

# Optimizing genomic breeding program designs to improve crossbred performance

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# Acknowledgements

## Financial support of



[www.breed4food.com](http://www.breed4food.com)



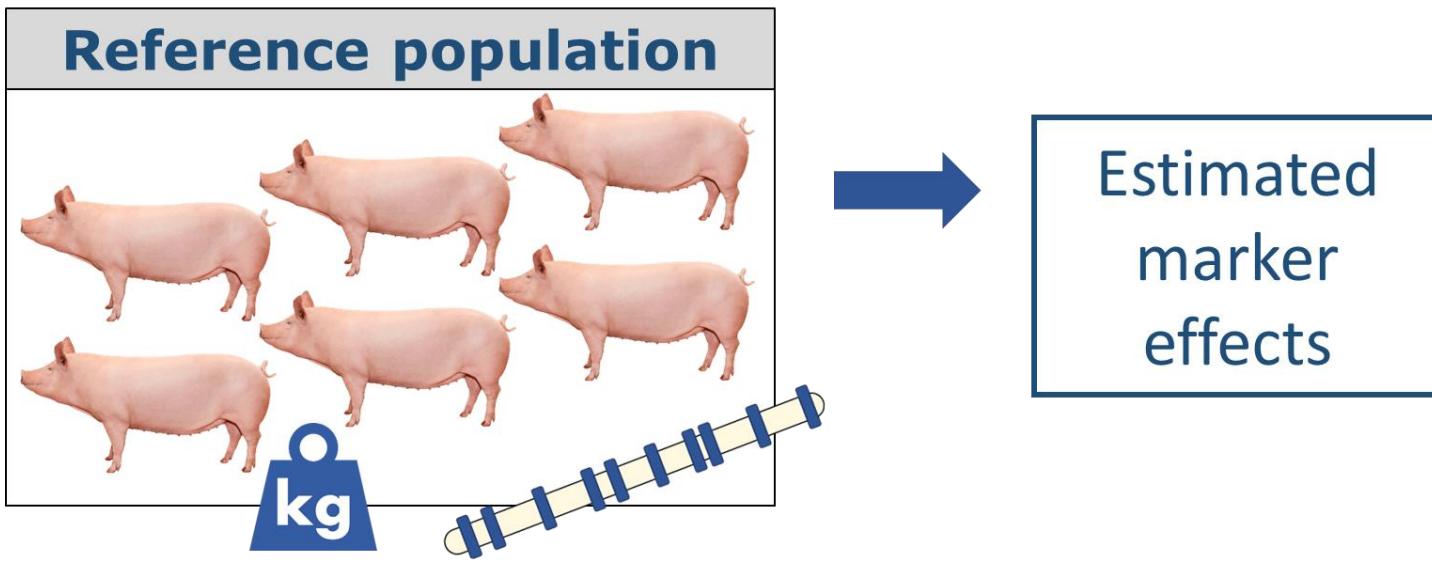
[www.nwo.nl](http://www.nwo.nl)



