



How to Purchase Methane Efficiency and Feed Efficiency Evaluations?

In April 2023, Lactanet launched genetic evaluations for Methane Efficiency in the Holstein breed, making Canada the only country in the world to offer **both** Methane Efficiency and Feed Efficiency genetic evaluations.

The new Methane Efficiency evaluations allow farmers to select for animals that emit less methane without impacting production levels, improving the sustainability of their herd. First launched in April 2021, Feed Efficiency evaluations allow farmers to improve the efficiency and productivity of their herd by selecting animals that better convert the feed they consume into Milk production. Since April 2021, Lactanet has been automatically publishing Feed Efficiency evaluations for all Holstein females that are part of the herd inventory for customers enrolled on its various milk recording services, including eDHI. This will also be the case for Methane Efficiency evaluations. For all other Holstein heifers and cows born in Canada or that are Canadian owned, Feed Efficiency evaluations have been available for purchase. **Effective the April 2023 genetic evaluation release, Methane Efficiency and Feed Efficiency evaluations are bundled for purchasing as “Sustainability Traits”.** Evaluations for these two sustainability traits for all other Holstein heifers and cows born in Canada, or Canadian owned, are available for purchase at a bundled cost of \$8 per animal. For females owned by a breeder prefix associated with a herd that routinely type classifies a credit of \$2 per animal will automatically be applied at the time of purchase. A single purchase is required per animal for it to continually receive an official Feed Efficiency and Methane Efficiency evaluation going forward. All previous Feed Efficiency purchases will automatically receive Methane Efficiency.

Lactanet automatically publishes the Methane Efficiency and Feed Efficiency evaluations for all Holstein females that are part of the herd inventory for customers enrolled on its various milk recording services.

Table 1: Fee structure for genetic evaluations for sustainability traits for Canadian animals

| Sex | Category | Fee |
|--------|---|---------------------------------|
| Female | Linked to DHI herd inventory | Free and automatic |
| | Canadian born or owned and not in a classifying herd | \$8 for ME & FE |
| | Canadian born or owned and linked to a classifying herd | \$6 for ME & FE |
| Male | Sires of daughters contributing to ME system | Free and automatic |
| | Canadian born or owned at time of purchase | \$250 for ME For 2023: \$125 |

On the male side, when Feed Efficiency was introduced, all sires owned by A.I. customers of Lactanet received an official genomic evaluation, allowing Canadian farmers to select sires for this trait and meet their breeding goals. For Methane Efficiency, a new fee structure has been

established for males with the goal of building data collection capacity. Effective April 2023, a group of approximately 2,100 progeny proven sires automatically have an official Methane Efficiency evaluation published, which is based on their milk recorded daughters in Canada with milk spectral data used in the Methane Efficiency system. For Canadian males that are born in Canada or are Canadian owned, Methane Efficiency evaluations may be purchased at a cost of \$250 per bull with a 50% discount for all purchases in 2023.

If your herd is not enrolled on any of Lactanet milk recording services and you want to learn more about how to purchase the sustainability trait genetic evaluations for a few or several animals, simply follow the steps below:

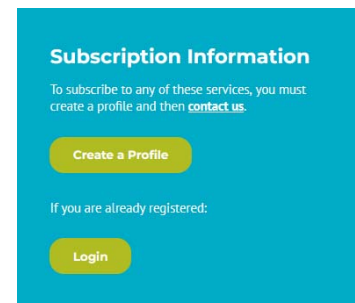
Steps to Purchasing Sustainability Trait Genetic Evaluations

Step 1: Create a Profile

To purchase evaluations for the sustainability traits, you will need to set up a user profile and account with “Lactanet Genetics”. This can be done by going to the Data Management Services area under the Genetics tab on the Lactanet website, or by using the following direct link:

<https://lactanet.ca/en/genetic-evaluations/data-management-services/>

Clicking on the “Create a Profile” button will take you to a page where you can enter your personal contact information, any breeder prefix information and create the username and password for signing in when purchasing an evaluation.



Step 2: Login

Once you’ve created your account, you will need to login whenever you want to purchase a genetic evaluation for Methane Efficiency and/or Feed Efficiency. This can be done by signing in before you select animals or after you’ve gone through steps 3 and 4 below and then continuing with the purchase transaction.



Step 3: Select Animals and Add to Cart

Selecting the Individual Query or Group Query menu items under the Genetics section of the Lactanet website will provide you with the option to do an individual animal search or a group search. Whichever you choose, as you review genetic information for animals, you may come across a heifer or cow of interest that does not have a Feed Efficiency or Methane Efficiency evaluation available.

There are two ways to select females for purchasing evaluations for the sustainability traits:

1. As you use the website search tools and open the Genetic Evaluation Summary page of a heifer or cow, you may identify one that does not yet have Feed Efficiency or Methane Efficiency information displayed in the Functional traits section. For females that qualify for

the purchase of an evaluation the option will be displayed as shown by the circled \$ in the image below.

