Calculation of Calving Ease EBVs for Gelbvieh, July 2009

The upcoming 2009 Gelbvieh GROUP BREEDPLAN analysis will include, for the first time, the calculation of Calving Ease Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs). This research and development was performed at the request of the Australian Gelbvieh Association Federal Council.

Gelbvieh animals that meet minimum accuracy thresholds will now have Calving Ease Direct and/or Calving Ease Daughters EBVs displayed in BREEDPLAN Herd Reports and on the Gelbvieh Internet Solutions facility.

A substantial amount of work has been undertaken to develop this addition to the Gelbvieh GROUP BREEDPLAN analysis. Acknowledgement must be given to Steve Skinner (BREEDPLAN) and Hans Graser (Animal Genetics and Breeding Unit) for their efforts in this area.

Should you have any queries regarding the interpretation of Calving Ease EBVs, please do not hesitate to contact Christian Duff at SBTS on (02) 6773 2472 or Steve Skinner at BREEDPLAN on (02) 6773 3091.

Further information is also available in the BREEDPLAN Tip Sheet titled “Understanding Calving Ease EBVs”. This document is available from the Technical area of the BREEDPLAN website and explains how to interpret the two Calving Ease EBVs (Calving Ease Direct and Calving Ease Daughters), how to record performance information pertaining to calving ease and a guide to using Calving Ease EBVs in practice.