

Breeding Program Review Exercise – Maximising Genetic Progress in Your Herd

This exercise has been designed to help you to use the information in your TakeStock report to identify areas where changes can be made to increase the rate of genetic progress being made by your herd.

When completing these exercises, use the Selection Index(es) that you think is (are) most relevant to you and your clients.

Exercise 1 - Summary of TakeStock Report

Fill in the blanks for the following statements based on the information contained in your TakeStock report.

1. The genetic progress of my herd in Period 2 was _____ per year, which ranked me in the _____ percentile of the breed.
2. The average Index value of the animals born in my herd during Period 2 is _____, which ranked me in the _____ percentile of the breed.

Exercise 2 – Relative Strengths of Herd

Based on the factors that explain significant differences in the rate of genetic progress being made by different herds (ie. KPIs), my breeding program is performing well in the areas of:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Exercise 3 – Relative Weaknesses of Herd

Based on the factors that explain significant differences in the rate of genetic progress being made by different herds (ie. KPIs), my breeding program is not performing as well in the areas of:

1. -----
2. -----
3. -----
4. -----
5. -----

Exercise 4 – Changes to improve my rate of Genetic Progress

Based on the answers to Exercises 3 & 4, and any other variables in my TakeStock report :

Can I increase the rate of genetic progress in my herd? Yes / No

What changes will I make to increase the rate of genetic progress in my herd?

1. -----

2. -----

3. -----

4. -----

5. -----

Prioritising Your Action Plan

What are the two things that I could do that would give me the greatest gains?

1. -----
2. -----

If I were to do a single thing to improve my rate of genetic progress, what do I need to do? In choosing this action consider cost : benefit ratio and risk versus potential returns.

1. -----
