

Routine Beef Evaluations update

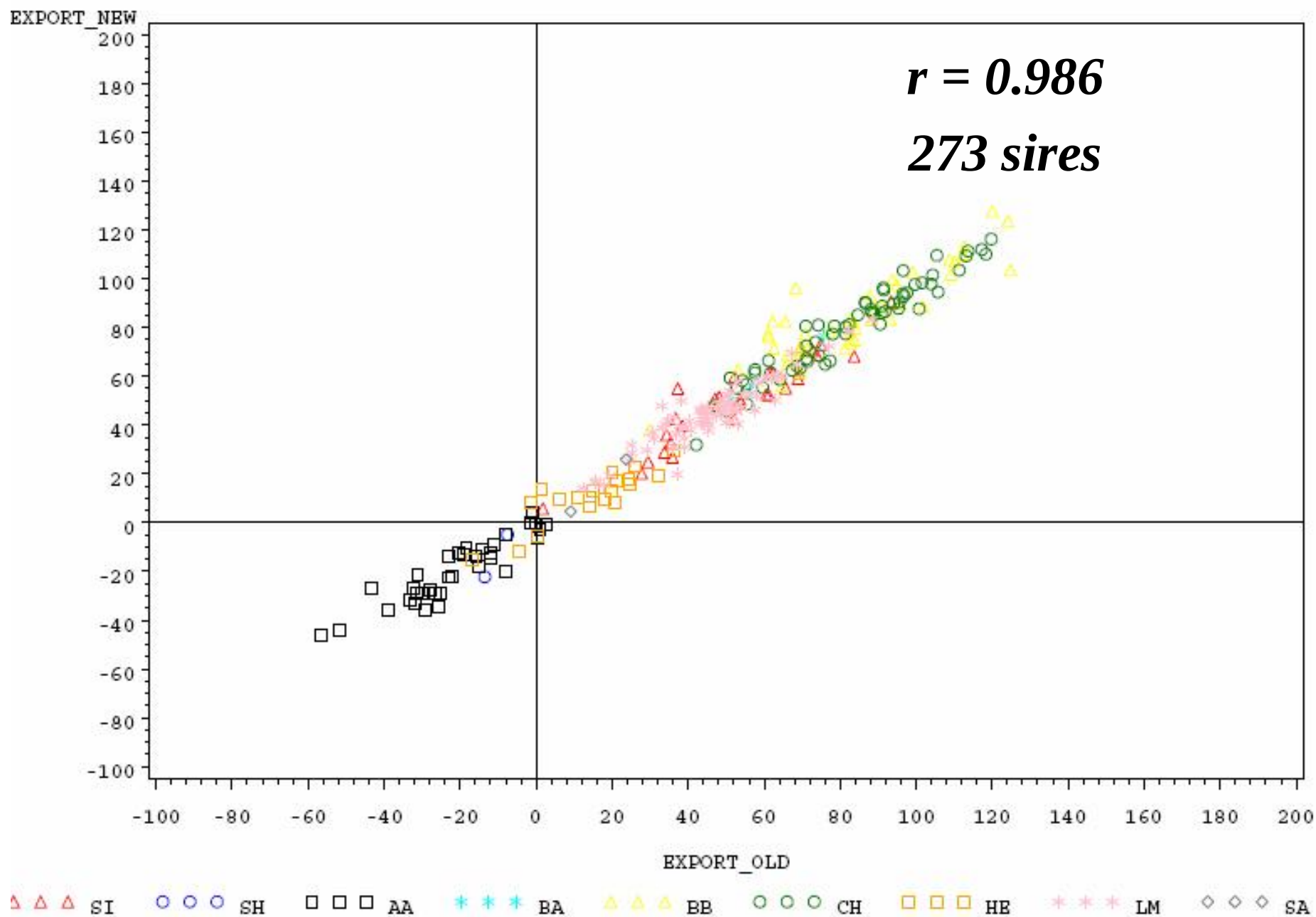
Routine Beef Evaluation

Trait	New records	currentrecs	% increase on previous
Carcass weight	44,961	707,935	7%
Carcass conformation	44,960	707,636	7%
Carcass fat	44,957	707,381	7%
Cull cow weight	19,484	259,746	8%
Weaning weight	29,116	163,948	22%
Liveweight	20,177	144,729	16%
Feed intake	42	3,590	0%
Mart calf quality	35,762	82,971	76%
Linear score	7,032	119,877	6%
Maternal Wean Weight	9,153	63,927	17%
Total	255,644	2,961,740	

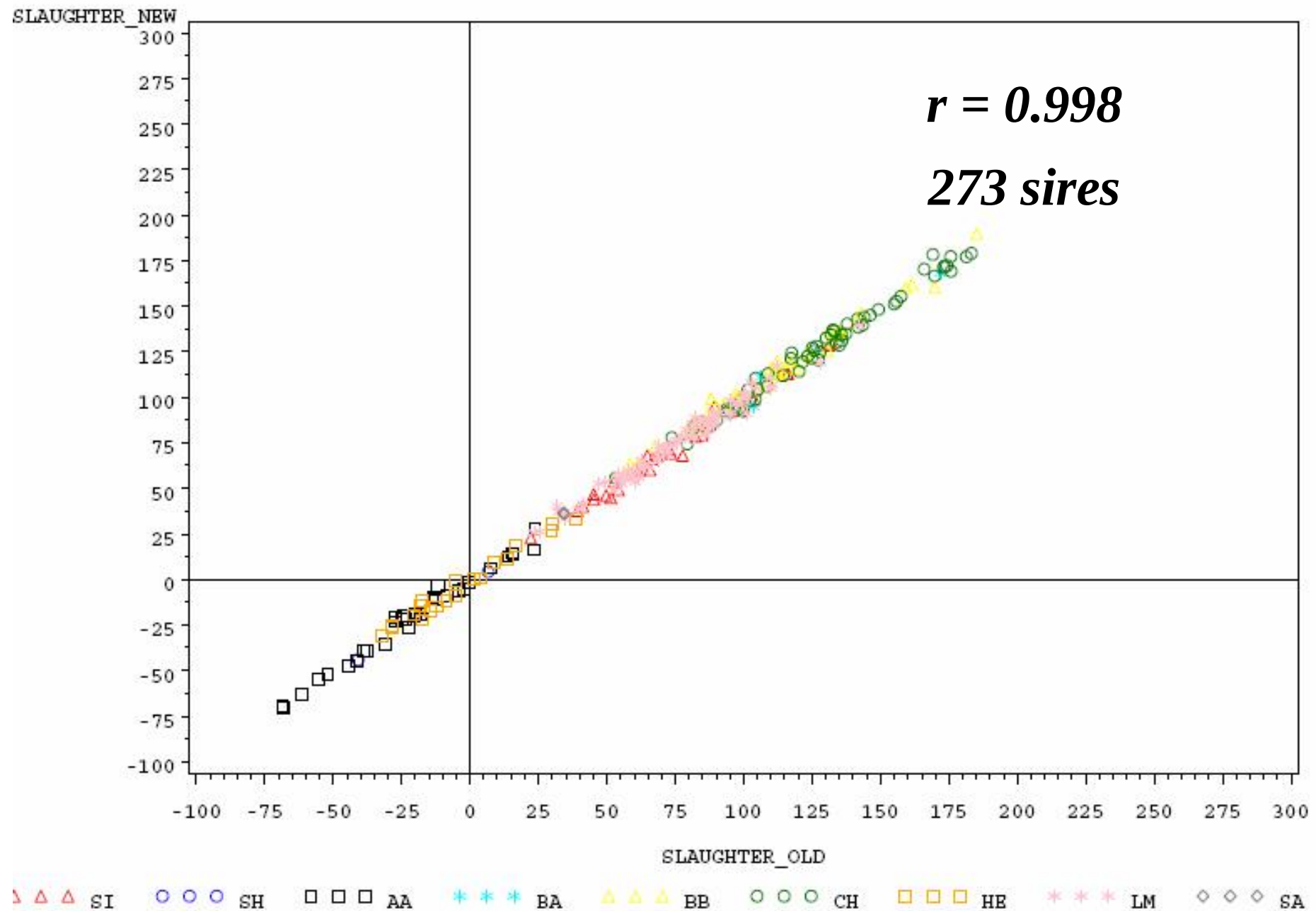
Foreign EBVs additions: Weaning wt & maternal from UK for BB, SI and AA. 25,000 foreign proofs now (+ their parental EBVs)

