

PERFORMANCE DATA

Performance Data Adjustments: Weight is the most common measurement taken to gauge performance and genetic worth. The weight needs to be adjusted to standardize the age at which animals are being compared. Older cows tend to give birth to heavier calves and milk more heavily. Birth weight, weaning weight and scrotal circumference are affected by the age of the dam and are adjusted before any comparisons are made.

Strain: Beefbooster seedstock strain.

Bull Identification: Feedlot tag, seedstock herd code, tag number, and birth year letter

Birth Date: Date bull was born

BW -Adjusted Birth Weight: The weight of a calf taken within 24 hours of birth is the best indicator of calving ease and is highly heritable trait. Actual birth weights are adjusted for age of dam.

BW ADG - Adjusted Birth To Weaning Average Daily Gain: Average daily from birth to weaning, adjusted for the age of dam.

On Test ADG: This value shows the ability of the bull to grow in the feedlot on test. All bulls are fed a medium energy ration.

Off Test Weight: Actual weight off test.

365 Day Weight: Yearling weight adjusted to a constant age. 365 day weight includes adjusted birth weight, 180 day preweaning gain and postweaning gain.

SC- Scrotal Circumference: This measurement indicates bull fertility. Scrotal circumference is moderately to highly heritable and is correlated to age of puberty in female sibs and progeny. Scrotal circumference measurements are adjusted to 365 days and for age of dam.

Back Fat: Back fat measurements are done by ultra-sound. Back fat is related to carcass fat thickness and fleshing ability.

Age of Dam: Age of the bull's dam. Bulls from older dams may be more likely to pass on difficult to measure characteristics that contribute to cows with longer productive lives. Bulls from younger cows may pass on some of these characteristics, but their dams have not 'proven' themselves yet.

DW - Dam Weight: Average of adjusted dam weight taken once a year in the fall. These weights are adjusted for age of dam.

EBV- Estimated Breeding Values: Predictions of each bull's genetic value, half of which may be passed on to his progeny. EBV's are based on the animal's performance and performance of related animals for each trait and correlated traits.

BW-Birth Weight: Predict differences in average calf birth weight, based on adjusted birth weight. Higher BW EBV indicate bull should sire calves with heavier birth weights.

WW-Weaning Weight: 180 day pre-weaning gain adjusted to male calf/mature dam equivalent. A calf's growth from birth to weaning is influenced by general environmental conditions (weather, forage), the environment its dam provides (mothering ability, milk) and its genetic growth potential. A dam's influence on her calf's environment is partly genetic, so pre-weaning gain is partitioned to predict direct and maternal genetic effects.

WW-Growth Predicts direct genetic differences in calf growth potential. Higher WWG EBV indicate bull should sire calves with heavier weaning weights.

WW-Milk Predict differences in maternal genetic effects. Higher WW-Milk EBV indicated bull's daughters should wean heavier calves.

PWG- Post Weaning Gain: Predict differences in average calf growth post-weaning, based on bull test gain and heifer yearling weights. Higher PWG EBV indicates bull should sire calves that gain faster after weaning.

SC – Scrotal Circumference: Predict differences in average yearling scrotal circumference, based on adjusted scrotal circumference measurements. Higher SC EBV indicates bull's sons should have larger scrotal size.

BF-Back Fat: Predict differences in average backfat at the end of the bull test, based on off-test ultrasound measurements.

MW- Mature Weight: Based on cow weights records. Predict differences in average mature weight of each bull's daughter. Higher MW EBV indicates bulls should sire heavier cows.