

ASA Programs: Driving Data and Genetic Progress (continued)

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- **Parentage Verification and Selection Decisions.** Adding genomics to genetic predictions is similar to knowing 10 to 25 progeny records on that animal — which is more than a lifetime of progeny records for most cows. Add the benefit of confirming the pedigrees, and you can see why so many members have jumped at this opportunity. The current error rate in parentage reporting is estimated at 7%. Confirming reported pedigrees for all enrolled cows through genomic testing will not only increase the accuracy of EPD predictions, but parentage markers will be kept on file for future progeny comparisons.
- **Discounted Trait Testing.** Trait testing is considerably less expensive when ordered with a genomic panel compared to ordering just the simple trait. Add-on price discounts can be viewed on simmental.org.



Total Herd Enrollment (THE)

Total Herd Enrollment (THE) is a dam inventory program specifically designed to track each dam's productivity and genetic influence on her progeny.

Through THE, the data submitted annually by thousands of breeders on their dams makes it possible to calculate maternal trait EPD with greater accuracy. In turn, this allows you, as a breeder, to make better-informed selection decisions by pinpointing the highest-performing cows in your herd.

- **Develop and Improve Female Records.** A reproductive record on every cow, every year develops and improves maternal EPD, such as stayability and heifer pregnancy. It also enables an accurate calving interval to be calculated.
- **Receive More Informative EPD.** Submitting data on the entire cow herd creates complete contemporary groups, which leads to more informative EPD, adjusted measurements, and herd reports. Submitting data for only a portion of the cow herd causes the contemporary group to be biased, ultimately leading to less informative data, ratios, and EPD.
- **Contribute to Genetic Improvement.** All data submitted to ASA, and International Genetic Solutions partners, is processed through the genetic evaluation weekly, allowing you to make breeding and replacement decisions with the most up-to-date and accurate information available.
- **Largest Multi-breed Genetic Evaluation.** All breeds utilize the same EPD base, eliminating the need to recalculate EPD by breed when comparing.
- **Reduced-cost or Free Registration.** Registration fees for members enrolled in THE cost less and may even be free depending on the enrollment option.

- **Performance Advocate Recognition.** Breeders who submit data for 90% of their entire calf crop contemporary group for 8 of the 14 traits tracked by the THE program qualify as a Dedicated Performance Advocate. Those who submit data for 90% of their calf crop for 10 of the 14 traits qualify as Driven Performance Advocates. Those who meet this designation are highlighted in the Late Fall *SimTalk* and online.
- **Free Online Data Reporting.** THE members can report data 24/7 according to their individual needs. Customizable reports help bring real-world value to the data you've collected.



Feeder Profit Calculator (FPC)

The Feeder Profit Calculator is a free, third-party evaluation tool that allows producers, marketers, and buyers to know and share the profit potential of their calves.

- The FPC incorporates genetic knowledge of main-stream sires (regardless of breed), preconditioning and vaccination information, weaning management, and responsible health programs to evaluate the value on a set of calves.
- The evaluation and resulting value is based on both management and genetic criteria. The Relative Value, as indicated on a formal certificate you will receive directly from IGS after submitting your operation's information, enables you to benchmark your work to continuously improve management and genetic decisions in your herds.
- For buyers of the cattle, it provides insight into projected feedlot and carcass trait performance and overall profit potential.
- IGS Feeder Profit Relative Value is related to your health protocols and genetic profile, which would only be additive to your third-party verification programs. This captures value many producers otherwise miss out on.
- Visit internationalgeneticsolutions.com to utilize the FPC. 