1	Comparison of genetic evaluations for milk yield and fat yield using a polygenic model and
2	three genomic-polygenic models with different sets of SNP genotypes in Thai multibreed
3	dairy cattle
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11 The objectives of this research were to compare variance components, genetic 12 parameters, prediction accuracies, and ranking of animals for 305-day milk yield (MY) and 13 305-day fat yield (FY) using a polygenic and three genomic-polygenic models in a Thai 14 multibreed dairy population. The genomic-polygenic models utilized 7,656 SNP (GM7K), 15 74,144 actual and imputed 80K SNP from FImpute (GM80K-FI), and 73,600 actual and 16 imputed 80K SNP from Findhap (GM80K-FH). Traits were gathered from 8,361 first-17 lactation cows in 810 farms that had their first calving between 1989 and 2014. Variance 18 components and genetic parameters were estimated using REML procedures. Fixed effects 19 included contemporary group (herd-year-season), calving age and heterosis. Random 20 effects were animal additive genetic and residual. Estimates of variance components, 21 heritabilities and prediction accuracies for MY and FY from GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH 22 were similar. They were also the highest, followed by those from GM7K, and the lowest 23 were those from the polygenic model. Correlations estimates between MY and FY were 24 similar across models. Different MY and FY EBV rankings existed across models. The 25 highest rank correlations were those between rankings from GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH. 26 The second highest rank correlations between rankings from GM7K and GM80K-FI, and 27 GM7K and GM80K-FH. The lowest rank correlations were between rankings from the 28 polygenic model and the three genomic-polygenic models. Rank correlations indicated that 29 selection response would differ when choosing replacement animals based on rankings 30 from polygenic and genomic-polygenic EBV. Accuracy of EBV indicated that the highest 31 expected selection responses for MY and FY would be achieved by utilizing EBV from 32 GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH. Lastly, the similarity between results from GM80K-FI and 35

36 Key words: Dairy cattle, Genomic, Imputation, Milk yield, Fat yield, Multibreed

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### 38 **1. Introduction**

39 The availability of thousands of genotypes across the genome has provided valuable 40 information for the characterization and evaluation of livestock animals. Genomic 41 evaluations that utilize pedigree, phenotypes, and genotypes have increased accuracies of 42 prediction and rates of genetic progress in animal breeding programs (VanRaden et al., 43 2009; de Roos et al., 2011). Currently, genomic evaluation is widely utilized in the 44 livestock industry, especially in dairy cattle (Schenkel et al., 2009; VanRaden et al., 2009; 45 de Roos et al., 2011; Wiggans et al., 2011). Conversely, dairy cattle in Thailand are 46 genetically evaluated using only pedigree and phenotypic information. The main trait of 47 the Thai genetic evaluation is milk yield, the most important trait economically for Thai 48 dairy producers. To improve the accuracy of genetic evaluation and speed up selection 49 response for milk yield, fat yield, and other dairy traits, a national project for the 50 development of a national genomic-polygenic evaluation system in Thailand was started in 51 2012 (Koonawootrittriron et al., 2012).

52 Utilization of high density genotypic data can increase the effectiveness of genomic 53 evaluation (VanRaden et al., 2011; Mulder et al., 2012). However, budgetary restrictions 54 determined that only a fraction of animals in the Thai genomic-polygenic evaluation project 55 would be genotyped with a high-density chip, whereas the rest would be genotyped with 56 cheaper lower density chips, followed by imputation from the low density chips to the high

57 density chip. Two of the most frequently used imputation programs in dairy cattle are 58 FImpute (Sargolzaei et al., 2014) and Findhap (VanRaden and Sun, 2014). FImpute uses 59 pedigree information to impute unknown genotypes using known relationships among 60 animals followed by a population algorithm (overlapping sliding windows) to find shared 61 haplotype segments assuming that all animals are related to each other. Findhap uses a 62 population algorithm to construct a library of haplotypes, then it matches haplotypes from 63 target animals with those in the library using first a population algorithm followed by a 64 population-pedigree algorithm. These two programs have yielded imputation accuracies of 65 93% to 99% in various dairy cattle populations (Ma et al., 2013; VanRaden et al., 2013; 66 Sargolzaei et al., 2014; He et al., 2015). To develop a national genomic-polygenic 67 evaluation system, variance components, genetic parameters, prediction accuracies, and 68 ranking of animals need to be compared among polygenic and genomic-polygenic 69 prediction models using Thai dairy information. In addition, the impact of FImpute and 70 Findhap on estimates of genetic parameters, prediction accuracies, and animal rankings 71 from genomic-polygenic models also needs to be assessed in the Thai dairy population. 72 Thus, the objectives of this research were to compare variance components, genetic 73 parameters, prediction accuracies, and ranking of animals for 305-day milk yield and 305-74 day fat yield using a polygenic model, a genomic-polygenic model with 7K SNP, a 75 genomic-polygenic model with actual and imputed 80K SNP from FImpute, and a 76 genomic-polygenic model with actual and imputed 80K SNP from Findhap, in a Thai 77 multibreed dairy cattle population.

