



NEW GENETIC INDEXES

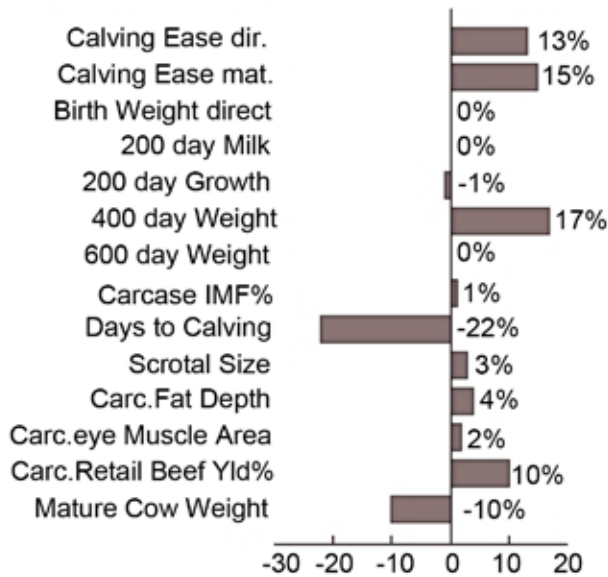
INDEXES

FOR SIMBRA BREEDERS

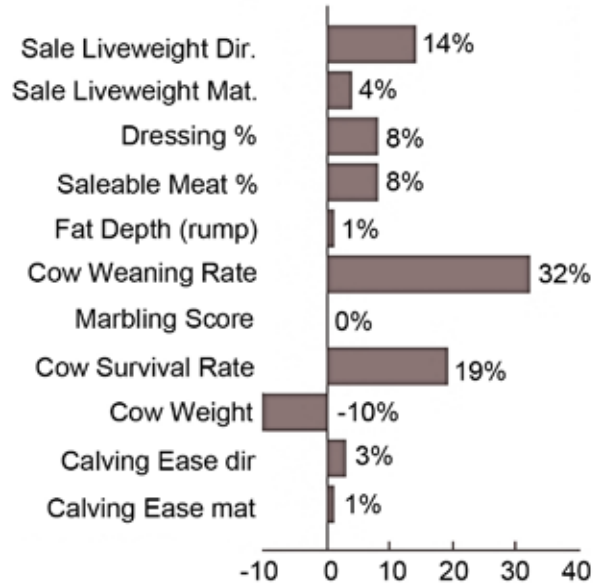
Simbra Feedlot Index

This index is for a herd that keeps replacement females and there is a moderate emphasis on calving ease. Progeny age at turnoff is 11 months after 120 days of extra feed. Steers are around 410 kg live weight (205 kg carcass) with 5 mm external fat. **Significant emphasis is placed on calving ease, 400 day weight, days to calving and carcass yield.**

Simbra Feedlot Index – EBV Weightings



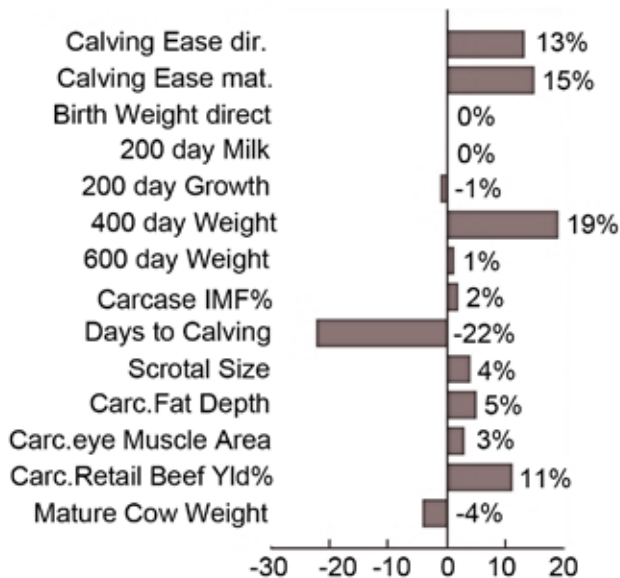
Simbra Feedlot – Profit Drivers



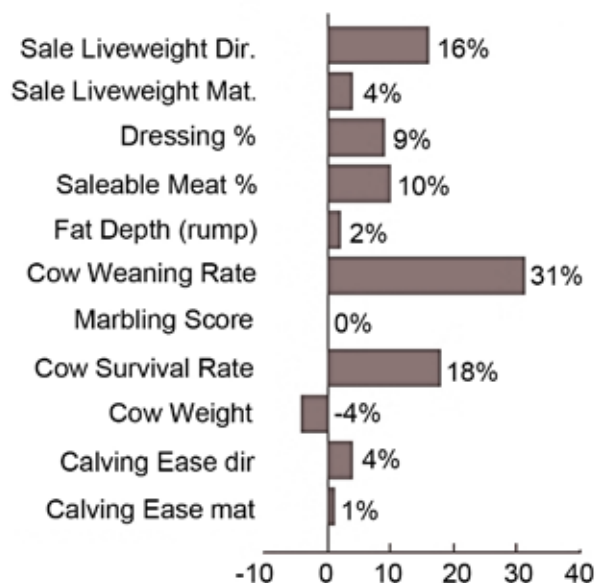
Simbra Grass Fed Index

This index is for a herd that keeps replacement females and there is a moderate emphasis on calving ease. Progeny age at turnoff is 11 months off pasture. Steers are around 410 kg live weight (205 kg carcass) with 5 mm external fat. **Significant emphasis is placed on calving ease, 400 day weight, days to calving and carcass yield.**

