

Breeding evaluation and genetic progress in Nellore beef breed, from PAINT Nellore Breeding Program.

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Abstract

PAINT is the breeding program of CRV Lagoa, one of the major AI center in Latin America. The PAINT program exists in the market since 1994 and counts more than 70 herds, spread over 14 Brazilian states, 3 provinces in Paraguay and 1 province in Bolivia, representing around 60,000 females in control. The PAINT technical team organizes field activities, training session and gives instruction to the team of each farm in measuring the selection traits. The participants of PAINT use a strong selection for genetics fitting in a production system on grass land, the main vocation of cattle in the tropics. PAINT uses 17 traits that composes the IPAINT (PAINT selection index) and which are linked to weight gain, visual scores (to identify an animal with medium frame, early mature adjusted to a grass production system), temperament and scrotal circumference. The result of this work is the production of animals with a biotype adapted to its selection environment and highly efficient for the traits: sexual precocity, growth and finishing, as well as for carcass quality as demanded by the market. PAINT is authorized by M.A.P.A., Ministry of Agriculture, to grant a document called CEIP, a special certificate, for 20% of the males and 20% of the females superior at IPAINT, for each harvest evaluated every year. CEIP is an official document that certifies the animals that receive this CEIP as improver sires and dams that can be used as transmitters of desirable economical traits to their offspring. Annually a Consolidated Sire Summary PAINT is published containing the EPD's of more than 26,000 breeding sires. Besides the EPD's and indexes as generated by the program for dams and their offspring of each herd the participants also make use of Progressor, a mating program that indicates matings that result in balanced animals with the best breeding value possible. Each year more than 20 young enter the progeny test program most of them coming from PAINT and from main genetic providers in the Brazil, with the objective to identify new sires and supply new genetics to the market, always following CRV Lagoa standard of excellence. All this work of PAINT program has the objective to offer excellence in genetic quality to the national and international cattle breeders.

Keywords: paint, selection, production, gain, improve.