



Explanation of EPDs

Birth Weight EPD (BW) The expected difference in average birth weight (pounds) of progeny. Birth weight reflects prenatal growth.

Weaning Weight EPD (WW) The expected difference in average weaning weight of calves. The evaluation reflects the genetic influence on pre-weaning growth rate.

Yearling Weight EPD (YW) The expected difference in average yearling weight of progeny. The evaluation reflects genetic influence on both pre-weaning and post-weaning growth rate.

Maternal Milk EPD (M) The genetic ability of a sire's or dam's daughters to express in pounds of weaning weight in her calves due to her maternal ability through mothering instinct and milk.

Total Maternal EPD (TM) A value to predict the weaning weight performance of calves from an animal's daughters due to genetics for growth and maternal ability. Total Maternal is calculated by adding ½ the WWT EPD to the Maternal Milk EPD.

Terminal Sire Index (TSI) The AICA Terminal Sire Index (TSI) is a formal method of combining Expected Progeny Differences (EPD) – BWT, WWT, YWT, REA, HCW, MARB and FAT – into one single value on which to base selection decisions. The TSI uses estimates of the genetic relationships between traits with an economic default value based on three year rolling USDA data.

The TSI represents a dollar index per terminal progeny produced for a bull in the AICA database, ranking them for profit potential. This dollar index is to be interpreted much like single trait EPD. For example, if Sire A's index is \$191.66 and Sire B's index is \$200.00, then we would expect Sire B's offspring to average \$8.34 more net return (\$200.00 minus \$191.66) than Sire A's offspring.

AICA 2017 Breed average EPD					
BW	WW	YW	M	TM	TSI
0.3	29	53	9	23	199
SCR SALE BULL AVERAGES					
BW	WW	YW	M	TM	TSI
0.9	35	67	9	27	211

Predicgen DNA explained

Marbling Score (MARB) Normalized score describing genetic merit for marbling with a range from 0 to 100 and a mean of 50. Higher values would be consistent with animals possessing genetic propensity for a higher marbling score and more favorable USDA Quality Grade.

USDA Yield Grade (YG) Normalized score describing genetic merit for Yield Grade with a range from 0 to 100 and a mean of 50. Higher values would be consistent with animals possessing genetic propensity for a lower calculated USDA Yield Grade. For example a 100 score for YG would make the animal a yield grade 1.

Tenderness (TND) Normalized score describing genetic merit for tenderness with a range from 0 to 100 and a mean of 50. Higher values would be consistent with animals possessing genetic propensity for a lower Warner-Bratzler shear force and more favorable tenderness outcome.

Index A normalized economic index describing combined genetic merit for marbling and Yield Grade with a range from 0 to 100 and mean of 50. Higher values reflect animals with genetic propensity to achieve more favorable carcass value on the basis of Quality and Yield Grade premiums and discounts.

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