

MAKING THE MOST OF GENOMICS TO REDUCE SOMATIC CELL COUNTS (SCC)

Advances in technology now means that genomic testing can be used to monitor individual cow Somatic Cell Counts (SCC) by using a single bulk milk tank sample. GenoCells technology uses each cow's genomic profile to identify their SCC contribution which can replace the time consuming individual cow milk sampling.

Trial at Moor Farm

In late lactation, parallel sampling of a single bulk milk sample was taken for the GenoCells test alongside the traditional method of individual milk recording the herd, to identify individual cow SCC results.

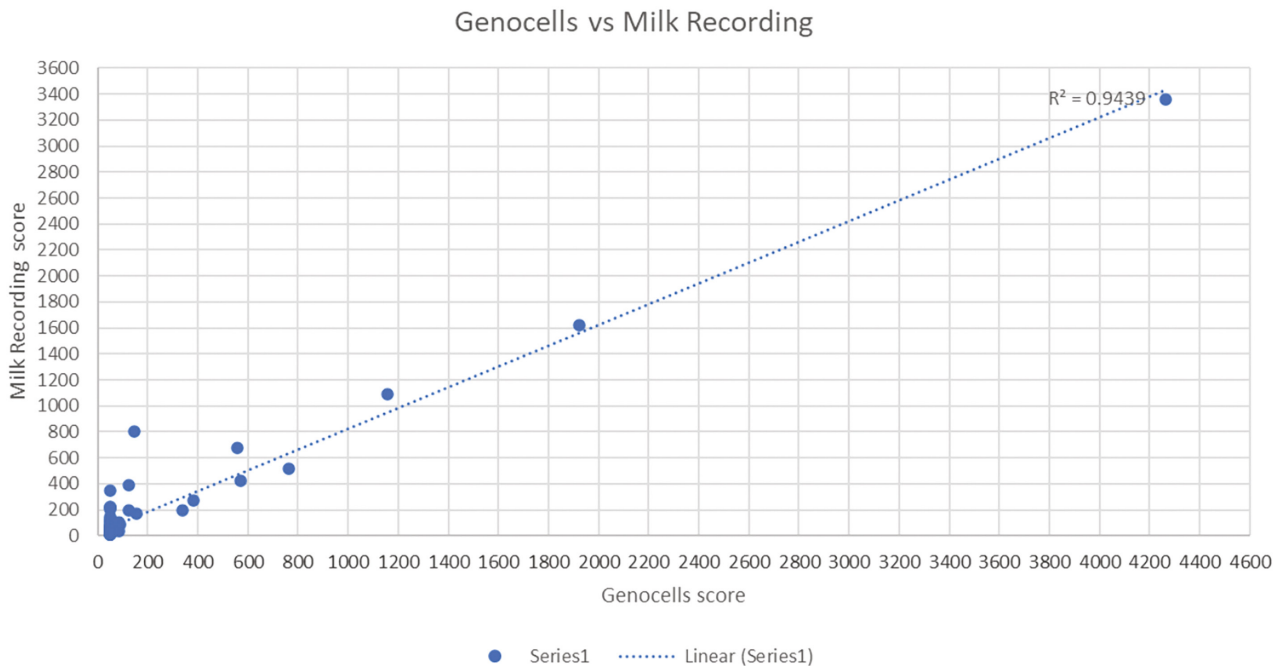


Figure 1: Correlation coefficient of GenoCells vs milk recording

Want to use this technology on your own farm - follow this checklist:

All animals in the herd need to be genomically tested for genomic profiling

- ✓ Tag cows with DNA tagger taking a sample from the ear
- ✓ Send the samples by post for analysis
- ✓ Receive the genomic data for the cows within 6-8 weeks

After receiving the GenoCells kit

- ✓ Stir bulk milk tank well for 30 minutes after milking
- ✓ Taking care, collect sample from the top of the tank with jug/cup
- ✓ Send the sample to the laboratory for analysis
- ✓ Receive the result in a few days
- ✓ Decide on suitable action for the highest SCC cows

“Genocells has offered greater flexibility in the hunt for high SCC cows and will lead to less antibiotic use long term if we act quickly on the more regular SCC information. It also adds value to the annual genomic evaluation tests we do on calves by making further use of the DNA information held by the milk recording company.”

- Rhys Davies, Moor Farm



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