

Glossary of Terms

Accuracy (Acc) – A measure of the reliability of an EPD. Accuracy values are reported as decimal numbers between zero and one. Values closer to one indicate larger amounts of available information and greater certainty that a bull's EPD will not change significantly as more progeny information becomes available.

Birth Weight EPD (BW) - A sire's expected progeny difference, expressed in pounds, for mature dam equivalent birth weight of calf. A Mature Dam is age 3 years and above. Progeny of sires with lower birth weight EPD values will generally be born with less calving difficulty.

Daughters in Production (DIP) – The number of a sire's daughters in production.

Expected Progeny Difference (EPD) – The expected difference (in trait units, usually pounds) in performance of a bull's progeny when those progeny are compared to progeny of a sire with an EPD of zero for the trait in question. EPD values are relative. They do not indicate absolute levels of performance. Rather, they can be used to compare expected progeny performance of different bulls.

Groups (CG) – The number of contemporary groups in which a sire's progeny appear.

Maternal Milk (Milk) – The expected difference (due to milk production alone) in weaning weight of calves out of a bull's daughter compared to calves from daughters of a bull with zero EPD for maternal milk. Maternal milk EPD values are measured in pounds of calf weaned and indicate milking ability.

Progeny (Prog) – The number of reported progeny of a sire.

Total Maternal EPD (Tot Mat.) – The expected overall difference (lbs.) in weaning weight of calves out of a bull's daughters compared to calves from daughters of a bull with a zero EPD for total maternal. The total maternal EPD is a measure of both growth and milking ability and is an indication of the size of a calf a bull's daughter will wean.

Weaning Weight EPD (WW) – A sire's expected progeny difference (lbs.) for 205 day, mature dam equivalent weaning weight. A sire's weaning weight EPD is an indication of growth to weaning. It does not indicate milk production.

Yearling Weight EPD (YW) – A sire's expected progeny difference (lbs.) for 365 day, mature dam equivalent yearling weight. The yearling weight EPD is a measure of growth from birth to a year of age.

Calving Ease Direct (CED)- The ease with which a bull's calves are born to first-calf heifers.

Calving Ease Maternal (CEM) – The ease with which a sire's daughters calve as first-calf heifers.