

Workshop Program

8.45 am	Registration
9.00am	Welcome Welcome by Stud Principal, outline of stud policy and breeding program. Introduction of the speakers and program for the day.
9.10 am	Effective Selection of Breeding Cattle (Powerpoint) An interactive discussion on the value of genetics, traits of importance, selection methods and an introduction to breeding values.
9.40 am	Non-Genetic Influences on Animal Performance (Yards) Practical demonstration of how non-genetic effects on animal performance can complicate bull selection decisions.
10.00 am	Interpreting Breeding Values (Powerpoint) A guide to interpreting EBV information provided in bull sale catalogues.
10.30 am	Morning Tea
11.00 am	Do Breeding Values Work? (Powerpoint) A discussion on trials and case studies that demonstrate selection with EBVs and the production outcomes.
11.30 am	Understanding Breeding Values (Yards) An overview of the different traits for which EBVs are available. What performance information is collected on farm and how is each trait interpreted.
12.00 pm	Simplifying Selection with Indexes (Powerpoint) Introduction to Selection Indexes - what they are and how to interpret them.
12.35 pm	Lunch
1.30 pm	Best Practice Guide to Bull Selection (Powerpoint) A discussion on using EBVs and other genetic technologies in bull selection with a practical demonstration of how to use the online EBV search facility and INSolutions phone app.
2.00 pm	The Bull Buyer and BREEDPLAN (Yards) A mock helmsman auction where workshop attendees are divided into groups and given a buying scenario and budget. At the sale's conclusion each group discusses their bull purchase decision and whether they got value for money.
3.15 pm	Closing Remarks