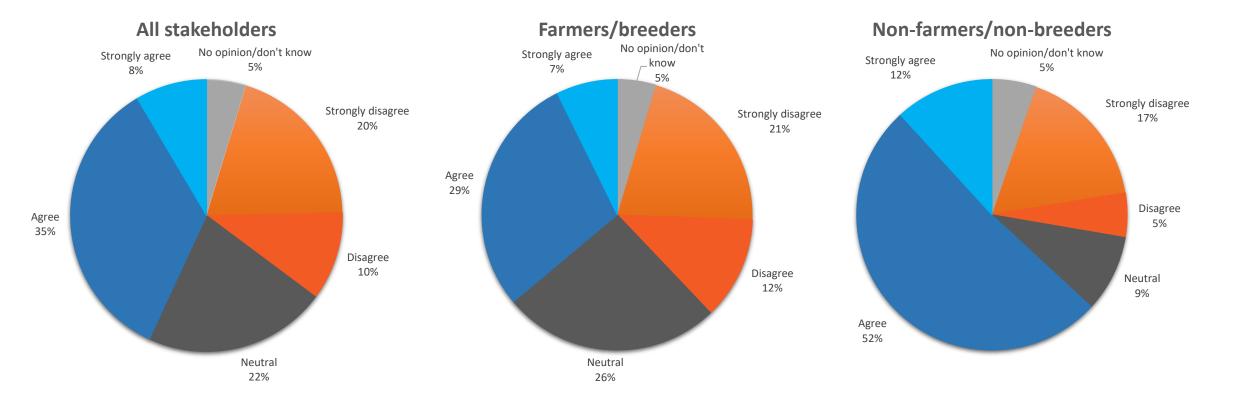
How much genetic progress do you believe could be sacrificed in profitability to achieve genetic gains in environmental traits for which there is no direct financial incentive to farmers?



% genetic progress in profitability that respondent is willing to sacrifice

GHG Low N

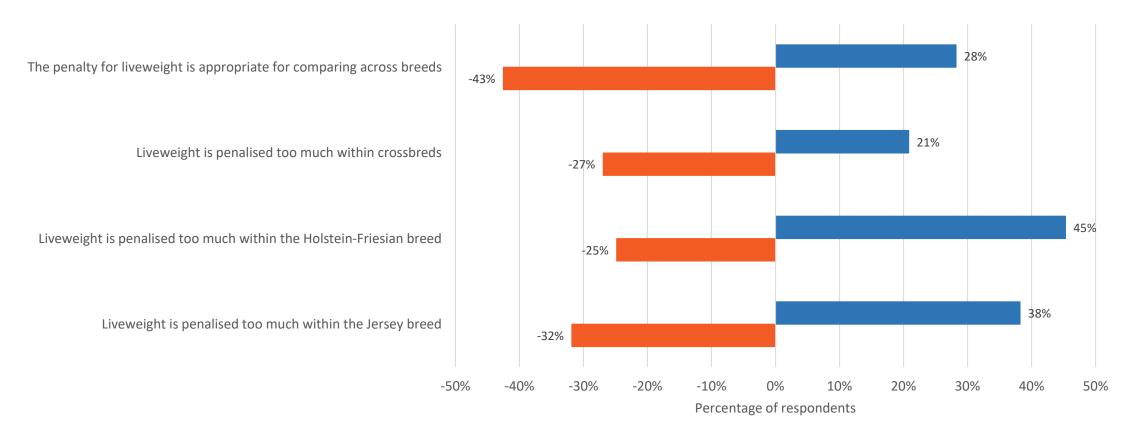
Environmental related issues should be considered when defining genetic selection direction for the NZ dairy industry



Other key issues

Opinion on liveweight penalty

See <u>comments</u> on why stakeholders think the penalty for liveweight is not appropriate

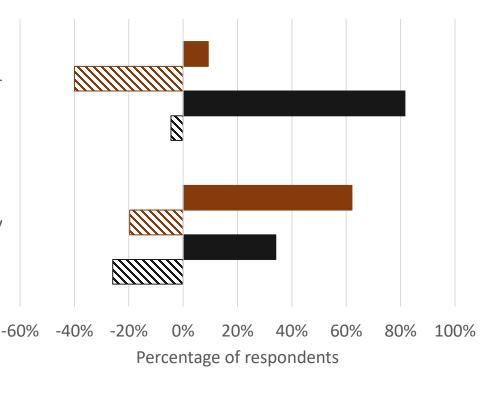


Strongly agree/agree
Strongly disagree/disagree

Opinion on liveweight penalty - Jersey versus Holstein-Friesian

Liveweight is penalised too much within the Holstein-Friesian breed

Liveweight is penalised too much within the Jersey breed



If you'd like to know more about differences in opinion on liveweight, based on breed of cow the stakeholder has, <u>click here</u> (zoom to <u>Jersey</u>, zoom to <u>Holstein-Friesian and</u> <u>Overseas</u> <u>Holstein</u>).

