



Design of the reference population affects the reliability of genomic selection

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Conclusion Optimal design of the reference population:



Objective

Investigate effects on reliability of direct genomic values (DGV) of:

- 1) relationships **within** the reference population
- relationships between selection candidate and the reference population

Simulated data

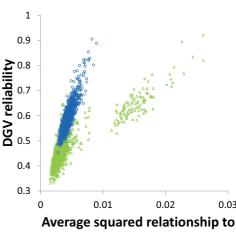
- □ Dairy cattle structure
- Reference populations (n=4):
 - Highly, moderately, lowly and randomly related
 - Small (n=2,000)
 - Cows only
- Selection candidates (n=1,000)
- $n^2 = 0.3$

Reliabilities

Predicted based on selection index theory



Results



the reference population

Figure 1. Individual reliabilities

of selection candidates at different levels of average squared relationship to the reference population for highly (\triangle) and randomly (\bullet) related reference populations.



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Acknowledgments

Comments of Johan van Arendonk and Roel Veerkamp are appreciated. MP acknowledges the financial support of the Koepon Stichting (Arnhem, the Netherlands) and GreenHouseMilk. The GreenHouseMilk project is financially supported by the European Commission under the Seventh Research Framework Programme, Grant Agreement KBBE-238562. This publication represents the views of the authors, not the European Commission, and the Commission is not liable for any use that may be made of the information.