

Understanding Carcase Weight EBVs

Calving Ease Dir (%)	Calving Ease Dis (%)	200	400	600	Mat.	Milk (kg)	Scrotal Size (cm)	Days to Calving (%)	Carcase Wt. (kg)	Eye Muscle Area (sq. cm)	Rib Fat (mm)	Rump Fat (mm)	Retail Beef Yield (%)	IME (%)	NFI-P (kg/day)	NFI-F (kg/day)	Docility	Angus Breeding Index	Domestic Index	Heavy Grain Index	Heavy Grass Index		
+4.6	+6.99%							-3.1	+42	+4.1	+1.7	+2.0	-0.7	+1.3	+0.35	+1.05	+25	+\$ 77	+\$ 88	+\$ 65	+\$ 83		
+3.2	+2.98%					+21	+1.7	-6.7	+21	+4.9	+1.3	+1.2	+0.2	+2.7						+\$ 113	+\$ 139	+\$ 119	
+0.7	-2.98%					+18	+2.8	-5.1	+26	+3.5	+1.3	+2.1	-1.1	+3.6						+\$ 96	+\$ 120	+\$ 97	
+1.0	+1.3					+30	+3.4	-5.4	+31	+9.4	+0.1	+0.5								+\$ 120	+\$ 165	+\$ 126	
+5.9	+6.2	-9.9	+3.2	+51	+93	+123	+142	+10	+2.4	-12.0	+74									+\$ 164	+\$ 132	+\$ 194	+\$ 144
+3.3									+6.7	+4.1	+1.4	+1.0								+\$ 7			

Carcase Weight EBVs are estimates of genetic differences between animals in hot standard carcase weight at 750 days of age.

Higher Carcase Weight EBVs indicate the animal is expected to produce progeny with heavier carcase weights.

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Carcase Weight EBVs are calculated from the hot standard carcase weight of animals between 300 and 1000 days of age, and/ or genomic information where available, and are expressed in kilogram units.

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Using Carcase Weight EBVs to Compare the Genetics of Two Animals

Carcase Weight EBVs can be used to estimate the expected difference in hot standard carcase weight of progeny from two animals at 750 days of age, with the expected difference equating to half the difference in the Carcase Weight EBV of the animals, all other things being equal (e.g. they are joined to the same animal/s).

For example, a bull with a Carcase Weight EBV of +70 kg would be expected to produce progeny that have on average, 10 kg heavier carcasses when slaughtered at 750 days of age than a bull with a Carcase Weight EBV of +50 kg (i.e. 20 kg difference between the sire's EBVs, then halved as the sire only contributes half the genetics).

Using Carcase Weight EBVs to Benchmark an Animal's Genetics with the Breed

Similarly, Carcase Weight EBVs can be used to benchmark

an animal's genetics for carcase weight relative to other Angus animals in Australia and New Zealand.

To benchmark an animal's genetics relative to other Angus animals, an animal's Carcase Weight EBV can be compared to:

- the breed average EBV
- the percentile table

The current breed average and percentile table for Carcase Weight can be found on the Angus Australia website, or they are normally listed in most BREEDPLAN reports, sale and semen catalogues.

Considering Accuracy

An accuracy value is published in association with each Carcase Weight EBV, which is usually displayed as a percentage value immediately below the EBV.

The accuracy value provides an indication of the reliability of the EBV in estimating the animal's genetics for weight (or true breeding value), and is an indication of the amount of information that has been used in the calculation of the EBV.

Carcase Weight EBVs with accuracy values below 50% should be considered as preliminary or of low accuracy, 50-74% as of medium accuracy, 75-90% of medium to high accuracy, and 90% or greater as high accuracy.

For further information, please contact staff at:

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