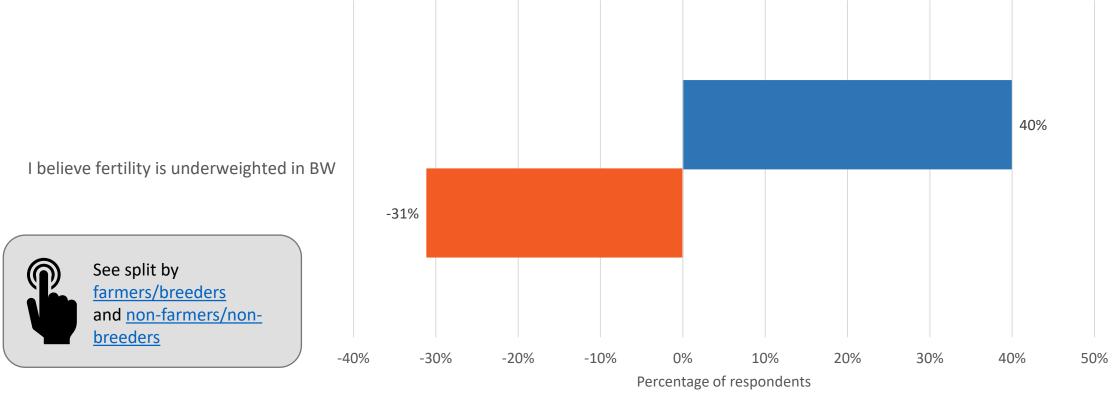
Strongly agree/agree - Jersey

Strongly disagree - Jersey Strongly disagree - Jersey

Strongly agree/agree - Holstein-Friesian, Overseas Holstein

Strongly disagree - Holstein-Friesian, Overseas Holstein

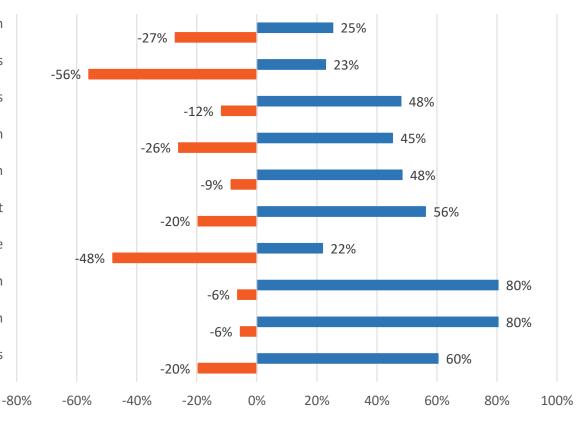
I believe fertility is underweighted in BW



Strongly agree/agree Strongly disagree/disagree

If you are a farmer or breeder and you believe fertility is underweighted in BW, please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following reasons that justify more weighting

abacushio



The current weighting on fertility is not improving my mating results fast enough I am relying on costly intervention to reduce herd not-in-calf rates There is lost opportunity around sales of high value calves and heifers when fertility is not high The cost of AI is too high The fertility BV is not currently accurate enough Having to rear more replacement heifers is inconvenient The necessary culling of infertile cows is an animal welfare issue It is very costly to replace infertile cows on-farm

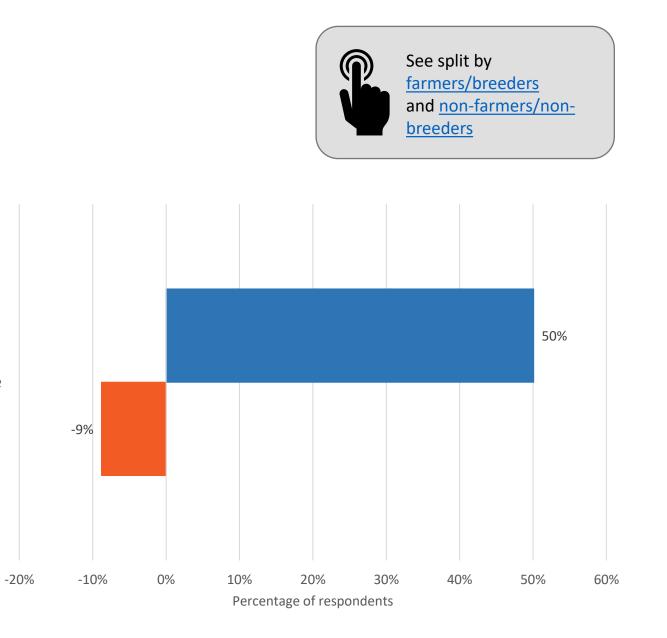
The economic impact of reduced fertility is very high for a dairy operation

