Bull Search 2.0 FAQ's

Your guide to commonly asked questions.

FAQ Topics

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Add Bull Search to Home Screen on Mobile Device

How to Navigate Through Bull Search 2.0

Employee Login and Accounts

Customer and Authorized Representative Login and Accounts

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Sires Available For My Country

What is a Custom Index?

Traits In Custom Index for USA Proof Holsteins

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Traits in Custom Index for GBR Proof Holsteins

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My "Export to CSV" is opening in Notepad rather than Excel.

How do I start a proposal?

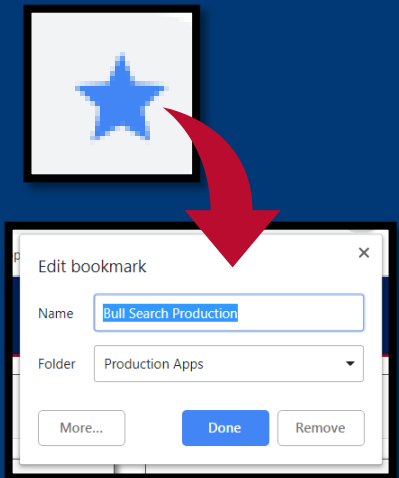My proposal won't send via e-mail due to file size being too large.

Other questions? E-mail ABS.BullSearch@genusplc.com

How do I bookmark Bull Search 2.0?

1. In your web browser, navigate to absbullsearch.absglobal.com.
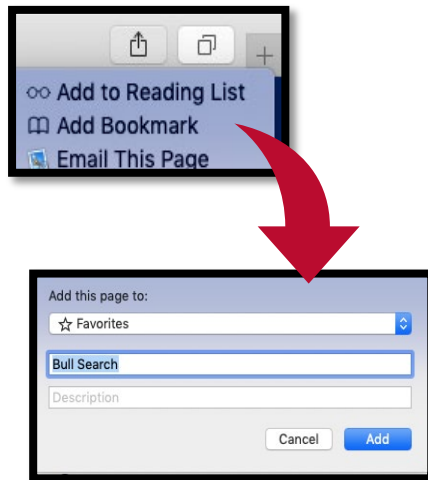2. Select your browser below and continue.

Chrome

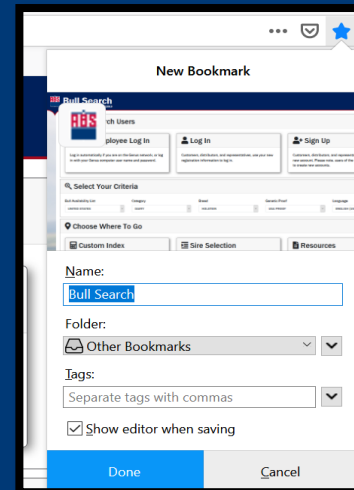Select the star in the web address bar and organize the bookmark in your bookmarks manager.

Safari

Navigate to the "+" menu at the top of your web browser and select "Add Bookmark. Organize the bookmark in the bookmark manager that appears.
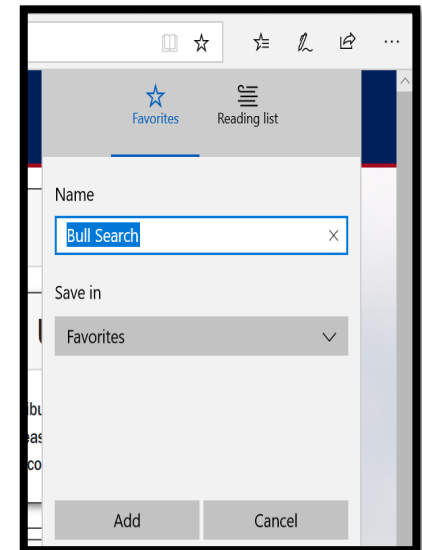

Firefox

Select the star in the web address bar and organize the bookmark in your bookmarks manager. Select Done.

Edge

Select the star in the web address bar and organize the bookmark in your bookmarks manager. Select Add.

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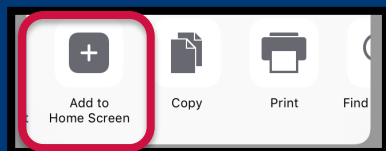
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How do I add Bull Search as an icon on my mobile device?

Apple Products

1. Open the Safari browser and go to absbullsearch.absglobal.com.
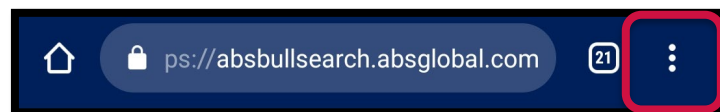2. Select the Options tray at the bottom of your screen.

3. Select "Add to Home Screen".

4. Enter the title that you would like to appear. Example- ABS Bull Search and click "Add".
5. Click on the "app" to go directly to the ABS Bull Search site.

