



From Science to Proven Results

Mark Carson, MSc. BSc. (Agr.),
EastGen Reproductive Solutions Manager

Five years ago, Immunity+™ Disease Resistance Genetics started being marketed across the EastGen area. Immunity+ is based on decades of research from Dr. Bonnie Mallard from the University of Guelph. Dr. Mallard's research discovered a way to identify sires that were high immune responders (HIR), that have a high heritability to transmit to their offspring. Cows with high immune responses have been found to be disease resistant, have better quality colostrum, and have greater response to vaccinations.

We're now seeing the exciting results on farms in the EastGen area, with milking daughters hitting the pipeline. Analyzing the results from on-farm Dairy Comp 305 records, Immunity+ daughters are living up to the expectation of being healthier and more robust cows. An analysis was done on nine herds with a total of 1300 cows. Two highlights from this data analysis included a reduction in Mastitis and Metritis. Immunity+ sired daughters were 49% less likely to develop Mastitis during lactation in this group of cows. For Metritis, Immunity+ daughters were 43% less likely to develop a uterine infection.

Another dataset collected in the EastGen area, looking at 2400 heifers found reductions in Mortality and Pneumonia. Immunity+ daughter mortality was 37% better than non-Immunity+ heifers. For Pneumonia in this dataset, Immunity+ daughters had 15% less cases of the disease.

The more results we see on dairy herds across the EastGen region from Immunity+, the more we realize this technology is a must for all dairy herd breeding programs. If you have questions about Immunity+ and how it can fit into your herds breeding program please ask your local EastGen Representative.