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Impact of genetic merit for milk somatic cell score of sires and maternal grandsires on herd life of their daughters. *By Miller et al., page 2224.* Mastitis (udder infection) is the most costly disease of dairy cattle. The results of selecting artificial insemination bulls based on their genetic merit for milk somatic cell score (SCS) were studied for Holstein and Jersey cows. Genetic merit estimates of sires and maternal grandsires were combined and related to productive life, percentage culled for mastitis, and SCS of daughters. Consistent benefits were achieved as bulls' genetic merit for SCS changed in the favorable direction (i.e., lower SCS). Genetic selection for lower SCS produces cows with fewer mastitis-related losses.