Android Products

1. Open the Chrome browser and go to absbullsearch.absglobal.com.
2. Select the stacked circles icon.

3. Select "Add to Home screen".

Add to Home screen

4. Enter the title that you would like to appear. Example- ABS Bull Search- and click "Add".

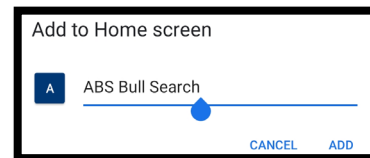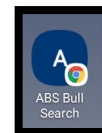5. Click on the "app" to go directly to the ABS Bull Search site.
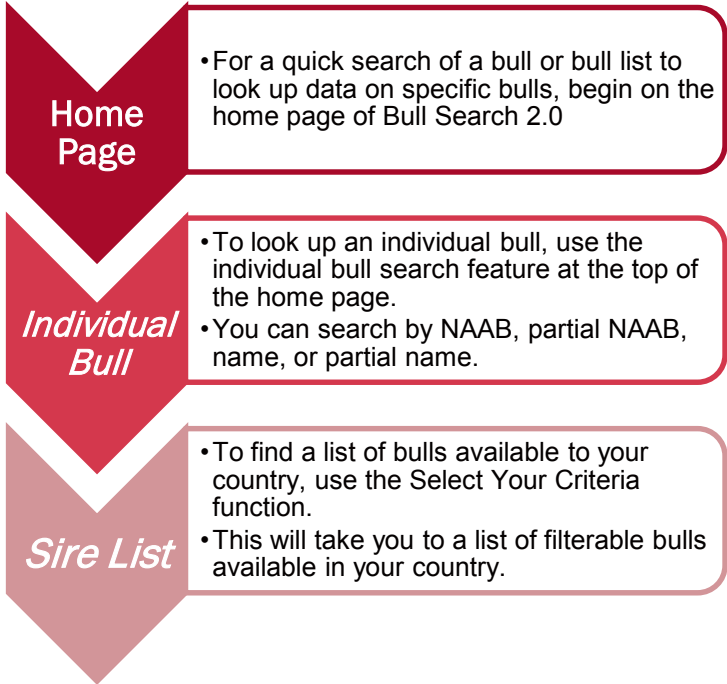
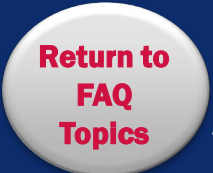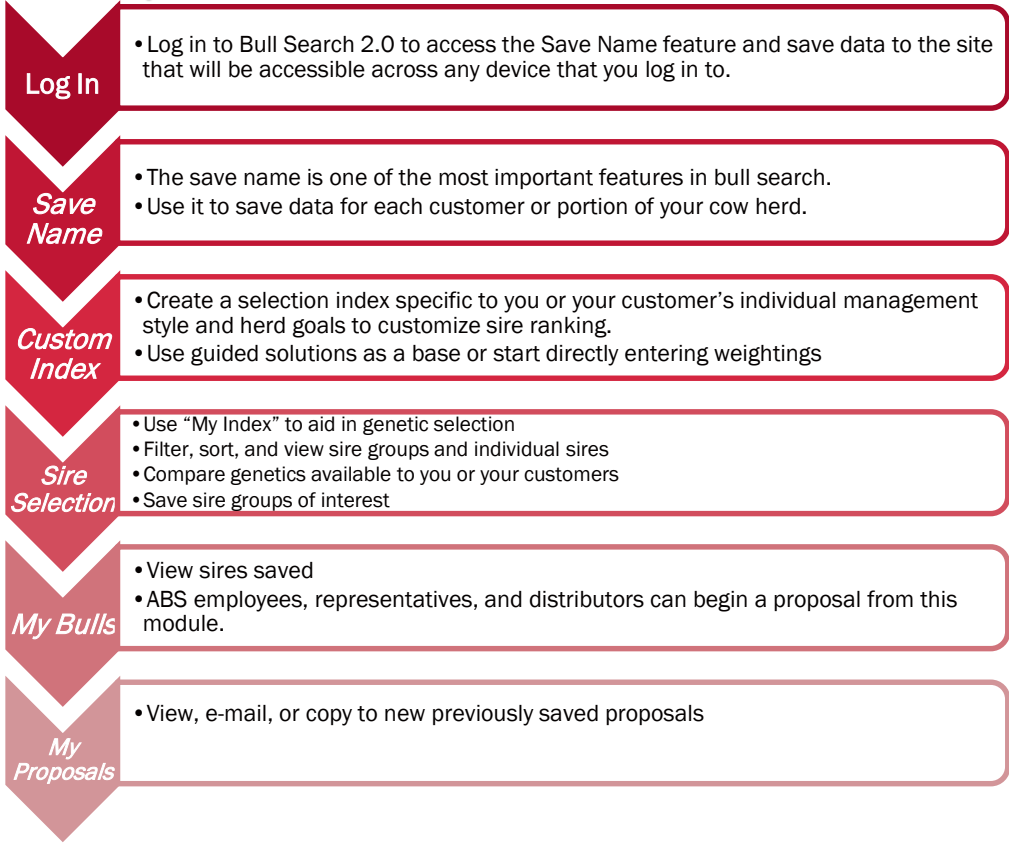**Profit From Genetic Progress**

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What order should I work in Bull Search 2.0?

The order you work in Bull Search depends on the reason you have opened the Bull Search 2.0 application. Suggested paths are outlined here.

Quick Search- No Data Saved

Home Page
- For a quick search of a bull or bull list to look up data on specific bulls, begin on the home page of Bull Search 2.0

Individual Bull
- To look up an individual bull, use the individual bull search feature at the top of the home page.
- You can search by NAAB, partial NAAB, name, or partial name.

Sire List
- To find a list of bulls available to your country, use the Select Your Criteria function.
- This will take you to a list of filterable bulls available in your country.

