

# Gelbvieh EPDs

**Calving Ease (CE):** an EPD that is expressed as a ratio, with the higher ratio representing better (easier) calving ease. This value represents the direct influence a sire has on calving ease. Only first-calf heifer data is included.

**Birth Weight (BW):** predicts the difference, in pounds, for birth weight.

**Weaning Weight (WW):** predicts the difference, in pounds, for weaning weight (adjusted to age of dam and a standard 205 days of age). This is an indicator of growth from birth to weaning.

**Yearling Weight (YW):** predicts the expected difference, in pounds, for yearling weight (adjusted to standard 365 days of age). This is an indicator of growth from birth to yearling age.

**Milk (MK):** the genetic ability of a sire's daughters to produce milk expressed in pounds of weaning weight.

**Total Maternal (TM):** a value that combines growth and milk information and a prediction of the weaning weight performance of calves from a sire's daughters. This value does not have an accompanying accuracy value.

**Gestation Length (GL):** this EPD is expressed in days and measures the days under or over normal gestation length a sire's daughters can be expected to calve.

**Daughters Calving Ease (CED):** an EPD expressed as a ratio for a sire's daughter's calving ease with a higher ratio being more favourable calving ease. This value represents the calving ease that a sire transmits to his daughters. Only first-calf daughters are considered in the calculation of this EPD value.

**Scrotal Circumference (SC):** value is expressed in centimetres of adjusted yearling scrotal circumference.

<b>The Canadian Gelbvieh Association Minimum Standard Scrotal Measurements (Adopted November 9, 1990)</b>	
30.5 cm at 350 - 357 days of age	31.0 cm at 358 - 375 days of age
31.5 cm at 376 - 393 days of age	32.0 cm at 394 - 411 days of age
32.5 cm at 412 - 428 days of age	33.0 cm at 429 - 440 days of age

**Stayability EPD (ST):** predicts the genetic difference, in terms of percent probability, that a sire's daughters will stay productive within a herd to at least six years of age. Stayability EPD is one of the best measures currently available to compare a bull's ability to produce females with reproductive longevity.

**Carcass Weight EPD (CW):** expressed in pounds of carcass weight adjusted to a constant fat end point.

**Rib Eye Area EPD (RE):** expressed in square inches of rib eye muscle area adjusted to a constant fat end point.

**Marbling EPD (MB):** expressed in degrees of marbling score, a determinant of USDA Quality Grade. Value is adjusted to a constant fat end point.

**Days to Finish (DtF):** expressed in days to reach a constant fat end point, which is commonly used in the feedlot to determine when an animal is finished with the appropriate amount of fat cover. When evaluating two potential sires with comparable EPDs for other traits, the sire with the lesser value DtF will produce progeny that will finish sooner with potentially lower feed costs.

**The Feedlot Merit EPD (FM):** expressed in dollars per head, value passed to progeny. The Feedlot Merit EPD measures the dollar value associated with the expected gain and feedlot efficiency of progeny when fed in a “typical” feedlot arrangement.

**Carcass Value EPD (CV):** expressed in dollar value per head, comparing progeny of one animal to another in dollar differences when progeny are sold on a grid. This value is a true economic comparison; it is not grid merit at a standard carcass weight as many breed calculates. Projected carcass weight, penalties for “out” weight carcasses (too heavy or light), quality grade and yield grade premiums and discounts are all included in calculation this EPD value.