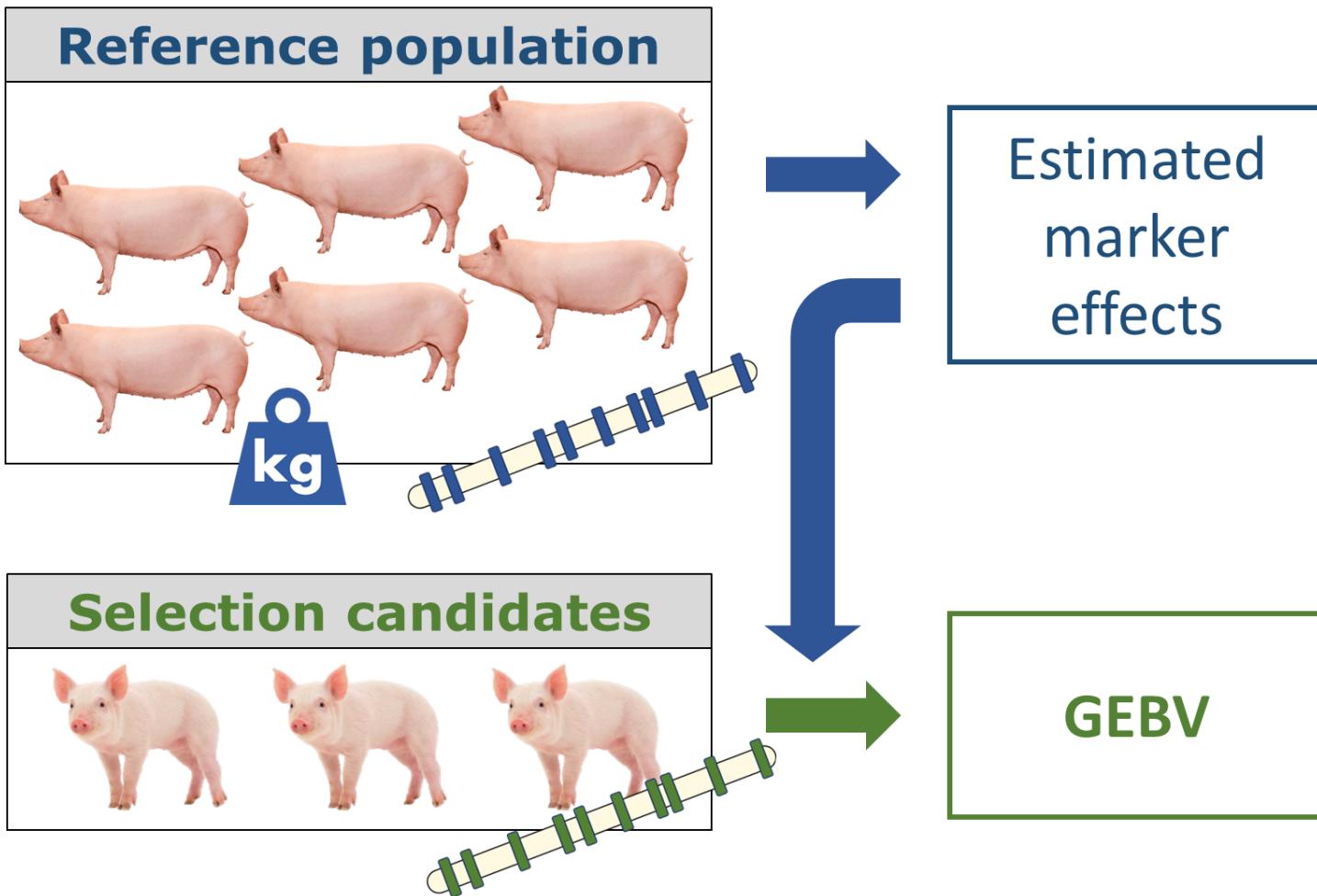
**Topigs Norsvin**  
PROGRESS IN PIGS



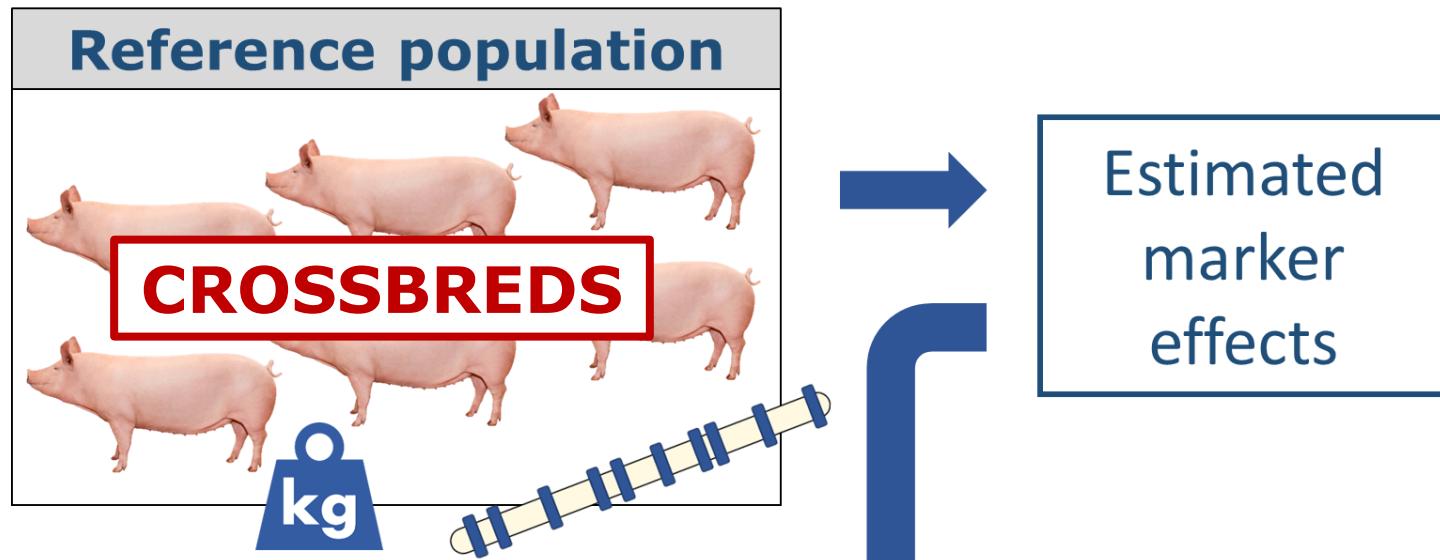
# Genomic prediction



# Genomic prediction



# Genomic prediction for crossbred performance

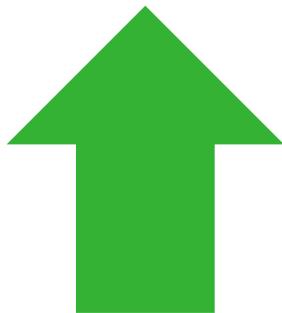


Benefit depends  
on  $r_{pc}$

**FOR CROSSBRED  
PERFORMANCE**

# Accuracy of genomic prediction

Depends on **relations** between reference and selection individuals



Relatedness



Accuracy

# Aim of research

Investigate benefit of using a **crossbred** over a **purebred reference population** for different levels of:

