


FIN: Traits and weighting in current national indices and suggestion for joint Nordic indices

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1

Finnish national beef evaluations

3 trait groups

- Weight evaluation
 - Birth weight, 200d weight, 365d weight, (slaughter weight)
- Slaughter traits
 - Slaughter weight, carcass conformation score, carcass fat score, (birth-, weaning and yearling weight)
- Calving ease
 - Calving difficulty scores, (birth weight)




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2

Index values for traits:

- Birth weight
- Weaning weight (200d)
 - direct
 - maternal (= "dam index")
- Yearling weight (365d)
- Carcass weight
- Carcass conformation score
- Carcass fat score
- Calving ease (direct, maternal)

• **Combined indices are not constructed currently in Finland!**




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3

FIN response to combined indices

AAN	CHA	HER	LIM	SIM
Not needed	needed	Not needed	needed	needed
	Dam index		Dam index	Dam index
	Slaughter index		Production index	Slaughter index
	Birth index			Birth index
	Calving index			Calving index
	Combined calving ease			Combined calving ease



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4

Comments from breed associations

- LIM: dam index – birth weight, calving ease, maternal weaning weight gain for selection of best dam lines (slight increase of birth weight can be accepted)
- LIM: production index – birth weight, growth (pre and post weaning), carcass quality
- CHA and SIM: dam index – stillbirth maternal, calving ease maternal, pre weaning weight gain maternal
- CHA and SIM: slaughter index – weight gain from birth to slaughter, carcass conformation score, carcass fat score
- CHA and SIM: birth index (for selecting young bulls) – direct stillbirth and calving ease in first and later calvings
- CHA and SIM: calving index (for selecting females) – maternal stillbirth and calving ease in first and later calvings
- CHA and SIM: combined calving ease index (birth index + calving index)

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5



6