1.5 million individual animals in total

Alsires Export Index old pd v new pd



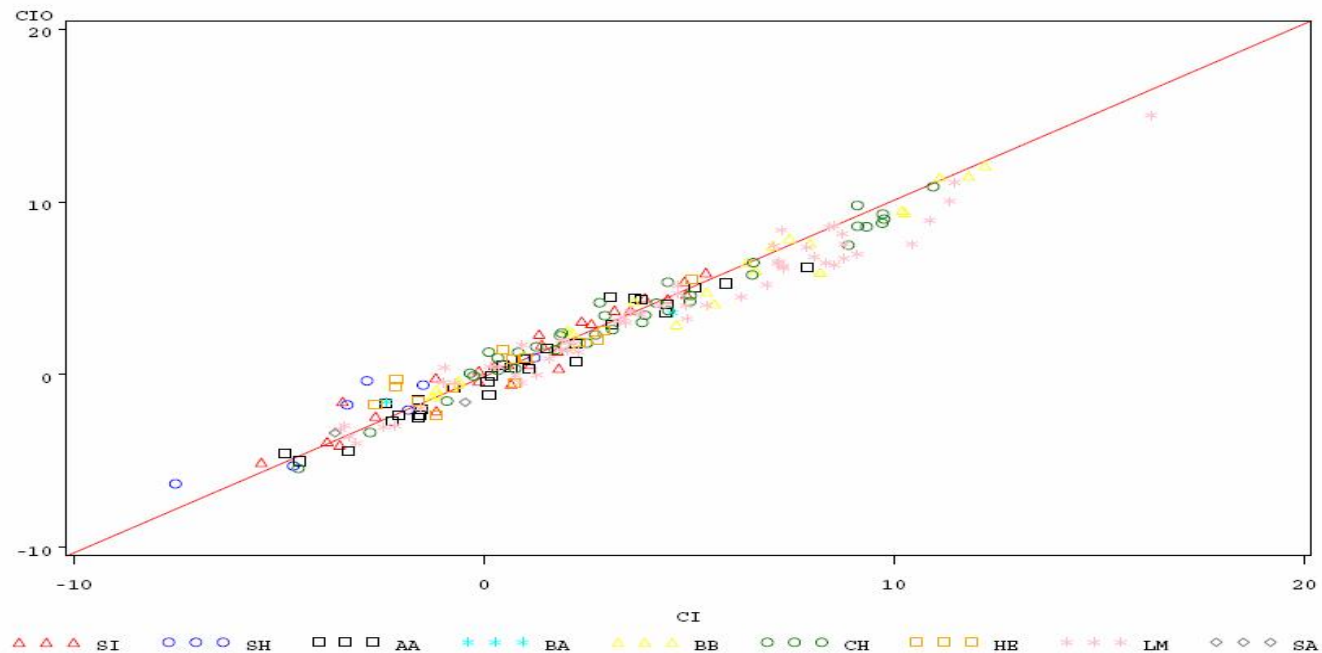
Alsires Carcass Index old pd v new pd



Fertility evaluation

Trait	Aug-09	Jan-10	Extra	% extra
age at 1st calving	354,588	364,651	10,063	3%
calving interval	227,783	233,114	5,331	2%
lifespan	354,587	364,651	10,064	3%
survival	296,305	323,898	27,593	9%

CI previous vs CI new > 40% rel previously



AFC = 0.98

CIV = 0.98

SU = 0.94

new Linear Type Evaluations update

New linear type evaluation

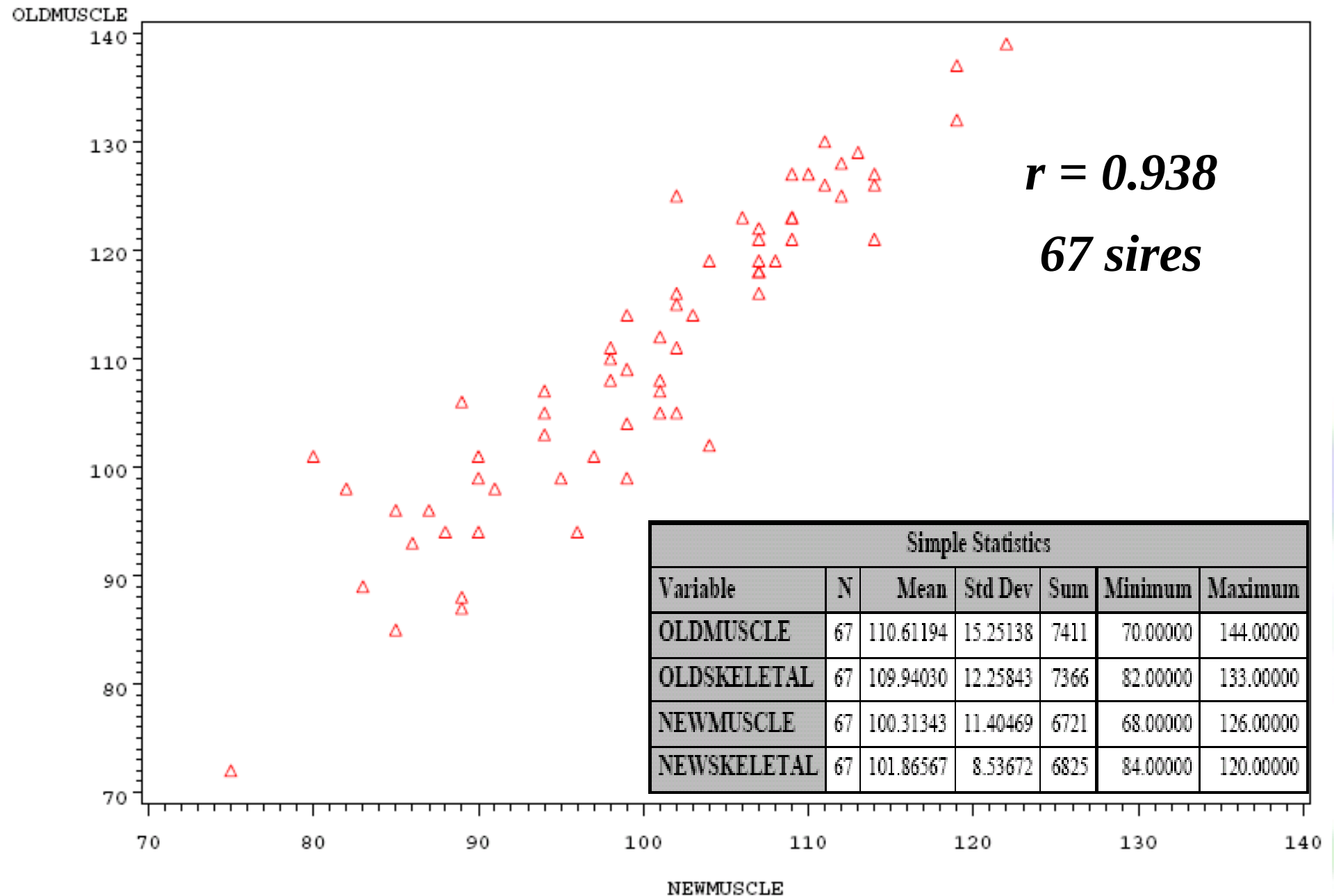
Trait	Records	Extra since Aug 09	Crossbreds
linear score	119,877	7,032	20,294
weaning weight	163,948	29,116	107,743
liveweight	144,729	20,177	84,275
score calf quality	276,907	105,593	244,266

