



## **8. Supporting Circular Economy: How Does it Affect the Breeding Goals?**

### **Title presentation**

RZ€ - The new German total merit index expressing genetic gain in Euro

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### **Abstract**

Breeding values for Holstein are expressed in Germany on a relative scale with average 100 and genetic standard deviation of 12. This includes the established total merit index (TMI) RZG. EBV on relative scale have advantages but an important disadvantage is that they don't show the economic impact of selection decisions directly. The new, additional TMI RZ€ (spell RZ Euro) is therefore expressed in Euro margin. The margin refers to the total margin realized by a cow during her lifetime of about three years in comparison to the basis that are 4 – 6 years old cows. Included in RZ€ are the evaluated traits with their economic impact based on current margin calculations. Economic weights purely follow transparent margin calculations without any additional aspects from a breeding policy point of view. In this aspect the RZ€ is unique compared to other internationally used TMI.