

## Evaluations

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According to Duane Norman, research leader, they intend to distribute the generic evaluations for bulls on the scheduled date, but distribution of cow evaluations could be delayed for approximately a week.

Two unique occurrences contributed to AIPL's difficulty in meeting the release deadline.

To improve usefulness of data and computing efficiency, a new editing system was implemented to replace the one that had been in place for nearly 30 years. This project required reprogramming large portions of the previous system, including new formats for pedigree and error records. Considerable time was spent in the last two weeks trying to correct situations that were not anticipated.

In addition, AIPL was informed in September that the animal model could no longer be computed at the Cornell National Supercomputer Facility. To allow in-house computation of evaluations using less powerful computing resources, reprogramming and system changes were required.

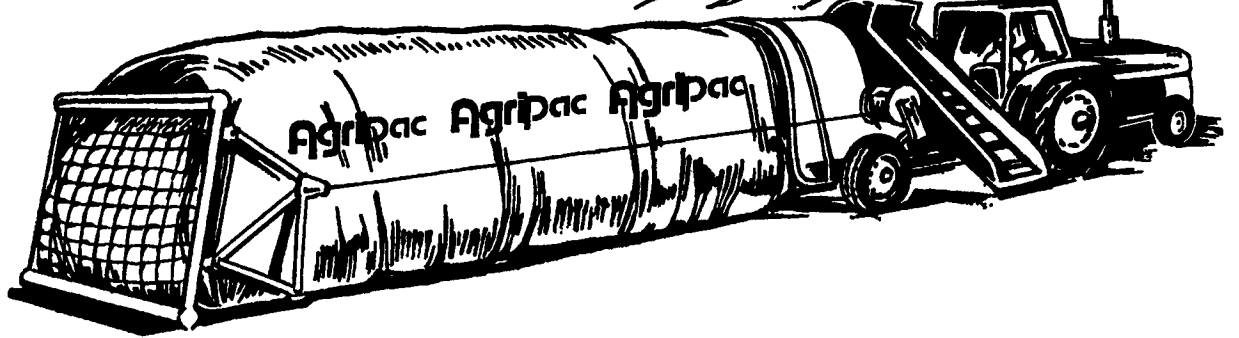
Meeting release deadlines for genetic evaluations is taken seriously by AIPL because of the extreme importance placed on timeliness by all segments of the dairy industry, both domestically and internationally. A release deadline for yield evaluations has not been missed since the 6-week delay during implementation of the Modified Contemporary Comparison in October 1974.

Because of the problems encountered by AIPL, people in the dairy industry will understand why cooperators in the National Cooperative Dairy Herd Improvement Program including Pennsylvania DHIA will not be able to provide these cow evaluations at the usual time.

Dick Barth, manager, Pennsylvania DHIA said the exact release date for cow evaluations will be published as soon as possible and he thanked everyone for "your patience and assistance in helping AIPL and Pennsylvania DHIA deal with this development."

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