

Reportability of EBVs

BREEDPLAN currently calculates EBVs for a range of economically important traits. However, animals that have been included in a BREEDPLAN analysis may not always have all EBVs available. Whether an individual EBV is available for an animal is determined by whether the EBV meets certain reportability criteria.

What determines EBV Reportability?

There are two major factors that determine the availability, or 'reportability' of EBVs.

1. Calculation of EBVs

Each breed is currently running a separate BREEDPLAN analysis, and EBVs are not calculated for all traits in the analysis for each breed. Whether EBVs are being calculated for a certain trait within an analysis depends on the amount of performance information available for that trait within the breed. The trait of interest must be included in your breed's analysis for an animal to have an EBV calculated and subsequently reported for that trait.

2. Minimum accuracy requirements

Once an EBV has been calculated for a breed, the individual EBV for an animal must meet a minimum accuracy requirement to be eligible to be reported. With regards to the minimum accuracy requirements, please note:

Historically:

- The minimum accuracy requirement for each trait was not the same for each breed.
- The minimum accuracy requirement was not the same for all traits.
- The minimum accuracy requirement that had to be met depended on whether the animal (or its progeny) had an observation analysed in the BREEDPLAN analysis for the trait of interest. Where an animal (and its progeny) did not have an observation analysed, the minimum accuracy requirement was relatively high. Once an animal (or its progeny) had been recorded for a particular trait, the minimum accuracy required for the EBV to report decreased.

While some breeds still use the system described above, in 2016 the majority of breed societies moved to a single minimum accuracy requirement for all traits and for all animals. For these breeds, please note:

- The minimum accuracy requirement is the same for all traits.
- The minimum accuracy requirement is the same for all animals, regardless of whether the animal (or its progeny) has an observation analysed.

Why are all calculated EBVs not reported?

The reportability criteria are in place to ensure the integrity of the EBVs that are available. If the reportability criteria were not in place, EBVs with very low accuracy, which had been calculated based on very little or no performance data, would be available. The reportability criteria ensures that the EBVs are only available if a sufficient amount of information has been recorded on the animal or its relatives.

For more information regarding the reportability of EBVs, please contact staff at BREEDPLAN.