- Relatedness between RP and selection candidates
- Purebred-crossbred correlation ( $r_{pc}$ )
- Reference population sizes

to predict GEBV for **crossbred performance** of purebred selection candidates

**NUCLEUS  
POPULATION**

Gen. 1



Gen. 4



Gen. 5



Gen. 6



Gen. 7



Gen. 8



Gen. 9

# Simulated breeding program

**NUCLEUS  
POPULATION**

Gen. 1



Gen. 4



Gen. 5



Gen. 6



Gen. 7



Gen. 8



Gen. 9

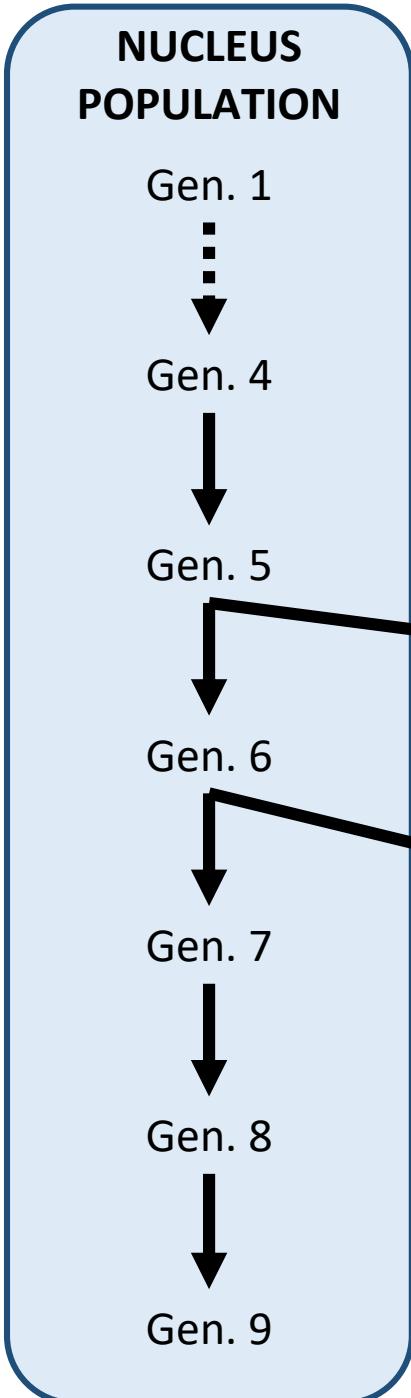
# Simulated breeding program

F1 (Parents)

