

FREQUENTLY

Asked

QUESTIONS



JERSEY NEUROPATHY WITH SPLAYED FORELIMBS (JNS)

1. What is JNS and what are the symptoms?

Jersey Neuropathy with Splayed Forelimbs (JNS) is a newly discovered undesirable trait resulting from a mutation on chromosome six. Calves with this condition are born alive, appear alert and healthy but have neurological issues with little feeling in their front legs. They lay with their front legs out in front of their body rather than bent and underneath the body. The calves are unable to stand and must be euthanized.

2. How will JNS affect my breeding program?

Select Sires is here to help you manage undesirable traits and make sound breeding decisions in your herd. Through responsible breeding decisions, herds should not experience the negative effects of JNS and your Jersey cattle will remain healthy and profitable.

3. How do I manage JNS in my herd?

By using genetic test results, pedigree information and guidance from your Select Mating Service® (SMS®) genetic consultant you can avoid carrier-to-carrier matings and successfully manage undesirable traits. This breeding strategy avoids economic loss in your herd, while continuing to utilize the industry's best genetics to improve your herd's performance.

4. What are the next steps?

Select Sires is working closely with the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) and researchers from USDA-AGIL to learn more about this new undesirable trait. At this time, we know that a small group of sires from our active lineup will be identified as carriers. As your cooperative, we will continue to support you and provide you with the most up-to-date information.

5. What happens if I have a calf born with JNS and how do I report it?

If a newborn calf exhibits JNS symptoms, please record pedigree information including: sire, dam and birthdate. Then, take a photo of the calf, and collect a DNA sample (hair or tissue) before the calf is euthanized. Select Sires' defective calf report can be found on the next page and used as a guide. If you are a member of the AJCA, the abnormal calf should also be reported to the AJCA's executive secretary.



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