

BULL SELECTION AND THE VALUE OF A BULL IN A HERD

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Phenotype = Genotype + Environment



IN THESE BULLS WE CLEARLY SEE
MASCULINITY, MUSCLING



BULLS = MASCULINITY, MUSCLING, WALKING ABILITY. EVALUATE FROM LEGS UPWARDS



FEMALES = FEMININITY, WEDGE (NEVER MUSCLING), BREADTH, WALKING ABILITY



FEMININITY: great examples

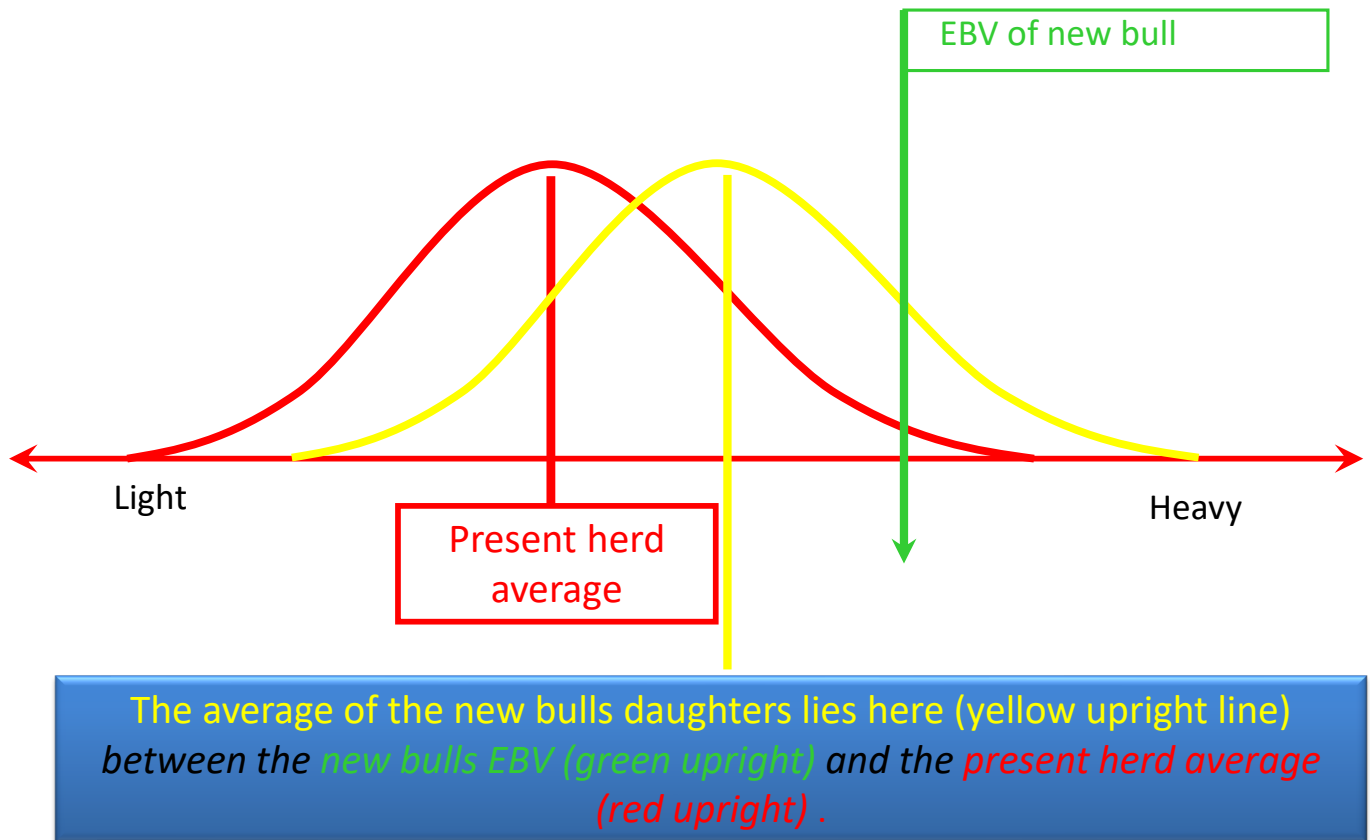


REMEMBER BULLS HAVE A 50% GENETIC INFLUENCE ON A COW HERD

- MAKE SURE THE BULL YOU ARE USING IS THE RIGHT BULL FOR YOUR COWS . CHECK HIS LOOKS AND FIGURES...EBV'S



By using bulls with **good** EBVs you improve your cow herd like this



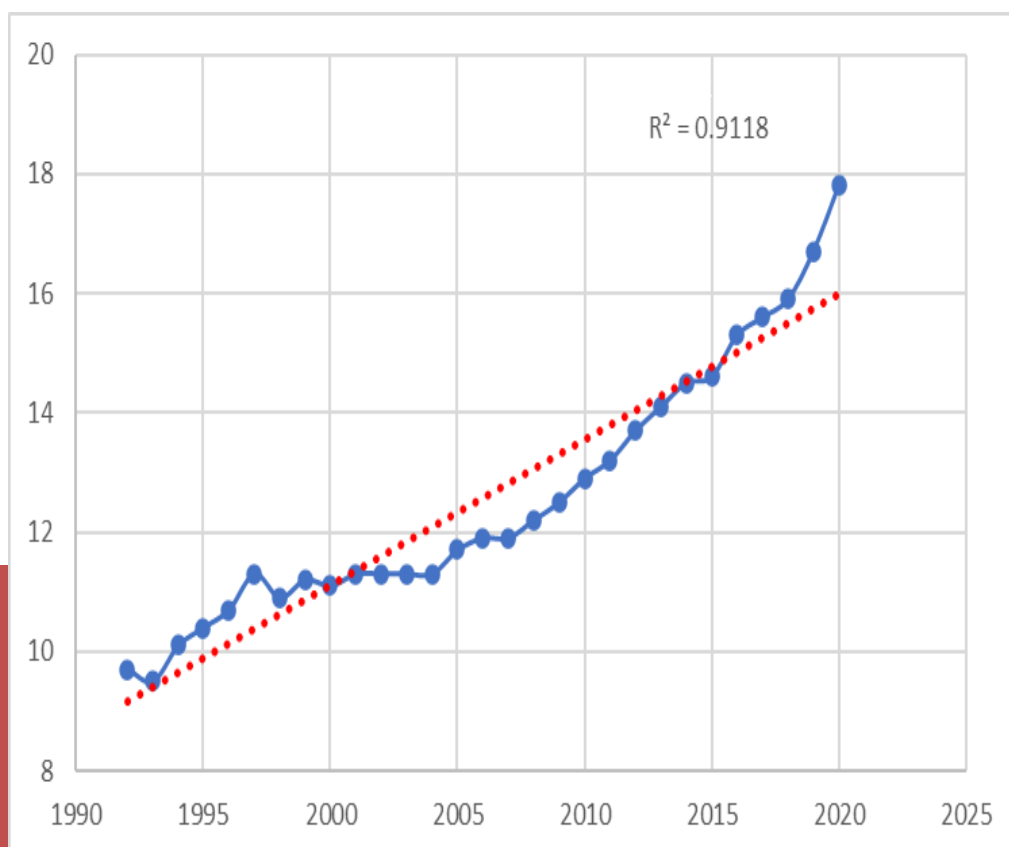
ALWAYS MAINTAIN A BALANCE!!

- I don't want to say too much about EBVs.....except that they are a necessity
- Remember if you only do your breeding on your computer you will definitely fail
- EBV's work on averages in a breed or herd or in an animals own EBV's for various traits
- EBV's have an accuracy % attached to them depending on amount of info on pedigree, own performance and progeny is available

VISUAL APPRAISAL IS EQUALLY IMPORTANT

- Try to have a look at a potential stud bull's dam or family before you buy him.
- Or at least the breeder's female herd for femininity, uniformity, size, structural correctness.
- The more you can see the more info you have available on visual that you can combine with EBV's

Simbra weaning weight GENETIC trend
8 kg increase over 28 years. Droughtmaster
would be similar.





In Closing

- Remember to always keep a balance between the EBV's (genotype) and visual (phenotype)
- You must also have a goal or breeding objective
- The value of a bull in a herd of 40 females is FORTY TIMES MORE THAN ANY ONE FEMALE
- The old saying "A GOOD BULL IS HALF YOUR HERD AND A BAD BULL IS YOUR WHOLE HERD" still holds 100% true
- Enjoy your cattle and breeding – it's always a privilege!

