

# Selecting dairy cows for organic farming

Wytze Nauta\* and Henk Bovenhuis\*\*

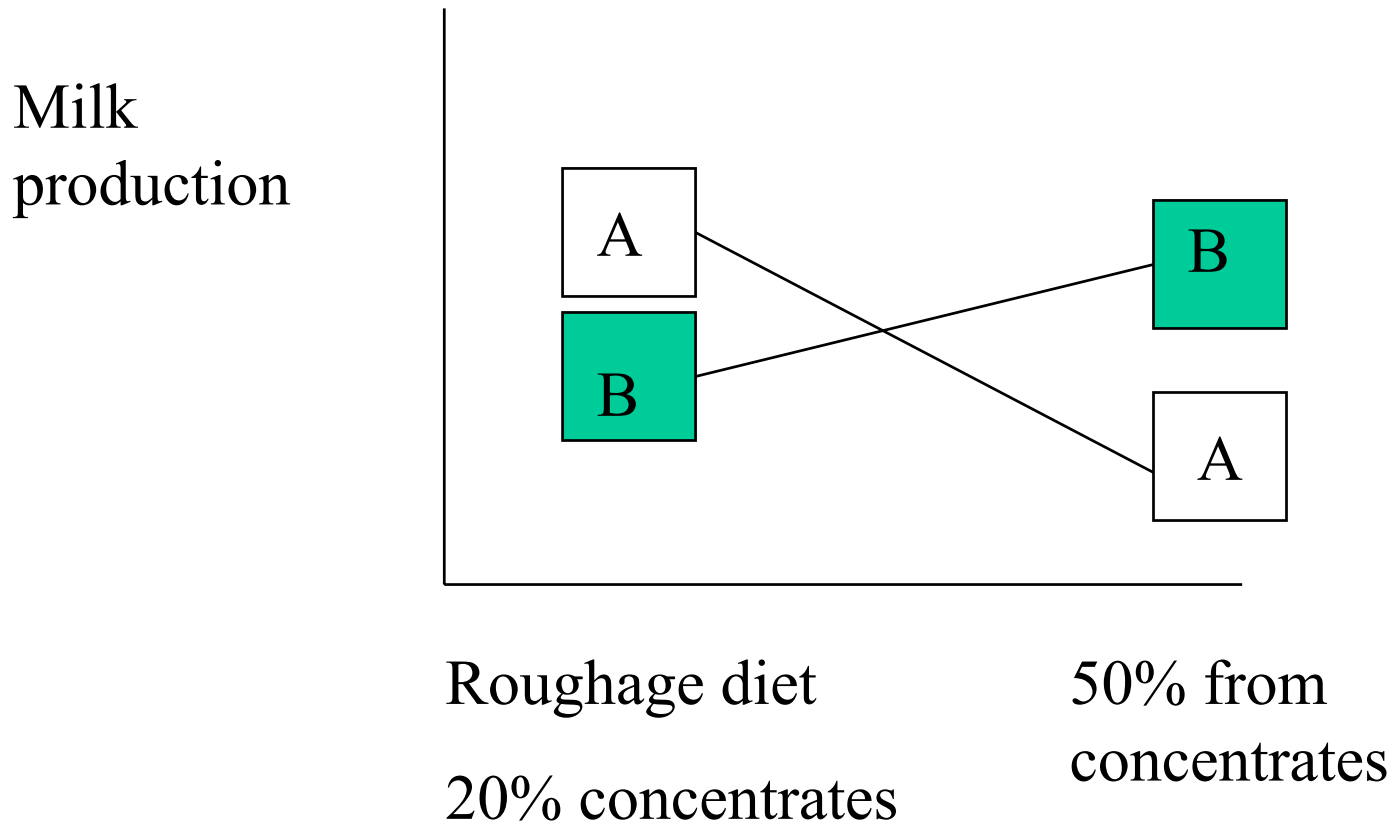
\* Louis Bolk Institute, Driebergen

\*\* Animal Breeding and Genetics Group, WUR

