

Brown Swiss News

The European Brown Swiss journal



Summary

France

Germany

Switzerland



European Brown Swiss Federation



ebsf_brownswiss



www.brown-swiss.org

World Brown Swiss congress 2025

Registrations are open !



The next World Brown Swiss conference will take place in Bogota, Colombia from July 15th to 20th, 2025.

The occasion to meet with Brown Swiss breeders from around the world and learn about the latest update on the breed.

The schedule activities as well as registrations are now available on the website of the Colombian association : <https://asopardocolombia.co/world-conference>

take advantage of the early registration discount until March 31, 2025.
Registration closes May 30, 2025 and will not be received after this date.



FRANCE



Aristo REMISE, UDERZO P mother

Optimal and Pactole confirm

The end-of-year evaluation adds many daughters to the index of confirmed bulls. Once again, the hopes placed in widely distributed genomic bulls such as Optimal and Pactole are not disappointed.

With nearly 700 daughters internationally, Optimal asserts himself as one of the very best bulls of his generation. In ISU he maintains his level and gains again in milk index at +1209 while combining healthy udders, fertility at +0.8, type at 1.5 and record longevity at +2.5. He is No. 1 of confirmed bulls in Switzerland with 1424 GZW. He is still alive and continues to be available in sexed semens.

Pactole sees his milk index decrease a little with now 122 daughters in his index, but is able to maintain himself at more than 800 kg associated with exceptional content at +3.0 protein and +3.8 fat ! With 180 ISU points for a confirmed bull, he is an international leader, who has also regained his position as No. 1 of confirmed bull in the USA with 200 PPR and number 3 in Italy at 1215 ITE. His daughters have well-attached udders and excellent feet and legs. All functional criteria are green.

3 new bulls available sexed

BGS is launching 3 new products during this December release that will strengthen the range of bulls that are clearly positive in content without sacrificing production and type.

URBEX (Ridley x Optimal x Anibal) is the first bull released in AI from an illustrious family of Gaec Changarnier (Côte d'Or), of Infernale EX 90 (Enzo). His grandmother Méfiance (Anibal) represented France at the European contest in Verona in 2020. His family by Optimal demonstrates as much strength and as much will to produce. URBEX is at the top of the ISU ranking and is also the highest French bull in the Swiss ranking at 1486 GZW. He combines very good quantities of fat and protein, good daughters fertility and a very functional morphology: a perfect size/power ratio, very good feet and legs, remarkable udder attachments and good-sized teats. The position of the teats wider than average will be interesting to correct implantation defects that are too internal, particularly at the rear. BB and A1A2, available in sexed immediately.

USAINBOLT (Rully x Malcolm x Payssli) is also the first AI bull from a renowned family of the Gaec de Saint Louis (Haute Garonne). For this first son of Rully, we also find Enzo in his pedigree with Irlande, the great-grandmother, who distinguished herself many times with titles of best udder at the Sommet de l'Elevage. It is also a very productive family: USAINBOLT will be a real specialist in production, with an interesting TB, a fast milking speed and a flawless profile in morphology with good-sized teats. The rump will be long and wide, ideally inclined. In the American ranking, he stands out with a PPR of 221. BB and A2A2, available in sexed immediately.

UZEL (Tank x O Malley x Sinatra) is simply the best Tank son available in the world, he is ranked No. 1 son in Germany, Switzerland, USA and France. This American sire, son of Doboy offers new opportunities for use. Born at Mickael Drouet (Orne), he descends from the family that recently gave RASTAROKET, TORONTO and TOMY P. UZEL will produce very solid bulls while maintaining over 1000 kg of milk. The heifer fertility index is one of the very best, and he will significantly improve milking speed. In terms of type, we find the influence of Doboy with excellent dimensions and a lot of solidity. The udder is also very complete with slightly longer and large diameter teats, very useful for mating cows that have this defect. BB and A2A2, available in sexed form from January 2025.

Among the bulls still available, TOMY P is still at an impressive level at 196 ISU. Unfortunately, he can only produce conventional semen and will be more widely available in January. UDERZO P, another polled bull, now exceeds 2000 kg of milk index with an impressive +0.9 fertility and +2.1 longevity. ULTRATOP, the type specialist, consolidates his ISU and gains 3 pts, as does URION P.

As for TORONTO, a bull used last year, his ISU index is down 13 pts, but still at 179 pts. This variation is due to a correction of an error in taking into account his genotyping in the indexing database. His profile hardly changes since he remains a very dairy bull at +1739 kg, with healthy udders (+1.9) and a functional type with deep animals. It will remain to protect the daughter fertility as expected.

