Understanding Rump Fat EBVs

CE Dir	CE Dtrs	GL	BWT	200	400	600	MCW	Milk	P8	RBY	IMF	FA	FC	RA	RH	RS
-11.3 (96%)	-10.4 (90%)	+0.0 (99%)	+6.0 (99%)	+52 (99%)	+91 (99%)	+112 (99%)	+107 (98%)	+1 (98)	-0.7 (96%)	+2.9 (95%)	+1.7 (95%)	+9 (89%)	-2 (89%)	-11 (83%)	+4.8 (58%)	-0.8 (67%)
-6.1 (99%)	-11.1 (97%)	-2.3 (99%)	+6.0 (99%)	+50 (99%)	+85 (99%)	+120 (99%)	+111 (99%)	+1 (99)	-1.4 (98%)	+0.6 (98%)	+4.3 (98%)	+16 (98%)	+8 (98%)	+12 (96%)	+1.5 (91%)	+0.4 (94%)
+4.2 (98%)	+4.9 (96%)	-5.5 (99%)	+1.7 (99%)	+49 (99%)	+88 (99%)	+112 (99%)	+66 (99%)	+2 (99%)	+0.2 (97%)	+0.2 (96%)	+3.4 (96%)	+11 (96%)	-4 (96%)	-9 (93%)	-23.7 (84%)	+0.3 (89%)
+3.6 (85%)	-0.2 (73%)	-4.4 (99%)	+2.3 (99%)	+48 (98%)		-2	+0.53	+80	+0.5 (86%)	+0.0 (81%)	+3.2 (85%)	-26 (46%)	-22 (45%)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
-7.7 (98%)	-15.5 (96%)	-5.3 (99%)	+8.0 (99%)	+56 (99%)		+40 (97%)	+0.30 (95%)	+85 (98%)	-6.3 (98%)	+2.0 (97%)	+2.1 (97%)	+26 (75%)	+26 (84%)	+10 (65%)	+3.1 (38%)	-0.8 (60%)
-0.3 (99%)	-0.3 (97%)	-4.8 (99%)	+4.0 (99%)	+50 (99%)		+11 (99%)	+0.26 (96%)	+84 (98%)	-1.5 (98%)	+1.7 (98%)	+1.9 (98%)	+7 (97%)	+24 (97%)	+16 (93%)	+2.7 (83%)	-1.3 (90%)
+2.8 (98%)	-0.9 (96%)	-2.7 (99%)	+2.6 (99%)	+30 (99%)		+26 (96%)	+0.44 (94%)	+40 (98%)	+1.1 (98%)	-0.9 (97%)	+2.3 (97%)	-4 (84%)	+0 (82%)	+4 (72%)	+1.9 (51%)	-0.6 (64%)

Rump Fat EBVs are estimates of genetic differences between animals in fat depth at the P8 rump site in a 400 kg carcase.

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

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Rump Fat EBVs are calculated by measuring the fat depth at the P8 rump site (located at the intersection of the line from the high bone with a line from the inside of the pin bone) via either live animal ultrasound scanning or direct measurement of carcases in the abattoir, and/ or genomic information where available. Rump Fat EBVs are expressed in millimetre units.

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Using Rump Fat EBVs to Compare the Genetics of Two Animals

Rump 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 Rump 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 Rump Fat EBV of -0.6 would be expected to produce calves with on average, 1 mm less rump fat in a 400 kg carcase than a bull with a Rump Fat EBV of +1.4 mm (i.e. 2 mm difference between the sire's EBVs, then halved as the sire only contributes half the genetics).

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

Similarly, Rump Fat EBVs can be used to benchmark an animal's genetics for rump 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 Rump Fat EBV can be compared to:

- the breed average EBV
- the percentile table

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

Rump 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:

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