Full Capabilities Process- Data Saved

Log In
- Log in to Bull Search 2.0 to access the Save Name feature and save data to the site that will be accessible across any device that you log in to.

Save Name
- The save name is one of the most important features in bull search.
- Use it to save data for each customer or portion of your cow herd.

Custom Index
- Create a selection index specific to you or your customer's individual management style and herd goals to customize sire ranking.
- Use guided solutions as a base or start directly entering weightings

Sire Selection
- Use "My Index" to aid in genetic selection
- Filter, sort, and view sire groups and individual sires
- Compare genetics available to you or your customers
- Save sire groups of interest

My Bulls
- View sires saved
- ABS employees, representatives, and distributors can begin a proposal from this module.

My Proposals
- View, e-mail, or copy to new previously saved proposals

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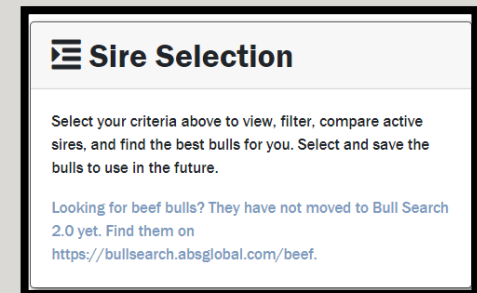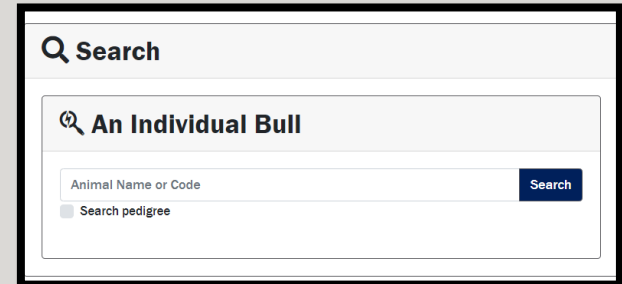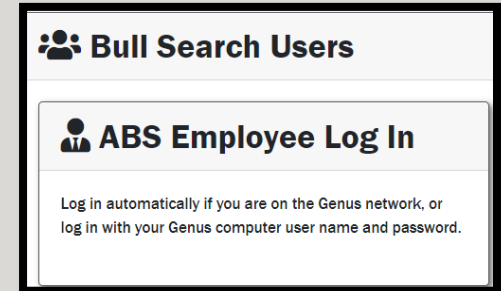
Employee Login and Accounts

As an employee, do I need to create a Bull Search 2.0 Account?

What credentials do I use to log in?

Do I have to log in every time to utilize Bull Search 2.0?

➢ All ABS Employees automatically have an account.

➢ The log in credentials for your account are the username and password that you use to sign in to your ABS issued computer or network. Do not use your e-mail for your username as this will not allow you to log in.

➢ No! You only have to sign in if you intend to save data in Bull Search 2.0. For simple sire searches feel free to quick search a sire or go directly to the Sire Selection module after setting up your criteria.

👥 **Bull Search Users**

👤 **ABS Employee Log In**

Log in automatically if you are on the Genus network, or log in with your Genus computer user name and password.

🔍 **Search**

🔍 **An Individual Bull**

Animal Name or Code   Search

☐ Search pedigree

≣ **Sire Selection**

Select your criteria above to view, filter, compare active sires, and find the best bulls for you. Select and save the bulls to use in the future.

Looking for beef bulls? They have not moved to Bull Search 2.0 yet. Find them on https://bullsearch.absglobal.com/beef.

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Customer/Authorized Rep/Distributer Login and Accounts

Do I need to create a new account if I had an account on the previous site?

➢ Account data from the old site is not transferred to Bull Search 2.0. If you would like an account, you will need to create a new one through the Sign Up button.

Can I still access my data from the old site?

➢ You can access previous site until March 29, 2019 to retrieve data.

Do I have to create an account to use Bull Search 2.0? If I do, do I have to login each time?

➢ No! You only have to sign in if you intend to save data in Bull Search 2.0. For simple sire searches feel free to go directly to the Sire Selection module after setting up your criteria.

👤+ Sign Up

Customers, distributors, and representatives, register for a new account. Please note, users of the old system will need to create new accounts.

🔢 Custom Index

What matters to you? Create a customized US Proof index value on our Holstein bulls that reflects the needs specific to your herd.

To access previous custom index inputs until March 29, 2019 click here.

👤 Log In

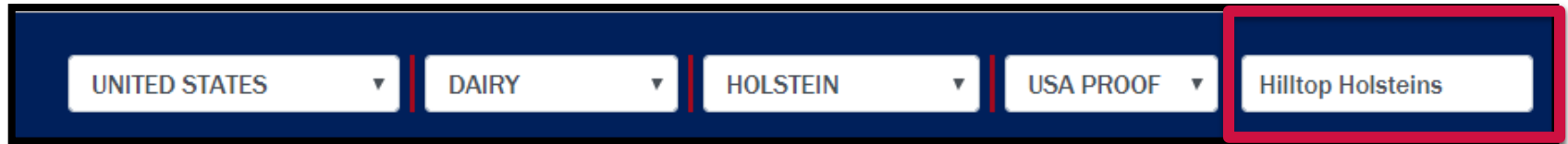Customers, distributors, and representatives, use your new registration information to log in.