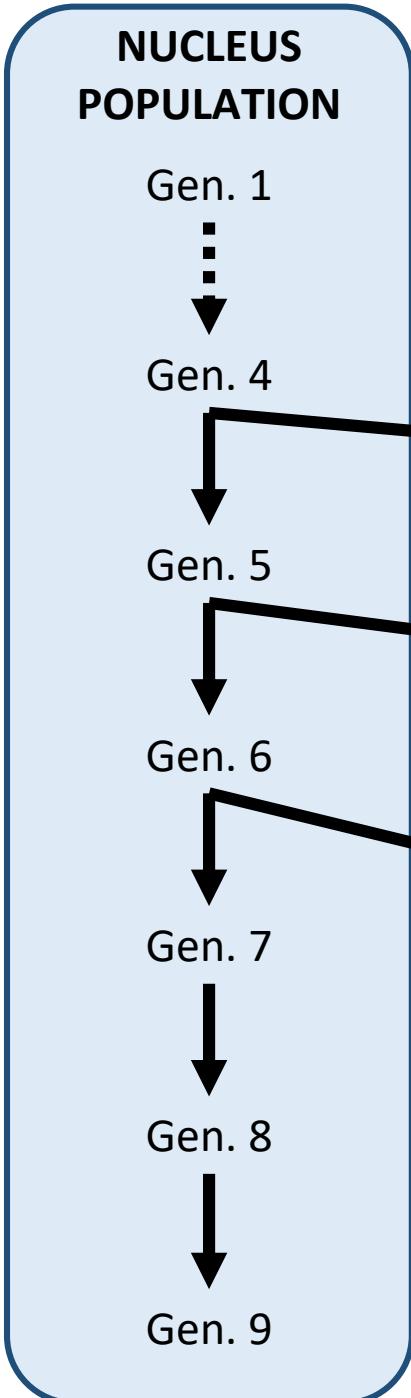


4wayCB

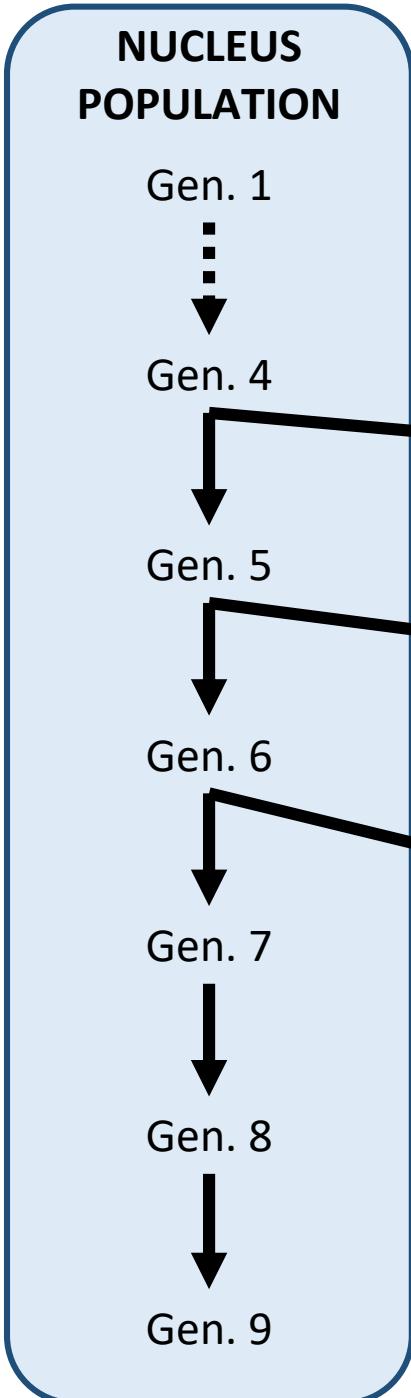
# Simulated breeding program



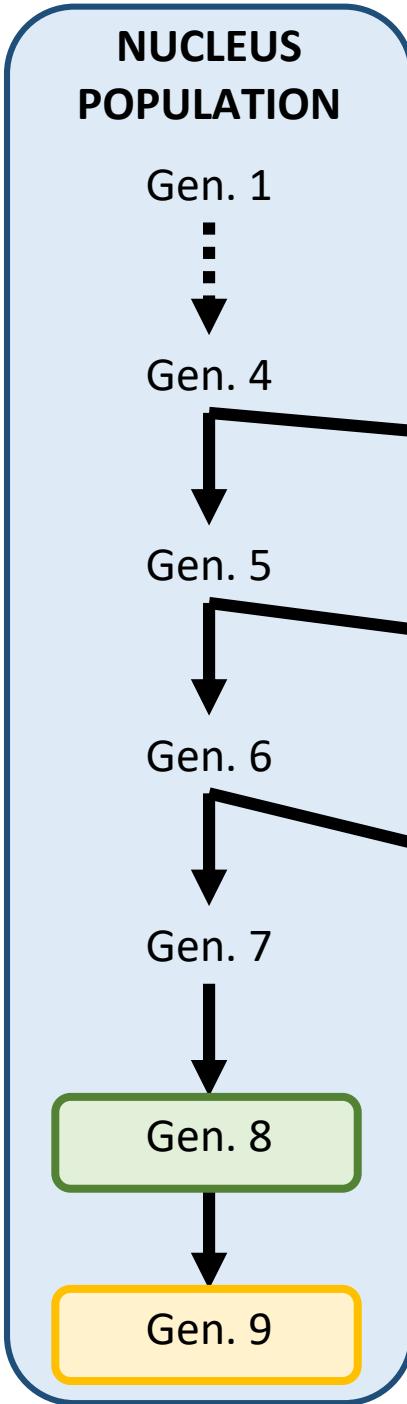
# Simulated breeding program



# Simulated breeding program



# Simulated breeding program



Selection candidates

4wayCB

4wayCB\_1MP

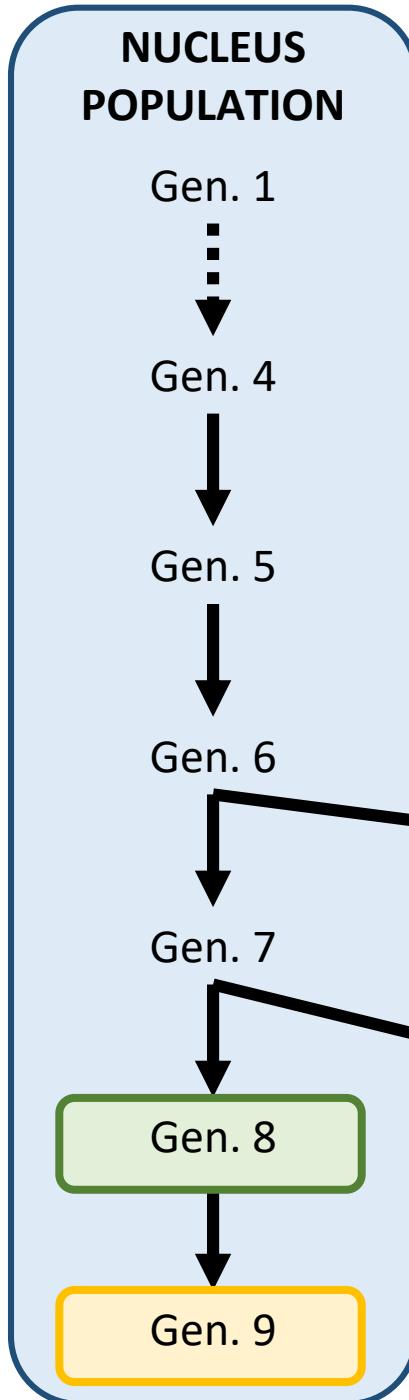
4wayCB\_2MP

Reference population

Great Grand Parents  
Grand Parents  
F1 (Parents)

Grand Parents  
F1 (Parents)

F1 (Parents)