Simbra Grass Fed Index – EBV Weightings



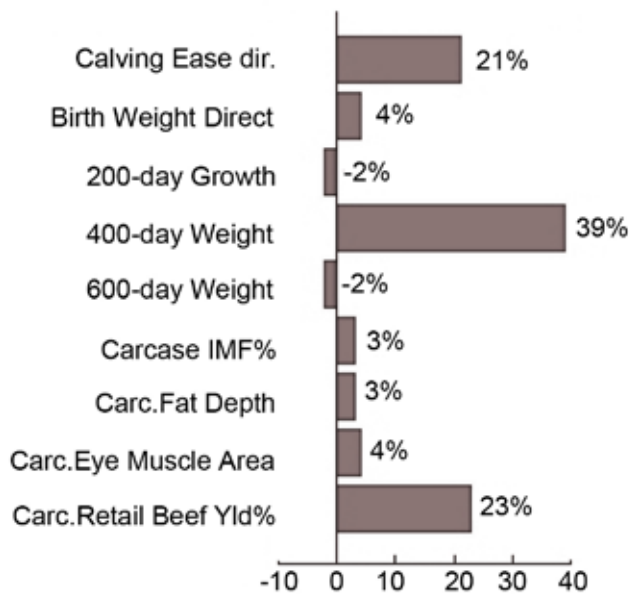
Simbra Grass Fed – Profit Drivers



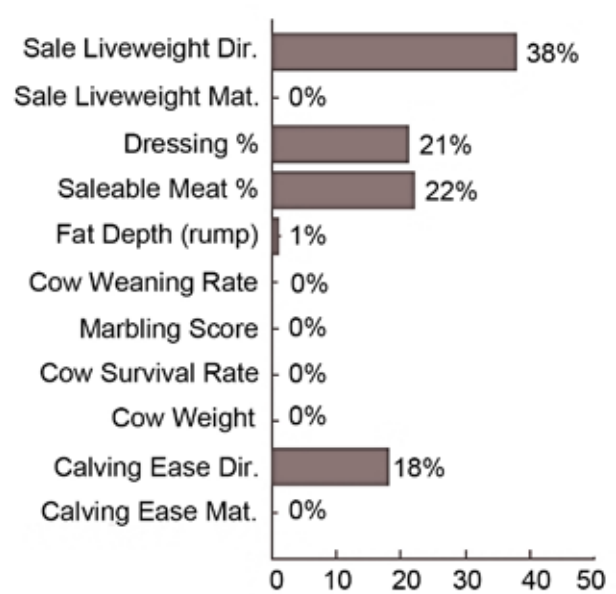
Simbra Terminal Sire

The Terminal index is for a terminal sire mated to Bos Indicus/British type cows with reasonable emphasis on calving ease. For example a commercial crossbred herd where no animals are kept for replacement or breeding purposes. Progeny age at turnoff is 11 months after 120 days of extra feed. Steers are around 420 kg live weight (215 kg carcass) with 5 mm external fat. **Significant emphasis is placed on calving ease, 400 day weight and carcass yield.**

Simbra Terminal Sire Index – EBV Weightings



Simbra Terminal– Profit Drivers



Selection using indexes

In index selection, it is very important that as many of the component EBVs are measured as reasonably possible. Limited recording of traits may result in poor selection decisions of future breeding animals.

As with all indices, producers should use the index to rank potential replacement animals and then consider the component EBVs of those animals in respect to their own breeding objectives – and select those animals that have component EBVs that meet these breeding objectives. Selection should also consider non-EBV aspects of the animal such as structure, temperament, etc.

Note that there are inter-dependencies between the traits that also affect the outcome of the selection index. For example, an index weighting on 400 day weight will also cause a correlated response on the 600 day EBV. Similarly, emphasis on reduced days to calving will also tend to show a response to increased fat depth and decreased Retail Beef Yield (RBY)

Indices should also be considered in regard to “where do you want to move towards” - rather than being the final destination.

Index selection is usually best based around a selection of animals that have a broad range of EBVs reported. Animals with a full range of reported traits will better reflect the intent of the index. However, how well the index differentiates animals in any particular herd will depend on how well that herd records the key traits for that index. Less than complete recording of traits will mean that the index may not fully achieve the herd’s breeding objective.

Note that while the indices have been developed with some emphasis on calving ease, there is no calving ease analysis for Simbra. Therefore the indices will use correlated information from other traits (birth weight, gestation length, etc) to estimate calving ease for the index calculations.