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How do I save work in Bull Search 2.0?

| UNITED STATES ▼ | DAIRY ▼ | HOLSTEIN ▼ | USA PROOF ▼ | Hilltop Holsteins |

The Save Name feature is one of the most important and valuable functions in Bull Search 2.0. Think of it as a folder for a customer or cow group. It is only available to those that have logged in.

Directions

1. Log in to Bull Search 2.0.
2. Go to a module within the application (Custom Index, Sire Selection, or My Bulls).
3. In the blue criteria bar at the top of the screen, select or enter a Save Name *prior to entering or changing data*.
4. Entering a new Save Name will create a new folder within your account for automatic saving.
5. Selecting a Save Name will recall the last saved data for the folder automatically.

To switch between save names, click in the box and type in or select the save name you wish to work with.

Go to the Saved Selections module to edit or delete Save Names

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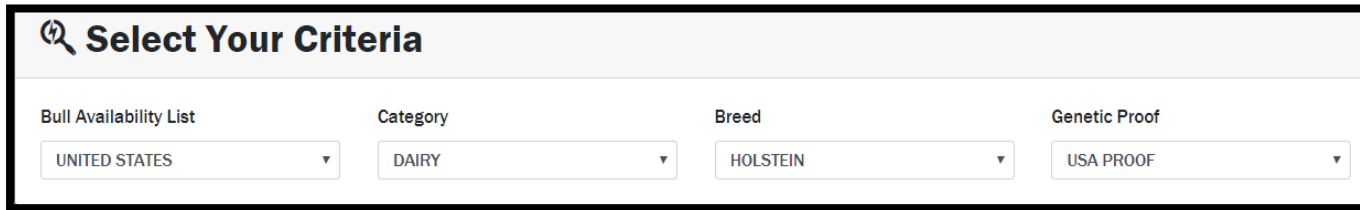
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How do I locate the sire list for my country?

There are two ways to ensure you are looking at the sires that would be available in your country.

1. On the home screen of Bull Search 2.0, ensure you have the correct criteria selected.

2. On any other page, view the blue criteria bar at the top of the page to check or change the list you are viewing.

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What is a "Custom Index"? Why should I use it?

A Custom Index is a tailored selection index for an customer's individual management style and herd goals. A genetic advisor can help to maximize profitability by weighting traits based on economic importance and taking into account trait correlation. Heritability is built into the custom index through sire PTA's.

Most countries have one or two main indexes to evaluate genetics and those indexes are great for benchmarking. However, they are typically based on national averages and don't focus on regional milk markets or individual management styles.

Example: Does it fit your individual needs?

Do most of your culls come from cows with wide teats, deep udders, or weak center support? Probably not.

Most producers are concerned with rear teats being placed too close and how short the teats have become. Out of a 100 points available, NM$ is using 7 valuable weighting points on UDC. Of those 7 points about a half a point is being used on RTP and TL combined meaning that half a percent of $NM is focusing on two udder traits dairies are most concerned about.

With Custom Index you can refocus the points away from low priority traits to ones that are impacting parlor efficiency and dollars to your individual bottom line.

2018 NM$	
Trait	Weight
Milk	-1
Fat	27
Protein	17
PL	12
SCS	-4
BWC	-5
UDC	7
FLC	3
DPR	7
CA$	5
HCR	1
CCR	2
Liv	7
HTH$	2

RTP	10		TL	10

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How do the weights work for the Custom Index module for Holsteins on the USA Proof?

➢ Most traits in custom index would work as you would expect- the more positive the weighting, the higher the sires values will be for that trait. You can also click on the trait in the custom index module for a further explanation of each trait. Negative weights are considered absolute values when adding up to 100.

↓ The table below provides extra clarification for specific popular traits.

Trait	Somatic Cell Score	Sire Calving Ease	Sire Stillbirth	Body Weight Composite	Rear Teat Placement	Canadian Milking Speed	Stature	Rear Legs Side View	Milk
Trait Abbreviation	SCS	SCE	SSB	BWC	RTP	CDN MS	STA	RLS	Milk
Industry Intention	Reduce high incidents of SCC on farm	Reduce incidents of difficult calving that affect production throughout the lactation	Reduce number of stillbirths	Decrease cow size for higher efficiency animals	Widen spacing of rear teats especially in Robot settings to increase udder functionality	Increase milking speed efficiency without reducing udder health	Reduce stature to increase comfort in milking and stall facilities	Increase set to leg to address concerns of very straight legs	In cheese markets, increase component percentages while limiting the liquid portion of milk
Custom Index Weighting	Enter positive weights to focus on lowering the SCS of sires	Enter positive weights to focus on lowering the PTA for SCE	Enter positive weights to lower the value for PTA SSB	Enter negative weights to reduce BWC and create smaller cows	Enter positive weights to focus on finding sires with a PTA for RTP closer to -1	Enter positive weights to increase milking speed, any bull over 105 is treated equally to protect for udder health	Enter negative weights to focus on decreasing sire's PTA for stature to create shorter cows.	Enter positive weights to help select sires that have a higher sire PTA for RLSV to create more set to legs	Enter a slightly negative weight while placing positive weight on fat and protein to focus on increasing Fat % and Protein %

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FAQ: How do the weights work for the Custom Index module for Jerseys on the USA Proof?

➢ Most traits in custom index would work as you would expect- the more positive the weighting, the higher the sires values will be for that trait. You can also click on the trait in the custom index module for a further explanation of each trait.

↓ The below table provides extra clarification for specific popular traits.