Finally, TORNERO P keeps his place of N°1 ISU, while bringing the polled gene. He is unfortunately temporarily not available in sexed semen, but we hope that he will be able to produce again at the beginning of 2025.

Future Alliance Brown Swiss continues to grow

On the occasion of EuroTier 2024, the inclusion of the Upper Austrian A.I. station, Hohenzell in the Future Alliance Brown Swiss was officially announced. This merger brings together the A.I. stations BSG Greifenberg, Genostar, Hohenzell and RBW with the aim of providing the affiliated companies with the best genetics of the Brown Swiss breed for efficient and sustainable milk production. In addition to performance, conformation and fitness, aspects such as line diversity and solid polled genetics also play a crucial role in the focus of the joint breeding programs.

Another highlight of EuroTier was the presentation of the first joint bull catalog from the Brown Swiss Future Alliance. With 82 outstanding bulls, it covers a wide range of breeder preferences and was received with great enthusiasm. The numerous bulls in the catalog show that the organizations have worked intensively with their associations and breeders in the past. The result can be seen in the frequent placements in all top lists! Breeding with the best representatives of the population means the highest chances of success!

RBW presented a SANSIBAR subsidiary from Lang GbR, Biberach.

5th RBW Sale Night

With perfect weather this time, the breeders and friends of cattle breeding didn't miss the opportunity to make the 5th RBW Sale Night an experience on November 30th, 2024 at the RBW Auction Center in Bad Waldsee. Over 60 hand-picked lots from 7 breeds were offered. Cattles and embryos from the Simmental breed, Holstein, Brown Swiss, Angler, Normande, Jersey and Vorderwaelder breeds could be purchased. In addition, the highest quality calved animals, conformation papers and index papers were on offer, which appealed to a broad and interested audience.

All in all, the 5th Sale Night in Bad Waldsee was once again a complete success, which was mainly due to the very good preparation and selection of animals, which made it possible to offer all segments at a high level, which was rewarded with an average price of € 4,533 and now gives many buyers the opportunity to play a role in both breeding and show events in the future. One of the top sellers Brown Swiss: DACAPO daughter PANDORA was sold for € 10,500 and remains on a local breeding farm in Baden-Wuerttemberg.

CALVERT remains number 1

CALVERT (Chagall x Huge x Piero x Verdi, TMI 152, MI 130, +1,290 kg, -0.18% F, -0.02% P, FIT 126, Type 108) is again No. 1 in the Brown Swiss proof! He goes back to a Bavarian cow family with strong conformation, which has already produced many bull mothers and produces the powerful dairy cow with good legs and correct udder. The Chagall son can also be used widely as a fitness sire - he is characterized by excellent persistence, longevity and very good fertility. Also ideal for organic farms.

HOLIDAY – the hot newcomer

HOLIDAY (Hotshot x Volker x Vassri x Amorie, TMI 145, MI 127, FIT 118, +980 kg, +0.05% F, -0.04% P, Type 112) traces back to the O line of the Bentele family, Gruenkraut and optimally combines performance and type. He brings the stylish dairy cow with very good bone structure and correct rump. The udder is attractive due to the rear udder height and width. HOLIDAY can be used to improve fitness, longevity, udder health and persistency.



Waldseer Braunviehtag 2024 – great enthusiasm

The Waldseer Braunviehtag 2024 impressed with excellent cows. The overall package of dairy show, offspring presentation, agricultural show and Brown Swiss Queen election attracted show visitors from all over Europe. The Baden-Wuerttemberg Brown Swiss Forum and the Young Brown Swiss Breeders Association brilliantly organized the largest Brown Swiss show in Germany in 2024. The RBW presented a CAPONE progeny group. Calvino Lawina from the Sauter family farm in Bad Wurzach was named Grand Champion 2024! You can find the entire report here.. <https://www.rind-bw.de/news/news/bericht-zum-waldseer-braunviehtag-2024-1896.html>



GERMANY

RBG Memmingen

Brown Swiss – wide range of polled genetics!

RBG Memmingen: We are pleased that we are currently able to offer our farmers three new polled bulls - AG SEEHOF P, AG BEPPO P and AG RUGBY PP - and are thus even more broadly positioned in polled breeding. In addition, AG NETFLIX, AG VASABI, AG VANHALEN, AG DIAMOND and AG CHICAGO are new additions to the program.

