

# B+LNZ GENETICS BEEF PROGENY TEST



## Cohort 5 Sire Nominations - now including the Dairy Beef Progeny Test

Dear Breeder,

Please can you submit your Sire Nominations for the Beef and Dairy Beef Progeny Tests by the 20th August, 2018. (see nomination form and conditions below) .

We are excited to enter into the 5th mating of the B+LNZ Genetics Beef Progeny Test (BPT). This game changing industry project continues to provide a leading genetics research and extension platform - in what 4 years ago was an industry devoid of research and industry development.

In this mating there will be some changes to the way sires are nominated and submitted to the programme - and to the project design. This year we are **receiving Beef and Dairy Beef nominations in the same programme** and each sire accepted into the programme **will incur a fee of \$1250**.

### Objectives

1. To provide an elite reference resource to industry for investigating and developing new and novel traits.
2. To provide an elite reference resource to industry for genomic and phenotypic data collection, including carcass and maternal trait data difficult to collect in typical stud situations.
3. To provide an elite reference resource to industry for progeny testing of sires.
4. To provide ongoing demonstration of the breeder's toolkit and an extension platform for adoption of information.

### Why enter a Bull in the Beef Progeny Test?

- Regular reporting of progeny sire means and sire rankings for over 35 traits- transparent and benchmarked across leading sires and breeds
- Be involved in cutting edge developments in NZ beef breeding and involve your breeding programme in leading research
- Progeny are run in large contemporary groups and at multiple sites
- Create and maintain excellent genetic linkage to industry reference populations. This is particularly significant and important for Single Step genomic analysis, as the biggest improvements in accuracy from genomics will be obtained in herds where animals are closely related to reference data (i.e. animals with both genotypes and phenotypes)
- High density (50k) DNA profiles on sires and progeny stored and made available to you and for single-step BREEDPLAN analysis.
- Outside of the base BREEDPLAN traits, receive additional hard to measure traits for submission to BREEDPLAN:
  - » Abattoir carcass.
  - » Structure.
  - » Docility.

- Outside of BREEDPLAN traits, other traits will be measured to contribute towards future developments, and where-ever possible these will be reported back. While exactly what is measured will be depending on opportunities and funding, some examples of what could be included are:
  - » Early life reproduction.
  - » Stayability/cow longevity.
  - » Body Condition Score.
  - » Internal parasite resistance/resilience via next-generation Faecal Egg Counting technology.
  - » Feed efficiency and methane emission predictions.

## Revised Categories

### Maternal

- Open for nominations from Angus & Hereford sires.
- Subject to selection by panel.
- Bulls must come from herds implementing industry best practice recording programmes and using genetic evaluation/EBVs.

### Terminal

- Open for nominations from all sires and breeds
- Subject to selection by panel.
- Bulls must come from herds implementing industry best practice recording programmes and using genetic evaluation/EBVs.

### Dairy Beef

- Open for nominations from all sires and breeds.
- Subject to selection by panel.
- Bulls must come from herds implementing industry best practice recording programmes and using genetic evaluation/EBVs. Emphasis will be placed on:
  - » Gestation Length, Birth Weight, Calving Ease, 400 Day Weight, 600 Day Weight, Eye Muscle Area and Intramuscular Fat %

### To note

- Each bull selected will be used across the category site herds to at least 60 cows (Dairy Beef), 60 cows (Maternal category) or 40 cows (Terminal category) by AI. Note that in some cases semen might be used across multiple years, to contribute to robust links across years. A minimum of 45 (Maternal & Dairy Beef) or 30 (Terminal) straws will be used in the first year a bull is submitted.
- AI programmes have varying success rates, and occasionally failures below the benchmark rate of 50% occur due to a multiple number of factors including semen quality and on-farm issues. Where possible the risks of this are mitigated by using bulls across multiple herds and mobs/days within herds, but the programme cannot guarantee success rates or numbers of live calves per sire.
- Selection panels will consist of a site representative, project management and will have breed society input.
  - » Sire selection criteria will be based on EBVs, genetic variation, ability to contribute to wider industry benefits (e.g. representing widely used genetics for genomic reference populations, enhancing between herd linkage, etc.) and pedigree relationship to sires used in previous Cohorts.
- There will be a sire entry fee of \$1250 excluding GST.
- Sires may be entered into multiple categories, this will incur the cost of one sire fee only.
- If you have a number of sires in mind, please submit them all for consideration, but specify the number of sires you wish to have entered in to the BPT (as that is what will be charged on if you are successful with more than one sire). This gives the selection panel options and will be favoured.
- The BPT will not accept sires from farms under Mycoplasma bovis control. This includes Infected properties, properties under; restricted place notice, notice of direction and assessment.

# B+LNZ GENETICS BEEF PROGENY TEST BULL NOMINATION FORM

Nominations close on 20 August 2018



Owner:			
Address:			
		Post Code:	
Phone:		Mobile:	
Bull Breed:			
Name of bull:		Name of bull:	
Herdbook ID:		Herdbook ID:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Maternal	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal	<input type="checkbox"/> Dairy	<input type="checkbox"/> Maternal <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy
Please number in order of preference first to third - You may choose more than one option subject to one sire entry fee only			
Collection Centre: (where the semen is stored)		AB Code: (if known)	
Has this sire/s been used in a BLG Progeny Tests previously?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there other herds using this sire/s this season (2019)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If so, which herds:			
Does your sire/s have BREEDPLAN EBVs?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If not please attach the EBVs available and further details about the evaluation.			
Is your herd under MPI M.bovis control as an; infected property or a property under; restricted place notice, Notice of direction or assessment?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Expected birth weight of purebred calves sired by this bull:			
Is this bull: (please ✓ one)	Live	<input type="checkbox"/>	Number of straws stored
	Deceased	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Owner: (if different from semen owner)			

Additional Information: Why have you nominated this bull?

Entries close: **Monday 20th August 2018**

Please return to Patrice Grant at PBBnz: [patrice@pbbnz.com](mailto:patrice@pbbnz.com) or **PO Box 503, Feilding 4740**



## Timeline

1. Nominate bull(s) via the form **before noon Monday 20th August, 2018.**
2. Successful nomination owners will be contacted (by late August 2018) and provided with a Bull Owners Agreement for signing
3. Bull owners to organise semen (70 straws per sire for Dairy Beef, 70 for Maternal and 50 for Terminal sires) delivered to either Xcell Breeding Services, Tararua Breeding Services or Animal Breeding Services before Thursday September 13th, 2018 for bulls to be used in the dairy-beef programme, or 15th October, 2018 for bulls to be used in the Maternal/Terminal beef categories. **All semen** will undergo independent quality and **health checks (including M.bovis)** at this stage.

## Other considerations

- Young or yearling bulls awaiting collection need practise. If possible, it is preferable to give young sires some exposure to oestrus females prior to collection to increase the likelihood of collecting a good sample on collection day. This is important given the short turnaround between sire selection and semen arrival deadline.

## Contact

Please return sire nominations to Patrice Grant at PBBNZ;  
patrice@pbbnz.com  
PO BOX 503, Fielding, 4740

For technical enquiries please contact Max Tweedie:  
027404 5205  
Max.tweedie@blnzgenetics.com