78

#### 79 **2. Materials and methods**

80 2.1. Animals, management, and traits

81 Animals used in this research were 8,361 first-lactation cows from 810 farms 82 located across five regions in Thailand (North, Northeastern, Western, Central, and 83 Southern). These cows were the progeny of 1,210 sires and 6,992 dams, and had their first 84 calving between 1989 and 2014. The Thai multibreed population was generated through 85 upgrading of cattle from various breeds (Brahman, Jersey, Brown Swiss, Red Dane, Red 86 Sindhi, Sahiwal and Thai Native) to Holstein (Koonawootrittriron et al., 2009). 87 Approximately 88% of all animals in the dataset were 75% Holstein and above, and 94% of 88 sires and 73% of dams were 75% Holstein or higher. Climate was tropical with 89 temperatures ranging from 15° to 36° Celsius and relative humidity ranging from 29 to 90 99%. Seasons are winter (November to February; average temperature of 26° Celsius and 91 average relative humidity of 69%), summer (March to June; average temperature of 29° 92 Celsius and average relative humidity of 72%), and rainy (July to October; average 93 temperature of 28° Celsius and average relative humidity of 80%). Cows were kept in open 94 barns with free access to mineral supplement. Concentrate (14 to 22% of CP, 63 to 83% of 95 NFE; approximately 1 kg of concentrate per 2 kg of milk) was fed to cows during milking 96 times (5 am and 3 pm). Roughage fed to cows consisted of grasses (Penisetum purpurium, 97 Brachiaria mutica, and Penicum maximum), crop-residues (rice straw, corn stover, and 98 sugarcane), or agricultural by-products (cassava pulp, and bagasse).

99 Traits were 305-day milk yield (MY) and 305-day fat yield (FY). Monthly test-day 100 fat yield was equal to the product of test-day milk yield and fat content, which were 101 collected monthly after calving until the end of lactation. Monthly test-day milk yield and 102 fat yield were used to compute MY and FY using the test interval method (Sargent et al., 103 1968; Koonawootrittriron et al., 2001).

106 Blood or semen samples were collected from 2,661 animals (89 sires and 2,572 cows) for DNA extraction with a MasterPure<sup>TM</sup> DNA Purification Kit (Epicentre<sup>®</sup>, 107 Madison, WI, USA). The quality of DNA samples was measured using a NanoDrop<sup>TM</sup> 108 109 2000 Spectrophotometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., Wilmington, DE, USA). Only 110 DNA that had a ratio of absorbance at 260 nm to absorbance at 280 nm (purity ratio) of 111 approximately 1.8, and concentration higher than 15  $ng/\mu l$  were forwarded to GeneSeek 112 (GeneSeek, Lincoln, NE, USA) for genotyping with GeneSeek genomic profiler (GGP) 9K 113 (n = 1,412), 20K (n = 570), 26K (n = 540), and 80K (n = 139) chips.

114 The numbers of SNP markers from autosomal chromosomes and the X chromosome 115 were 8,590 for the GGP9K, 19,616 for the GGP20K, 25,979 for the GGP26K, and 76,694 116 for the GGP80K. These actual SNP markers were used to construct three sets of SNP for 117 genomic-polygenic comparisons that included: 1) actual 7K SNP markers (SNP set 1), 2) 118 actual and imputed 80K SNP markers from FImpute (SNP set 2) and, 3) actual and imputed 119 80K SNP markers from Findhap (SNP set 3). The SNP markers in common among the 120 GGP9K, GGP20K, GGP26K, and GGP80K chips (n = 7,667) were used to represent SNP 121 set 1. Construction of SNP sets 2 and 3 was accomplished by imputation from GGP9K, 122 GGP20K, and GGP26K to GGP80K using FImpute 2.2 (Sargolzaei et al., 2014) and 123 Findhap 4 (VanRaden and Sun, 2014), respectively. Actual and imputed SNP markers with 124 minor allele frequencies lower than 0.04 or call rates lower than 0.9 were removed. After these quality checks, 7,656, 74,144, and 73,600 SNP markers were kept to represent the 125 126 genotypic information for SNP sets 1, set 2, and set 3.