Correlations all over 0.99 for 13 traits evaluated

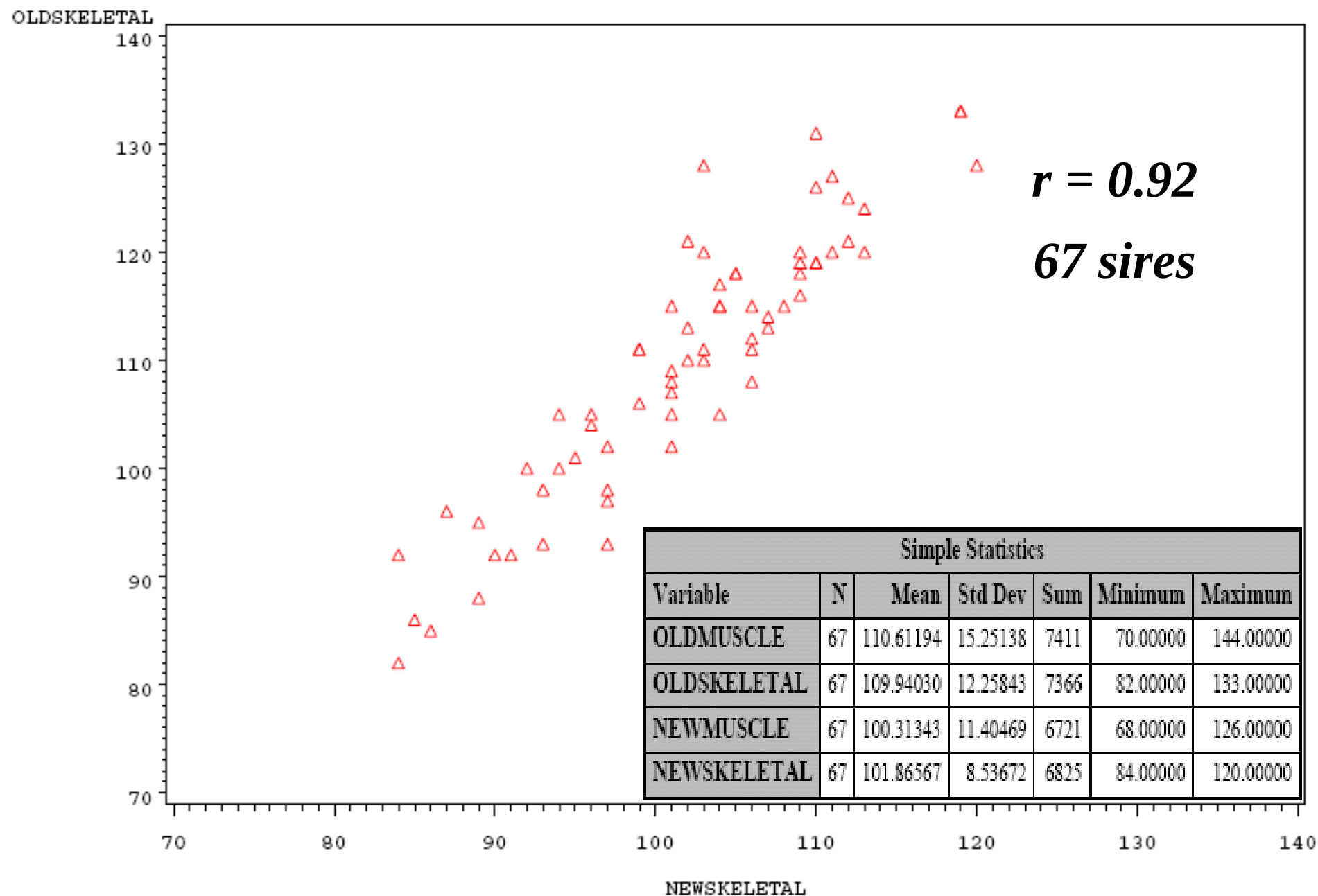
Breed Summary

Breed	No. of Sires over 70% reliability for Muscle	No. of records		age at scoring (days)
		Pedigree records	Crossbred records	
Angus	40	1,544	997	398
Aubrac	22	981	158	357
Blonde D'A	13	557	539	364
Belgian Blue	57	966	3,242	375
Charolais	522	34,806	6,718	340
Hereford	64	2,624	204	398
Limousine	664	44,569	7,897	378
Piemontese	5	301	80	315
Partenaise	5	203	99	307
Saler	16	908	126	368
Shorthorn	3	197	193	348
Simmental	182	9,351	2,250	360