Trait	Milk	Fat	Protein	Somatic Cell Score	Canadian Milking Speed	Rear Teat Placemen- Rear View	Rear Teat Placement- Side View
Trait Abbreviation	Milk	Fat	Prot	SCS	CDN MS	RTP-RV	RTP-SV
Industry Intention	In cheese markets, increase component percentages while limiting the liquid portion of milk	Increase fat in milk production, especially in markets with premiums	Increase protein in milk production, especially in markets with premiums	Reduce high incidents of SCC on farm	Increase milking speed efficiency without reducing udder health	Widen spacing of rear teats especially in Robot settings to increase udder functionality	Create rear teats that are centrally placed when viewed from the side
Custom Index Weighting	Enter a slightly negative weight while placing positive weight on fat and protein to focus on increasing Fat % and Protein %	Enter a positive weight to emphasize bulls that sire daughters with high fat production	Enter a positive weight to emphasize bulls that sire daughters with high protein production	Enter positive weights to focus on lowering the SCS of sires	Enter positive weights to increase milking speed, any bull over 105 is treated equally to protect for udder health	Enter positive weights to focus on finding sires with a PTA for RTP closer to -1	Enter a positive weight to focus on sires that have a PTA close to 0 to create centrally placed teats

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FAQ: How do the weights work for the Custom Index module for Holsteins on the GBR Proof?

➢ Most traits in custom index would work as you would expect- the more positive the weighting, the higher the sires values will be for that trait. You can also click on the trait in the custom index module for a further explanation of each trait.

↓ The below table provides extra clarification for specific popular traits.

Trait	Somatic Cell Score	Daughter Fertility	Lifespan	Maintenance	Rear Teat Placement	Stature	Milking Speed	Locomotion
Trait Abbreviation	SCC	Dtr Fert	Lifespan	Maintenance	Rear Teat Placement	Stature	Milking Speed	Locomotion
Industry Intention	Reduce SCC and mastitis incidents	Reduce costs associated with number of inseminations per pregnancy and longer calving intervals	Increase daughter survival for more lactations prior to exiting the herd	Reduce the cost of maintaining a cow through the reduction of body weight	Widen spacing of rear teats especially in Robot settings to increase udder functionality	Reduce stature to increase comfort in milking and stall facilities	Increase milking speed efficiency without reducing udder health	Maintain a functional gait for better cow comfort and fitness
Custom Index Weighting	Enter a positive weight to emphasis sires that lower SCC for reduced mastitis incidents	Enter a positive weight to emphasis sires with higher daughter fertility rates	Enter a positive weight to emphasis sires with daughter that will survive more lactations	Enter negative weight to emphasis sires that have daughters that are smaller with less cost for maintenance	Enter a positive weigh to emphasis sires that have a -1 as an optimum for Rear Teat Placement. Sires further away from -1 will be penalized	Enter a negative weight to emphasis sires that produce daughters that are shorter in stature	Enter positive weights to increase milking speed, any bull over 1.18 is treated equally to protect for udder health	Enter positive weights to focus on sires that increase ease of locomotion

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What does "My Index" mean?

"My Index" is the number result from the custom index formula weighted in the Custom Index module of Bull Search 2.0. This number represents the results of a tailored selection index that ranks the available sires for an customer's individual management style and herd goals.

How "large" the My Index values are is a result of where weightings are placed in the Custom Index module. In other words, a production focused index will appear to have higher My Index numbers than a health or conformation focused index.

Bulls should only be compared within an index. My Index values can not be compared across two different custom indexes. The different inputted weightings directly impact how the calculation is run.

For herds that use GMS, My Index can be thought of as Herd Percentile Rank (HPR) but for the male side of a mating equation.

Custom Index and My Index should be a long term genetic plan for a customer and should be centered around the future business goals of the dairy. The genetics used today will not bring income to the dairy until four years from now.

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How do I filter sires in Bull Search 2.0?

Filtering in Bull Search is located in the customization menu in the Sire Selection module. This menu can be located by clicking on the ⚙ icon on the left hand side of the screen.

Click the filters drop down and begin adding filters through the drop down menu.

Available filters

36 Genetic Traits
Icon Sires- Yes or No
Sexcel- Yes or No
Proven or Genomic
Polled
St Jacobs
Color
Pct Black

Beta Casein- A2/A2
Kappa Casein
NAAB number
Recessives
Pedigree
RWD
Milking Speed
Temperament

Reminder

Click on the greater than or less than symbols in the filter to change how the filter works!

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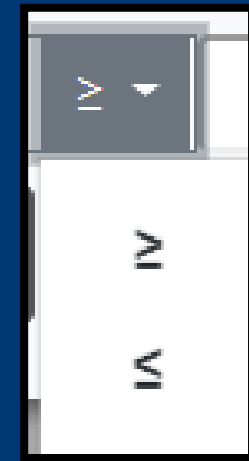
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How do I Compare Sires?

There are two ways to compare sires from Bull Search 2.0.

Quick Compare

1. From the Sire Selection module, select bulls of interest by clicking in the selection box to the left of the sires.

2. Select Compare Bulls near the top of the screen.
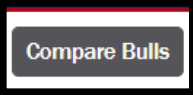
3. Only selected sires will remain in view and a group average will appear at the top of the sire list.