- 127
- 128 2.3 Estimation of variance and covariance components

129 Estimates of variance and covariance components for MY and FY were obtained 130 using a bivariate polygenic model and three bivariate single-step genomic-polygenic 131 models (Aguilar et al., 2010), namely: 1) GM7K model that used pedigree, phenotypes, and 132 SNP set 1 genotypes, 2) GM80K-FI model that used pedigree, phenotypes, and SNP set 2 133 genotypes, and 3) GM80K-FH model that used pedigree, phenotype, SNP set 3 genotypes. 134 Fixed effects for the polygenic model and genomic-polygenic models included 135 contemporary group (herd-year-season), calving age, and heterosis (as a function of 136 Holstein-Other Breeds heterozygosity, i.e., as a function of the probability of having an 137 allele from Holstein and an allele from Other Breeds in 1 locus). Random effects were 138 animal additive genetic and residual. The mean for random effects was assumed to be zero 139 in all models. The variance-covariance matrix among additive genetic effects for the polygenic model was equal to  $A * \sigma_a^2$ , where A was the additive relationship matrix among 140 all animals in the population, "\*" was the Kronecker product, and  $\sigma_a^2$  was the additive 141 142 genetic variance. The variance-covariance matrix among additive genetic effects for all 143 genomic-polygenic models was equal to:

144 
$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} + A_{12}A_{22}^{-1}(G_{22} - A_{22})A_{22}^{-1}G_{21} & A_{12}A_{22}^{-1}G_{22} \\ G_{22}A_{22}^{-1}A_{21} & G_{22} \end{bmatrix} * \sigma_a^2,$$

where  $A_{11}$  was the additive relationship submatrix among all non-genotyped animals,  $A_{12}$ was the additive relationship submatrix among non-genotyped and genotyped animals,  $A_{22}^{-1}$  was inverse of the additive relationship submatrix for genotyped animals,  $G_{22}$  was the matrix of genomic relationships for genotyped animals (VanRaden, 2008; Aguilar et al., 2010). Matrix  $G_{22}$  was computed as  $ZZ'/2\sum p_j (1-p_j)$ , where  $p_j$  = frequency of allele 2 in locus j in the Thai dairy population,  $z_{ij} = (0 - 2p_j)$  for genotype = 11 in locus j,  $z_{ij} =$  $(1 - 2p_j)$  for genotype = 12 or 21 in locus j, and  $z_{ij} = (2 - 2p_j)$  for genotype = 22 in 152 locus j. Matrix  $G_{22}$  was scaled based on matrix  $A_{22}$  using the default rule of program 153 PREGSF90 from the BLUPF90 family programs (Misztal et al., 2002), i.e., that the mean of 154 the diagonal elements of  $G_{22}$  = mean of the diagonal elements of  $A_{22}$ , and that the mean of the 155 off-diagonal elements of  $G_{22}$  = mean of the off-diagonal elements of  $A_{22}$ .

156 The BLUPF90 family programs (Misztal et al., 2002) was utilized to estimate 157 variance components and genetic parameters for MY and FY. Variance components were 158 estimated using an average information restricted maximum likelihood algorithm using 159 AIREMLF90 (Tsuruta, 2014). Standard errors for additive genetic, and environmental 160 variances and covariances were computed as square roots of the diagonal elements of the 161 inverse of the average information matrix. The repeated sampling approach of 162 Meyer and Houle (2013) was used to estimate phenotypic variances and covariances, 163 heritabilities, and their standard deviations. Phenotypic, genetic, and environmental 164 correlations including their standard deviations for MY and FY were also estimated using 165 Statistical tests to determine the significance of the repeated sampling approach. 166 differences between variance components and genetic parameters across polygenic and 167 genomic-polygenic models were beyond the scope of this research. Thus, comparisons 168 among estimates of variance components and genetic parameters here represent 169 comparative descriptions of values obtained with the polygenic and genomic-polygenic 170 models in the Thai multibreed dairy population.

171

172 2.4. Prediction accuracies and animals rankings

173 Animal EBV for MY and FY were computed using the polygenic and the three 174 genomic-polygenic models (GM7K, GM80K-FI, and GM80K-FH). Prediction accuracies for each EBV was obtained as  $\sqrt{1 - \frac{PEV}{\sigma_a^2}}$ , where *PEV* was the prediction error variance. Rankings of animal EBV for MY and FY were compared using Spearman's rank correlations using the CORR procedure of SAS (SAS, 2003). Rank correlations were computed for each trait for all animals in the population, only sires (top 5%, 15%, 25%, and all sires), and only cows (top 5%, 15%, 25%, and all cows).

180

#### 181 **3. Results and discussion**

### 182 *3.1. Variance components and genetic parameters*

The scaling strategy used for matrix  $G_{22}$  worked well for the Thai population. The 183 statistics of the diagonal and off-diagonal elements of matrices  $A_{22}$  and matrices  $G_{22}$  for the 184 185 GM7K, GM80K-FI, and GM80K-FH models indicated that these two matrices were similar 186 (Table 1). In particular, the means of their diagonal elements were all equal to 1 and the 187 mean of their off-diagonal elements were equal to zero, ensuring that estimates of variance 188 components and genetic parameters as well as additive genetic predictions from genomic-189 polygenic models would be unbiased (Chen et al., 2011; Forni et al., 2011; Simeone et al., 190 2012).