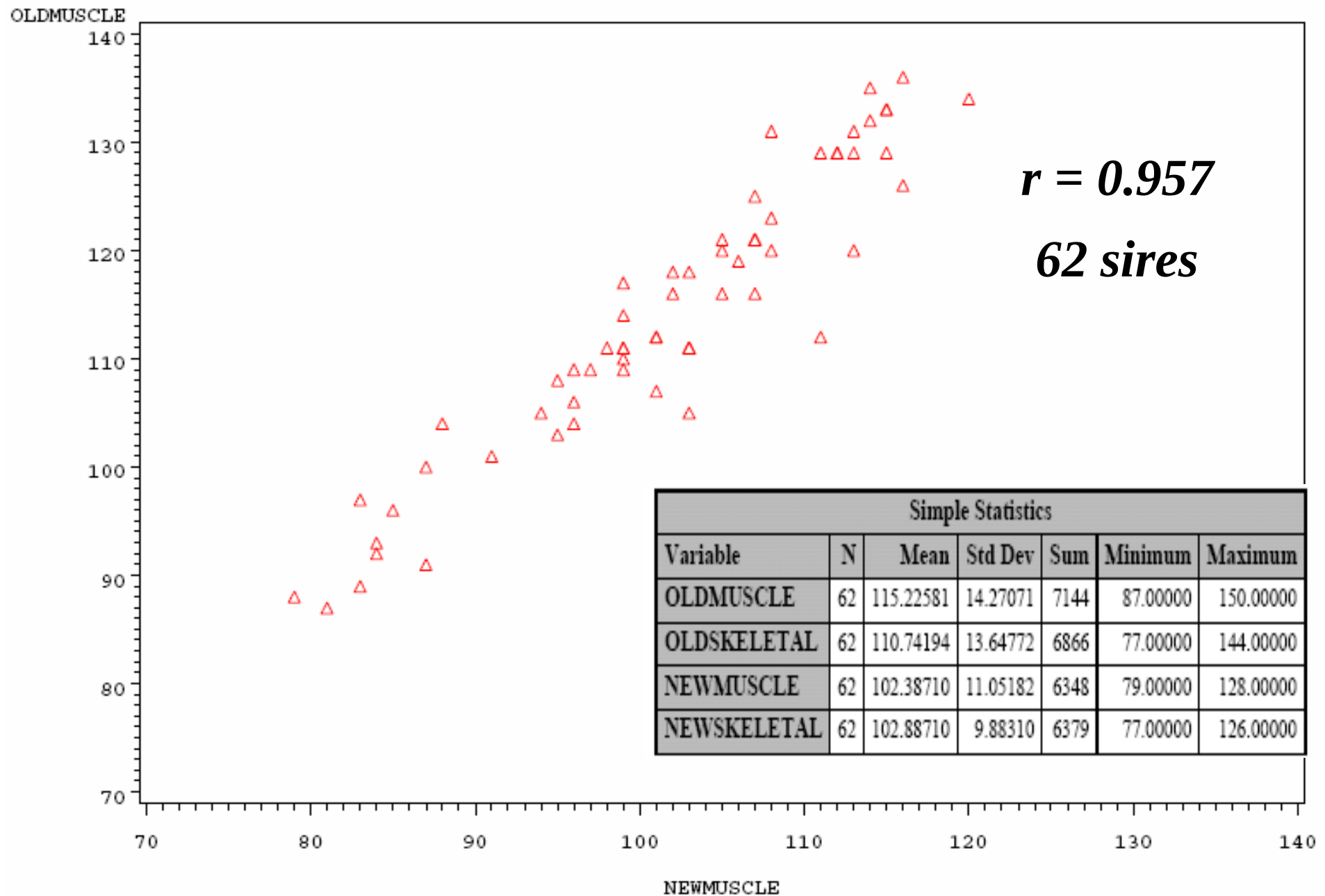
LM old v new BLUP Muscle 90% rel old



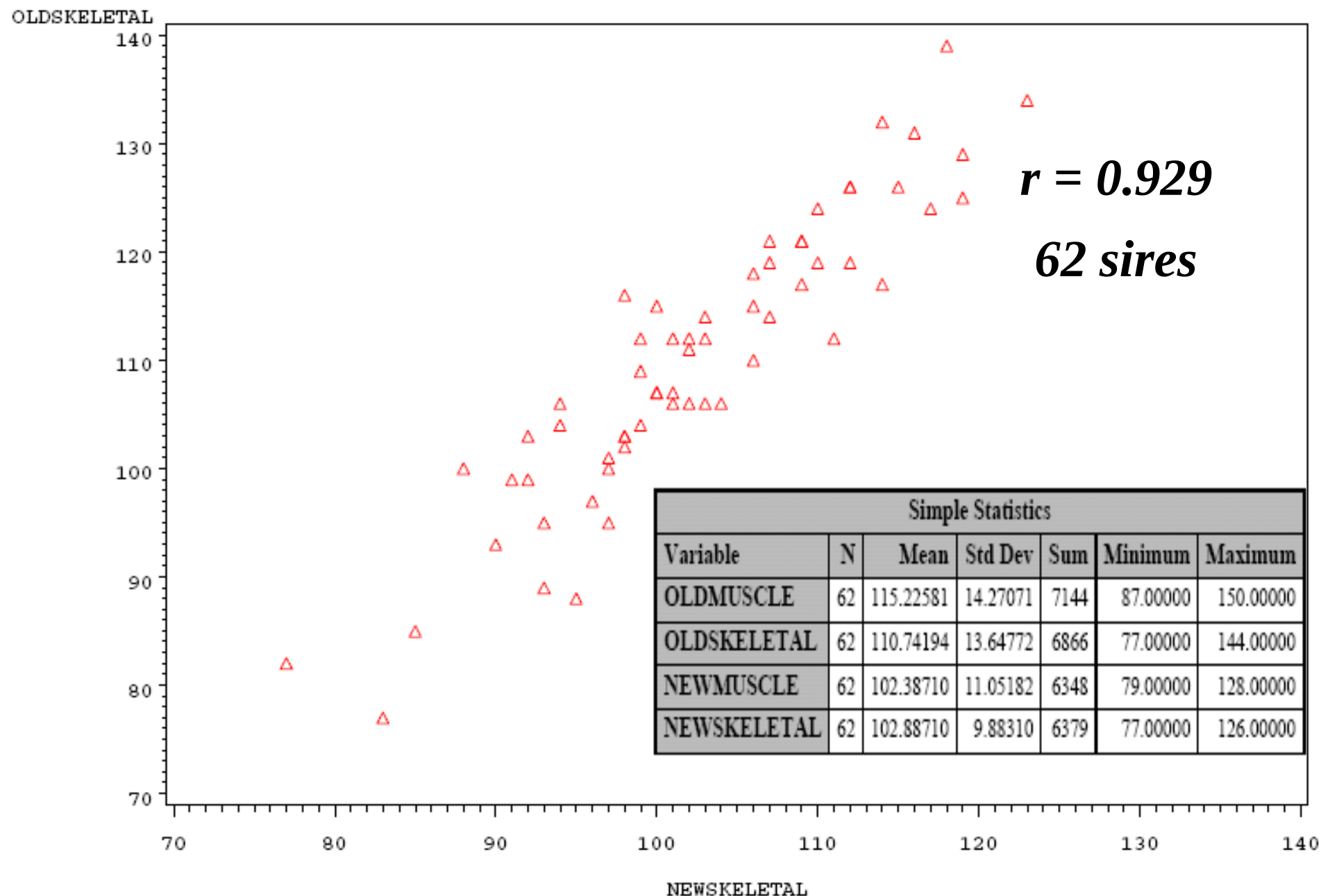
LM old v new BLUP Skeletal 90% rel old



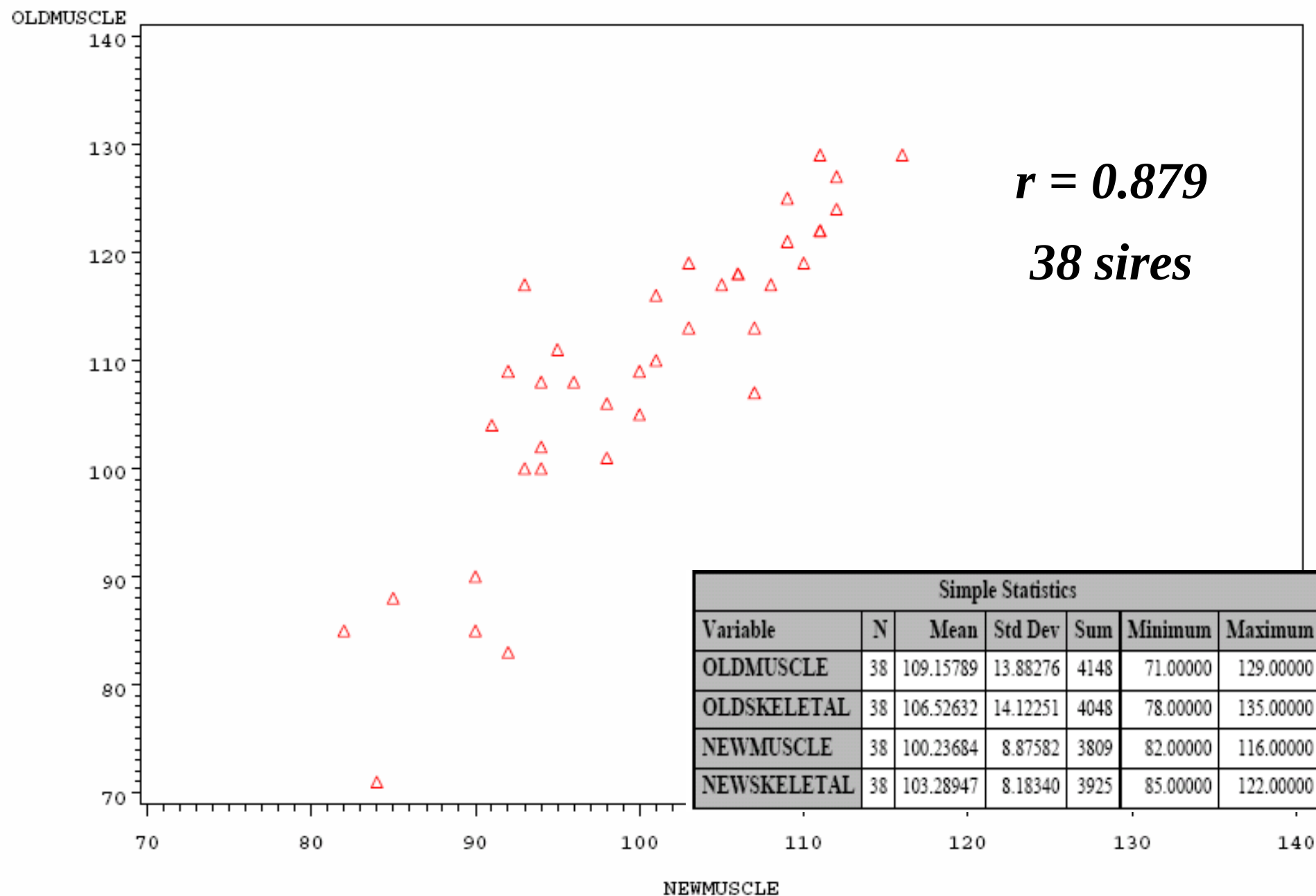
CH old v new BLUP Muscle 90% rel old



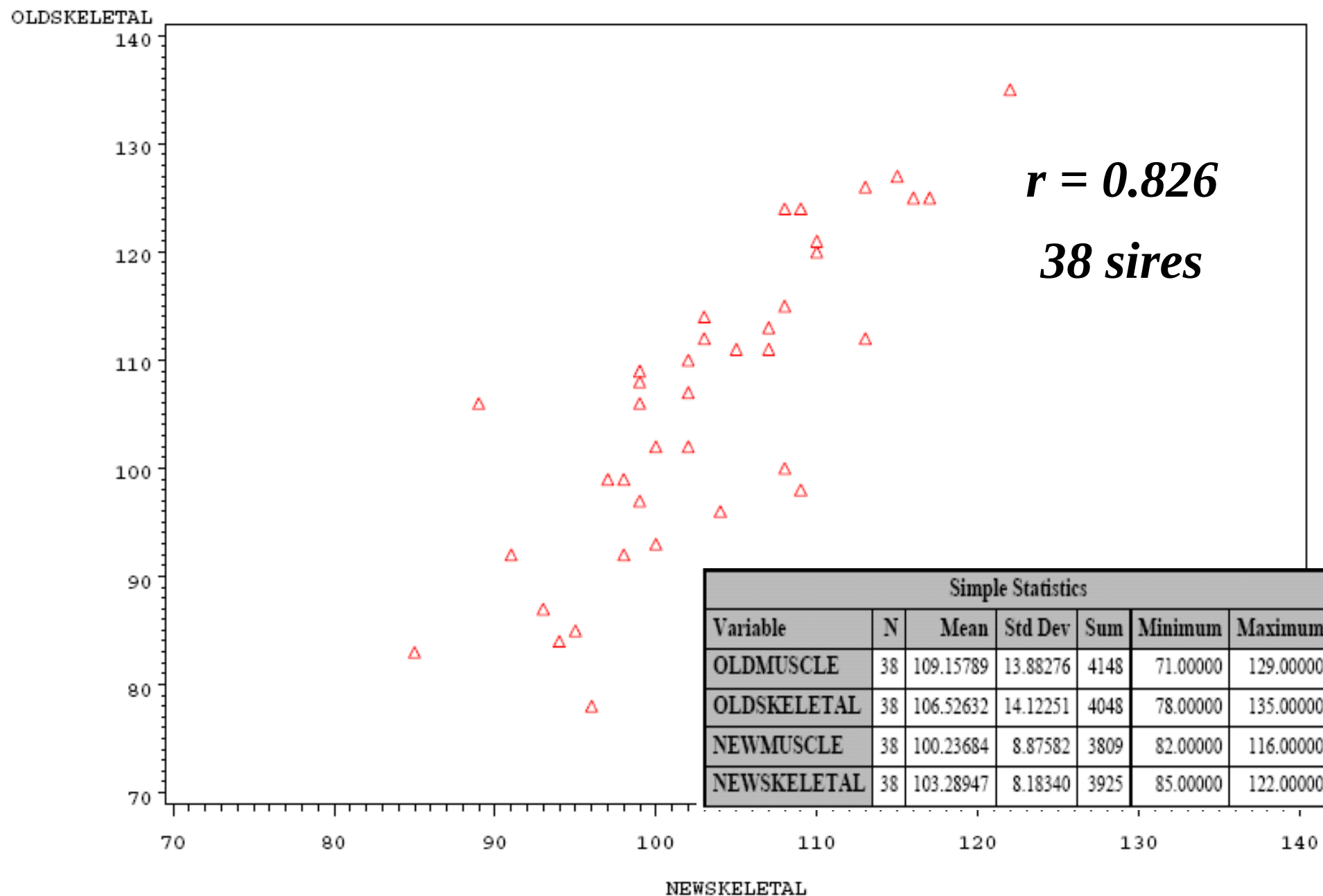
CH old v new BLUP Skeletal 90% rel old



SI old v new BLUP Muscle 80% rel old



SI old v new BLUP Skeletal 80% rel old



Reduction in scale

Breed	Category	Muscle		Skeletal		Functionality	
		Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Charolais	Top 5%	126	117	122	117	N/A*	117
	Average	109	103	106	103	N/A*	100
Limousine	Top 5%	125	118	125	118	N/A*	117
	Average	107	103	107	103	N/A*	101
Simmental	Top 5%	121	117	117	117	N/A*	114
	Average	105	102	100	103	N/A*	101

new docility Evaluations update

New docility evaluations

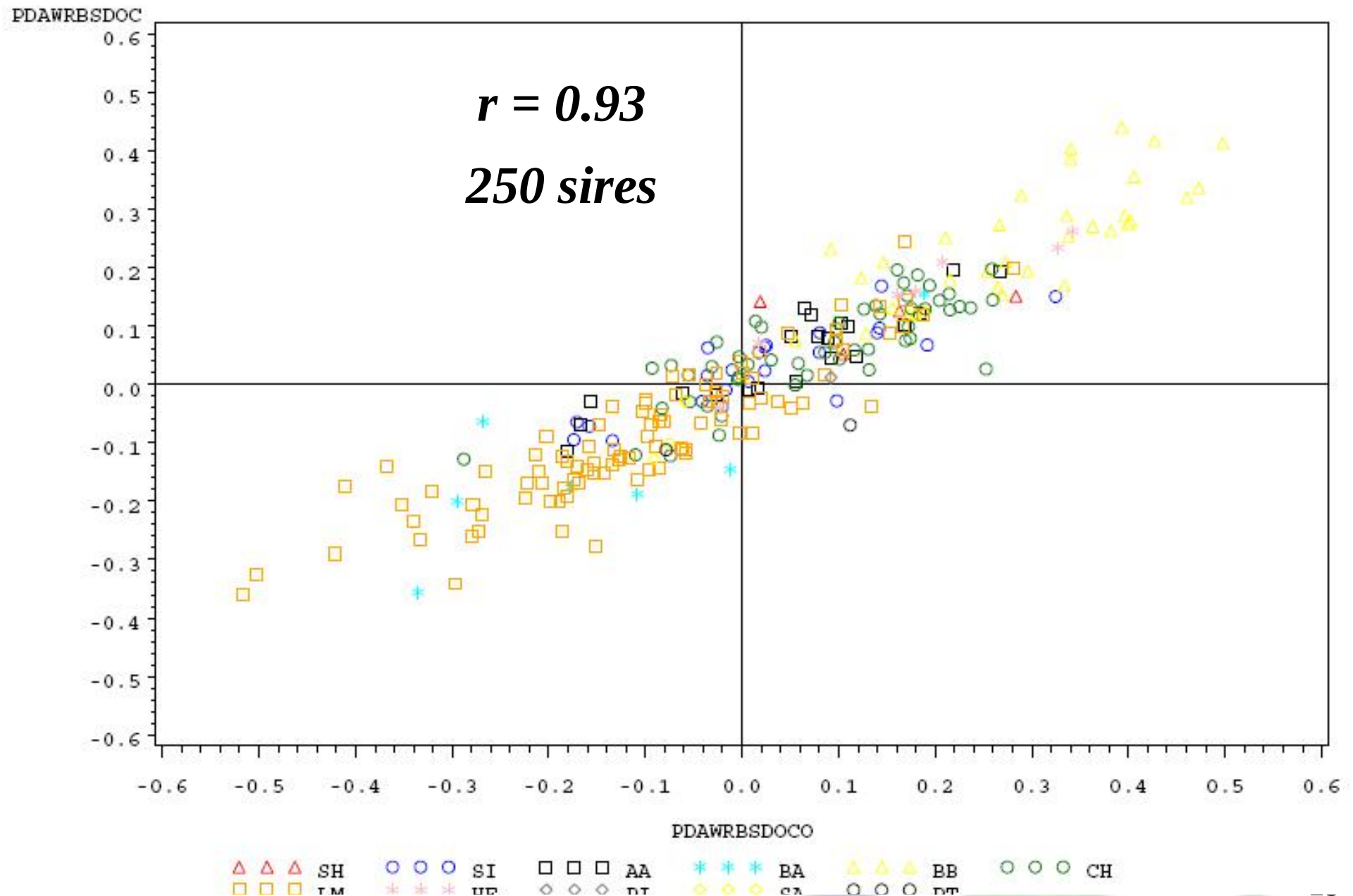
- Increase in records since October
- Farmer scored 68k to 158k
- Linear scored 80k to 88k
- Total records 149k to 250k



