



## 41st Annual Illinois Performance Tested Bull Sale



### Average EPDs not 0.0

When evaluating the EPDs in the Sale Catalog please keep in mind the AVERAGE EPDs for the various breeds. Do NOT COMPARE EPDs across breeds as they work from a different base. This is why we use EPD Percentile Rankings so you know where a bull falls within their breed for the various traits. However, for buyers who would like to know the average EPD for the four production traits they are as follows:

<u>Breed</u>	<u>YR(*)</u>	<u>CED</u>	<u>BW</u>	<u>WW</u>	<u>YW</u>	<u>MM</u>
Angus	Sp09	5	2.2	44.0	81.0	21.0
Sim-Pure	Sp09	6.5	1.3	32.4	57.6	4.4
Sim-Hybrid	Sp09	--	-0.2	27.2	52.3	3.2
Hereford	Sp09	0.1	3.5	42.0	69.0	16.0

(\*) This is the breed's bull birth year Percentile Breakdown where the figures were evaluated for breed average.

Beyond the production traits EPDs listed above there is several carcass EPDs that have major economic importance. Purebred breeder associations run their own analysis and thus tend to emphasize different traits. Thus, there will be two different traits listed, where available for each breed.

Like the production traits the EPD Group Rankings as used in the past will be replaced with the Actual Percentile Rankings from 01 to 99 for the carcass traits.

The two carcass traits with EPDs include Marbling Score OR % IMF (Intermuscular Fat) and Ribeye Area. The numerical values and EPD percentile rankings are only for within a breed and CANNOT be compared across breeds.

The traits you emphasize and your breeding program will dictate the direction of selection. Some of the EPDs have accuracy figures (Example .27), while others are pedigree estimate (P or I). A definition of the various EPD traits include the following:

Marbling Score EPD (MB) – is an expression, as a fraction, of the difference in subjective USDA marbling score of a sire's progeny at a given point.

Ribeye Area (REA) – is a predictor of the differences in square inches of ribeye area of a sire's progeny compared to the progeny of other sires.

The average EPDs for carcass/scan traits include the following:

<b>Breed</b>	<b>Marb</b>	<b>REA</b>
Angus	+0.28	+0.13
Sim-Pure	+0.13	+0.08
Sim-Hybrid	+0.31	-0.07
Hereford	+0.02	+0.17

In most breeding situations the **“LOWER” the numerical percentile ranking is the more desirable**. This would mean that a ***higher numerical EPD*** or ***lower numerical percentile ranking*** (closer to 01) indicates the following for the carcass EPD traits -

- **Marbling Score and/or Intramuscular Fat** - Sire with higher numerical values should produce offspring with a more desirable USDA Quality Grade.
- **Ribeye Area** - offspring calves should obtain a larger Ribeye area.