Modifications to Wagyu GROUP BREEDPLAN Analysis
March 2012

A number of modifications have been made within the Wagyu GROUP BREEDPLAN analysis with estimated breeding values (EBVs) for Eye Muscle Area, Rib Fat, Rump Fat and Intramuscular Fat now being analysed and reported as genetic differences in a standard 300 kg steer carcase for Wagyu animals. Previously, the Carcase EBVs were analysed on an age basis and reported as genetic differences at 500 days of age.

This modification has been applied to the recent March 2012 Wagyu GROUP BREEDPLAN analysis and will also apply to all future INTERIM and GROUP BREEDPLAN analyses for Wagyu. Additionally, the Wagyu BREEDPLAN analysis will now also generate and publish Retail Beef Yield EBVs.

The reason for these modifications is the bring the Wagyu GROUP BREEDPLAN analysis for carcase traits in line with the other Australian beef cattle BREEDPLAN analyses (e.g. Angus, Shorthorn). It is also in preparation for the upcoming move of the Australian Wagyu Association to the “new” pedigree and performance database platform (known as ILR2) which will allow monthly GROUP BREEDPLAN analysis.

The modification in the method of generating and reporting the Carcase EBVs means that EBVs will have changed and should not be compared to those calculated in previous Wagyu GROUP BREEDPLAN analyses.

Should you have any queries regarding the modifications that have been made, please do not hesitate to contact Christian Duff at SBTS on (02) 6773 2472 or christian@sbts.une.edu.au