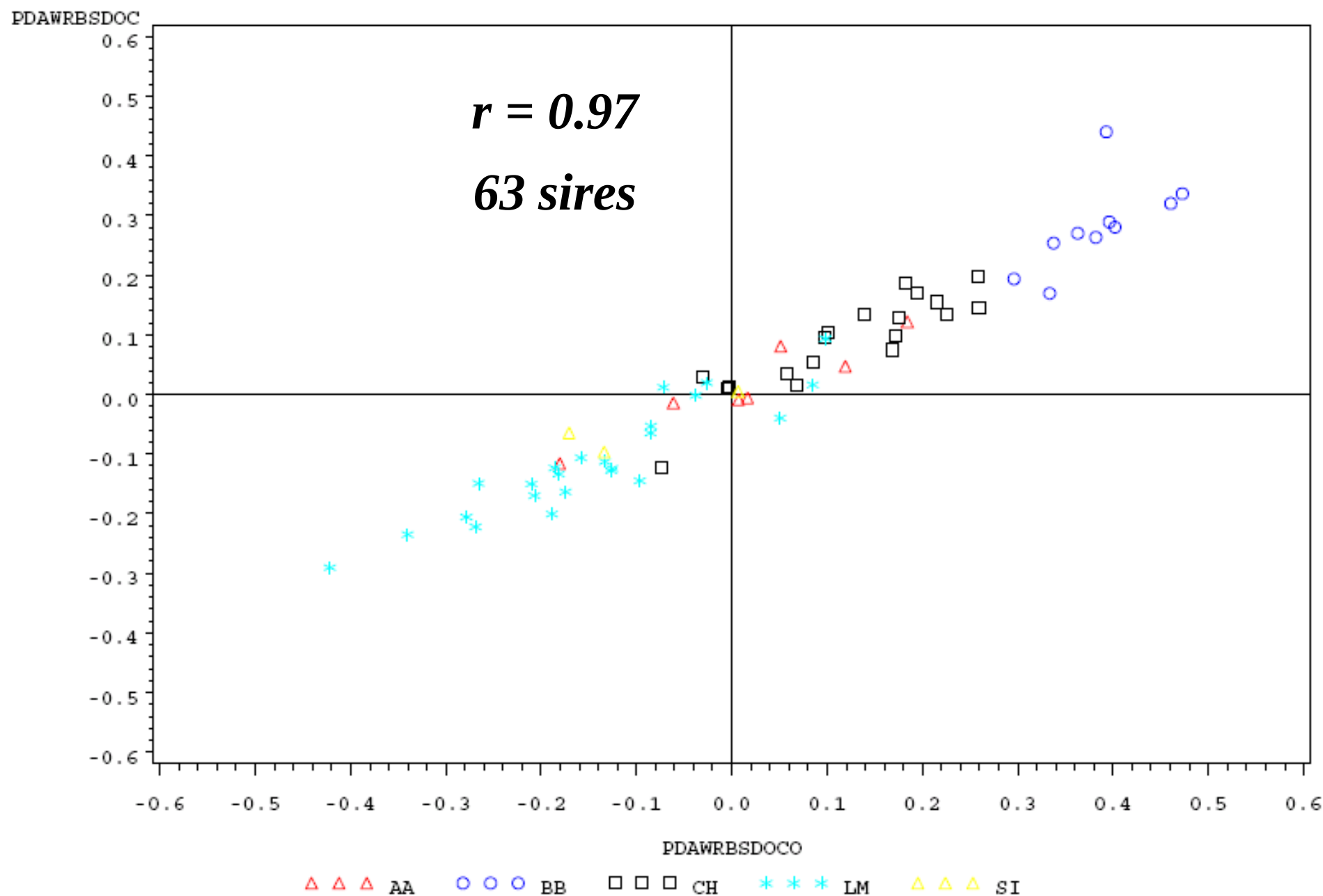
Breed representation

Primary breed	Total anims	FARMER Scored	FARMER scored Pedigree	FARMER scored xbred	LINEAR Scored	LINEAR scored Pedigree	LINEAR scored xbred
AA	12,264	10,081	811	9,270	2,183	1,329	854
AU	1,768	714	205	509	1,054	888	166
BA	2,997	1,998	63	1,935	999	487	512
BB	15,522	12,198	17	12,181	3,324	387	2,937
CH	85,070	62,815	2,379	60,436	22,255	16,071	6,184
HE	6,394	3,901	651	3,250	2,493	2,314	179
LM	94,831	48,808	1,659	47,149	46,023	38,947	7,076
PI	739	400	40	360	339	263	76
PT	762	486	11	475	276	179	97
SA	3,041	2,105	180	1,925	936	809	127
SH	1,962	1,613	229	1,384	349	165	184
SI	19,356	11,392	697	10,695	7,964	5,852	2,112

