



NEW GENETIC INDEXES

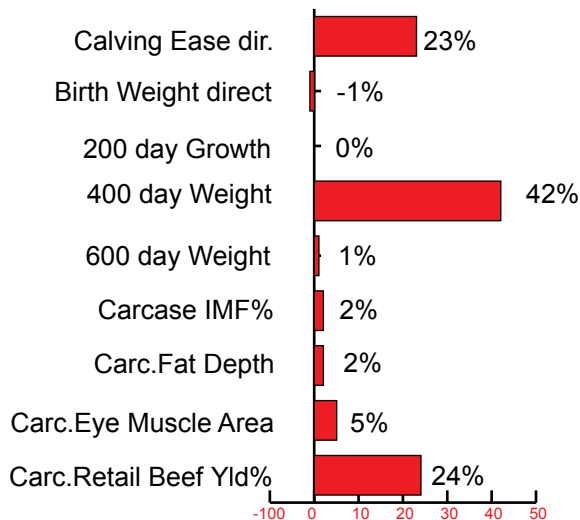
FOR SIMMENTALER BREEDERS

The Simmentaler Breeders' Society have requested new indexes (Breed Object) for Simmentaler. These indexes are in addition to the Feedlot index already published by the Society for Simmentaler since 2008. The three indexes are Feedlot, Grass Fed and Terminal Sire.

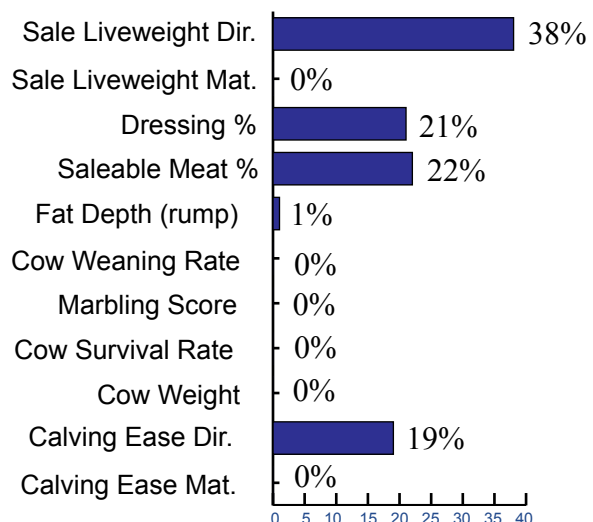
Simmentaler Terminal Sire Index

The Terminal Sire Index estimates the genetic differences between animals in terms of net profitability. For example a commercial crossbred herd where no animals are kept for replacement or breeding purposes. The terminal sires are being mated to moderate weight Bos Indicus/British type cows. Calves are weaned at 7 months (at around 250kg) and then fed extra rations for 120 days to be slaughtered at around 11 months and 430 kg steer live weight. **Significant emphasis is placed on calving ease, 400 day weight and carcass yield.**

