

LOGIX DAIRY ELITE AWARDS 2024



KwaZulu Natal

Holstein
485111



SA STAMBOEK STUD BOOK

A.G. MCKENZIE

Trait	Description	Herd Value	Herd Score	Max Score
RECORDING				
Section Total		31.5%	25.2	80
Cows in Milk	Average number of cows in milk	392	9.8	15
Number of milk tests	Number of official milk tests done during the Elite competition year	3	1	30
Pedigree completeness	Percentage of active animals where both parents are known	41.2%	14.4	35
PRODUCTION				
Section Total		37.9%	54.9	145
Milk Production	Average milk production	25.1 kg	25.2	35
Milk Solids	Average solids produces as recorded in milk tests	7.63 kg	6.8	10
Lactation length	Average length of lactation	314 d	10	10
Age at First Calving	Average age at first calvings during Elite year	30.2 m	1	15
Intercalving Period	Average ICP between last two calvings	436.5 d	7.5	30
Heifer Conception Rate	Average number of inseminations per conception		0	10
Cow Conception Rate	Average number of inseminations per conception		0	10
Somatic Cell Counts	Average SCC (x1000) as recorded in milk tests	458	1.2	13
Average DIM	Average DIM of all cows in milk during milk tests	246.2	3.2	12
GENETIC MERIT				
Genetic Level	Average genetic level of all active cows	94.4	41.4	145
TOTAL		32.8%	121.5	370

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SA Stud Book is an organisation on the forefront of technology in Africa. Our breeders' animals are bred to be extremely well adapted and profitable. The complete cycle is being covered by the Logix Elite Herd Awards: from recording the animal, to production efficiency, to determining the genetic merit of the herd. Herds are also rewarded for making use of the latest data collection program, namely Logix Sync.

The Logix Elite Herd Awards identify the top herds in South Africa. The awards' requirements are very strict and the herds that receive awards, are truly outstanding. The herds that receive Platinum and Gold awards, are in the top 10% of all dairy herds in the country. They meet strict requirements, ensuring that they are truly outstanding, have been in the dairy industry for years and make use of the best available technology. Their animals also have superior performance. Points are awarded for timeliness and completeness of measurements and the successful use of this information to improve management and increase general profitability of the herd.

AWARD				
Platinum	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Merit
Top 6 Herds	>70%	>60%	>40%	>30%
Top 10% of all Dairy Herds Also meets the following requirements: - Atleast 3 years in the dairy industry - Previous year's awars was Silver or beter For Platinum Award: - Minimum herd size of 100 - Completed at least 8 official milk tests		Top 25% of all dairy herds over all breeds that participate in recording	Top 50% of all dairy herds over all breeds that participate in recording	Merit Herds
EVALUATION PERIOD				

Unless otherwise stated, all weights and measurements recorded between **01 May 2023** and **30 April 2024** were evaluated. Reproduction data is according to the latest data that was available when the evaluation was done.

Herds and Animals that are excluded from the awards

- Herds that **do not** actively participate in Logix Milk
- Suspended herds

Checklist: What are points awarded for?

Points for some sections are determined on a percentage basis, where the number of animals that have been measured out of the possible number of available animals, is taken into account. All possible animals should therefore be measured for maximum points. Furthermore, the inventory list of the herd should be up to date on Logix to ensure that the percentages are based on the correct number of animals.

The timeliness of data submission is also important, because it is not worth measuring and weighing animals and then not using the data to improve the herd.

Recording

1. Cows in milk: Assure that all cows in milk are recorded and that birth notifications are submitted timeleously. Larger herds are more difficult to manage and therefore receive more points.
2. Milk Recording: Allow as many cows as possible to participate in regular Milk Recording. Full points are awarded for herds that completed 10 or more tests during the Elite Year.
3. Pedigrees: Ensure that all pedigrees are complete. Points are awarded according to the percentage of active animals that have complete pedigree information.

Production Efficiency

1. Production: Herds are only compared to others of the same breed and feeding regime. Points are awarded based on the standard deviation of the herd's average production from the breed and management group average.
 - Milk Production: Daily milk volumes are received from official Milk Recording, as well as weekly milk weights that are submitted via LogixSync.
 - Solid Production: Average milk solids are only received from milk analysis.
2. Lactation Length: Maximum points are awarded for herds with an average lactation length between 300 and 340 days, while only 1 point awarded to herds with an average less than 210 days, or more than 370 days. Only completed lactations that were longer than 60 days are included.
3. Age of first calving: Full points are awarded for an average AFC between 21 and 24 months. Only first calvings that occurred within the Elite competition year are included.
4. Intercalving Period: Full points are awarded for an average ICP between 360 and 390 days, with 1 point awarded for an average ICP of less than 330 or more than 420 days. The ICP for each cow is calculated as the days between the last calving of the cow that occurred during the Elite competition year and the preceding calving of the cow.
5. Conception Rate: New inseminations and pregnancy check results are received weekly for herds participating in LogixSync and allows for calculation of conception rates for heifers and cows. Full points are awarded for herds that achieved an average conception rate of 1.2 or less. Heifers and cows are evaluated seperately.
6. Somatic Cell Counts: Herds with an average SCC of 200 000 or less receive full points, while no points are awarded for those with an average SCC above 500 000. The herd's average SCC is calculated from the official Milk Recording figures.
7. Average days in milk: Herds' average days in milk are calculated from Milk Recording tests, as well as weekly from LogixSync production data. Herds with an average between 170 and 190 days in milk receive full points, while 1 point is awarded for an average less than 90, or more than 260 days

Genetic merit of the herd

1. Sires: use sires with genetic levels above that of your owne herd for all traits that have breeding values available.
2. Cull cows with the lowest selection indices. This will result in your herd's average selection index to trend upwards.