Extensive Compare

1. From the Sire Selection module, select bulls of interest by clicking in the selection box to the left of the sires.

2. From the customization menu behind the gears icon, select

3. Select

4. Open the spreadsheet download and remove any unnecessary columns.

5. In Excel, select the box at the bottom of a column of you would like an average for; then find the AutoSum equation tool and select from the dropdown "Average".
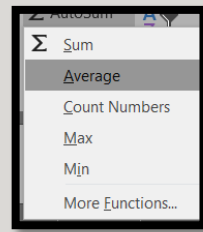
6. The column average will appear in the box.

7. Place your cursor at the bottom right corner of the box until a cross appears.

8. Click when the cross appears and drag your mouse to the other columns where you want a column average to appear.

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How can I see more information on my mobile device screen without having to scroll?

There are two ways to allow more information to show on your mobile device screen for the Sire Selection module.
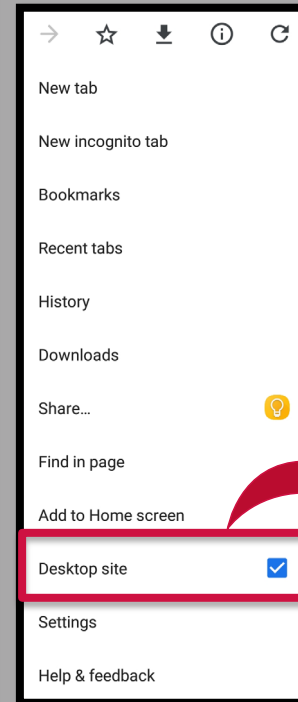
Standard View on Mobile Device
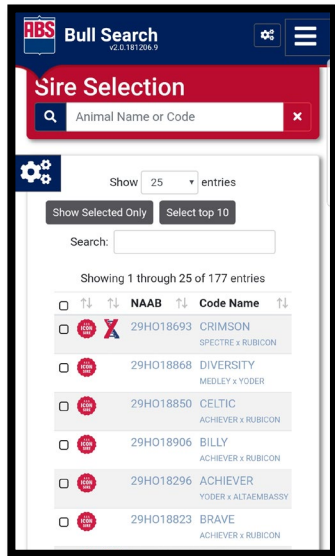
1. Enable screen rotation on your mobile device and then rotate the orientation of the device.
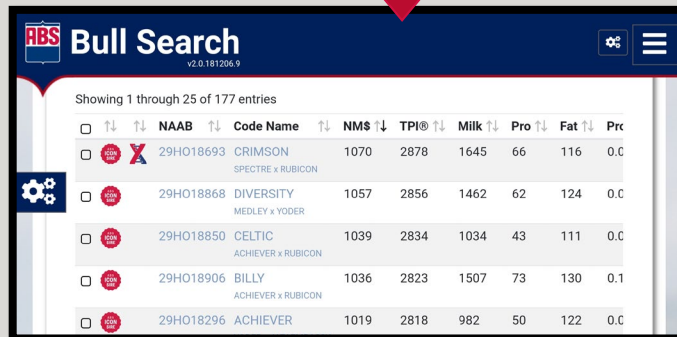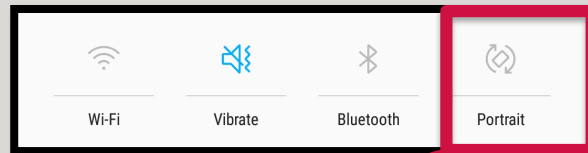
2. Use your mobile device browser setting to enable desktop view.

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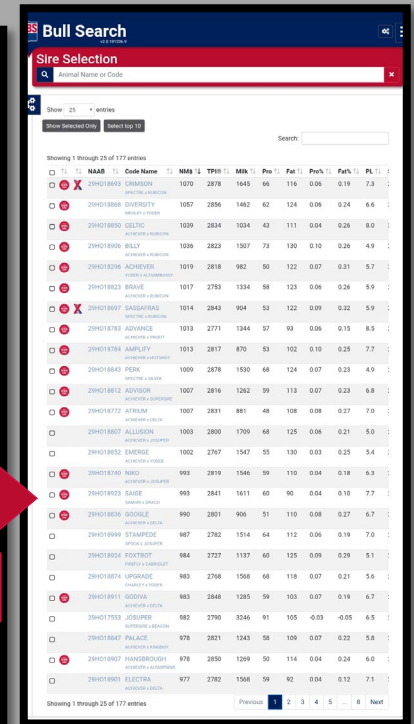
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How do I view additional traits on sires that are not in the sire list view?

There are two ways to get additional information beyond what is listed in the sire table in the Sire Selection module.

