What is “CLARIFIDE”™ Dairy”?
CLARIFIDE Dairy is a program designed to deliver genomics consulting services to the dairy industry through field veterinarians who have made a commitment to on-going training in the field of genomics.

Why is Zoetis interested in dairy genomics?
At Zoetis, we are dedicated to improving the safety, quality, and productivity of the food supply, enhancing the health of livestock, and being committed to those that raise and care for them. With this in mind, genomic technology holds industry changing promise to help improve production efficiency and sustainability of the dairy industry. Genomic technologies allow dairy producers to identify animals with superior genetic merit earlier in life, which enables them to make improved management decisions for each heifer born on farm. As genomic research progresses within the industry, we may be able to begin tailoring health protocols to match that animal’s potential to respond, such as response to vaccination.

Are the values in the CLARIFIDE genomic evaluations different from the official genomic evaluations provided by the Canadian Dairy Network?
No. All Canadian animals that are genotyped receive an official genomic evaluation performed by the Canadian Dairy Network. These values are provided in the CLARIFIDE reports, which are sent to the Dairy Producer and the CLARIFIDE Accredited Veterinarian.

What is the advantage of submitting samples through the CLARIFIDE program?
Dairy Producers who submit samples for genotyping through the CLARIFIDE Dairy program will receive a CLARIFIDE report (Excel format) that divides the information into manageable categories. Simple sorting functions can also be performed with this report. The CLARIFIDE report can be used in conjunction with the Dairy Decision Support Tool provided to CLARIFIDE Accredited Veterinarians allowing for a more in-depth analysis of the genomic information. With this tool, producers can assess the genetic variation at a glance, benchmark their results against the national average and create customized indices that fit their needs.

Which animals should I test?
To take full advantage of genomics, testing all heifers provides the most information for making decisions. In nearly all well-managed commercial dairy operations, testing can be economically justified. Committing to testing young calves can eliminate parentage errors and offers the greatest chance for utilizing the genomic information throughout their lives. If whole herd heifer testing is not an option, start with young heifers (0 to 4 months of age) and test a group of animals at the same age every month or two.

Which animals can be submitted to receive genomic evaluations?
The following animals are eligible to receive genomic evaluations:
- Registered Holstein females
- Registered Jersey females
- Registered Brown Swiss females
- Non-registered Holstein females (must have a valid NLID or ATQ number for submission)

Can bulls be submitted for genotyping?
Bulls may be submitted for genotyping through the CLARIFIDE Program to receive unofficial genomic results. To receive official genomic results, samples must be submitted directly to Holstein Canada.
What can I do with the genomic information on my heifers?
Early knowledge of a heifer’s potential allows producers to invest accordingly:

- Higher-ranked heifers can be set up for higher quality bulls, sexed semen or an embryo transfer program.
- Early testing also identifies animals with lower genetic potential and candidates to sell as calves or later on in life.
- When heifers reach pre-breeding age, the genomic information can be used for determining breeding decisions.
- Remember to submit your DNA samples two or more months prior to when you wish to apply the results to your herd.

Impacts of reliability on ranking

High reliability predictions help to sort animals based on their true genetic merit yielding better selection decisions

Possible strategy allocation

- Non-Select
- Embryo Recipients
- Conventional Semen
- Sexed Semen
- ET or IVF Amplification

What types of samples can be submitted through the CLARIFIDE program?
Hair roots or blood FTA cards are both accepted at the Zoetis offices in Kirkland, Quebec. Samples must be submitted using the Zoetis sample collectors. These supplies are available from CLARIFIDE Accredited Veterinarians and Zoetis (genetics.ca@zoetis.com).

Where do I send my samples for the CLARIFIDE program?
All samples are submitted through your CLARIFIDE Accredited Veterinarian. Shipping costs to the Zoetis offices will be covered by the CLARIFIDE Dairy program.

Who will send me the invoice for the genetic tests that I submitted?
The invoices for all CLARIFIDE tests will come from Holstein Canada. Holstein Canada will look after the credit and billing for all dairy genomic testing.