Estimates of variances and covariances for MY and FY from the polygenic model and the three genomic-polygenic models are shown in Table 2 for additive genetic effects, in Table 3 for environmental effects, and in Table 4 for phenotypic effects. Estimates of phenotypic variances and covariances were similar across models. However, estimates of additive genetic variances and covariances for MY and FY were larger for the GM7K model (12%), and the GM80K-FI (46%) and GM80K-FH (46%) models than corresponding values from the polygenic model. Conversely, estimates of environmental 198 variances and covariances for all genomic-polygenic models were lower (2% for GM7K, 199 7% for GM80K-FI and 7% for GM80K-FH) than those from the polygenic model. These 200 results indicated that the inclusion of genotypes in addition to pedigree and phenotypes in 201 genomic-polygenic models accounted for substantially larger amounts of additive genetic 202 variation than by using only pedigree and phenotypic information in the polygenic model.

Similarly, additive genetic variances and covariances were larger for the GM80K-FI (29%) and GM80K-FH (29%) models than for the GM7K model, whereas environmental variances and covariances were lower for the GM80K-FI (6%) and GM80K-FH (6%) models than for the GM7K model. This indicated that the additional SNP used by the GM80K-FI (74,144 SNP) and GM80K-FH (73,600 SNP) models explained nearly 30% more additive genetic variation for MY and FY than that accounted for by the 7,656 SNP in the GM7K model.

210 Variance and covariance components for MY and FY obtained with the GM80K-FI 211 and GM80K-FH models were nearly identical, except for the additive genetic variance for FY (229.9 kg<sup>2</sup> for GM80K-FI and 196.1 kg<sup>2</sup> for GM80K-FH; Table 2). The additive 212 213 genetic variance for FY computed with the GM80K-FI model was 17% higher than the 214 estimate from GM80K-FH. This higher value may have been due to the larger SNP 215 markers were used in GM80K-FI (n = 74,144) than GM80K-FH (n = 73,600). Perhaps the 216 imputed SNP genotypes from FImpute managed to extract additional additive genetic 217 variability for FY beyond that uncovered by the set of imputed SNP from Findhap.

Table 5 shows estimates of heritabilities and correlations for MY and FY obtained using the polygenic model and the three genomic-polygenic models (GM7K, GM80K-FI, and GM80K-FH). The heritabilities form the polygenic model were the lowest for both MY (0.15) and FY (0.14). Heritabilities estimates for MY tended to increase with the 222 number of SNP included in the model (from 0.19 for GM7K to 0.26 for GM80K-FI and 223 GM80K-FH). This trend was less noticeable for FY, where heritabilities increased from 224 0.15 for GM7K to 0.18 for GM80K-FI and 0.16 for GM80K-FH. Heritability estimates for 225 MY and FY from the GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH models were on the average 25% higher 226 than estimates from the GM7K model, and 47% higher than estimates from the polygenic 227 model. This indicated that genomic-polygenic models likely accounted for additive genetic 228 relationships among animals in the Thai population more accurately resulting in higher 229 additive genetic variances and heritabilities than those from polygenic models. Nearly 230 identical environmental and phenotypic correlations were obtained across models, but 231 estimates of genetic correlations between MY and FY using the polygenic and GM80K-FH 232 models were slightly higher than estimates computed using the GM7K and GM80K-FI 233 models. The similarity of correlations estimates between MY and FY among the four 234 models indicated that all models accounted for correlations between these two traits to a 235 similar extent.

236 The heritabilities estimated here for MY and FY with all models were somewhat 237 lower than those estimated in various Thai multibreed populations using polygenic models 238 (0.31 to 0.38 for MY: Koonawootrittriron et al., 2009; Sarakul et al., 2011; Jattawa et al., 239 2012; Endris et al., 2013, and 0.25 for FY: Koonawootrittriron et al., 2009). Heritabilities 240 estimated here for MY using the GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH models were within the range 241 of estimates of genomic heritabilities for Holstein cattle from temperate regions (0.23 to 0.30; Gao et al., 2012; Rodríguez-Ramilo et al., 2014; Tsuruta et al, 2014; Bauer et al., 242 243 2015), but heritabilities for FY were somewhat lower (0.28 to 0.30; Gao et al., 2012; 244 Rodríguez-Ramilo et al., 2014). Higher estimates of heritability for MY and FY with GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH models will increase the accuracy of genetic predictions 245

resulting in a more reliable identification of the superior sires and cows in this Thai dairy population. Continued use of genotyping with high-density and medium-density chips coupled with genomic-polygenic evaluations and extensive use of top ranking sires and cows should accelerate the rate of genetic progress for MY and FY in this population.

250 Similar variance components and genetic parameters were estimated by the 251 GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH models reflecting a high degree of similarity between the 252 imputed genotypes from FImpute and Findhap. This was likely due to the algorithmic 253 resemblance of these two programs (both use population and pedigree information to 254 impute genotypes) and their high level of imputation accuracy. Imputation accuracy for 255 FImpute and Findhap was found to be high in several dairy populations (Ma et al., 2013; 256 VanRaden et al., 2013; Sargolzaei et al., 2014; He et al., 2015). Accuracies from low 257 density to 50K chips have ranged from 95% to 99% for FImpute and from 93% to 99% for 258 Findhap. Further, the highest additive genetic variances and heritabilities obtained here 259 were from genomic-polygenic programs using actual and imputed SNP from 80K chips 260 (GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH), indicating that genomic imputation can be a reasonable 261 alternative to increase the effectiveness of genetic evaluation and selection under tropical 262 conditions in Thailand.