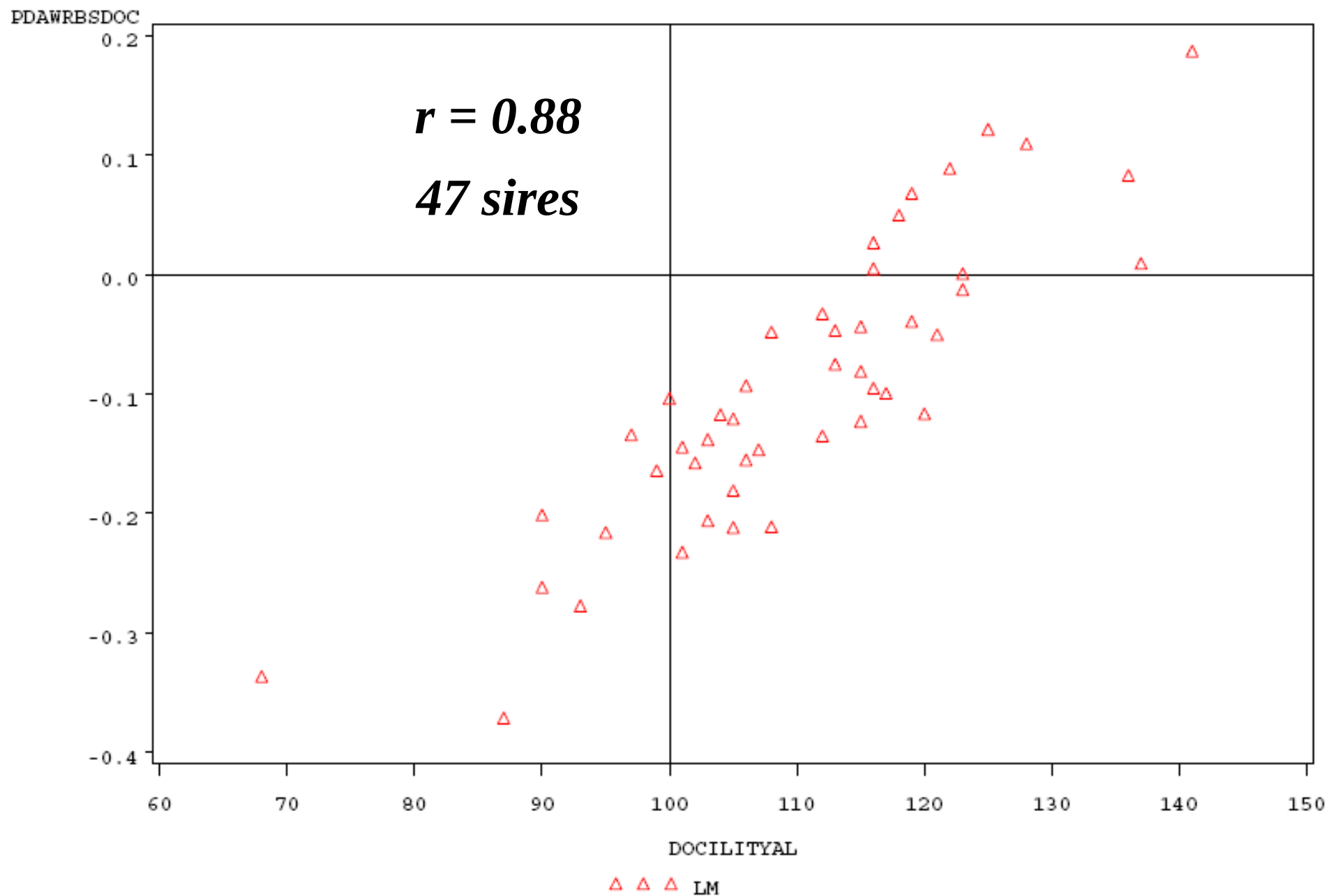
AI sires for pd AWRBS old v new



AI sires > 90% rel for pd AWRBS old v new



Alsires 90%REL AWRBS v Current official BLUP



Analysis of full sibs

- Animals with same sire and dam
 - Can be twins
 - Full brother/sister born in different years
 - Linear score: 10,230 sets, $\text{corr} = 0.392$
 - Farmer score: 8,727 sets, $\text{corr} = 0.383$
- ~ 40% chance of same score*



Publication of breeding information

- *Re-vamp of pedigree sales catalogues*
- *Publication rules around scoring*
- *Changes on the ICBF bull search*

Revamp Sale Catalogue

Breed: Charolais

IE361006090453

DOB: 02-Mar-2008

Female

Owner: Frank Beirne - Ballykenny House Longford Co Longford

FRENCHPARK VICTOR	MOGADOR	DIAMANT
		TOMBOLA
	FRENCHPARK PRIMROSE	DOONALLY NEW
		COOLMONEY MARIETTA
IE361081470689	IEKSR0192T	XHA255662

€uro-Star Rating ICBF Apr 2009)

Within Breed		Index	Data rel	Across Breed
★★★	Suckler Beef Value	€112	13%	★★
★★★	Beef Value			
★★★	Calving Traits	-€6	20%	★★★★
★★★	Weanling Export	€75	8%	★★
★★★★	Beef Carcass	€107	8%	★★
	Replacement Value			
★	Milk & Fertility	-€121	8%	★★
★★★★	Calf Quality	€291	10%	★★
	Other Key Traits			
★	% Difficulty Calving	6.68%	35%	★★
	Docility	%	%	
Data Rel: 40 - 60% = Ave 20 - 40% = Below Ave <20% = Poor				

Issues raised:

- Across breed stars not relevant
- Calving Traits, Calf Quality poorly understood
- Milk & Fertility need splitting
- Gestation
- No value added from linear scoring visible
- Trait info at bottom not used
- Ancestry SBVs not visible
- Docility

€uro-Star Traits

Calving Traits			Weanling Export, Beef Carcass & Replacement Calf Traits					
Calv Diff (%)	Gest Len (days)	Mort (%)	Wean Wt Dlr (kg)	Wean Calf Quality (%)	Carc Wt (kg)	Carcass Conf Score	Carcass Fat Score	Dry Matter Intake (kg)
6.68	0.82	0.46	20.15	17.06	25.33	1.15	-0.42	0.09

Replacement Milk & Fertility Traits					
Calv Int (days)	Survival (%)	Age 1st calv (days)	Wean Wt Mat (kg)	Calv Diff Mat (%)	Cull Cow (kg)
1.36	-0.79	-1.21	-4.37	6.77	25.36

BLUP Linear Type		
MUS	SKE	FUN

Performance on test

Start weight (kg)	End Weight (kg)	Average Daily Gain (kg/day)	Dry Matter Intake (kg/day)	Feed Conv Efficiency (DMI/ADG)	Ultrasonic Fat Meas. (mm)

Revamp Sale Catalogue

Lot 2		Grahams Samson		Breed: Limousin	
GRX		DOB: 23-Aug-2001		Male	
Owner: Eurogene Ai Bulls - Kilcoran, Cahir, Co Tipperary					
Sire: Jersey (3694000548) SBV = € 99 (55%)		Expert	SBV = € 60 (26%)	Avocat	
				Superbe	
		Flamande	SBV = € 94 (16%)	Dartagnan	
				Bourgeoise	
Dam: Lisette 3695000646 SBV = € 66 (27%)		Indien	SBV = € 77 (16%)	Flambeur	
				Disette	
		Guerre	SBV = € 33 (12%)	Durandal	
				Bombarda	

Revamp Sale Catalogue

Euro-Star Indexes					
% Rank	Star Rating (within breed)	Indexes & Traits		Euro-Value	Data Reliability Reliability Comment
68%	★★★★	Suckler Beef Value (SBV)		€ 89	77% High
86%	★★★★★	Weanling Export		€ 60	80% High
91%	★★★★★	Beef Carcass		€ 104	82% High
7%	★	Daughter Fertility		€ -53	29% Medium
19%	★	Daughter Milk		€ 5	38% Medium
		Other Key Traits			
12%	★	Calving Difficulty	Very Hard Calving 6.9%	92%	High
56%	★★★	Gestation Length	Average	72%	High
45%	★★★	Docility	Average	86%	High

Revamp Sale Catalogue

GROW Linear Score Evaluation (Within-Breed percentiles)					BLUP Composites (Within Breed)			
<u>Description</u>					<u>Data Rel Rank</u>			
Narrow	Wide				Muscle	119	94%	96%
Narrow	Wide				Skeletal	117	93%	94%
Thin	Thick				Function	114	68%	92%
Low	High				Comments			
Narrow	Wide							
Small	Tall							
Short	Long							
Short	Long							
Narrow	Wide							
Poor	Good							
Poor	Optimum							
Poor	Optimum							
Poor	Optimum							
% ranking		0102030405060708090100						

Publication Rules for catalogues

	Inclusion rules for new GROW evaluation				Publication rules				Type of proof (where proof is shown)
					€uro-star SBV proofs		GROW Bar graph and composites		
	Was the animal scored?	Was animal in age range 150 to 300 days ?	Was the animal scored in a Group of 5 ?	Was a group of 5 possible in 150-300 day range	Premier Sales catalogues	ICBF website	Premier Sales catalogues	ICBF website	
Category 1	yes	yes	yes	yes	√	√	√	√	Own performance included
Category 2	yes	yes	no	no	√	√	√	√	Parental Average
Category 3	yes	yes	no	yes	√	√	√	√	Parental Average
Category 4	yes	no	yes	yes	√	√	√	√	Parental Average
Category 5	no	-	-	no	√	√	X	X	Parental Average
Category 6	no	-	-	yes	X	√	X	X	Parental Average

- Example: Category 6: Animal Not Scored by an ICBF Linear Scorer. A group of 5 animals in the 150-300 day age range would have been possible

Explanatory information on indexes for the catalogue

Eurostar Indexes: Where does the information come from?

