

# ICBF €uro-Stars

## Background

The Beef €uro-Star breeding Index for Beef cattle that has been developed by ICBF reflects how much Profit a farmer can expect to realize from making a breeding decision. They are designed to help farmers increase return from cattle breeding and are based on available data on all animals in the the ICBF Cattle Breeding Database.

## €uro-Stars -What do they mean?

<b>Suckler Beef Value (SBV)</b>	Measure of the Overall Beef Value of an animal - combines Sub-Indices together.
<b>Weanling Export</b>	Measure of genetic merit of a Bull to <u>produce profitable Weanlings.</u>
<b>Beef Carcass</b>	Measure of genetic merit of a Bull to <u>produce profitable Carcasses.</u>
<b>Daughter Fertility</b>	Measure of genetic merit of a Bull to <u>produce daughters with good fertility.</u>
<b>Daughter Milk</b>	Measure of genetic merit of a Bull to <u>produce daughters with good milk production.</u>

## €uro-Stars - Where does the information come from?

Index	Information Source
<b>Weanling Export</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Individual on-farm &amp; mart weanling weights (150-300 days old).</li><li>2. Individual weanling price/kg from mart sales.</li><li>3. Linear scoring information recorded by ICBF trained scorers.</li><li>4. Weaning weight &amp; live weight information.</li></ol>
<b>Beef Carcass</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Carcass weight, conformation &amp; fat data from Irish factories.</li><li>2. Feed intake measured at Tully Bull Performance Test Centre.</li><li>3. Linear scoring information recorded by ICBF trained scorers.</li><li>4. Weaning weight &amp; live weight information.</li></ol>
<b>Daughter Fertility</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Daughter age at first calving from calf birth records.</li><li>2. Daughter calving difficulty recorded through Animal Events.</li><li>3. Daughter calving interval from calf birth records.</li><li>4. Daughter survival to calve again from calf birth records.</li></ol>
<b>Daughter Milk</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. On-farm &amp; mart weaning weights (150-300 days old).</li></ol>
<b>Other Key Traits</b>	<b>Calving Difficulty:</b> recorded at calving time through Animal Events. <b>Gestation:</b> data from females with mating & calving dates recorded through Animal Events. <b>Docity:</b> docility recorded through SCWS by farmer & docility recorded by linear scorer.
<b>Reliability %</b>	This is an indication of how much confidence can be placed in the evaluations.
<b>N/A</b>	€uro-Star Indexes are sometimes not available due to the reliability % for that trait being too low
<b>GROW Bar Graphs</b>	GROW (Genetic Recording of Weanlings) Bar Graphs show how an animal is expected to breed various traits.
<b>BLUP Figures</b>	BLUP composite figures compress the individual scoring traits into Muscle, Skeletal & Functional Composite figures.
<b>€uro-Stars</b> <b>★★★★★</b>	5 Stars - Top 20% of the Breed. 4 Stars = Between Top 40% and Top 20% of the Breed 3 Stars = Breed Average. 2 Stars = Between Bottom 40% & Bottom 20% of the Breed. 1 Star = Bottom 20% of the Breed.

### **Herdplus<sup>(R)</sup>**

Herdplus<sup>(R)</sup> is the ICBF Cattle Breeding Information Service for both Dairy and Beef farmers. Herdplus<sup>(R)</sup> uses cattle breeding information to generate valuable reports for your herd. These reports will allow you to analyse your own herd's performance as well as allowing you compare your results with the National Average figures - **all for € 60/year!**

**To find out more about 'Herdplus', call ICBF today on 1850-600-900 or ([www.icbf.com](http://www.icbf.com)).**