# Simulated breeding program

2wayCB -> Represents  
3wayCB for sire line

SUBTOP

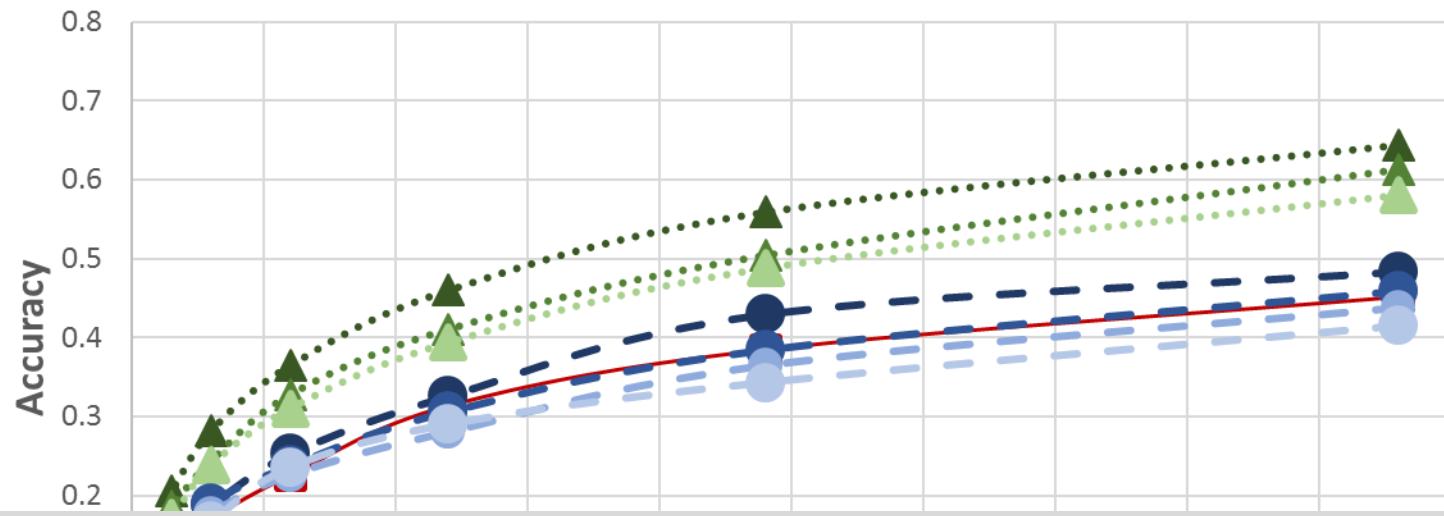
SUBTOP / TOP

Parents

2wayCB\_1MP

Reference population