Suckler Beef Value (This is a measure of Overall beef merit combining all sub indexes)

Weanling Export Index:

- Individual On farm and mart weaning weights (150 – 300 days)
- Individual weanling price per kg from sales at marts
- Linear scoring information recorded by ICBF trained scorers
- Farmer scored calf quality recorded through suckler welfare scheme

Beef Carcass Index:

- Carcass weight, carcass conformation and fat from Irish factories
- Feed intake measured at Tully Performance Test station
- Linear scoring information recorded by ICBF trained scorers
- Weaning weight and Live weight information

Daughter Fertility Index:

- Daughter age at first calving from calf birth records
- Daughter calving difficulty recorded at calving time through Animal Events (scale of 1 to 4)
- Daughter calving interval from calf birth records
- Daughter survival to calve again from calf birth records

Daughter Milk Index:

- On farm and mart weaning weights (150 – 300 days) where the sire of the dam and the sire of the calf is known

Other Key traits:

- Calving difficulty: recorded at calving time through Animal Events (scale of 1 to 4)
- Gestation: from cows with an insemination date and subsequent calving date
- Docility: Combination of docility recorded through suckler welfare scheme and linear scoring.

Where an animal has both scores recorded the docility from the linear scorer is the value used in the evaluation

***** = Top 20% of the Breed

**** = Between Top 40% and Top 20% of the Breed

*** = Breed Average

** = Between Bottom 40% and Bottom 20% of the Breed

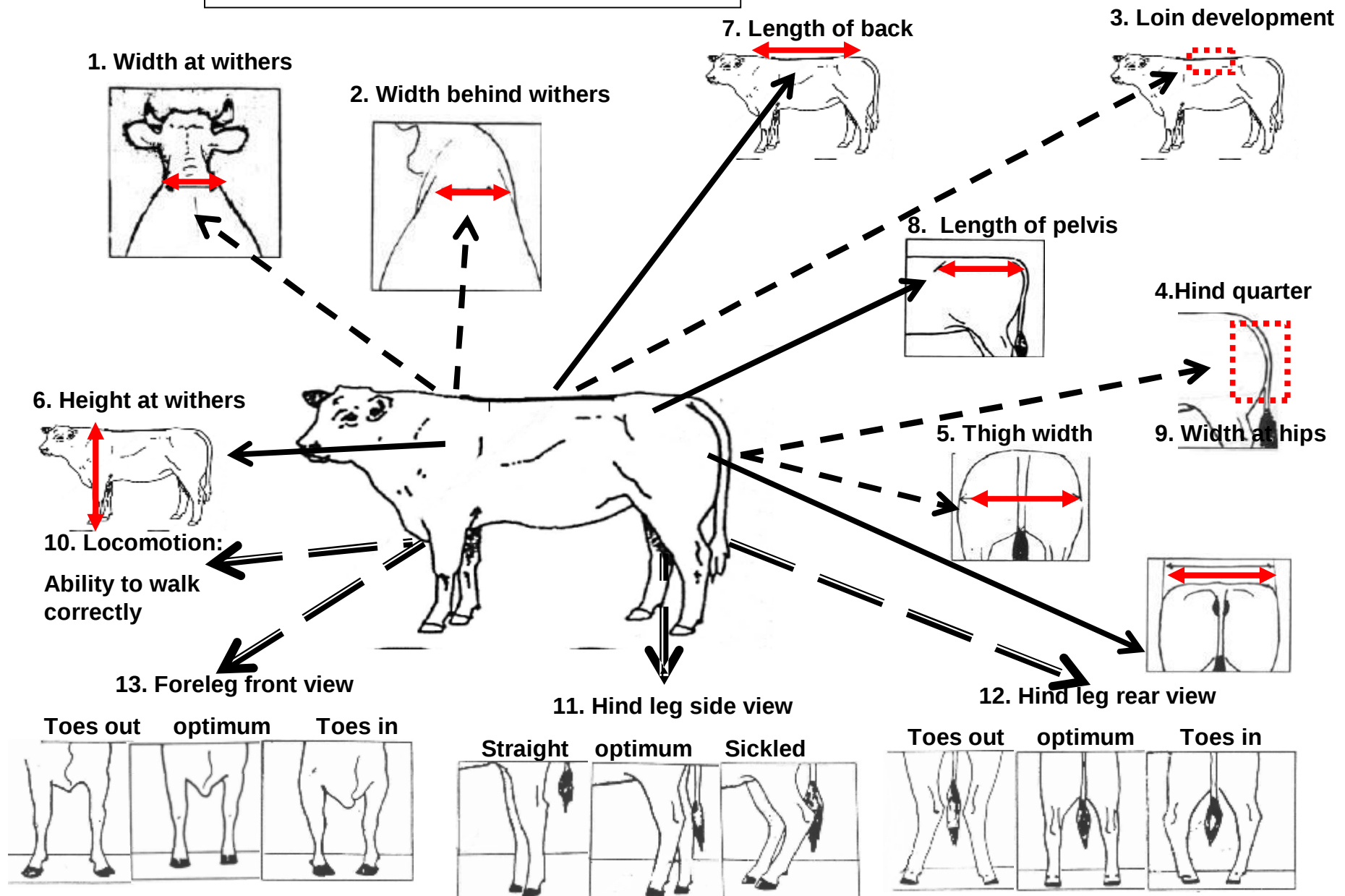
* = Bottom 20% of the Breed

The breed percentiles are based on all pedigree male and female animals born in the previous 5 years. The % ranks in the catalogue vary from 1% (Bottom 1% of the breed) to 100% (Top 1% of the breed)

$$\text{Muscle} = 1 + 2 + 3^{(x2)} + 4 + 5$$

$$\text{Skeletal} = 6^{(x2)} + 7 + 8 + 9$$

$$\text{Functional} = 10 + 11 + 12 + 13$$



Breed Society Publication rules (from 1st January 2010)

1. Evaluations will be run once a month
2. For each monthly evaluation the cut-off date after which animals scored will not be included will be 15th day of the month.
3. New evaluations for linear and €uro-Stars will be available on the 1st week of the following month
4. Animals must be scored & weighed in a group of 5 (may include commercials) and between 150-300 days for their information to be included in the €uro-Stars and linear type trait evaluations.
5. Animals submitted for scoring must be on the farm for a minimum of 2 months
6. Groups scored with very large variation in condition score may be refused entry to the evaluation
7. Animals will have €uro-Stars and *GROW* linear graphs published with their own performance included in the figures if:
 - Animal was scored in 150 -300 age and in a group of 5 or more. The other animals in the group must also be in the 150-300 day age range
8. Animals will have parental average €uro-Stars and *GROW* linear graphs if:
 - Animal was scored but was either outside the age range or in a group less than 5
9. Animals will have parental average €uro-Stars only published if:
 - Animal was not scored but a group of 5 was not possible
8. Animals will have ancestry information only published if:
 - Animal was not scored but a group of 5 was possible

ICBF Bull search

Euro-Star Indexes						
% Rank	Star Rating (within breed)	Indexes & Traits	Euro-Value	Data Reliability	Star Rating (across breed)	% Rank
81%	★★★★★	Suckler Beef Value (SBV)	€108	37%	★★★★★	81%
90%	★★★★★	Weanling Export	€80	41%	★★★★★	90%
88%	★★★★★	Beef Carcass	€100	42%	★★★★★	88%
50%	★★★	Daughter Fertility	€20	10%	★★★	50%
57%	★★★	Daughter Milk	€15	12%	★★★	57%
Other Key Traits						
75%	★★★★	Calving Difficulty (% 3 or 4)	5%	36%	★★★	75%
35%	★★	Gestation Length		37%	★	35%
90%	★★★★★	Docility		35%	★★★★★	90%

Summary

- New beef evaluation results ready for release February 1st
- Some feedback concerning Milk index figures for some Simmentals (will investigate)
- New linear evaluation indexes ready to go
- New catalogue and bull search at final stages, will be ready end of this week