

to h:  $\text{lim}( \dots )$

- Limitation with Fixed Linear Effect Models (FLEM) is that factors cannot be "random". A FLEM contains only fixed effects, except for the random residual term ( $e$ ).
- In Genetic Model, breeding values ( $u$ ) have to be treated as random effects, because we had seen that they are defined as deviations and they have a pre-defined variance-covariance structure.

⇒ Use a Mixed Linear Effect Model (MLEM).

MLEM can accommodate additional random effects, besides the random residual error term.

• Model :  $y = X\beta + Zu + e$

$\beta$  → fixed effects (sex, herd, season...)  
 $u$  → random breeding values  
 $e$  → random residuals error terms

- In a MLEM, the expected values and the variance-covariance structure of the random terms must be specified