Newcomers - Genomic young sires
AG Netflix (GS New York x Dane) takes a great second place among the Brown Swiss young sires with an overall breeding value of 151. He comes from the proven and highly productive H-cow family from the Berkmler-Schön GbR farm in Wildpoldsried. His dam Holma was classified with VG 84 points in the 1st lactation and finished it with 11,142 kg milk. **AG Netflix** inherits a high milk yield (+1,339 kg) with excellent fitness values, a long productive life, super persistency and a paternal calving ease of 110 points. The conformation inheritance suggests a medium-framed cow with plenty of rear udder width and good fore udder attachment. **AG Diamond** (AG Donboy x Dario) is currently the only son of AG Donboy. This means that farmers have a special bloodline at their disposal. **AG Diamond** stands for a high milk yield (+1,229 kg), lots of chest width (110), wide rumps (111) as well as wide and high rear udders. **AG Chicago** (Chagall x Vintage) can also boast an exceptional milk yield of 1,154 kg and good conformation. In particular, he shines with high attached udders (112) and thicker teats (110). **AG Vasabi** (Vaskur x Hidalgo) transmits long (122) and wide (120) rumps. He also scores with long and thick teats (109 each), fast milkability (107) and positive components. **AG Vanhalen** (Valor x Husold) has a solid milk production and can convince with super fitness values (119). Furthermore, he shows a great fertility value of 119 points and a good paternal calving ease (104).



AG Vollmacht daughters confirmed their excellent exterior

Genomic young sires

We also offer an extensive range of young genomic sires, which should fulfill every wish.

Strong milk quantity sires with more than +1,100 kg milk are AG Vektol (+1,422 kg), AG Dynamo (+1,277 kg), AG Arona (+1,123 kg), AG Narian (+1,079 kg) and AG Neymar (+1,151 kg). Furthermore, AG Neymar makes the cow with a lot of chest width (116), rump depth (112) and thicker teats.

High components are a trademark of the Brown Swiss breed. With AG Ampere (+0.11 % fat; +0.15 % protein) and AG Vindor (+0.13 % fat; +0.03 % protein) there are two excellent representatives available. AG Ampere also impresses with excellent fitness values (117). AG Vindor also impresses with fine hocks (110) and a meat value of 111 points.

Fitness is crucial for the productivity and health of cows, as it forms the basis for a high milk yield, rapid regeneration after birth and a long life on the farm. AG Vektol and AG Narian both have excellent fitness scores of 118 points.

A tight and highly attached udder is fundamental for a dairy cow. The trend shows that udders are getting better and better. In order to meet these requirements, AG Arona (114) and AG Narian (117) impress with outstanding scores in this area. Another highlight of AG Narian is the rump width (118) and rump length (111) with a sloping slope. He also has a meat value of 111 points.

The **feet & legs** of the cows are crucial for their mobility and health, as they form the basis for long-term performance and a long service life. AG Dynamo (116) and AG Arona (114) are available to farmers for this purpose. Both bulls also excel with good udder health.

Newcomer - polled

AG Seehof P (AG Sepp P x AG Hallhof), with an outstanding 150 points in the overall breeding value, leads the ranking of polled bulls. His strengths lie in his high milk production (+1,420 kg) and outstanding fitness values (119). Particularly noteworthy is his super longevity of 120 points and good persistency of 117. **AG Rugby PP** (AG Vindus P x AG Sidence) is homozygous polled and the highlight of the polled program. He has outstanding conformation. On the one hand, he suggests fine hocks (113) and on the other hand, high attached udders (110). The rear udder is also expected to be high attached (116). **AG RUGBY PP** transmits a medium milk yield with positive components (+0.12 % fat; +0.03 % protein) AG Beppo P (Boxer P x Piano) scores with a balanced conformation and positive components (+0.05 % fat; +0.10 % protein) with a medium milk yield. Furthermore, he stands out with a fast milkability (122). **AG Dakari P** remains an integral part of our polled program and shows a harmonious conformation with a solid feet & legs (113) and fine hocks (120). Furthermore, he shows super fitness values (114) with a good longevity (116). He also passes on positive components for milk yield (+0.04 % fat; +0.01 % protein).

Daughter tested

AG Vollmacht (AG Vollmilch x Temtation) was again able to improve significantly in conformation. He now scores 121 points for rump and 119 points for udder. His daughters were also convincing on this year's progeny tour. They presented themselves as medium-framed, with sufficient muscling and substance as well as first-class udders. **AG Sion** was able to increase his overall breeding value by +1 point and is characterized by fantastic udder health (118) with fast milkability (113).

Alpengenetik wishes you a lot of fun selecting the bulls and much success with their offspring. The complete Brown Swiss offer can be found in the following table. You can find all the important information on the current range at www.rbgmm.de under the menu item Brown Swiss.



SWITZERLAND

Many options when selecting bulls

The breeding value estimation from December is encouraging from a brown Swiss perspective. Bulls that had already been classified were able to improve their good results once more. Again, a purebred, genetically polled bull is used again, and an absolute top bull was classified at Original Braunvieh. After the breeding value estimation, Heer Visor P VIALO PP, Fischli's TOP Bays BRANDO, Alpview Antonov VALENTIN-ET and Bürgler's Orkan OMAR are classified.