More weighting on fertility would result in faster improvements in herd fertility levels

Strongly disagree/disagree - farmers/breeders

Strongly agree/agree - farmers/breeders

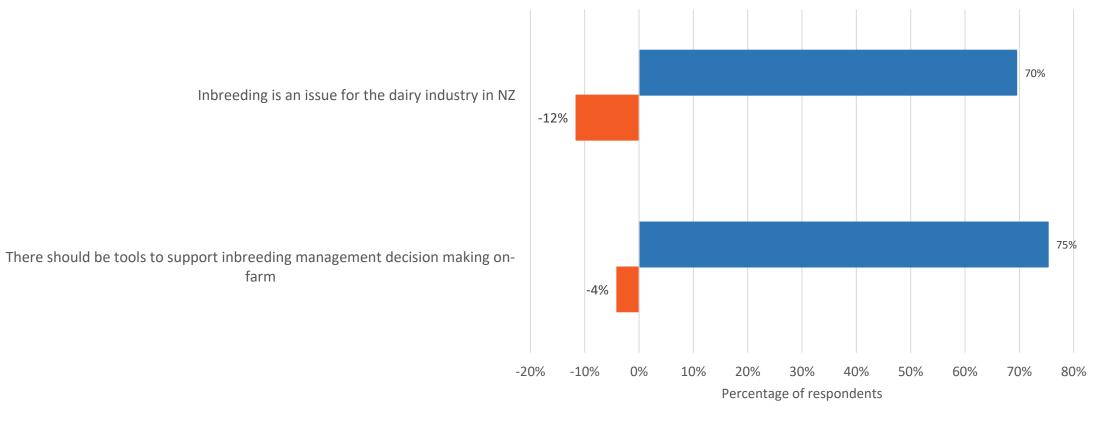




Fertility trait

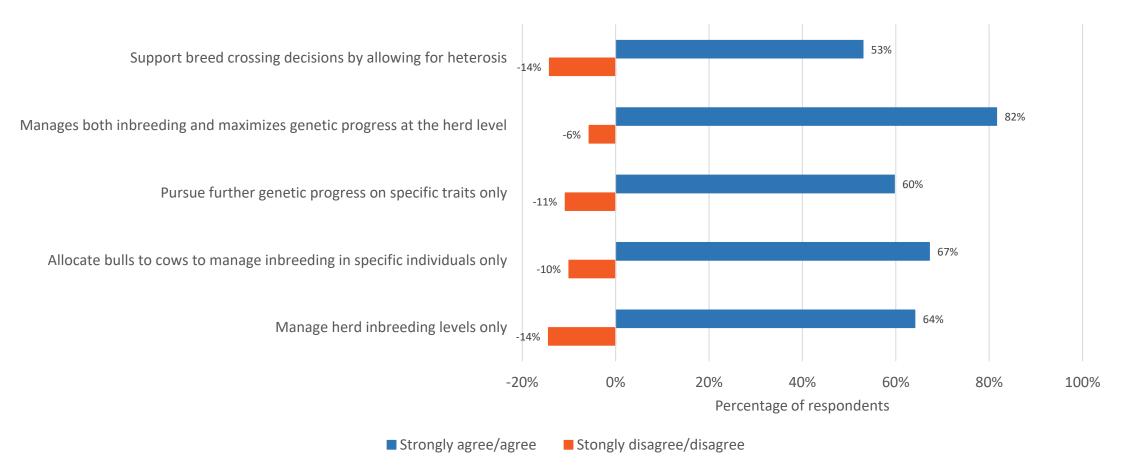
It would be more useful to have the fertility breeding value indicating likely change in 6-week in calf rate, rather than the current definition of 6-week re-calving rate (CR42)

Inbreeding



Strongly agree/agree Strongly disagree/disagree

Indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements on whether there is value in mating allocation tools that



Other points

Strong support for custom selection tools and information – desire to have ability to select for traits that are of importance to their operation

Along with udders, <u>stakeholders want to see more</u> emphasis on cow function and health in BW

Don't believe feet and legs adequately accounts for genetic variation in lameness, want to see lameness addressed in BW

Support for NZAEL produced OAD index/high production index

<u>Mixed views</u> on 3 to 5 year updates of economic weights

Individual/association submissions

Holstein Friesian NZ (HFNZ)

National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC)

Plus some anonymous and individual submissions

Summaries of submissions and links to full submissions that have been approved can be found <u>here</u>.

Thank you to all stakeholders who took the time to complete this survey and provide additional submissions.