



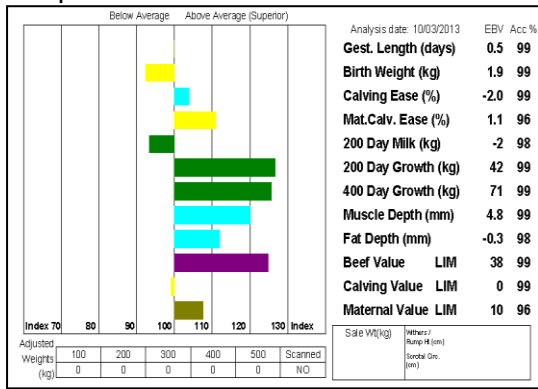
LIMOUSIN PERFORMANCE RECORDING

New Presentation of Limousin Fat Depth EBV

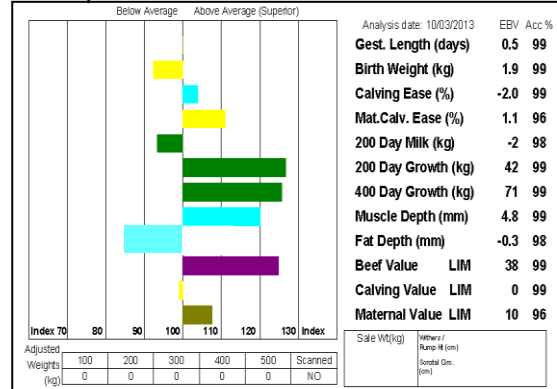
From 1st April this year, the orientation of the Fat Depth EBV on the bar charts used to present Limousin EBVs is changing. Bar charts have been used at sales and events for some years now and are well-received by industry, but the direction of the bar representing the Fat Depth EBV has been an area of regular debate. Genetically leaner animals have traditionally been reported as above average or ‘superior’ and genetically fatter animals as below average or ‘inferior’. Producers recognise that in practice they require livestock with an optimum level of fatness and that this optimum varies according to farm and system.

The change taking place will reverse the direction of the Fat Depth bar on all charts. This is to help producers tailor the genetic merit of the livestock they are selecting for their herd’s circumstances. Genetically fatter animals’ EBVs will be presented as ‘above average’ (lying to the right of the central line) and genetically leaner animals will be presented as ‘below average’ (lying to the left). An example is as follows:

Old presentation



New presentation



Producers see this step as logical – with “more fat” being presented on the same side of the chart as “more growth”, “more muscle” and “more milk” etc. The breed benchmark will also change, but breeding indexes such as the Beef Value, Calving Value and Maternal Value are unaffected by this change. The move is consistent with presentation of the same EBV by the British Charolais Cattle Society and all Signet-recorded sheep and beef breeds.

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