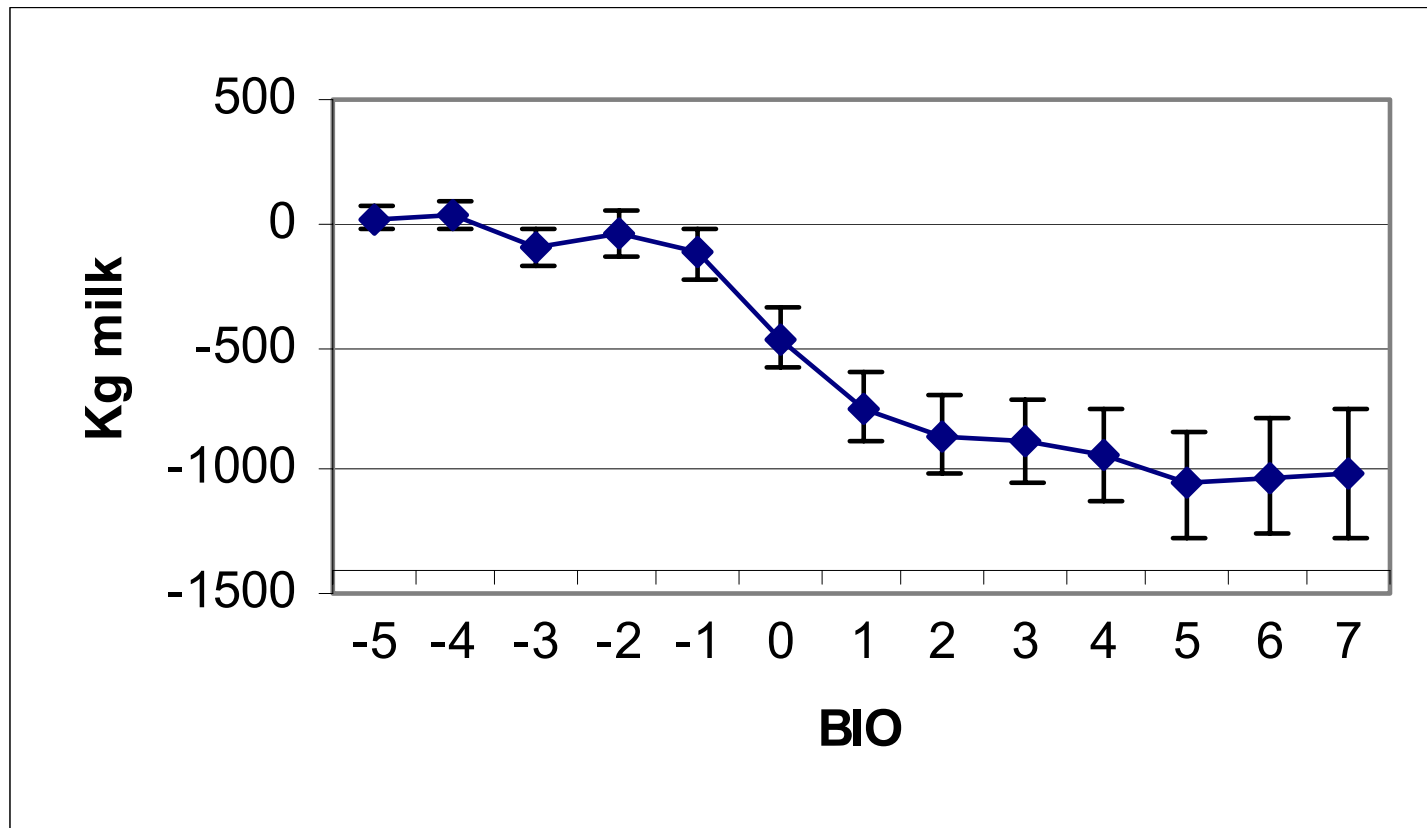
# Selecting from conventional stock?

- Based on “conventional methods”
- Based on conventional production system
  - magnitude of  $G \times E$  ?
- Selecting the wrong animals?

