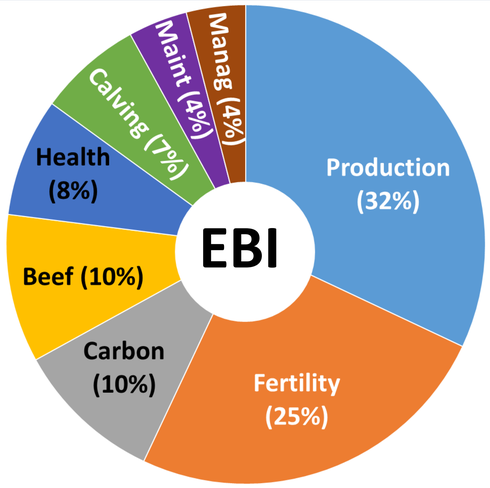
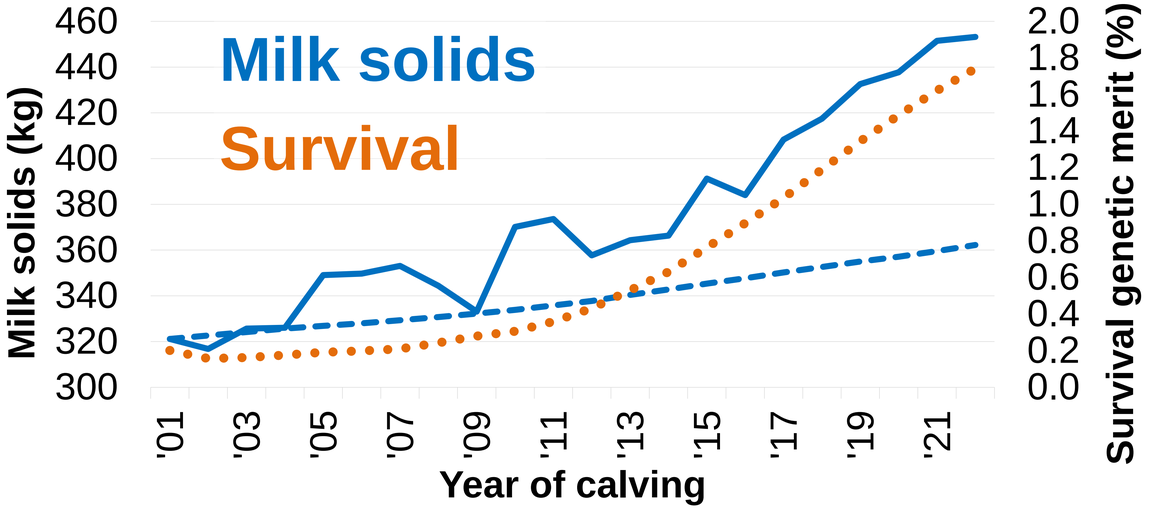
Sustainable Breeding -

Dairy breeding



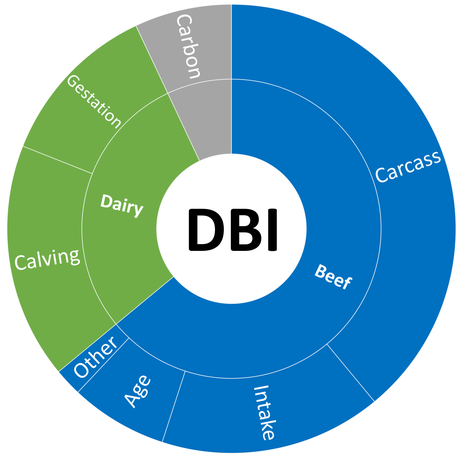
Economic, Social & Environmental Benefits

