

Preface

The American Tarentaise Association is pleased to publish the 2009 Sire Summary as a service to ATA members and cattle producers throughout the beef industry who utilize Tarentaise genetics.

This publication is the product of intense gathering of raw data by ATA members, submission of that data to our association via data reporting and finally, the analysis of the entire ATA data set by Colorado State University's Center for Genetic Evaluation of Livestock in Fort Collins, Colorado.

This year's evaluation considered 115,625 animal records. For this publication 37 bulls met the requirements to be listed as Active Progeny Proven Sires and 40 bulls qualified to be listed as Active Genetic Venture Sires. The qualifications for publication are listed within these pages and were developed to ensure that sires published are both active sires and have sufficient date to have a higher degree of assurance in the predictions. EPD values for Tarentaise sires not listed here are available by visiting the ATA web site at www.americantarentaise.org or contacting the ATA office.

To help those who wish to know how an individual bull may rank within the breed, we have published a chart titled Percentile Levels - ATA Sires. This chart allows you to know if a sire is in the top, middle, or bottom of the breed for various traits. For example, if Bull A has a Birth Weight EPD of -2.5, he is in the top 3% of all Tarentaise sires in that trait. If Bull B has a Weaning Weight EPD of +13, he would be in the top 30% of all Tarentaise sires.

Due to Complete Herd Reporting (CHR), the American Tarentaise Association has learned much about the performance of Tarentaise cattle in a relatively short period of time. Every application not only supplies a pedigree observation, it also gives us a performance observation.

Sire Selection

To provide complete evaluation, the Sire Summary is presented in two sections, that of Progeny Proven Sires and Genetic Venture Sires. Each section contains only "active sires", sires which have had at least one offspring registered in the past three years. Results for inactive sires and sires with lower accuracies have been calculated and are available upon request from the ATA.

Progeny Proven Sires

These sires have met an accuracy standard of .70 or higher in the weaning weight EPD evaluation. Bulls listed in this category have sired enough performance-tested progeny to warrant considerable predictability.

Genetic Venture Sires

These sires have met an accuracy standard of between .50 and .70 in the weaning weight EPD evaluation. These bulls have sired a minimum of 10 performance-tested progeny in two or more contemporary groups.

DNA & Blood typing Requirements

ATA requires that all sires used for Artificial Insemination have their Blood and/or DNA types on file with the Association.