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## 264 *3.2. Accuracy of polygenic and genomic-polygenic EBV*

Fig. 1 shows the EBV accuracies for MY and FY computed from the polygenic model and the three genomic-polygenic models (GM7K, GM80K-FI, and GM80K-FH). The GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH models had the highest EBV accuracies (average of 38.8% for MY and 32.5% for FY), GM7K model was second (36.7% for MY, and 31.4% for FY), and the least accurate was the polygenic model (31.5% for MY, and 24.4% for FY). Gains in EBV accuracies were 5.2% between the polygenic and the GM7K models and 7.2% between the polygenic and the GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH models. The increase in EBV accuracy between the low density GM7K and the high density GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH models was only 2%. This indicated that a strategy to keep genotyping costs reasonably low in this population would be to genotype animals that are highly connected in the population (i.e., most sires and some dams) with high density chips, and use low density chips with the rest of the population.

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278 The higher prediction accuracies obtained here with the GM80K-FI and GM80K-279 FH models was in agreement with previous studies that found that higher number of SNP in 280 genomic evaluation yielded higher levels of prediction accuracies for MY and FY in dairy 281 cattle (VanRaden et al., 2009; Mulder et al., 2012). However, the gains in EBV accuracy in 282 the Thai multibreed population (5.2% to 7.2%) were lower than the accuracy gains obtained 283 in various Holstein dairy populations (23% to 32%; de Roos et al., 2009; Schenkel et al., 284 2009; VanRaden et al., 2009; Wiggans et al., 2011). Previous studies have indicated that 285 the larger the number of genotyped animals the higher the prediction accuracies in a 286 population (Goddard, 2009; VanRaden et al., 2011; Mulder et al., 2012). Thus, the lower 287 EBV accuracy gains obtained here may have been partly due to the small number of 288 animals genotyped in this population (2,661) compared to the Holstein populations in other 289 studies (5,335 to 63,615). Consequently, prediction accuracies of genomic-polygenic 290 evaluations in Thailand will likely increase as higher numbers of dairy animals are 291 genotyped in the future.

Using super high density chips (777K) have been proposed to increase prediction accuracies in genomic evaluation (Su et al., 2012; VanRaden et al., 2013). However,

294 prediction accuracies substantially increased as numbers of SNP increased from low (3K) 295 to high density chips (50K; VanRaden et al., 2011; Mulder et al., 2012), but increased only 296 slightly from high density (50K) to super high density chips (777K; Harris et al., 2011; 297 VanRaden et al., 2011; Erbe et al., 2012; Su et al., 2012). This indicates that genotyping 298 animals with high density chips (50K, 80K) would produce genomic-polygenic EBV of 299 sufficient accuracy to rank animals appropriately for genetic selection. VanRaden et al. 300 (2011) also indicated that prediction accuracies were found to be more affected by numbers 301 of genotyped animals than number of SNP markers. Thus, prediction accuracies will 302 continue to increase as numbers of genotyped animals increase over time. As mentioned 303 above, genotyping costs could be kept low if only highly related animals were genotyped 304 with high density chips (mostly sires) and the remaining animals (mostly cows) were 305 genotyped with low density chips and subsequently imputed to a high density chip.

306

### 307 *3.3.* Ranking of animals from polygenic and three genomic-polygenic models

308 Spearman rank correlations between rankings of all animal EBV from the polygenic 309 model and the three genomic-polygenic models ranged from 0.80 to 0.96 for MY and 0.80 310 to 0.93 for FY (Table 6). Rankings between animal EBV from GM80K-FI and GM80K-311 FH had the highest correlations (0.96 for MY, and 0.93 for FY). Rank correlations between 312 animal EBV from the low density GM7K and the high density models (GM80K-FI: 0.90 313 for MY, and 0.91 for FY; GM80K-FH: 0.89 for MY, and 0.86 for FY) were the second 314 highest. The lowest rank correlations were between animal EBV from the three genomic-315 polygenic models (GM7K, GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH), and the polygenic model (0.80 to 316 0.84 for MY, and 0.79 to 0.83 for FY).

317 Spearman rank correlations between polygenic and three genomic-polygenic models 318 were also computed for sires only (top 5%, 15%, 25%, and all sires; Table 7) and for cows 319 only (top 5%, 15%, 25%, and all cows; Table 8). The lowest rank correlations were those 320 for the top 5% of sires and cows. Rank correlations for the top 5% of sires ranged from 321 0.50 between the polygenic and GM7K models to 0.87 between GM80K-FI and GM80K-322 FH for MY, and from 0.61 between the polygenic and GM80K-FH models to 0.76 between 323 GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH for FY. Rank correlations for the top 5% of cows ranged from 324 0.64 between the polygenic and GM80K-FI models to 0.90 between GM80K-FI and 325 GM80K-FH for MY, and from 0.59 between the polygenic and GM80K-FH models to 0.79 326 between GM7K and GM80K-FI for FY. Rank correlations tended to increase as the 327 fraction of sires (or cows) increased from the top 5% to the top 15% to the top 25% to all 328 sires (or all cows).