1. Click on the Sire Short Name or NAAB number to view additional information.

2. Export the Sire to a CSV by selecting the check box and utilizing the customization menu.

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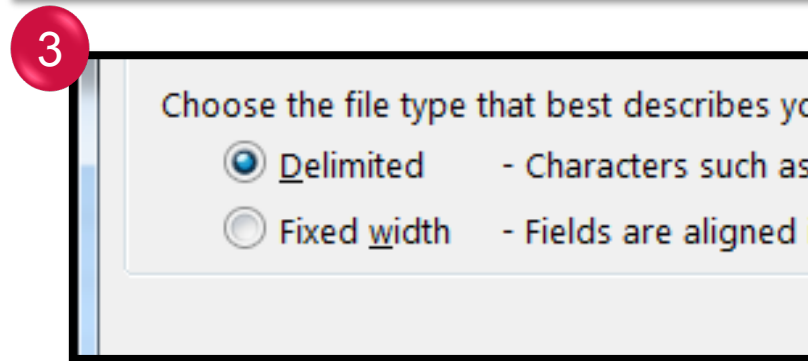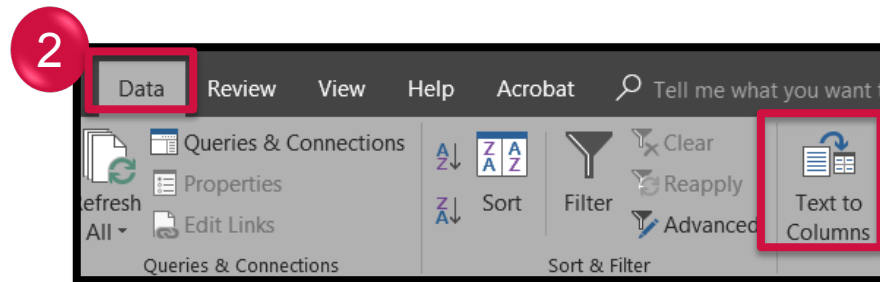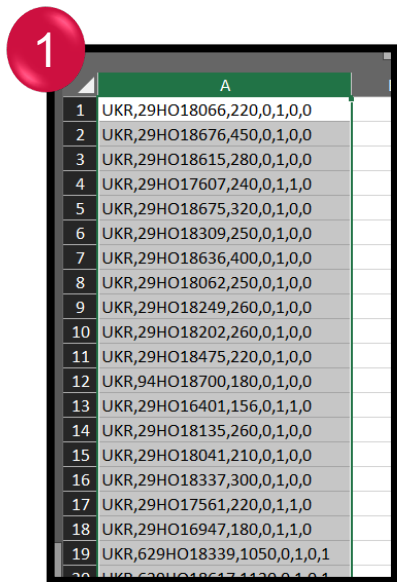
When I "Export to CSV" all of the data is in Column A of my spreadsheet. How do I fix this?

Use the following instructions to separate the data by column.

1. Highlight column A.
2. Go to the Data tab in excel and select Text to Columns.
3. Select Delimited, then click Next.
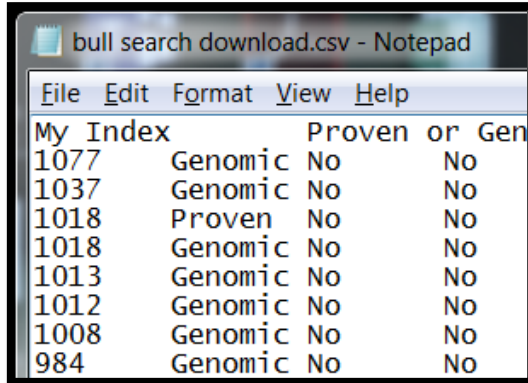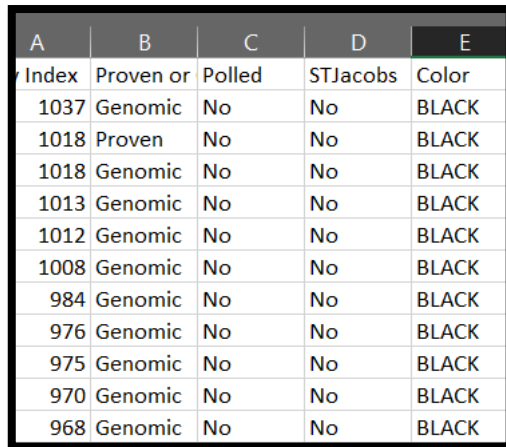4. Check the "Tab" and "Comma" boxes and click Finish.

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When I "Export to CSV" my export opens in Notepad. How do I get it to open in a spreadsheet?

From Notepad to Excel

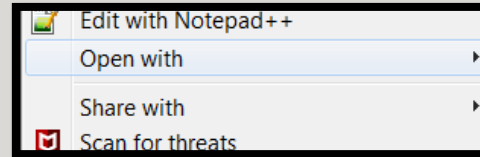Follow the below instructions to set your default program to excel.

1. Save the Bull Search 2.0 export file on your desktop.
2. Right click on the icon and navigate to "Open with".

3. If Excel is on the list, you can select Excel and it will open in Excel.
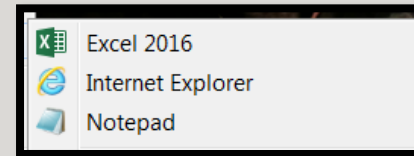
4. If Excel is not on the list, click **Choose default program...**

5. You will need to browse your program files for Excel. We suggest saving a shortcut of Excel to your desktop for easy navigation for this step.

Browse...

6. Once selected your file will default to open in excel.

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What recessives and haplotypes does this bull carry?

There are two ways to view haplotypes and recessives in Bull Search 2.0.

1. Visit the individual bull page by clicking on the Code Name from the Sire Selection module or the search results.

OR

2. Select the bulls you are interested in looking up from the Sire Selection module and selecting the Gear icon on the left side of the screen and selecting "Export to CSV" (Excel) or "Export to PDF".

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How do I interpret the genetic codes?

The genetic codes will appear in a list separated by commas and will vary by breed.