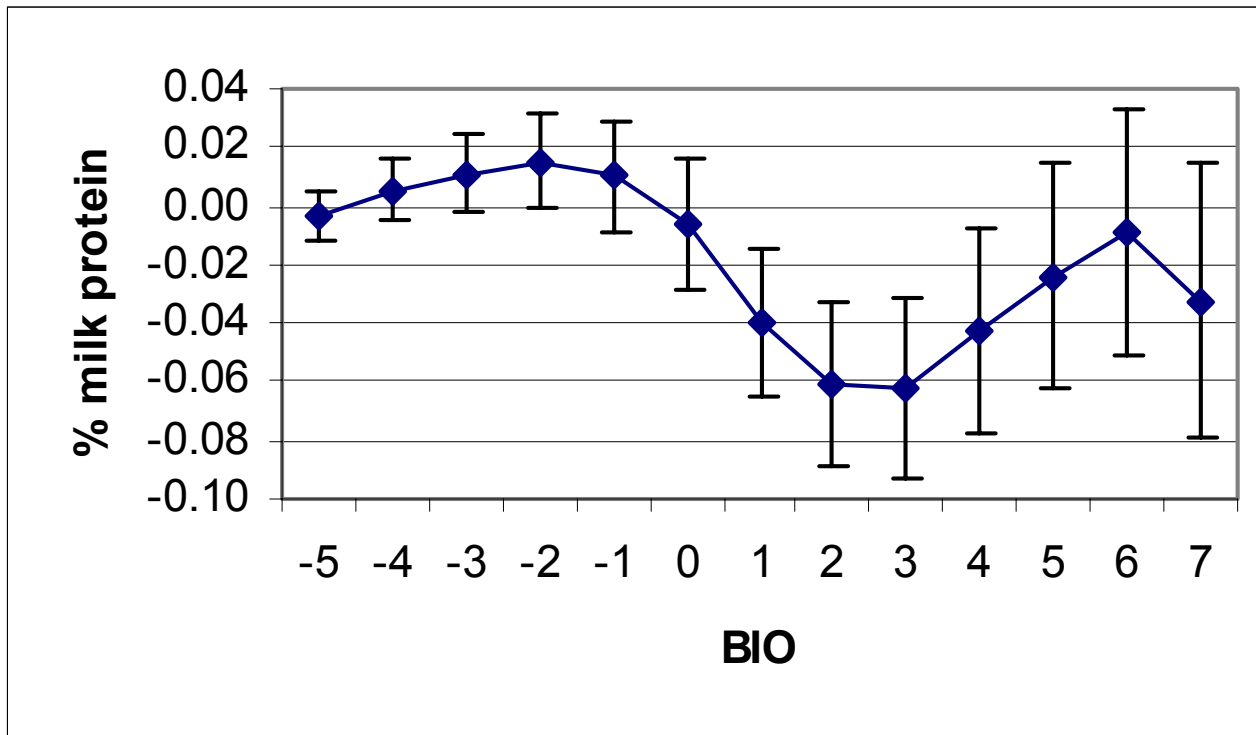
# Genotype environment interaction



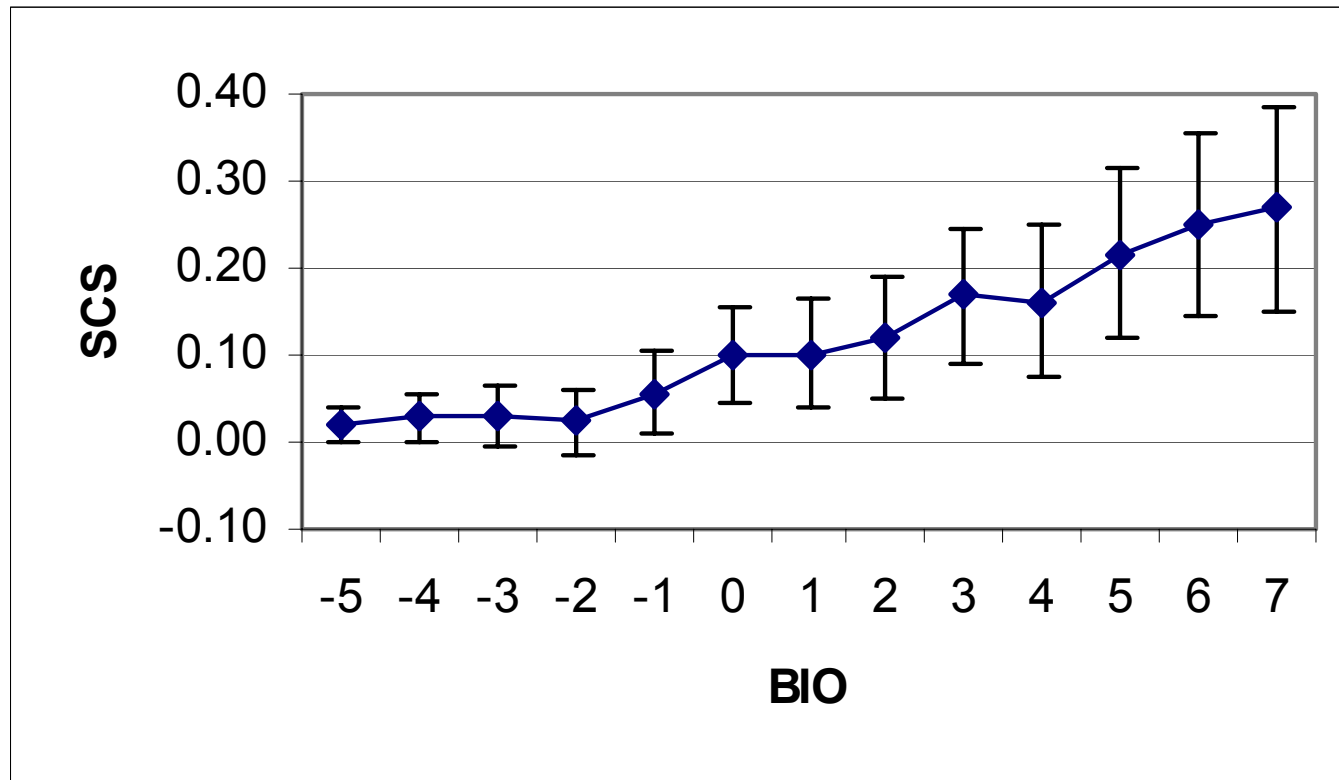
# Differences between organic and conventional dairy farming



