

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

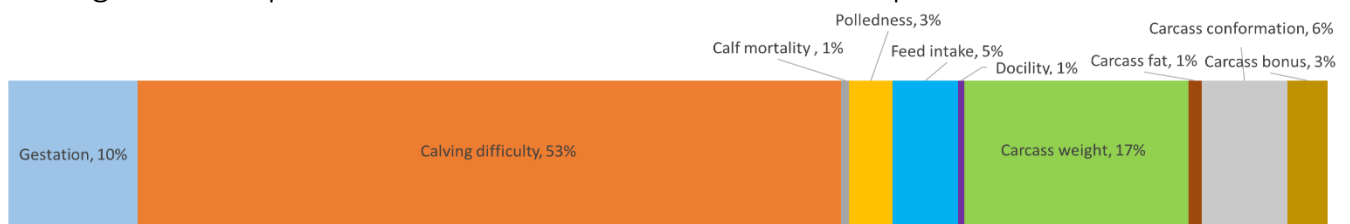
The Dairy Beef Index (DBI) is a breeding goal to promote high quality beef cattle bred from the dairy herd with minimal consequences on the calving difficulty or gestation of the dairy cow



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



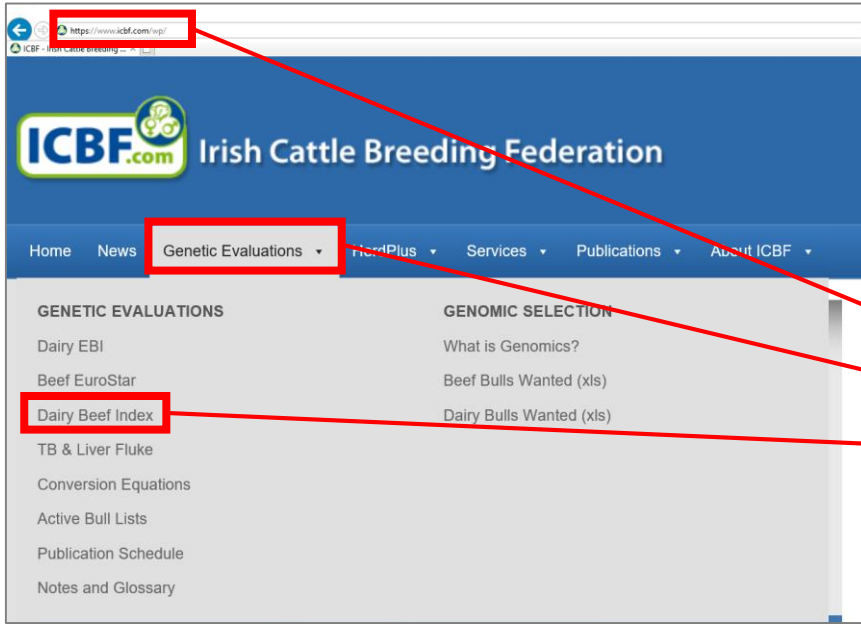
- The DBI for beef AI bulls is published on www.icbf.com
- Beef AI bulls with ≥ 30 progeny in dairy herds have a DBI for Spring 2019
- Over time, the DBI will be made available for all beef cattle

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 high reliability



Locating the Dairy Beef Index



- 1 Log on to www.icbf.com
- 2 Press 'Genetic Evaluations'
- 3 Press 'Dairy Beef Index'
- 4 Download the proofs by selecting from the available options

Reading the Dairy Beef Index Active Bull List

ICBF Active Bull List for Beef AI Bulls, Ranked on the Dairy Beef Index (Jan '19)																					
Rank	Code	Name	Breed	Birth Year	Dairy Beef Index (DBI) Summary				Calving Value Traits				Beef Value Traits				Progeny Records			Semen Supplier	
					DBI Value	DBI Rel	Calving Value	Beef Value	Gestation (days)	Heifer Calv. Diff.	Heifer Calv. Diff. Rel	Cow Calv. Diff.	Cow Calv. Diff. Rel	Carc. Wt. (kg)	Out of Carc. Wt. Spec.	Conc.	Out of Conc. Spec.	Heifer Calv. Diff.	Cow Calv. Diff.		Carc. Wt.
1	SFL	DU STORDEUR FLANEUR	BB	2002	€121	94%	-€25	€146	-1.45	9.7%	43%	6.0%	97%	19	10%	2.49	1%	15	1,346	5,230	BOVA
2	EBY	ELDERBERRY GALAHAD	LM	2011	€104	95%	-€17	€120	2.37	10.1%	80%	4.0%	98%	20	10%	2.18	1%	93	2,164	5,173	DOVEA GENETICS
3	ZLL	LANIGAN RED DEEP CANYON ET	AA	2007	€93	89%	€39	€54	-1.21	5.8%	73%	2.1%	88%	12	13%	0.82	8%	33	144	845	BOVA
4	BHU	BALLYMACKEOGH HUGH	SA	2007	€93	90%	€0	€93	1.65	9.3%	25%	3.3%	85%	15	12%	1.31	4%	4	122	1,535	DOVEA GENETICS
5	WZG	WESTELLEN DIEGO M734	AA	2012	€91	90%	€34	€57	-1.86	8.4%	77%	2.7%	91%	7	15%	1.22	5%	67	306	504	BOVA
6	5578	BISON	AU	2006	€89	77%	€3	€87	1.07	7.0%	20%	3.6%	83%	12	13%	1.69	2%	6	151	15	DOVEA GENETICS
7	PZB	BONAPARTE	SA	2006	€86	90%	€6	€80	0.53	9.3%	34%	3.5%	89%	16	12%	1.31	4%	5	238	651	NATIONAL CATTLE BREEDING CNTR
8	AA4089	INTELAGRI MATTEO E.T.	AA	2015	€86	69%	€54	€32	-3.41	6.5%	57%	2.3%	89%	8	15%	0.61	10%	26	266	-	NATIONAL CATTLE BREEDING CNTR
9	KYA	CORNAMUCKLA LORD HARDY K222	AA	2010	€85	97%	€69	€16	-4.77	5.3%	99%	1.8%	99%	-2	20%	0.44	12%	7,596	14,929	28,956	NATIONAL CATTLE BREEDING CNTR
10	JZI	CAIRNMOR JAMESON	AA	2012	€83	93%	€60	€22	-3.24	5.2%	94%	1.5%	97%	1	18%	0.69	9%	347	1,239	346	DOVEA GENETICS

Rank (based on DBI € value)
Lower rank values are more desirable

Dairy Beef Index Summary
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
- Reliability of calving difficulty when the bull is used on dairy heifers & separately when used on dairy cows. Higher reliabilities are always more desirable

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

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