329 Rank correlations for all sires and for all cows from the polygenic model and the 330 three genomic-polygenic models followed the same pattern as rank correlations for all 331 animals in the population. The highest rank correlations for MY and FY were between 332 EBV from GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH (0.92 to 0.94 for all sires and 0.93 to 0.96 for all 333 cows). The second highest rank correlations between MY and FY were those between 334 EBV from GM7K and from GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH (0.87 to 0.93 for all sires and 0.86 335 to 0.91 for all cows). The lowest rank correlations for MY and FY were between animal 336 EBV from GM7K, GM80K-FI and GM80K-FH and animal EBV from polygenic model 337 (0.80 to 0.88 for all sires and 0.79 to 0.84 for all cows).

As expected, sires and cows in the top 5%, 15%, and 25% differed across models. Percentages of animals in common in the top 5%, 15%, and 25% for pairs of models are shown in Table 7 for sires and in Table 8 for cows. Most percentages of animals in 341 common in the top 5%, 15%, and 25% between pairs of models were higher for EBV 342 rankings for MY and FY from models using high density chips (GM80K-FI and GM80K-343 FH), followed by percentages of animals in common between EBV from the model using 344 the low density (GM7K) and the models using a high density chip (GM80K-FI and 345 GM80K-FH), and lastly by percentages of animals in common between EBV from the 346 polygenic model and all genomic-polygenic models (GM7K, GM80K-FI, and GM80K-347 FH). As an illustration, consider the top 5% for MY. The highest percentages of animals 348 in common across models in the top 5% for MY occurred between rankings from GM80K-349 FI and GM80K-FH (87% of sires; 89% of cows), followed by percentages of animals in 350 common between GM7K and the high density genomic-polygenic models (76% to 79% for 351 sires; 74% to 75% for cows). The lowest percentages of animals in common in the top 5% 352 for MY occurred between the polygenic model and all genomic-polygenic models (71% to 353 74% for sires; 66% to 69% for cows). Considering the similarity between the GM80K-FI 354 and GM80K-FH in terms of their estimates of genetic variances, heritabilities, and 355 prediction accuracies for MY and FY, either one of these models would be suitable for 356 genetic evaluation in this Thai multibreed population.

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### **4. Conclusions**

Estimates of additive genetic variances, heritabilities, and prediction accuracies for MY and FY from genomic-polygenic models were higher than those from the polygenic model. Additive genetic variances, heritabilities, and prediction accuracies tended to increase as the number of SNP increased. Animal rankings from high density genomicpolygenic models should be preferred because they were based on EBV of higher accuracy than the polygenic and low density genomic-polygenic model. Faster selection responses 365 for MY and FY would be expected from high density genomic models. FImpute and 366 Findhap performed similarly, thus either program would be appropriate for the Thai 367 multibreed population.

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#### 369 **Conflict of interest**

370 No conflicts of interest influenced this research.

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494 Statistics for diagonal and off-diagonal elements of the pedigree and genomic relationship

495 matrices

Matrix <sup>a</sup>	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Variance					
	Diagonal elements								
A <sub>22</sub>	1.000	1.000	1.250	0.000					
G <sub>22</sub> (GM7K)	1.002	0.837	1.432	0.011					
G <sub>22</sub> (GM80K-FI)	1.000	0.721	1.599	0.003					
G <sub>22</sub> (GM80K-FH)	1.000	0.488	2.354	0.010					
	Off-diagonal elements								
A <sub>22</sub>	0.003	0.000	0.750	0.001					
G <sub>22</sub> (GM7K)	0.003	-0.145	1.218	0.006					
G <sub>22</sub> (GM80K-FI)	0.003	-0.079	1.025	0.003					
G <sub>22</sub> (GM80K-FH)	0.003	-0.091	1.258	0.002					

<sup>a</sup> A<sub>22</sub> = additive relationship matrix for genotyped animals; G<sub>22</sub> = genomic relationship
matrix for genotyped animals; GM7K = Genomic-polygenic model with actual 7K SNP;
GM80K-FI = Genomic-polygenic model with actual and imputed 80K SNP using FImpute;
GM80K-FH = Genomic-polygenic model with actual and imputed 80K SNP using Findhap.