The last week of November brings a lot of motivation for Brown Swiss breeding. The fact that interesting genetics can achieve high prices was impressively demonstrated at the Swissgenetics Top Sale. In addition, the Swiss Classic showed where the top points in the exterior of Brown Swiss breeding are. Excellent cows from young to old could be admired and positive breeding trends could be observed.

Sinatra at his best

Sinatra's influence is positive and lasting. The bull with Austrian roots was primarily used for bull development. Today he has established himself as an important and influential bull in Brown Swiss breeding. Four sons and Sinatra himself are among the top ten AI bulls in terms of overall breeding value.

Sparky and Optimal take the lead. Sinatra himself is in 5th place. His outcross blood with high milk production and very good functionality helps him to achieve this top result. The Seasidebloom son still has 1248 kg of milk and excellent fitness traits such as persistency 111, cell count 117, mastitis resistance 109 and fertility 109. This is after Sinatra, who was born in 2015, has already undergone some basic adjustments.

Ackis VIALO PP, NICOLE P



Classified bulls from August perform

Antonov Andi can increase his breeding value to +1,100 kg milk and with a positive protein content and very good functionality, he has a total merit index (TMI) of 1377. Also Calano who was able to increase his performance level and fitness resulting in a TMI of 1365. Cyrus increases his milk breeding value to 714 kg, resulting in a TMI of 1303. JJ-P increases his milk by over 300 kg and now has 1315 kg of milk.

Other bulls that are among the highest in TMI and can be used are Sparkey with 1443 and Optimal with 1424. They took the lead. Visor P (1387), Tu (1359), Palmer (1327) and Sid (1321) are also solid in their values. Brice is also holding up very well in 11th place among the AI bulls. The bull, which is the most influential in the current population due to its insemination numbers, can further confirm his good result. Also Doboy, who in 12th place with 1052 kg milk can still be used as a solid performance bull.

Such a range of breeding-tested positive bulls has rarely (perhaps never before) existed and, in addition to the interesting young bulls, offers many good mating opportunities.

Blood diversity in the young bulls

It is noticeable that the highest AI young animals in terms of total merit index come from different cow families. With 1566, Highlight, a Hotshot son from an Antonov Andi cow, is at the top.

He is followed by Nitro, a Rastarocket son out of Silver Nutella with 1556 total breeding value and Champagne, a Pactole son out of Fact Casandra with 1503.

There are also many young bulls that stand out in terms of milk yield. AG Nathan Narian shows a genomic optimized breeding value (GOBV) with 1677 kg. He is followed by Aristo AI with 1635 kg and Sevilla Silvaner with 1581 kg. The goal of maintaining the blood range in the population can be achieved with such young bulls. For this reason, it is desirable if they receive good, targeted use to further develop the genetics.

SWITZERLAND



Original Braunvieh breed is being shaken up

Lordan Urmi's influence continues to grow. She is represented by two offspring of the top four AI bulls in terms of total merit index. Omar and Morin fully meet the breeding aim of milk and meat.

Omar, the hereditary defect-free Orkan son out of Lordan Urmi, shines in every respect. He embodies modern breeding for dual purpose, which combines good milk production with very good protein content, strong and healthy udder cows with excellent meat production. All this with a moderate body size.

Donald, a Danos son, is also at the front. Killy slides to third place on the list of TMI. In the IFV (meet index) it is Omar, Killy and Morin who stand out positively in terms of their meat inheritance.

If you want more milk in your Original Braunvieh herd, you have the opportunity to influence it positively with Luigi, Rinetto or Wichtel. Wichtel now stands out positively in terms of performance. With a big jump in the latest breeding value estimates, he improved his heredity of milk to 852 kg. He combines this milk production with positive fat content and attractive conformation. Great attention must be paid to fertility when mating.

Donald was able to improve his milk at a low level. However, his ingredients with +0.56% fat and +0.19% protein catch your eye. In addition, he has excellent fitness traits. His fertility inheritance of 110 and cell count inheritance of 119 are also high. His daughters are medium sized but have excellent udders. Donald is a bull that can be used specifically on high-performance cows.

Among the young bulls, it is the well-known Placi and Baileys, which are already in service, that take the lead. With Omar, Placi now has a proven sire. In third place is Omar's brother, Tiago. His two brothers were able to shine with very good offspring tests. Even with the Original Braunvieh there are many options for finding the right bull for every cow.

Andreas Kocher

Braunvieh Switzerland



OMAR OB Odessa