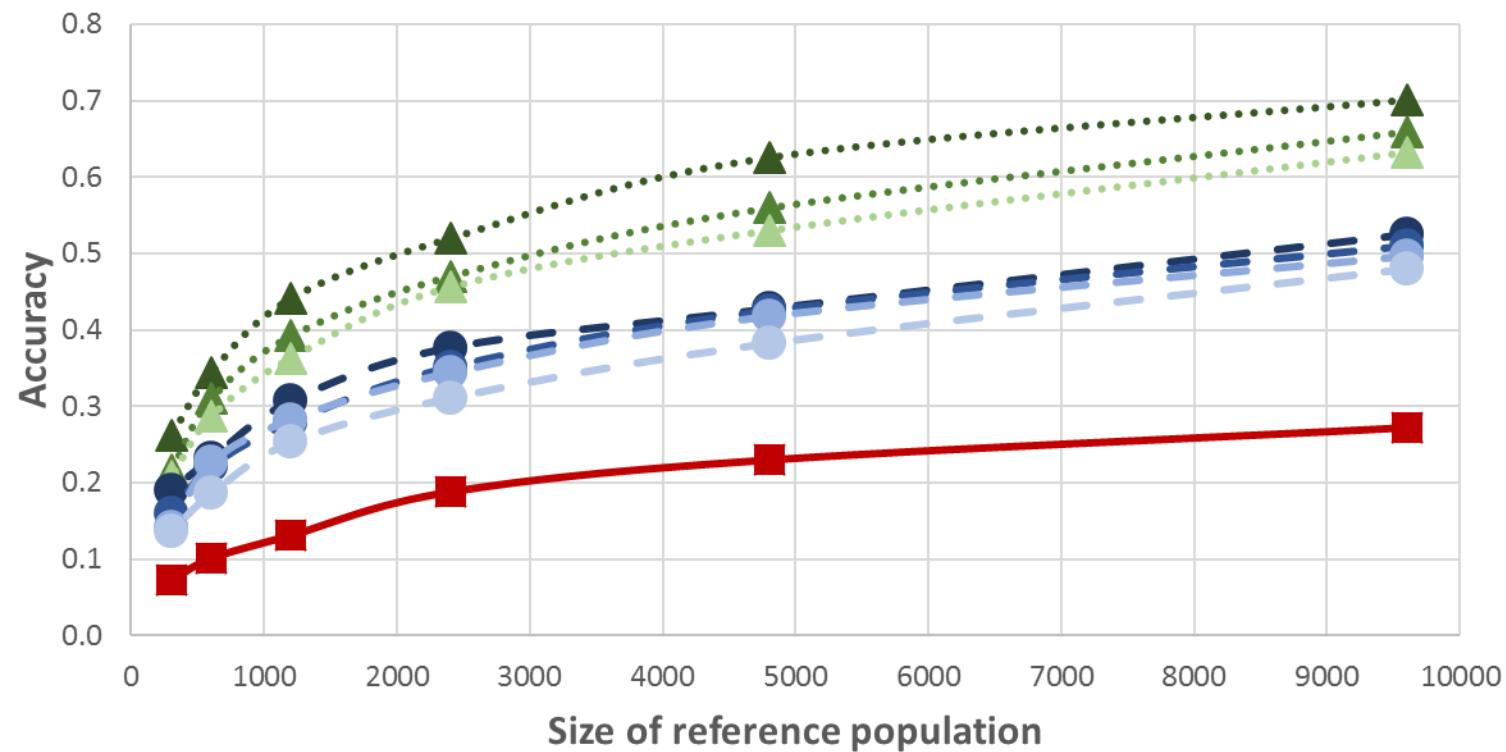
# Accuracies with $r_{pc}$ of 0.75



**2wayCB > PB**

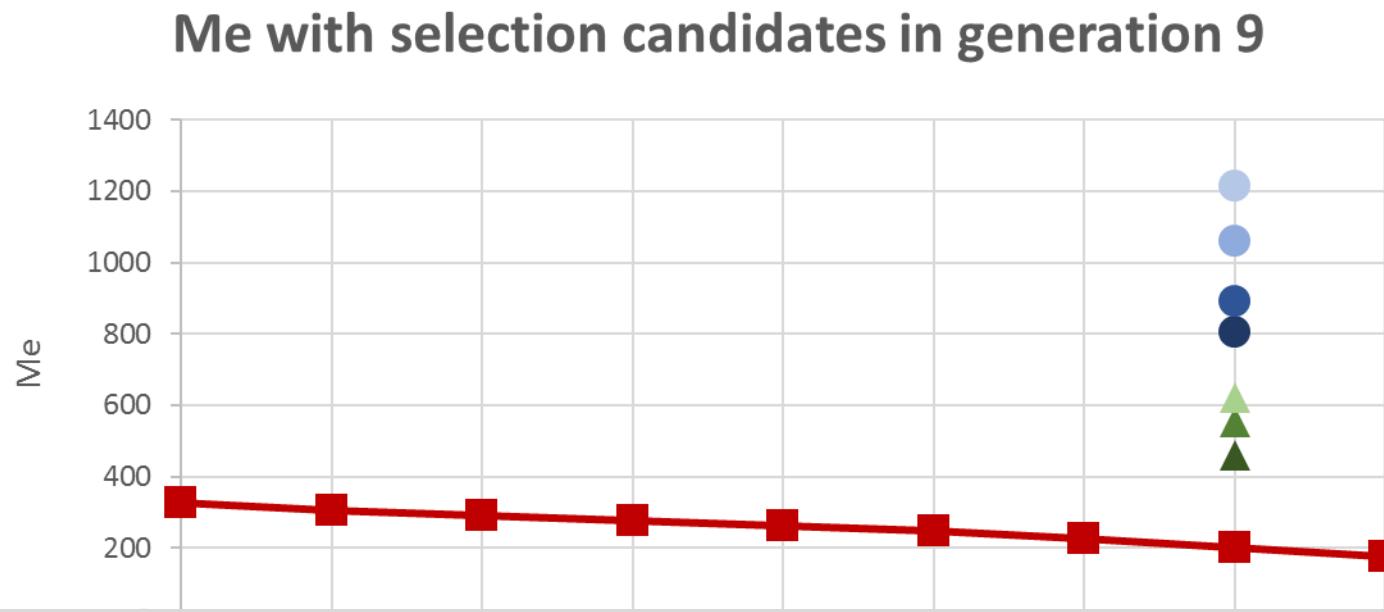
**4wayCB > PB,  
depending on size of RP and  
relatedness**