502 Additive genetic variances and covariances for 305-d milk yield (MY) and 305-d fat yield (FY) estimated using a polygenic model and

503 three genomic-polygenic models with different sets of SNP genotypes

Variance Component	Model <sup>a</sup>									
variance Component	РМ	SE	GM7K	SE	GM80K-FI	SE	GM80K-FH	SE		
Var (MY), $kg^2$	100,030.0	25,447.0	126,480.0	24,023.0	172,190.0	30,558.0	174,600.0	29,971.0		
Cov (MY, FY), kg <sup>2</sup>	3,057.1	1,000.6	3,264.1	949.6	4,147.6	1,176.1	4,645.8	1,139.6		
Var (FY), kg <sup>2</sup>	176.5	55.3	183.7	53.5	229.9	64.5	196.1	59.5		

<sup>a</sup> PM = Polygenic model; GM7K = Genomic-polygenic model with actual 7K SNP information; GM80K-FI = Genomic-polygenic

505 model with actual and imputed 80K SNP information using FImpute; GM80K-FH = Genomic-polygenic model with actual and 506 imputed 80K SNP information using Findhap.

509 Environmental variances and covariances for 305-d milk yield (MY) and 305-d fat yield (FY) estimated using a polygenic model and

510 three genomic-polygenic models with different sets of SNP genotypes

Varianaa Commonant	Model <sup>a</sup>									
	РМ	SE	GM7K	SE	GM80K-FI	SE	GM80K-FH	SE		
Var (MY), $kg^2$	565,990.0	25,164.0	542,750.0	22,912.0	500,420.0	27,936.0	496,730.0	29,971.0		
Cov (MY, FY), kg <sup>2</sup>	17,099.0	1,011.4	16,955.0	942.1	16,125.0	1,117.4	15,624.0	1,139.6		
Var (FY), kg <sup>2</sup>	1,085.4	56.7	1,082.5	54.2	1,039.0	62.8	1,067.7	59.5		

<sup>a</sup> PM = Polygenic model; GM7K = Genomic-polygenic model with actual 7K SNP information; GM80K-FI = Genomic-polygenic

512 model with actual and imputed 80K SNP information using FImpute; GM80K-FH = Genomic-polygenic model with actual and

513 imputed 80K SNP information using Findhap.

516 Phenotypic variances and covariances for 305-d milk yield (MY) and 305-d fat yield (FY) estimated using a polygenic model and three

	Model <sup>a</sup>								
variance Component	PM	$SD^{b}$	GM7K	SD	GM80K-FI	SD	GM80K-FH	SD	
Var (MY), $kg^2$	666,030.0	14,472.0	669,230.0	14,749.0	672,610.0	14,943.0	671,330.0	14,867.0	
Cov (MY, FY), kg <sup>2</sup>	20,156.0	603.5	20,219.0	610.8	20,273.0	615.2	20,270.0	611.2	
Var (FY), kg <sup>2</sup>	1,261.9	34.3	1,266.2	34.6	1,268.9	34.8	1,263.8	34.3	

517 genomic-polygenic models with different sets of SNP genotypes

<sup>a</sup> PM = Polygenic model; GM7K = Genomic-polygenic model with actual 7K SNP information; GM80K-FI = Genomic-polygenic

519 model with actual and imputed 80K SNP information using FImpute; GM80K-FH = Genomic-polygenic model with actual and

520 imputed 80K SNP information using Findhap.

<sup>b</sup> Repeated sampling approach of Meyer and Houle (2013).

523 Heritabilities and correlations for 305-d milk yield (MY) and 305-d fat yield (FY) estimated using a polygenic model and three

Devenueter		Model <sup>a</sup>								
Parameter	PM	$SD^{b}$	GM7K	SD	GM80K-FI	SD	GM80K-FH	SD		
Heritability (MY)	0.15	0.04	0.19	0.03	0.26	0.04	0.26	0.04		
Heritability (FY)	0.14	0.04	0.15	0.04	0.18	0.05	0.16	0.05		
Genetic correlation (MY, FY)	0.73	0.13	0.68	0.11	0.66	0.11	0.79	0.11		
Environmental correlation (MY, FY)	0.69	0.02	0.70	0.02	0.71	0.02	0.68	0.02		
Phenotypic correlation (MY, FY)	0.70	0.01	0.69	0.01	0.69	0.01	0.70	0.01		

524 genomic-polygenic models with different sets of SNP genotypes

525 <sup>a</sup> PM = Polygenic model; GM7K = Genomic-polygenic model with actual 7K SNP information; GM80K-FI = Genomic-polygenic

526 model with actual and imputed 80K SNP information using FImpute; GM80K-FH = Genomic-polygenic model with actual and

527 imputed 80K SNP information using Findhap.

<sup>b</sup> Repeated sampling approach of Meyer and Houle (2013).

531 Rank correlations between animal EBV for 305-d milk yield and fat yield evaluated using a polygenic model and three genomic-

	Rank correlations <sup>a</sup>					
Trait	PM,	PM,	PM,	GM7K,	GM7K,	GM80K-FI,
	GM7K	GM80K-FI	GM80K-FH	GM80K-FI	GM80K-FH	GM80K-FH
MY	0.80	0.84	0.84	0.90	0.89	0.96
FY	0.80	0.83	0.79	0.91	0.86	0.93

532 polygenic models with different sets of SNP genotypes

<sup>a</sup> PM = Polygenic model; GM7K = Genomic-polygenic model with actual 7K SNP information; GM80K-FI = Genomic-polygenic

534 model with actual and imputed 80K SNP information using FImpute; GM80K-FH = Genomic-polygenic model with actual and

imputed 80K SNP information using Findhap; All rank correlations were significant at P < 0.0001.

