



A DESIRE to offer more reliable information on bulls will see new information included on all sires sold by Injemira Beef Genetics at Book Book, NSW, this year.

All genetic information for this year's line-up of sale bulls will include Breedplan figures which have been enhanced through increased accuracy by the use of extensive genomic tests.

Injemira principal Marc Greening said while estimated breeding values were essential, there were ways of making sure the information they gave was more reliable with a greater degree of accuracy.

"There are certainly problems with selecting purely on EBVs due to documented data shifts over the past few years, this is evident in all the major breeds in Australia". "Even bulls with high accuracy have had considerable shift in recent times, and this is just unacceptable when commercial producers make considerable investment in their new sires" "With the incorporation of genomic information to your bulls EBV set, the chance of data shift is reduced" Mr Greening said.

"A bull you buy today may have different data in as little as two months' time, we as an industry must recognise this as a fact"

Mr Greening has been a leader in the use of EBVs and his bulls feature widely in the top brackets for all traits and Mr Greening considers EBV selection as a very important tool in sire selection, but is only a part of bull selection for commercial breeders.

"Bull selection has to be a balance of phenotype, market suitability, on farm real world progeny information and EBV data which was enhanced by genomic information".

"If bull buyers want certainty from the sires they buy, they need to select bulls with genomic information incorporated into the Breedplan analysis, from stud operations that test their genetics in the real world" Mr Greening said.

He said the genomic testing also provided valuable information on potential genetic conditions, and in the case of Poll Hereford cattle, clear guidance on whether a bull was a homozygous or heterozygous (100% dehorners).

Injemira Beef Genetics will offer 92 Poll Hereford bulls at their sale at Book Book, NSW, on February 19.

Included in the offering this year will be the first bulls from sires, Techno and Executive, both known for their exceptional carcass attributes.

Mr Greening said the average sire at Injemira was double the breed average for marbling, 20 per cent higher than breed average for Eye Muscle Area (EMA) and in the top 25 per cent for all four \$ index values, backed by a program that turns off in excess of 2000 commercial steers and heifers annually providing certainty to commercial producers that the genetics 'hit the grids'.

"Our industry is changing and changing fast," he said.

"The advent of objective carcass measurement is just around the corner and we, as breeders, need to concentrate on areas that will make us money in the future and my job as a seedstock producer is to provide this.

"I can't stress highly enough that this concentration needs to be on carcass yield and carcass quality, along with the ability to hit this at a young age" "That is what makes a commercial producer the return on hectare required".

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