

DRMS NOW OFFERING PRODUCERS ACCESS TO 305-AA

DECISIONS FOR THE WAY YOU DAIRY



What is 305-AA

305-AA stands for 305-Average Age. It is the new standardized yield estimation to compare cows of different ages, parities, climates, seasons of calving and lactation lengths. This management tool estimates a cow's production for a given lactation, adjusted to 36 months of age, 2X milking frequency and utilizing partial yield measurements captured by milk testing.

Why were 305-AA values developed?

This evolution from 305-ME to 305-AA is designed to better align with today's management practices and environmental impacts on production levels. The 305-ME adjustments were last updated in 1994. Research tells us that genetic selection impacts maturity patterns, and after 30 years both management and the biology of the cow have changed. The industry needs updated tools to make accurate, fair comparisons among cows. This transition and the new 305-AA are based on a 2023 study by USDA AGIL and CDCB, analyzing more than 100 million milk yield records in the National Cooperator Database.



Will DRMS replace 305-ME values?

No, DRMS will offer 305-AA values in addition to all other lactation values.

How can I get 305-AA values for my cows?

305-AA values can only be calculated for herds that participate in DHIA, send data to DRMS and opt to send production data to CDCB. Cows that pass the CDCB edits received a 305-AA value for each lactation. As new testday data is sent to CDCB, 305-AA values for lactations in progress are updated and returned to DRMS.

Where do I go to see my 305-AA values?

If you are a DRMS customer you can view your 305-AA values for Milk, Fat, Protein and SCS on CowCompass. CowCompass is part of the DRMS HerdHQ suite of web products. There is no software to download. You can access CowCompass if you have internet access and a current web browser. Herds that process their records with DRMS have access to CowCompass at no additional charge.

How does 305-AA compare to 305-ME?

Based on comparing first lactation cows at 305 Days in Milk, correlations between 305-AA Milk and 305-ME Milk was 0.93, Fat is 0.94 and Protein 0.92 indicating that there is a high correlation and rankings would not substantially change. The difference between 305-AA and 305-ME values are greater in early lactation but grow smaller as the cows are later in lactation.

What are the Future plans for 305-AA values?

Depending on the level of interest, DRMS is considering adding the 305-AA values as new DBI's to Dart herd management software.