

Performance Herds Australia Selection Index

There is one selection index calculated for animals recorded with Performance Herds Australia.

This is the MSA-B2 index.

The MSA-B2 index relates to a typical self-replacing commercial herd using Shorthorn bulls and targeting the following specifications.

MSA-B2 Index – Estimates the genetic differences between animals in net profitability (\$) per cow joined for a typical self-replacing commercial herd using Shorthorn bulls in either a cool temperate/Mediterranean or warm temperate/grassland environment targeting the production of steers for either the heavy domestic MSA food service market or the Japanese B2 export market. Steers are pasture grown to feedlot entry at 16 months then grain finished for 120 days to be slaughtered at 19 months of age weighing 620kg (340kg HSCW). Selected heifers are retained for breeding and feedlot finished (80 days) to MSA slaughter at 540kg (290kg HSCW) at 18 months of age. The selection index has a focus on maintaining and improving eating quality and thus contains significant premiums for increasing marble score up to marble score 4.

All selection indexes are reported as an EBV, in units of relative earning capacity (\$) for the given production/market scenario. They reflect both the short term profit generated by a sire through the sale of his progeny, and the longer term profit generated by his daughters in a self-replacing cow herd.

All selection index values have been derived using BreedObject technology.

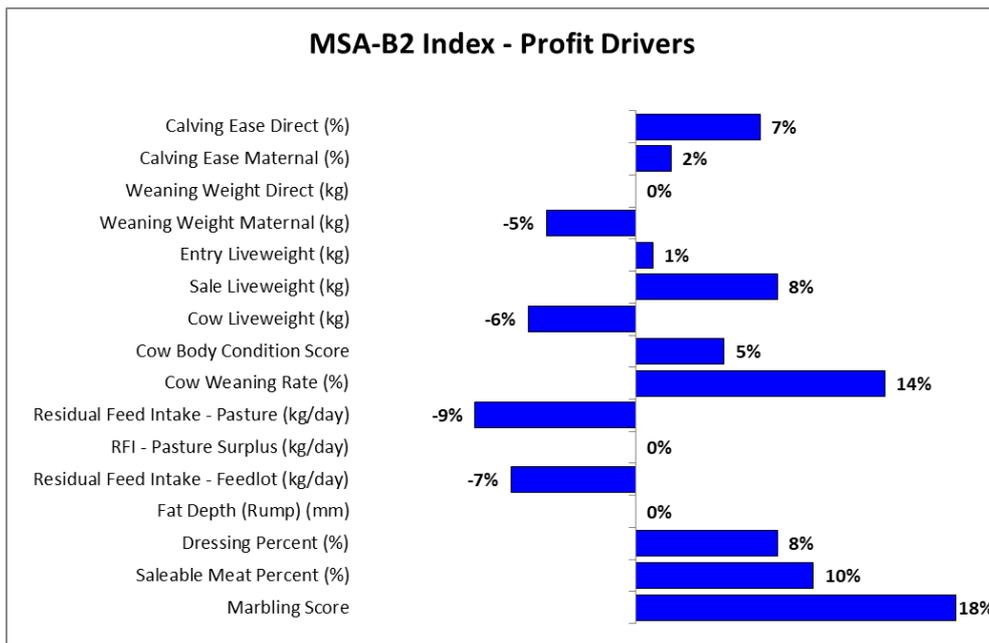
More detailed information regarding the MSA-B2 selection index is provided on the following pages.

If you have any further queries regarding Performance Herds Australia Selection Index, please do not hesitate to contact staff at your BREEDPLAN processing centre.

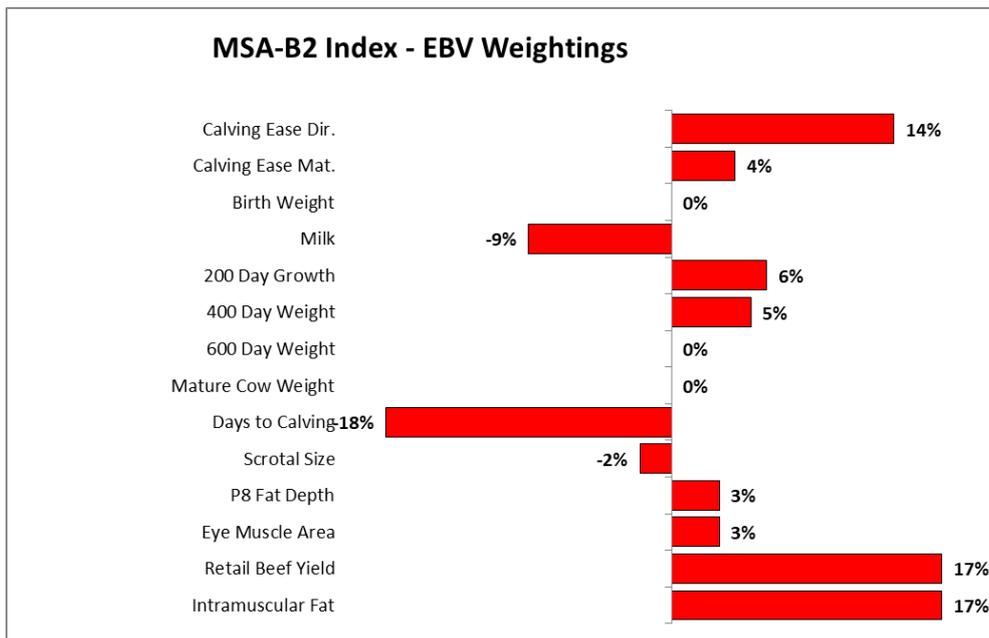
MSA-B2 Index

The MSA-B2 index estimates the genetic differences between animals in net profitability per cow joined for a typical self-replacing commercial herd using Shorthorn bulls targeting the production of steers for either the heavy domestic MSA food service market or the Japanese B2 export market. Steers and heifers are marketed at 620 kg and 540 kg live weight at 19 and 18 months of age, respectively. Some daughters are retained for breeding.

The following bar graph shows the key economic traits that are important in this selection index. The different trait emphases reflect the underlying profit drivers in a commercial operation targeting this production system and market.



Considering the genetic relationship between the key profit drivers and the EBVs that are available, the bar graph below illustrates the magnitude and direction of emphasis that has been placed on each EBV within this selection index.



While the graphs on the previous page show the different profit drivers and emphases that have been placed on each EBV within the MSA-B2 index, they do not illustrate the likely change that will occur to each individual trait if producers select animals using this selection index. The response to selection will also be influenced by such factors as the genetic relationship between traits and the animals that are available for selection.

The following bar graph provides an indication of the relative change that would be expected in each individual trait if producers select animals using the MSA-B2. The graph reflects the relative change if the Performance Herds Australia Published Sires (at the June 2020 GROUP BREEDPLAN analysis) were ranked on this selection index and the Top 20% selected for use within a breeding program. The response to selection may differ if a different group of animals were available for selection.

