



## LIMOUSIN PERFORMANCE RECORDING

### What Performance Records Do I Need to Collect & What Do I Do with Them?

Fourteen EBVs are currently reported by the Taurus Data Limousin Performance Recording scheme. Records feed in to these from two main sources; those derived from measurements taken on-farm and those derived from registration information.

Breeders participating in the scheme are required to record & submit the on-farm measurements. Records that come from registration information do so automatically from the Taurus Data database and no breeder input is required to include them in the evaluation. Taking each in turn:

#### Records Collected On-Farm & Breeder-Submitted to Taurus Data

**Breeder signs up on Taurus Data**  
([www.taurusdata.co.uk](http://www.taurusdata.co.uk)) to start  
Performance Recording  
(click 'Enter New Performance  
Records')

**Weigh calves aged 70-530 days.** To  
see a list of these go to  
[www.taurusdata.co.uk](http://www.taurusdata.co.uk) - My Page –  
Enter New Performance Records –  
Heifer (or male) Measurements – Go.  
This can be printed by clicking 'Export to  
pdf' then print in usual way.

#### **All calves should ideally be weighed quarterly.**

Many breeders find the following programme convenient...

- Weighing at turnout in the spring – when calves are already being handled
- Weighing (what is easily available) mid-Summer
- Weighing at housing in the Autumn – again when calves are being handled
- Weighing half way through the Winter when calves are easier to access

**Enter your new weights on to Taurus Data:** [www.taurusdata.co.uk](http://www.taurusdata.co.uk) - My Page – Enter New Performance Records – Heifer (or male) Measurements – Go. Complete the

records and click 'Submit'.

Scrotal Measurements and Docility Scores for yearlings if available can also be entered<sup>1</sup>.

In the same way, enter any previous weights for your animals recorded earlier in the year – if available.

**Your quarterly programme has now commenced.** To receive email and text reminders about future weighing go to My Page, click 'Herd Preferences' then set them accordingly. If you want mobile text reminders, please check we have your current mobile phone number on file (call the Lim office on 02476 696500 to check)

**To add Muscle and Backfat Scanning data (optional)<sup>1</sup>**, please contact your local scanning technician (see <http://limousin.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/5.-Muscle-and-Backfat-Scanning.pdf> for details)

**To check measurements you have added** for your animals at any time, go to My Page and click 'Enter New Performance Records'. The calendar highlights all dates where performance records for your animals have been added to Taurus Data. Click on any of these to see the data added on that particular day.

**In summary**, breeders are asked to submit the following records for their animals (those marked \* are the minimum required)...

Quarterly calf weighings\* – animals 70 to 530 days of age  
Muscle and Backfat scanning – animals 350 to 530 days of age  
Docility – animals 350 – 530 days of age  
Scrotal Circumference – animals 350 to 530 days of age

<sup>1</sup>Further information on muscle and backfat scanning, docility and scrotal circumference can be found on the Limousin website [www.limousin.co.uk/performance-recording/my-herd](http://www.limousin.co.uk/performance-recording/my-herd).

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## Records Automatically Collected from Registration Information on Taurus Data

The following EBVs are derived from records that are collected automatically from calf registration information...

Birthweight (kg)	Actual or estimated birthweight taken within 48 hours of birth can be recorded at the point of calf registration. Actual measurements are used in the EBV evaluation. Handler safety should be paramount when considering adding these records to your file.
Gestation Length (days)	This information is collected from AI certificates and calf date of birth.
Calving Ease (Direct) (%)	Calving ease is scored on a 1-5 basis and is required when registering a calf. Provision is made for calvings that are genuinely unknown eg a reliable record has not been made at the time of calving etc.
Longevity (days)	This information is collected from disposal dates and dates of birth on Taurus Data.
Age at 1 <sup>st</sup> Calving (days)	This information is collected from date of birth and first calving date on Taurus Data.
Calving Interval (days)	This information is collected from the dates between the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> calves recorded on Taurus Data.
Maternal Calving Ease (%)	This information is derived from the Calving Ease records referred to above.

It is important to note that where measurements for an animal don't exist it is still possible to predict EBVs based on the correlations the trait has with other traits that have been measured, as well as what is known about the genetic merit of the animal's relatives for that trait. See the factsheet titled 'How are EBVs Calculated' in the Technical Information section for further information on this.

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