

Understanding Rib Fat EBVs

Calving Ease Dir (%)	Calving Ease Dtrs (%)	Gestation Length (days)	Birth Wt. (kg)	200 Day Wt. (kg)	400 Day Wt. (kg)	600 Day Wt. (kg)	Mat. Cow Wt. (kg)	Milk	Scrotal Size	Days to Calving (days)	Carcass 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 99%	+6.1 97%	-5.2 99%	+2.1 99%								+42 98%	+4.1 98%	+1.7 98%	+2.0 98%	-0.7 98%	+1.3 98%	+0.35 98%	+1.05 98%	+25 98%		88	+\$ 65	+\$ 83
+3.2 98%	+2.0 96%	-9.8 99%	+2.2 99%								+21 98%	+4.9 97%	+1.3 98%	+1.2 98%	+0.7 97%	+1.3 98%	+0.35 98%	+1.05 98%	+25 98%		13	+\$ 139	+\$ 119
+0.7 98%	-2.9 96%	-0.3 99%	+3.1 99%								+26 98%	+3.5 98%	+1.3 98%	+2.1 98%	-1.1 98%	+3.6 98%	+0.35 98%	+1.05 98%	+25 98%		96	+\$ 120	+\$ 97
+1.0 98%	+1.3 94%	-5.0 99%	+3.6 99%								+31 98%	+9.4 97%	+0.1 97%	+0.5 98%	+0.4 96%	+4.0 97%	+0.35 98%	+1.05 98%	+25 98%		120	+\$ 165	+\$ 126
+5.9 98%	+6.2 93%	-9.9 99%	+3.2 99%	+51 99%	+93 99%	+123 99%	+142 99%	+10 98%	+2.4 99%	-12.0 92%	+74 98%	+5.0 97%	-0.2 97%	+0.7 98%	-0.5 96%	+3.2 97%	+0.24 91%	+0.43 91%	+7 99%	+\$ 164	+\$ 132	+\$ 194	+\$ 144
+3.3 98%	+6.1 97%	-5.2 99%	+4.7 99%	+5 99%	+93 99%	+123 99%	+127 99%	+10 98%	+2.4 99%	-12.0 92%	+74 98%	+5.0 97%	-0.2 97%	+0.7 98%	-0.5 96%	+3.2 97%	+0.24 91%	+0.43 91%	+7 99%	+\$ 164	+\$ 132	+\$ 194	+\$ 144

Rib Fat EBVs are estimates of genetic differences between animals in fat depth at the 12/13th rib site in a 400 kg carcasse.

Higher Rib Fat EBVs indicate the animal is expected to produce progeny with greater fat depth in a 400 kg carcasse.

Rib Fat EBVs are estimates of genetic differences between animals in fat depth at the 12/13th rib site in a 400 kg carcasse.

Rib Fat EBVs are calculated by measuring the fat depth at the 12/13th rib site via either live animal ultrasound scanning or direct measurement of carcasses in the abattoir, and/ or genomic information where available. Rib Fat EBVs are expressed in millimetre units.

Higher Rib Fat EBVs indicate the animal is expected to produce progeny with greater fat depth in a 400 kg carcasse.

Using Rib Fat EBVs to Compare the Genetics of Two Animals

Rib Fat EBVs can be used to estimate the expected difference in the fat depth of progeny from two animals, with the expected difference equating to half the difference in the Rib Fat 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 Rib Fat EBV of -1.4 would be expected to produce calves with on average, 1.5 mm less rib fat in a 400 kg carcasse than a bull with a Rib Fat EBV of +1.6 (i.e. 3 mm difference between the sire's EBVs, then halved as the sire only contributes half the genetics).

Using Rib Fat EBVs to Benchmark an Animal's Genetics with the Breed

Similarly, Rib Fat EBVs can be used to benchmark an

animal's genetics for rib fat relative to other Angus animals in Australia and New Zealand.

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

- the breed average EBV
- the percentile table

The current breed average and percentile table for Rib Fat 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 Rib Fat 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 Rib Fat (or true breeding value), and is an indication of the amount of information that has been used in the calculation of the EBV.

Rib Fat 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:

Angus Australia
Phone: 02 6773 4600
Email: office@angusaustralia.com.au
Website: www.angusaustralia.com.au