Holstein

Recessives	HH1T, HH2T, HH3T, HH4T, HH5T, HH6T, TC, TD, TL, TN, TR, TV, TY

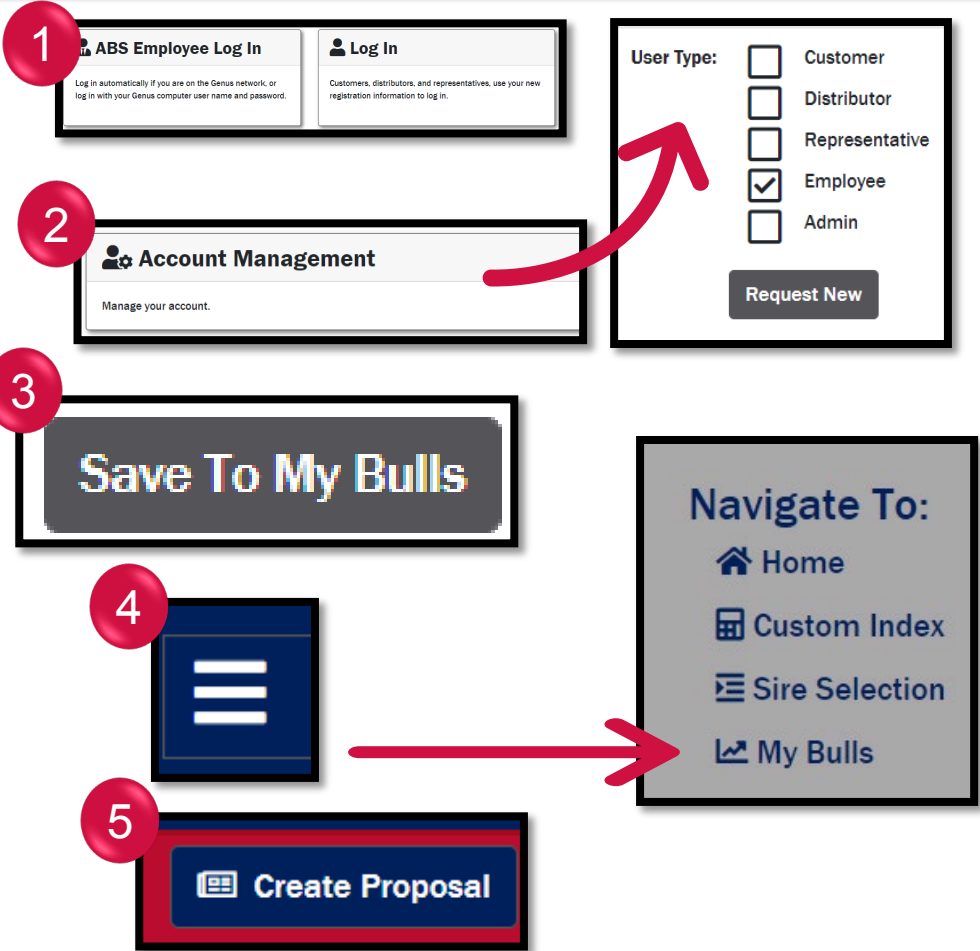| Genetic Code	Results
HH1, HH2, HH3, HH4, HH5, HH6	**T**- tested free **C**- tested carrier
JH1	**F**- tested free **C**- tested carrier
CVM	**TV**- tested free **CV**- tested carrier
Brachyspina	**TY**- tested free **BY**- tested carrier
BLAD	**TL**- tested free **BL**- tested carrier
DUMPS	**TD**- tested free **DP**- tested carrier
Mulefoot	**TM**- tested free **MF**- tested carrier
Cholesterol Deficiency	**TC**- tested free **CD**- tested carrier
Polled	**PC**- tested heterozygous **PP**- tested homozygous **HP**- tested heterozygous polled **TP**- tested free of the Polled condition
Recessive Red	**RC**- tested carrier
Dominant Red	**DR1**- tested heterozygous **DR2**- tested homozygous
Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA)	**SMA F**- tested free
Citrullinemia	**TN**- tested free
Red Hair Color	**TR**- tested free
Spider Leg	**TS**- tested free

How do I start a proposal?

1. Log in.
2. You must have Employee, Representative, or Distributor privileges. You can view your privilege level by clicking Account Management.
3. If sires are already saved to My Bulls, move directly to step 3. Once sires to include in the proposal are known, select them and click "Save to My Bulls".
4. Navigate to the My Bulls module.
5. Select the bulls that will be included in the proposal.
6. Select "Create Proposal".

1 **ABS Employee Log In** — Log in automatically if you are on the Genus network, or log in with your Genus computer user name and password. | **Log In** — Customers, distributors, and representatives, use your new registration information to log in.

User Type: Customer / Distributor / Representative / ☑ Employee / Admin
Request New

2 **Account Management** — Manage your account.

3 **Save To My Bulls**

Navigate To:
🏠 Home
🔲 Custom Index
≣ Sire Selection
📈 My Bulls

4 ≡

5 **Create Proposal**

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My proposal file size is so large it won't send via e-mail. How can I get it to e-mail?

Most e-mails put restrictions on how large of a file can be sent or received and it varies by e-mail provider. If you or your intended recipient is receiving an error about the file size being too large to send or the recipient is not receiving the e-mail and it's not in their spam folder, please consider the following options.

Use the printer friendly option when going through the proposal wizard.

Select a cover in the proposal wizard that does not have an image.

Remove ads from the proposal.

Download the proposal and send it in a zip file.

Transfer via a file share site.

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