

Lawrence R. Schaeffer RESEARCH GRANTS

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- Holstein Association of Canada
- Ontario Milk Marketing Board
- National Research Council (NRC)
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- Canadian Association of Animal Breeders
- Research Advisory Board
- DairyGen
- Cattle Breeding Research Committee
- Dairy Farmers of Ontario

The following list is not complete nor completely accurate. Many years I received funding without having submitted complete project proposals. In the early years I was allotted funds to continue what I had been working on during the previous year, without being tied to specific topics. The projects (and approximate years that the projects began) that have been funded include the following:

1975 Across breed evaluation procedures for beef sires.

1976 Applications of linear model techniques to animal breeding research.

1976 Dairy sire evaluation for production traits.

1976 Dairy sire evaluation for conformation traits.

1977 Development of pre-selection criteria and sampling procedures for young beef sires.

1978 Comparison of several dairy cow evaluation procedures.

- 1981 Modelling and analysis of qualitative traits.
- 1982 Effects of data reduction on genetic evaluation methods.
- 1982 Methodology for studying genetic evaluation programs in cattle.
- 1986 New genetic evaluation methods - computing techniques.
- 1991 Genetic parameter estimation.
- 1991 Preferential treatment of dairy cows.
- 1991 Test day data analyses.
- 1991 Problems with animal models.
- 1992 Interim cow evaluations within herd.
- 1993 Animal model research.
- 1994 Development of MACE for international comparisons.
- 1994 Genetic evaluation procedures for conformation, longevity, and breeding strategies.
- 1996 Genetic evaluation of dairy cattle for production and conformation traits.
- 1998 Development of MTP procedure for calculating phenotypic yields of cows for DHI.
- 2000 Enhancement of health and welfare of dairy cattle by genetic improvement of functional traits.
- 2000 Effects of selection on genetic evaluations.
- 2000 Cow profitability.
- 2000 Structural equation models.
- 2000 Genetic evaluation for health traits.
- 2000 Studies on conformation trait analyses.
- 2000 Genetic evaluation system for cow reproductive traits.
- 2000 Study of robotic milking systems and cow behaviour.
- 2000 Development of genetic evaluations for Canadian Warmblood Horse Breeders Association.
- 2000 Simulation studies on strategies for using genomic estimated breeding values in the Canadian dairy cattle population.

In hindsight, I should have been more aggressive in seeking funding and pursuing topics, but there is only so much time in a day, and I was probably lucky to receive what I did. I enjoyed my research very much until the last few years. I thank Janusz Jamrozik for carrying out my many research ideas to completion. In the life cycle of a faculty member, teaching, advising, meetings, reporting, and committees gradually take over more and more time, leaving next to none for actual research, and thus, having graduate students and research associates is critical to having a good research program.

The current system of accountability is very restrictive on researchers while keeping administrators safe. The amount of research dollars in Canada for animal breeding and genetics research has been drying up over the years, while costs of postdocs, research associates, and graduate students continue to rise. Maybe this is appropriate given the state of the economy and global environment.

There are several research projects left in my head, of which I am curious about the results, but I expect I will never have the opportunity to work on them. Maybe after I retire officially there should be time. It's hard to stop when this is all one has done during their life. When I retire, I hope I have an office, and essentially unlimited access to computers and data, to work on whatever I like.