Functional

| | Rating | Rel | Difference from Breed Average (SD) | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|-----|------------------------------------|--|--|--|-------------------|
| Methane Efficiency | | \$ | | | | | Click to Purchase |
| Feed Efficiency | | \$ | | | | | Click to Purchase |
| Body Maintenance Requirements | 104 GPA | 66% | High | | | | |
| Herd Life | 109 GPA | 77% | Short | | | | |

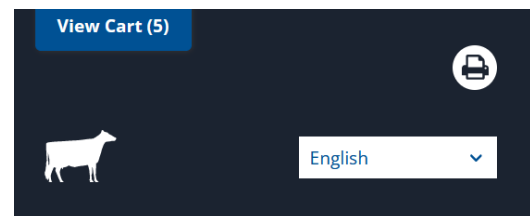
- Alternatively, when you use the Animal or Group Search tools to produce a list of females you will see Feed Efficiency (FE) and Methane Efficiency (ME) evaluations displayed for some animals. Again, for females qualifying for the purchase of their evaluation the circled \$ will be displayed (see side bar).

| %F | %P | ME | FE | BMR |
|-------|-------|----|----|-----|
| +0.27 | +0.05 | \$ | | 92 |

Regardless of how you identify one or more females to purchase their sustainability trait evaluations, simply click on the circled \$ and that animal will be added to your shopping cart. If you wish to consider several animals carrying your breeder prefix, use the Individual Query tool to find females with a name starting by your prefix. From the resulting list, you can use various column headers to sort the animals and select which to add to your cart.

Step 4: View Your Cart

The count of animals in your cart is displayed at the top of each page, embedded in the black banner area. When you have selected all the desired animals for the session, you can proceed to the payment step by clicking on the blue “View Cart” box or on the blue shopping cart image centered above the Feed Efficiency and Methane Efficiency columns.



Step 5: Payment

Once you select an animal for purchasing the circled \$ becomes filled in blue (see side bar). After you make a successful payment transaction the \$ inside the blue circle is replaced by the letter “P” to indicate the fee has been “Paid”. For these animals, when the payment is completed before midnight on Sunday, the Feed Efficiency and Methane Efficiency evaluations will be publicly available effective the next release, which is every Tuesday with some exceptions before a full official release.

| ME | FE |
|-----|-----|
| 103 | 103 |
| P | |
| \$ | |

Accessing your shopping cart shows the details of the selected animals and the associated fee to be paid for each (see side bar with animal identification details hidden). Feed Efficiency and Methane Efficiency evaluations are available at a bundled cost of \$8 per animal. For females owned by a breeder prefix associated with a herd that routinely type classifies a credit of \$2 per animal will automatically be applied at the time of purchase. A garbage can icon is displayed at the end of each line, allowing you to remove the animal from your cart if desired.

CART

Purchase of Evaluations for Sustainability Traits – Feed Efficiency and Methane Efficiency

| Registration Number | Name | Fee | Discount | Price | |
|---------------------|------|--------|----------|--------------|----------------|
| HOCANF | | \$8.00 | \$2.00 | \$6.00 | |
| HOCANF | | \$8.00 | \$2.00 | \$6.00 | |
| HOCANF | | \$8.00 | \$2.00 | \$6.00 | |
| HOCANF | | \$8.00 | \$2.00 | \$6.00 | |
| HOCANF | | \$8.00 | \$2.00 | \$6.00 | |
| | | | | Sub Total | \$30.00 |
| | | | | HST | \$3.90 |
| | | | | Total | \$33.90 |

Payment will be made through the Chase PaymentTech Gateway.

The purchase of evaluations for females will make the results publicly available for both Feed Efficiency and Methane Efficiency at the next weekly or official release. For males, the purchase of Methane Efficiency will provide an unofficial evaluation to the bull owner or an official publicly available evaluation for bulls marketed by an A.I. company.

[Checkout](#)

Step 6: Checkout and Make Payment

When you select the “Checkout” button after reviewing the animals in your cart, you will move to the payment transaction page. If you have not already signed in to your Lactanet Genetics account as outlined in step 2, you will be prompted to do so.

LOGIN

Login with your Lactanet Genetics credentials

Username

Password

[Sign In](#)

[Forgot Password?](#) | [Create Account](#)

To complete your purchase of the sustainability trait evaluations for the animals in your cart, enter the required credit card information and select the “Purchase” button.

When a successful payment has been processed, you will receive a confirmation email as well as the associated payment transaction code.

PAYMENT

English

Make Payment

To complete your purchase, please complete and submit the form below.

Name on Card

Card Type

Card Number

Expiry CV2

[Purchase](#)

Purchase of Evaluations for Sustainability Traits – Feed Efficiency and Methane Efficiency

| Registration Number | Name | Fee | Discount | Price |
|---------------------|------|--------|----------|----------------|
| HOCANF | | \$8.00 | \$2.00 | \$6.00 |
| HOCANF | | \$8.00 | \$2.00 | \$6.00 |
| HOCANF | | \$8.00 | \$2.00 | \$6.00 |
| HOCANF | | \$8.00 | \$2.00 | \$6.00 |
| HOCANF | | \$8.00 | \$2.00 | \$6.00 |
| Sub Total | | | | \$30.00 |
| HST | | | | \$3.90 |
| Total | | | | \$33.90 |

Payment will be made through the Chase PaymentTech Gateway.

Remember, if your herd is enrolled on any of Lactanet’s milk recording services, the sustainability trait evaluations are freely available without the need to purchase. If you find a heifer or cow in your herd that does not have Methane Efficiency or Feed Efficiency already available, please ensure that they have been included in your herd inventory at the time of your next test day.

Industry Benefit

Offering Methane Efficiency and Feed Efficiency evaluations is one component of the portfolio of services that Lactanet is offering to support the environmental sustainability of the dairy sector. It is therefore important to measure, monitor and genetically select for improved methane efficiency and feed efficiency in dairy herds across Canada. While customers enrolled on milk recording services benefit from having these genetic evaluations freely available to them, this purchase option allows all Canadian herd owners to benefit from these novel tools.

Author: Brian Van Doormaal, Chief Services Officer, Lactanet Canada
Date: April 2023