

UNDERSTANDING IGS EBVS

Maternal EBVs

CALVING EASE DIRECT (CE-D)

Reported as the percentage of extra unassisted births in first calving heifers, relative to the average. CE-D is relative to the direct Calving Ease of the animal. Higher values are more favourable.

CALVING EASE MATERNAL (CE-M)

Reported as the percentage of extra unassisted births in first calving heifers, relative to the average. CE-M is relative to the Calving Ease of the daughters of the animal. Higher values are more favourable.

MILK

Reported as kilograms of weaning weight of progeny from the animals daughters, relative to the average. Predicts the difference in maternal production of daughters relative to milk production and mothering. Values are relative to the environment of the production system. Low input environments should be very conscious of introducing too much milk due to the increased nutrient requirements that it can place on cows.

MATERNAL WEANING WEIGHT

Reported as kilograms of weaning weight of progeny from the animals daughters, relative to the average. This is a measure of weaning weight differences relative to the combined effects of growth and milk. Breeders who are not looking to change milk production should consider Total Maternal as the most relevant EBV for maternal weaning weights. Higher values are more favourable.

STAYABILITY (STAY)

Reported as the differences in percentage of a sire's offspring that are predicted to still be in the herd at 6 years of age, given that they calved at 2, relative to the average. Stayability is a measure of reproductive longevity. Higher values are more favourable.

DOCILITY

Reported as the percentage of progeny, relative to the average, that will record a score of docile. Higher values are more favourable.

Growth EBVs

BIRTH WEIGHT

Reported in kilograms, it compares the differences in the weight of calves at birth. Cattle with higher BW EPDs are predicted to produce heavier calves.

WEANING WEIGHT – ADJUSTED TO 205 DAYS

Reported in kilograms of weaning weight of direct progeny, relative to the average. Higher values are usually more favourable dependant on its relationship with birthweight.

YEARLING WEIGHT – ADJUSTED TO 365 DAYS

Reported in kilograms of yearling weight of direct progeny, relative to the average. Higher values are usually more favourable dependant on its relationship with birthweight.

600 DAY WEIGHT

Estimate of the genetic difference between animals in live weight at 600 days of age



Carcase EBVs

– Adjusted To 475 Days Of Age

CARCASE WEIGHT

Reported as kilograms of Carcase Weight relative to the average. Higher values are usually more favourable, however this is relevant to each producers target market.

RIB EYE AREA

Reported as square centimetres relative to the average. Higher values are usually more favourable.

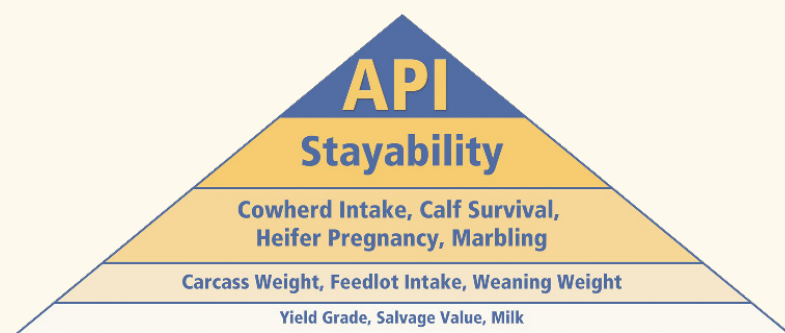
FAT

Reported as millimetres of back fat relative to the average. Higher values are usually more favourable, however this requires a balance between adequate doing ability in daughters and carcase fat thresholds for target markets.

MARBLE SCORE

Reported as the differences in actual carcase marble scores relative to the average. This is different to IMF% which is used as an indicator trait in Marble Score. Higher values are more favourable.

PURPOSE \$INDEX (API)



Though EBVs allow for the comparison of genetic levels for many economically important traits, they only provide a piece of the economic puzzle. That's where \$ Indexes come in. Through well conceived, rigorous mathematical computation, \$ Indexes blend EBV's and economics to estimate an animal's overall impact on your bottom line. The All Purpose \$Index (API) evaluates sires for use on the entire cow herd, bred to both first-calf heifers and mature cows, with the portion of their daughters required to maintain herd size retained and the remaining heifers and steers put onto feed and marketed for both quality grade and yield.

Terminal Index (TI)

Evaluates sire for use on mature cows with all offspring put on feed and sold grade and yield

UNDERSTANDING ACCURACIES

BOLT EBV accuracies have experienced the most change, usually lowering numerically and especially for non-parent animals, however the reported accuracy will be more accurate. Accuracy refers to the amount a reported EBV can possibly change as more data is added. EBV values with higher accuracy result in less possible change for the value over time. More accurate accuracies better represent the amount of possible change for each EBV.