# Differences between organic and conventional dairy farming

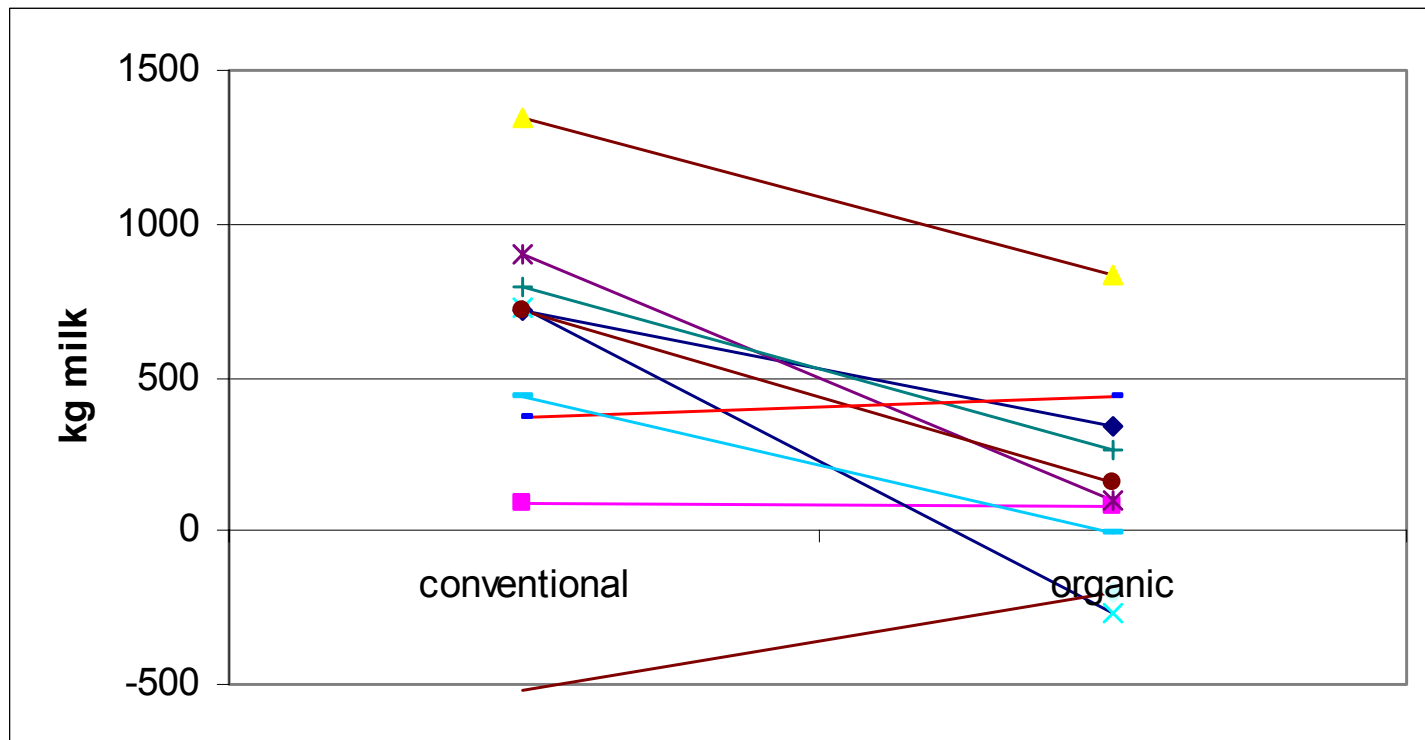


# Differences between organic and conventional dairy farming



	Genetic correlations between environments		
	Pre-organic and converting	Pre-organic and organic	converting and organic
Milk yield	0.93 (0.04)	0.86 (0.08)	0.89 (0.06)
SCS	0.77 (0.01)	0.76 (0.11)	0.98 (0.06)

# Breeding values kg milk





Don't forget about organic  
breeding!

Thank you.