Trait	2015	2022
6-wk calv rate	57%	67%
Calving interval	391 d	388 d



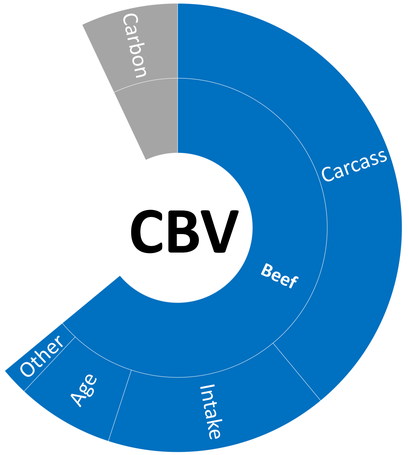
Dairy-beef

Dairy Beef Index



Dairy 30%, Beef 63%, Carbon 7%

Commercial Beef Value

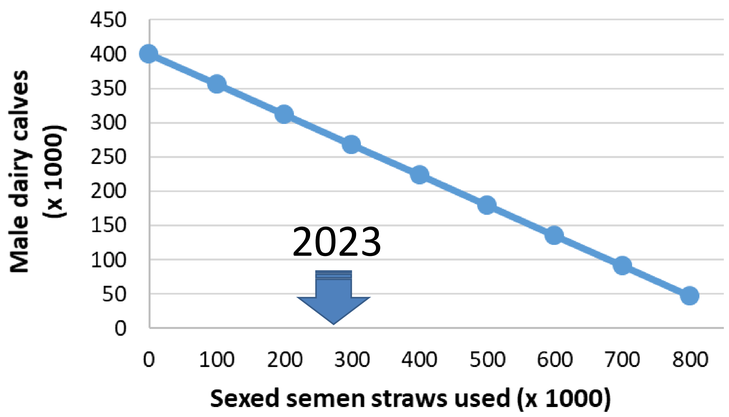


Commercial beef value

- Reflective of expected relative calf profit
- Genotyped calves
- €10 CBV → €15 more profit
- Use beef bulls with DBI beef sub-index >€80

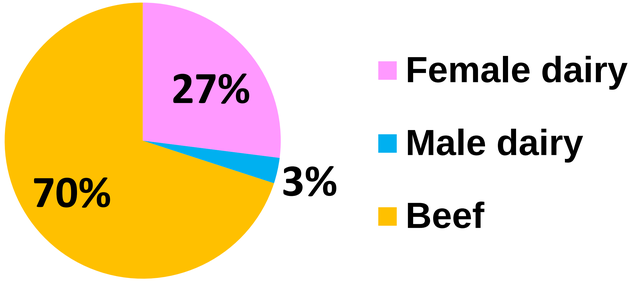
what are the options?

Why use sexed semen? How to use? Performance?



- 2 SS straws ➔ 1 heifer calf
- High DBI for all other insems

Potential calf crop

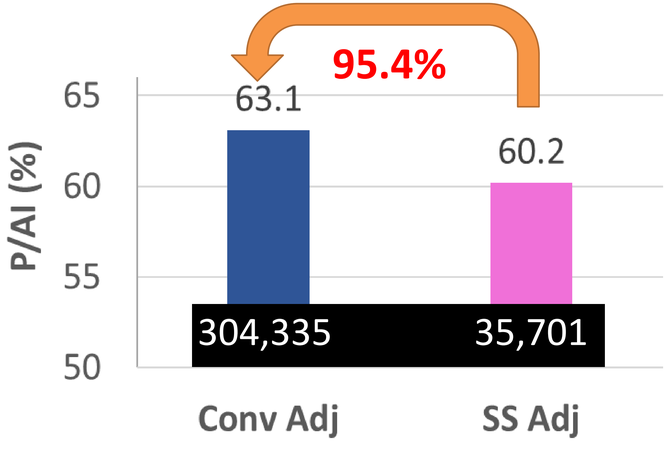


✓Sires ✓Timing of AI
✓Dams ✓Straw handling

2022 performance

Targeted SS usage:

- Heifers
- Better EBI cows
- Early calving cows



New technologies

- Next generation of AI sires (EBI, DBI)
- Heat detection technologies
- National DNA genotyping strategy
  - Provenance
  - Genetic gain
  - Performance monitoring
- Selection for environmental traits

Take home messages

- Genetic gain ➔ economic, social and environmental benefits
- High EBI sexed semen ➔ heifer genetic gain
- High DBI ➔ high CBV calves ➔ more profit
- Repro technologies promise further gains