



Estimated Breeding Value

TIP SHEET



What are EBVs

- An estimate of an animal's genetic merit as a parent for a specific trait.
 - On average, half of this difference will be passed on to the animal's progeny.
- It is just an estimate, an animal's true breeding value for a trait will never be known.
 - As more information becomes available, the accuracy of the EBV increases and the more likely it is to be a prediction of the animal's true breeding value.
 - Furthermore, the higher the EBV accuracy, the lower the likelihood that the EBV will change as more information is analysed for that animal, its progeny or its relatives.
- EBVs are expressed as the difference between an individual animal's genetics and the genetic base to which the animal is compared.
- EBVs are reported in the units in which the measurements are taken.
- It should be noted that the optimal level of each EBV will depend on the specific breeding objective and correlations between traits should be kept in mind.
- EBVs are breed and run specific, thus EBVs cannot be compared across breeds and only EBVs generated within a specific month's BREEDPLAN run can be compared
- Across country comparisons in the same breed is only possible with a combined genetic evaluation.

What info is used in BREEDPLAN to derive EBVs

- Pedigree Performance Data
- Own Performance Data
- Progeny Performance Data
- Genomic Information (if breed has a Single-Step BREEDPLAN run)

How often are EBVs updated?

- For most breeds the BREEDPLAN analyses are done monthly, incorporating any new information added to the society's database during that month.
- Please make sure the society's deadline for data submission are met each month, especially if you have an upcoming sale.

Which traits does BREEDPLAN Produce EBV's for?

- It should be noted that EBVs will only be available for a breed if sufficient performance data has been recorded for that trait.
- The full range of EBVs calculated by BREEDPLAN may not be available for each breed society.

Weight	Fertility/ Calving	Carcass	Other
Birth Weight	Scrotal Size	Eye Muscle Area	Docility
Milk	Days to Calving	Fat Depth	Net Feed Intake
200 Day Growth	Gestation Length	Retail Beef Yield	Structural Soundness
400 Day Weight	Calving Ease	Intramuscular Fat	Flight Time
600 Day Weight		Carcass Weight	
Mature Cow Weight		Shear Force	

Where to find EBVs produced from BREEDPLAN

- EBVs for individual animals are available on the EBV Enquiry facility on Internet Solutions/ILROnline, accessed via the LRF (or society) website.
- EBVs are also available on a herd's BREEDPLAN report accessed via Internet Solutions, Download files section.

More Information

- Scan the QR code alongside or click [here](#) for the BREEDPLAN Help Centre
- Recommended further reading (search in the BREEDPLAN Help Centre):
 - Receiving BREEDPLAN EBV Results
 - What is an EBV
 - Understanding EBV Accuracy
 - Comparing EBVs from different Analyses
 - BREEDPLAN guide to Animal Selection

