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Genetic Evaluation and Best Prediction of Lactation Persistency. *By Cole and VanRaden, page 2722.* Persistency of lactation refers to the rate of decline in production after peak yield is reached. Routine genetic evaluation of persistency in the United States is feasible, and increased persistency may have economic benefits resulting from decreased feed costs or improved health. Further research is needed to determine if increased persistency is associated with lower incidences of periparturient metabolic disease. Many lactations are now longer than 305 d, and cows with high persistency may not need yearly calving intervals to be profitable. Selection goals that account for persistency could become important as new technologies such as bovine somatotropin and sexed semen are introduced.