# Accuracies with $r_{pc}$ of 0.5



**2wayCB & 4wayCB > PB**

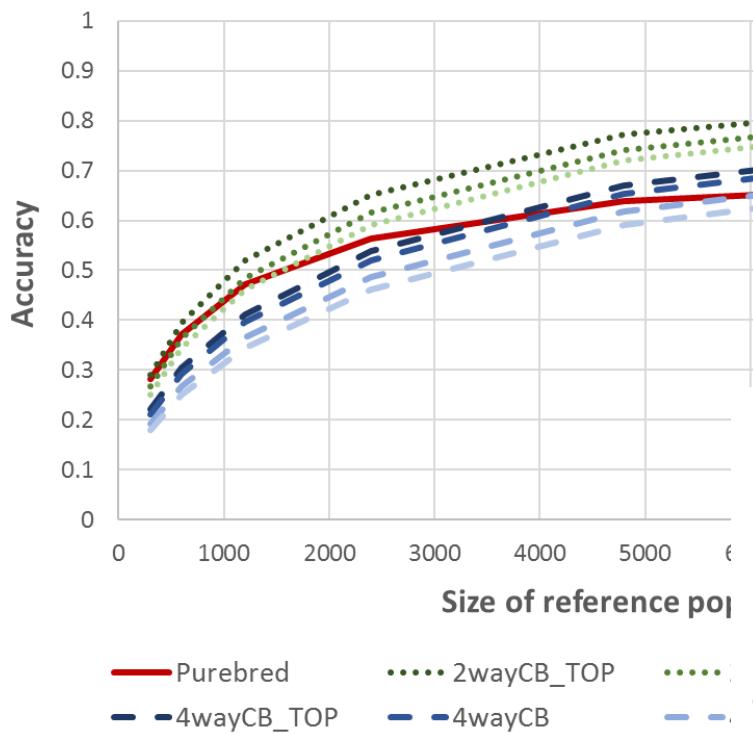
# Number of independent chromosome segments ( $M_e$ )