Terminal Sire Index – EBV Weightings



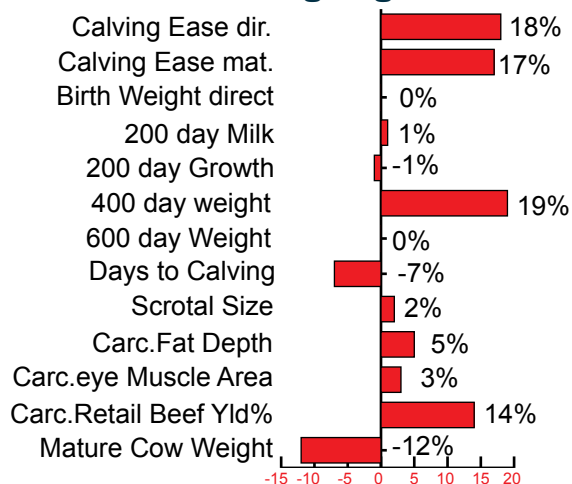
Terminal Sire Index – Profit Drivers



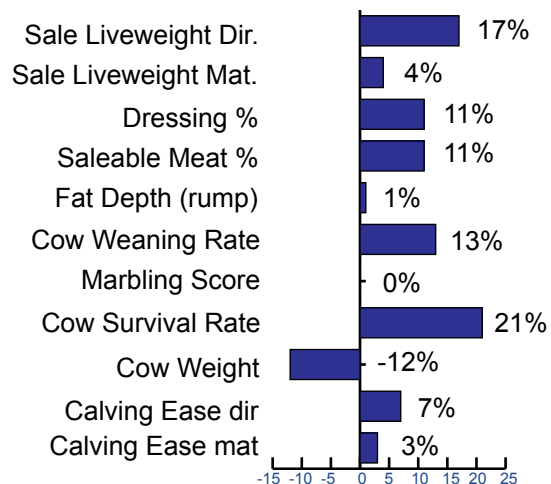
Simmentaler Feedlot Index

The Feedlot Index estimates the genetic differences between animals in terms of net profitability per cow. The Feedlot Index is aimed at a high fertility, self replacing (keeping replacement and breeding progeny) pure bred herd. Calves are weaned at 7 months (at around 250kg) and then steers are fed extra rations for 120 days to be slaughtered at around 11 months and 430kg steer live weight. **Significant emphasis is placed on calving ease, 400 day weight and carcass yield.**

Feedlot Index – EBV Weightings



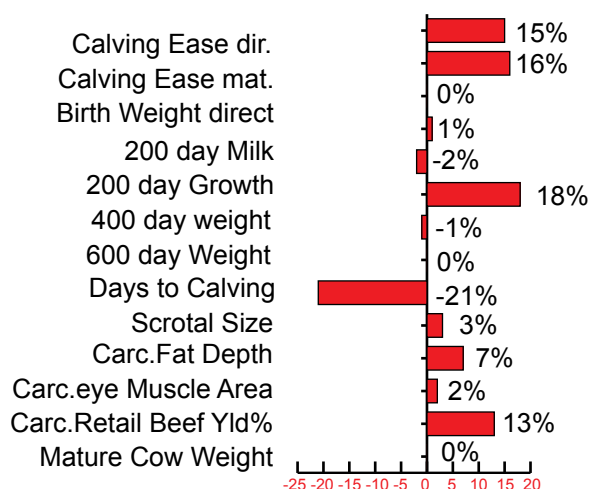
Feedlot Index – Profit Drivers



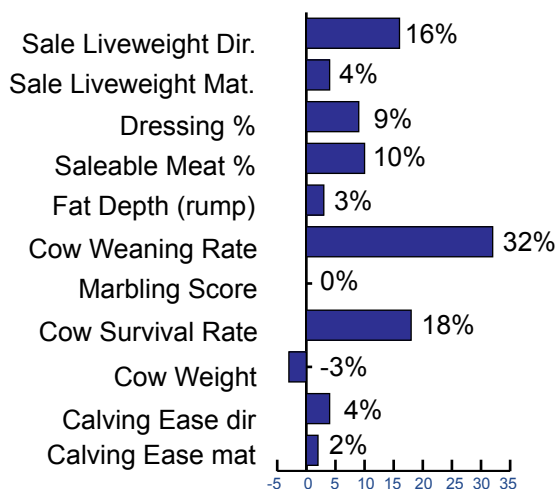
Simmentaler Grass Fed Index

The Grass Fed index is aimed at a self replacing (keeping replacement and breeding progeny) pure bred herd. Calves are weaned at 7 months and then finished off on grass with little extra rations. Steers are slaughtered at around 11 months and 430 kg steer live weight. **Significant emphasis is placed on calving ease, 400 day weight, days to calving and carcass yield.**

Grass Fed Index – EBV Weightings



Grass Fed Index – Profit Drivers



The genetic correlation between Grass Fed index and the Feedlot index is 83%, indicating that different animals may be selected using the different indexes. Herds wishing to maximize genetic progress using these indexes will need to record **calving ease (direct and maternal) and birth weights, 200 and 400 days weights, SS, ultra sound scans, Days to Calving and mature cow weights.** While MC weights are not used in the index directly, they are affected by Days to Calving, 400d weight and fat.

Selection Using Indexes

In index selection, it is very important that as many of the component EBVs are measured as reasonably possible. Limited recording of traits may result in poor selection decisions of future breeding animals.

As with all indices, producers should use the index to rank potential replacement animals and then consider the component EBVs of those animals in respect to their own breeding objectives – and select those animals that have component EBVs that meet these breeding objectives. Selection should also consider non-EBV aspects of the animal such as structure, temperament, etc.

The numerically strongest dual-purpose breed in the world - dual purpose... owing to its top milk and beef production... hence the motto: “Feed the world”. Emphasis on either its beef or milk characteristics varies from country to country depending on the prevailing economical and/or environmental demands.