

Minimise calving problems & maximise calf price & carcass performance with the DBI

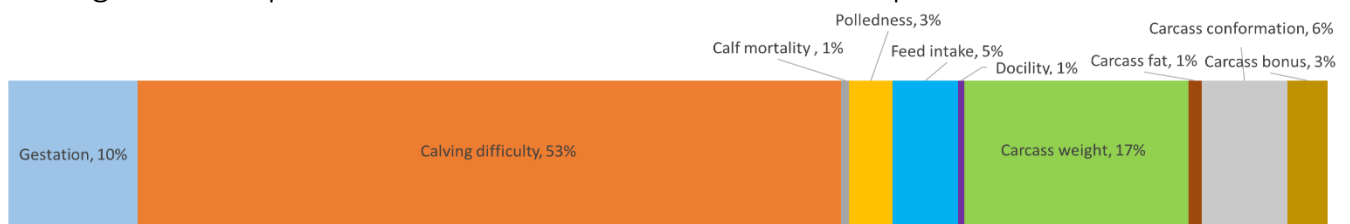
The Dairy Beef Index (DBI) is a breeding goal to promote high quality beef cattle bred from the dairy herd with minimal consequences on the calving difficulty or gestation of the dairy cow



Understanding the Dairy Beef Index



- The DBI ranks beef bulls, for use in the dairy herd, according to their genetic merit for calving & carcass performance traits. The traits that make up the DBI are:



Benefits of the Dairy Beef Index



- Higher DBI bulls generate more profitable progeny
- Simple identification of easy calving & short gestation beef bulls
- Improved % calving difficulty trait to select beef bulls for use on dairy heifers & separately to select beef bulls for use on dairy cows
- Produce a more saleable beef calf with a high carcass value

Finding the Dairy Beef Index



- The DBI for beef AI bulls is published on www.icbf.com
- Beef AI bulls with ≥ 30 progeny in dairy herds have a DBI for Spring 2019
- Over time, the DBI will be made available for all beef bulls

Advice for dairy farmers using beef AI this Spring



- Always, choose beef bulls from the DBI Active bull list
- To maximise overall profitability, use bulls with the highest DBI
- For calving ease & short gestation, use bulls with the highest calving sub-index
- For calving ease on heifers, use bulls with the highest calving sub-index which have the lowest % calving difficulty on dairy heifers, with many calving difficulty records available on progeny

Locating the Dairy Beef Index Active Bull List



1 Log on to www.icbf.com

2 Press 'Genetic Evaluations'

3 Press 'Dairy\Beef Results' then select 'Dairy Beef Index proofs Active'

Reading the Dairy Beef Index Active Bull List

ICBF Active Beef Bull List for AI Bulls Ranked on Dairy Beef Index - Spring 2019

Rk	Code	Animal Name	Brd	Dairy Beef Index	Dairy Beef Index Rel	Calving Sub Index	Beef Sub Index	Gest Length Days	CD% Dairy Heifer - New	CD% Dairy Cow - New	Carcass wt kg	Carcass wt - % not in spec	Carcass Conf Grade	Carcass conf - % not in spec	CD% Dairy heifer - Recs	CD% Dairy cow - recs	CD% Dairy - Total recs	Cwt - recs	Semen Supplier
1	SFL	DU STORDEUR FLANEUR	BB	€121	94	-€25	€146	-1.5	9.7	6.0	19	10%	2.49	1%	15	1346	1361	5230	BOVA
2	EBY	ELDERBERRY GALAHAD	LM	€104	95	-€17	€120	2.4	10.1	4.0	20	10%	2.18	1%	93	2164	2257	5173	DOVEA GENETICS
3	ZLL	LANIGAN RED DEEP CANYON ET	AA	€93	89	€39	€54	-1.2	5.8	2.1	12	13%	0.82	8%	33	144	177	845	BOVA
4	BHU	BALLYMACKEOGH HUGH	SA	€93	90	€0	€93	1.7	9.3	3.3	15	12%	1.31	4%	4	122	126	1535	DOVEA GENETICS
5	WZG	WESTELLEN DIEGO M734	AA	€91	90	€34	€57	-1.9	8.4	2.7	7	15%	1.22	5%	67	306	373	504	BOVA
6	S578	BISON	AU	€89	77	€3	€87	1.1	7.0	3.6	12	13%	1.69	2%	6	151	157	15	DOVEA GENETICS
7	AA4089	INTELAGRI MATTEO E.T.	AA	€86	69	€54	€32	-3.4	6.5	2.3	8	15%	0.61	10%	26	266	292	0	NATIONAL CATTLE BREEDING CNTR
8	PZB	BONAPARTE	SA	€86	90	€6	€80	0.5	9.3	3.5	16	12%	1.31	4%	5	238	243	651	NATIONAL CATTLE BREEDING CNTR
9	KYA	CORNAMUCKLA LORD HARDY K222	AA	€85	97	€69	€16	-4.8	5.3	1.8	-2	20%	0.44	12%	7596	14929	22525	28956	NATIONAL CATTLE BREEDING CNTR
10	JZI	CAIRNMOR JAMESON	AA	€83	93	€60	€22	-3.2	5.2	1.5	1	18%	0.69	9%	347	1239	1586	346	DOVEA GENETICS

Bull rank based on DBI € value
Lower values are desirable

Bull details

Dairy Beef Index overview
DBI € value & reliability, as well as the € value of the DBI sub-indexes: 1) value of calving, & 2) value of beef. Higher values are desirable for all traits

Main traits contributing to the value of calving sub-index

- Gestation length. Lower values are desirable.
- Percentage of progeny expected to require considerable assistance at calving, either with or without veterinary assistance when the bull is used on dairy heifers & separately when used on dairy cows. Lower values are desirable for both traits

Main traits influencing the value of beef sub-index

- Carcass weight & conformation. Higher values are desirable for both traits
- Percentage of progeny expected not to meet the minimum carcass weight (280 kg) or conformation grade (O=). Lower values are desirable for both traits

Provider of semen

Progeny records used in the genetic evaluation
Number of calving difficulty scores available from progeny born to dairy heifers & dairy cows, as well as number of carcass performance scores available. Higher values are desirable for all traits