

Research proposal for development of international beef genetic evaluations for carcass traits

November 2013

Where are we?



- Time poor
 - VIA genomics project
- PhD student – Tanya Englishby – joint with Ireland
 - 4 year PhD
 - Courses then will start analysis in the coming year

Formulating a plan



- UK – ultrasound scans on pedigree animals > EUROP carcase and VIA measures on commercial animals
- Other countries?
 - What is measured
 - How is it measured
 - Who is it measured on
 - How many animals measured
 - etc

Formulating a plan



- Questionnaire to participating countries to see what they are doing
- Report back at the next meeting
 - Berlin in May 2014
 - Propose a plan based on the questionnaire
- Likely traits
 - Ultrasound, EUROP and VIA
 - Potentially a lot of traits so will need to prioritise and focus on the ones recorded in common
 - Inclusion of VIA traits may help to unblock our time obstacle

Country		GBR		
Weight traits				
What traits are recorded?	When recorded	What animals are recorded?	Who records the measurements?	N records/year
live weight (kg)	400 days	Purebred pedigree animals	Farmer	~ 1500 Limousin
Hot carcase weight (kg)	slaughter	All animals slaughtered – mostly the cross bred commercial animals	Abattoir	200k+?
Ultrasound traits				
Fat depth	400 days	Purebred pedigree animals	Trained technician	~ 1500 Limousin
Muscle depth	400 days	Purebred pedigree animals	Trained technician	~ 1500 Limousin
Intra muscular fat		Not recorded		
Actual Carcase traits				
EUROP conformation grade	slaughter	All animals slaughtered – mostly the cross bred commercial animals	Abattoir	200k+?
EUROP fat grade	slaughter	All animals slaughtered – mostly the cross bred commercial animals	Abattoir	200k+?
VIA 8 Rib HQ	slaughter	All animals slaughtered – mostly the cross bred commercial animals	1 Abattoir - more expected	78k
VIA 5 Rib FQ	slaughter	All animals slaughtered – mostly the cross bred commercial animals	1 Abattoir - more expected	78k