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Session 3. New trends and traits for the future

Hoof health - index, values and collecting data

by **Hermann H. Swalve**

Institute of Agricultural and Nutritional Sciences
Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg
Theodor-Lieser-Str. 11
06120 Halle (Saale) / Germany

Traditionally, hoof health primarily has been dealt with from a veterinary perspective. This perspective is often focused on the cure of diseased animals and on the prevention of diseases by management practices. With the general trend of collecting data on health of dairy cows, and even pioneered by collecting data on hoof health, massive amounts of data have become available. For the case of hoof health, it has to be differentiated between individual treatments of lame cows and collecting data at time of hoof trimming thus including every cow of a contemporary group. Many studies have shown that genetic selection for improved hoof health is feasible. With the widespread application of genomics, also genomic selection for hoof health nowadays is feasible and practiced in various countries with good results. The results of a survey on the present status of genetic evaluations for hoof health in various countries will be presented.