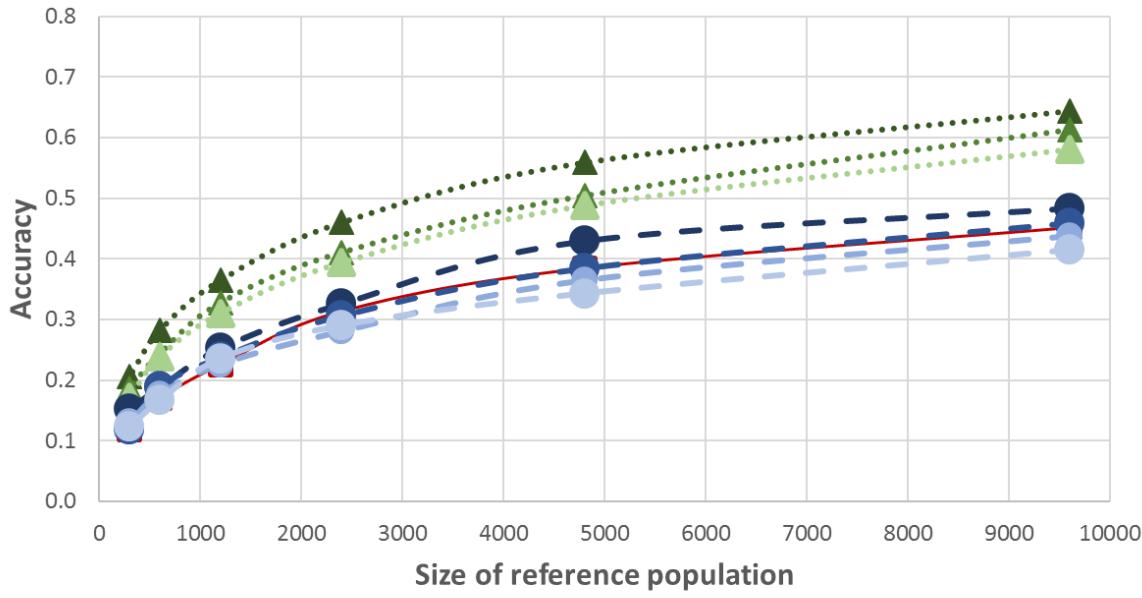
$M_e$  2wayCB  $\sim 2 M_e$  PB

$M_e$  4wayCB  $\sim 4 M_e$  PB

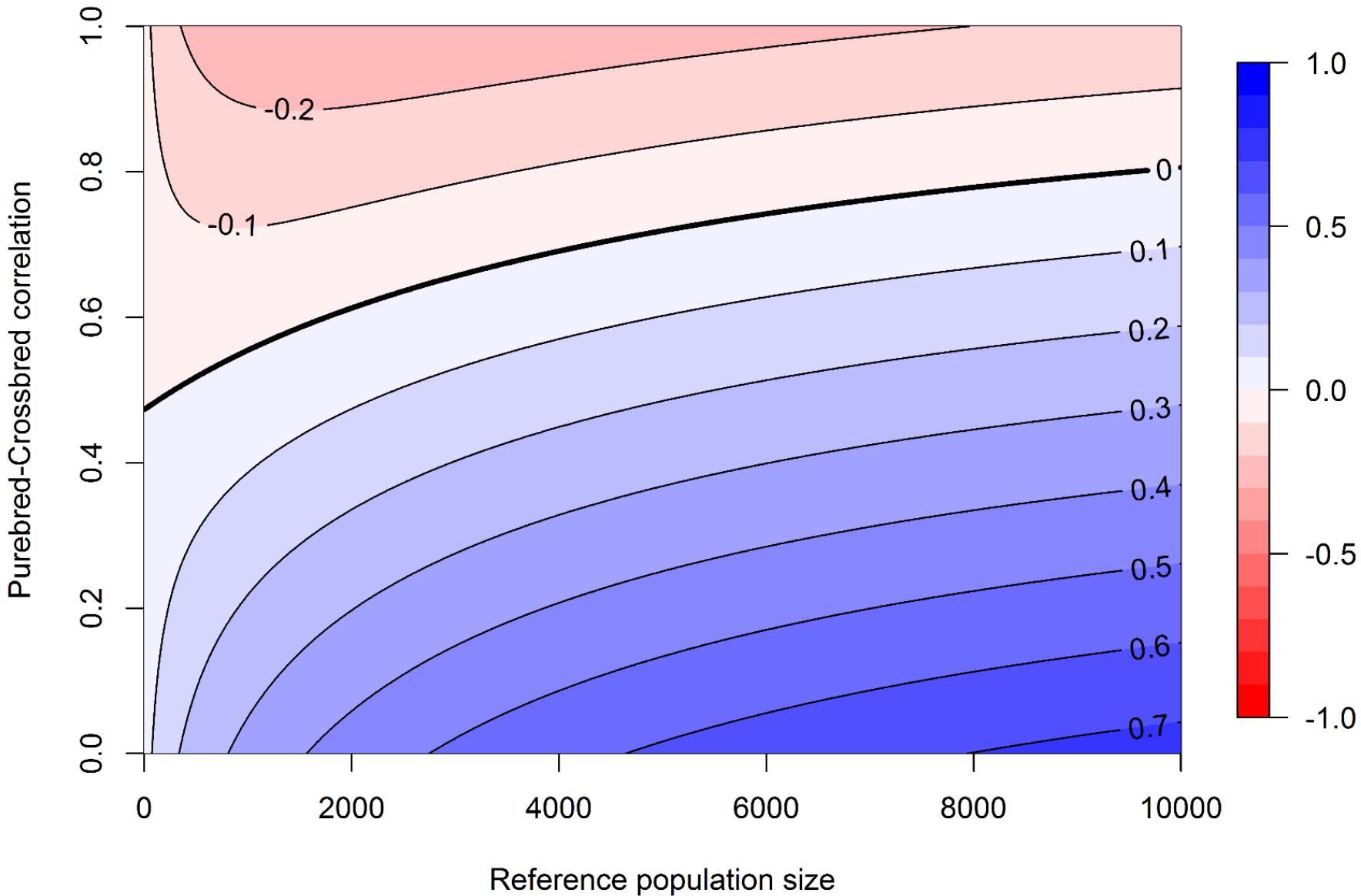
# Predicted versus Empirical accuracy ( $r_{pc}=0.75$ )



## Empirical accuracy



# Expectations across $r_{pc}$ and RP sizes



# Conclusions breeding program design

## Benefit of crossbred information depends on:

- Purebred-crossbred correlation ( $r_{pc}$ )
  - Lower  $r_{pc}$ , more benefit CB
- Relatedness to the selection candidates
  - Higher relatedness (lower  $M_e$ ), more benefit CB
- Size of reference population
  - Larger reference population, more benefit CB

Prediction equation can predict ranking of scenarios