



Using EBVs and Indexes

EBVs are expressed in the same unit as the recorded trait (eg kgs for 400 Day Weight, mm for Muscle Depth etc) are relative to the Limousin Breed Benchmark, which is updated and published annually.

2018 Limousin Breed Benchmark

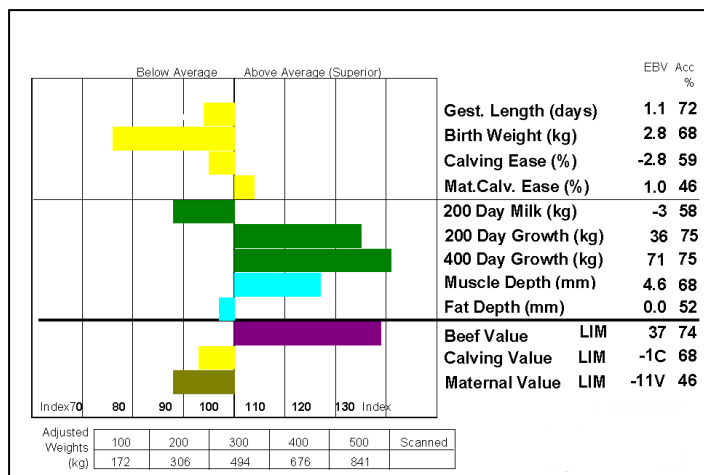
Trait	Bottom			Breed Avge	Top		
	1%	10%	25%		25%	10%	1%
Birth Weight (kg)	4.0	3.1	2.5	1.9	1.3	0.7	-0.3
Calving Ease (%)	-6.3	-4.6	-3.6	-2.5	-1.4	-0.4	1.3
Mat. Calv. Ease (%)	-1.4	-0.8	-0.4	0.1	0.5	0.9	1.6
Gest. Length (days)	4	2	1	0	-1	-2	-3
Calving Value	LM-4C	LM-2C	LM-1C	LM0C	LM2C	LM3C	LM5C
200 Day Growth (kg)	1	11	18	24	31	37	48
400 Day Growth (kg)	1	21	32	45	58	69	89
Muscle Depth (mm)	-0.7	1.0	1.9	3.0	4.1	5.1	6.8
Fat Depth (mm)	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3
Beef Value	LM5	LM14	LM20	LM26	LM32	LM37	LM47
200-Day Milk (kg)	-5	-3	-2	-1	0	1	3
Age 1st Calv. (days)*	46	33	26	18	9	2	-11
Longevity (rel. no calves born to 6.5 yrs)*	-0.13	-0.08	-0.05	-0.02	0.02	0.05	0.10
Calv. Interval (days)*	9	5	2	-1	-3	-6	-10
Calf Survival (% 3 weeks to 10 mths)*	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2
Scrotal Circ. (cm)	-0.5	-0.2	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.1
Docility (%)	-1.1	0.7	1.7	2.8	4.0	5.0	6.7
Carcase Wt (kg)*	-6.1	-1.3	1.6	4.7	7.8	10.6	15.5
Slaught. Age (days)*	21	15	11	7	3	-1	-8
Fillet (kg)*	0.09	0.12	0.14	0.16	0.18	0.20	0.23
Striploin (kg)*	0.11	0.21	0.26	0.32	0.38	0.43	0.52
Topside (kg)*	0.53	0.74	0.86	1.00	1.14	1.26	1.47
Rump (kg)*	0.19	0.29	0.35	0.41	0.47	0.53	0.63
Silverside (kg)*	0.60	0.82	0.94	1.09	1.23	1.36	1.58
Knuckle (kg)*	0.17	0.28	0.34	0.41	0.48	0.54	0.65
Retail Value*	LM12R	LM19R	LM23R	LM27R	LM31R	LM35R	LM41R

* Where animals have been genotyped, the breeding values for these traits will be Genomic Breeding Values (GEBVs). Publication of GEBVs is at animal owners' discretion. If an animal has not been genotyped, the breeding value will be a conventional Estimated Breeding Value (EBV). Whether a breeding value is an EBV or a GEBV is noted alongside each value.

Please note that EBVs and GEBVs are interchangeable for the same trait. For example, an animal with a Calving Interval GEBV can be directly compared to an animal with a Calving Interval EBV. A link to further information on all EBVs and GEBVs is below.

The EBVs and Indexes of any Limousin animal can be compared to this Benchmark to establish its genetic strengths and weaknesses and whether they are suitable for breeding purposes.

EBVs and Indexes are also presented at Bull Sales and other events as bar charts, an example of which follows:



The central vertical line represents Breed Average for each EBV and Index.

Bars lying to the right of this line indicate the EBV/Index is above Breed Average (ie superior) – and the further to the right it is, the higher above Breed Average it is.

In the same manner, bars lying to the left of the line indicate the EBV/Index is below Breed Average (inferior).

Remember:

- To establish just how much influence a bull will pass on to his progeny it is important to remember to halve the value of the EBV, since the other half of a calf's genes comes from the cow.

For example, a bull with a 400-Day Growth EBV of +62 is estimated to have the genetic potential to be 62kg heavier at 400 days of age compared to a bull with an EBV of 0.

Based on their sires genetics, his calves would be expected to be 31kg heavier at that age when compared to calves by a bull with an EBV of 0, since they only inherit half of their growth genes from their sire (the other half coming from their dam).

- Select animals using EBVs that are relevant to your farm, cow type and market
- Consider the traits that will make you most money, but
- Don't forget to check all important traits such as Calving Ease etc

For enquiries contact:
 British Limousin Cattle Society
 Telephone 02476 696500 Email info@limousin.co.uk