

EVOLUTION  
EXCLUSIVITY!

# 4 INNOVATIONS SUPPORTING GENETIC EFFICIENCY

## #2

## GESTATION LENGTH (GL)



**JOUVENCE, CALVED  
4 DAYS IN ADVANCE !**

### A TOOL TO IMPROVE YOUR CALVING-CALVING INTERVAL



+ production  
- unproductive days



+ reproduction control,  
ideal for grouped calvings



+ comfort



From 800 to 1500€  
stake for 100 cows

**WE GIVE YOU TOOLS TO MOVE  
FORWARD RIGHT NOW :**



< Our bulls are evaluated  
with GL proof

Genimprove

> Your females are evaluated  
by the EVOLUTION genotyping



PRODUCT SHEET: UNDERSTAND AND USE THIS INNOVATION IN YOUR HERD

  
**EVOLUTION**  
International

# #2

# GESTATION LENGTH (GL)



HERDS CONTEXT  
AND CHALLENGES

## ISSUES OF GESTATION LENGTH IN HERDS

**The gestation length plays a role in the productive life of dairy cows on 3 aspects:**

- > The productive days rate : a dry cow consumes 1.3€ per day and 1 housing place.
- > Reproduction with calving-calving interval : 1 additional day of CCI (calving-calving interval) costs 2€/ dairy cow / day.
- > Calving control and comfort: a difficult calving costs 300€.

**A strategic challenge for seasonal systems**

The impact of gestation length is particularly pronounced in seasoned calving systems. Indeed, non-pregnant cows for the targeted period are delayed or culled. It's between 10 and 15 % of incurred culling.



PRINCIPLE OF EVOLUTION  
INNOVATION

## WHAT IS THE GESTATION LENGTH PROOF?

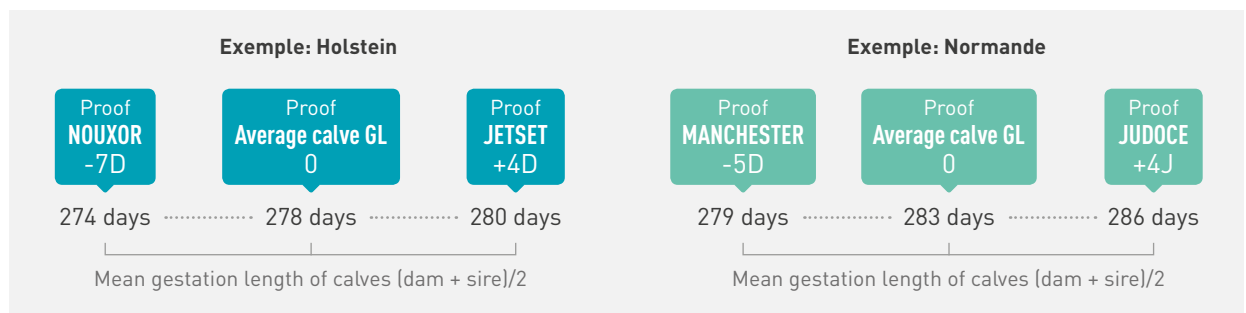
**This proof is calculated by EVOLUTION's Research & Development team, following the G-BLUP international indexing methodology, from 476 369 genotyped individuals (401 685 Holstein et 74 684 Normande) of which 347 091 with direct performances.**

Heritability is 0.32, equivalent to production, which means that the calves gestation length is explained 1/3 by genetic and 2/3 by environment.

Genetic variability is -10 to +10 days relative to the average of each breed, with a standard deviation of +/- 2.5days.

**The proof gestation created by EVOLUTION is expressed in standard-deviation to the breed average**

- > A bull with a GL proof at -8 days will see her calves born on average 4 days earlier
- > A female with a GL proof at + 6 days will see her offspring born 3 days later
- > A calf born from a dam with a proof of -8 and a sire with -6 will born 7 days earlier



BENEFITS FOR  
THE BREEDER

## WHICH BENEFITS FOR THE BREEDERS? FROM 800 TO 1500€ / 100 DAIRY COWS / YEAR

**Using short gestation length bulls, in average -4 days, on a 100 dairy cows herd could improve by 2 days its gestation length for 4 benefits:**

- 1- Economy in feed costs of 2.6€/ dairy cow ie 260€/ year
- 2- 2 days improvement in the calving-calving interval for 2€/ dairy cow ie 400€/year
- 3- In a strict grouped calvings system, 2 cows not culled and 2 less heifers to raise represent 2 x 300€ less additional cost ie 600€/ year or 6€ / dairy cow / year
- 4- Calving better controlled during the birth period and better calving ease, facilitating daily work with time savings