538 Rank correlations between sire EBV for 305-d milk yield (MY) and fat yield (FY) evaluated using a polygenic model and three

		Rank correlations <sup>a</sup>					
Trait	Sires <sup>b</sup>	PM,	PM,	PM,	GM7K,	GM7K,	GM80K-FI,
		GM7K	GM80K-FI	GM80K-FH	GM80K-FI	GM80K-FH	GM80K-FH
MY	top 5% (62)	0.50 (74)	0.55 (71)	0.57 (74)	0.78 (79)	0.69 (76)	0.87 (87)
	top 15% (186)	0.78 (75)	0.79 (80)	0.78 (78)	0.83 (82)	0.80 (77)	0.92 (92)
	top 25% (309)	0.77 (80)	0.82 (85)	0.86 (83)	0.83 (85)	0.86 (82)	0.94 (90)
	100% (1,236)	0.82	0.88	0.85	0.92	0.88	0.94
FY	top 5% (62)	0.72 (79)	0.68 (82)	0.61 (63)	0.70 (81)	0.62 (68)	0.76 (76)
	top 15% (186)	0.88 (74)	0.89 (81)	0.78 (69)	0.88 (83)	0.76 (72)	0.84 (81)
	top 25% (309)	0.79 (81)	0.85 (83)	0.70 (77)	0.83 (86)	0.71 (81)	0.78 (88)
	100% (1,236)	0.83	0.87	0.80	0.93	0.87	0.92

539 genomic-polygenic models with different sets of SNP genotypes

<sup>a</sup> PM = Polygenic model; GM7K = Genomic-polygenic model with actual 7K SNP information; GM80K-FI = Genomic-polygenic

541 model with actual and imputed 80K SNP information using FImpute; GM80K-FH = Genomic-polygenic model with actual and

- 542 imputed 80K SNP information using Findhap; All rank correlations were significant at P < 0.0001, except for top 5% between PM and
- 543 GMLD that was significant at P < 0.0005; numbers in brackets are percentage of animals in common between pairs of models.
- <sup>b</sup> Numbers in brackets are numbers of sires. <sup>2</sup> Numbers in brackets are numbers of sires.

546 Rank correlations between cow EBV for 305-d milk yield (MY) and fat yield (FY) evaluated using a polygenic model and three

	Cows <sup>b</sup>	Rank correlations <sup>a</sup>						
Trait		PM,	PM,	PM,	GM7K,	GM7K,	GM80K-FI,	
		GM7K	GM80K-FI	GM80K-FH	GM80K-FI	GM80K-FH	GM80K-FH	
MY	top 5% (706)	0.68 (68)	0.64 (66)	0.67 (69)	0.71 (74)	0.71 (75)	0.90 (89)	
FY	top 15% (2,117)	0.70 (74)	0.67 (73)	0.68 (74)	0.76 (79)	0.75 (79)	0.91 (88)	
	top 25% (3,529)	0.74 (77)	0.72 (79)	0.74 (78)	0.79 (84)	0.79 (84)	0.90 (89)	
	100% (14,113)	0.80	0.84	0.84	0.90	0.89	0.96	
	top 5% (706)	0.78 (65)	0.76 (69)	0.59 (61)	0.79 (75)	0.67 (68)	0.77 (76)	
	top 15% (2,117)	0.67 (74)	0.68 (76)	0.61 (69)	0.75 (81)	0.68 (76)	0.78 (83)	
	top 25% (3,529)	0.75 (76)	0.77 (78)	0.66 (73)	0.81 (85)	0.71 (80)	0.81 (85)	
	100% (14,113)	0.79	0.83	0.79	0.91	0.86	0.93	

547 genomic-polygenic models with different sets of SNP genotypes

<sup>a</sup> PM = Polygenic model; GM7K = Genomic-polygenic model with actual 7K SNP information; <math>GM80K-FI = Genomic-polygenic model with actual and imputed 80K SNP information using FImpute; GM80K-FH = Genomic-polygenic model with actual and imputed 80K SNP information using Findhap; All rank correlations were significant at P < 0.0001; numbers in brackets are percentage of animals in common between pairs of models.

<sup>b</sup> Numbers in brackets are numbers of cows.



Fig. 1. Accuracy of estimated breeding values for 305-d milk yield and 305-d fat yield in a Thai multibreed population using polygenic models (PM), genomic-polygenic models with actual 7K SNP information (GM7K), genomic-polygenic models with actual and imputed 80K SNP information from FImpute (GM80K-FI), and genomic-polygenic models with actual and imputed 80K SNP information from Findhap (GM80K-FH)