

Simmental Genetics and CSA Breed Improvement Initiatives

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Simmental Genetics

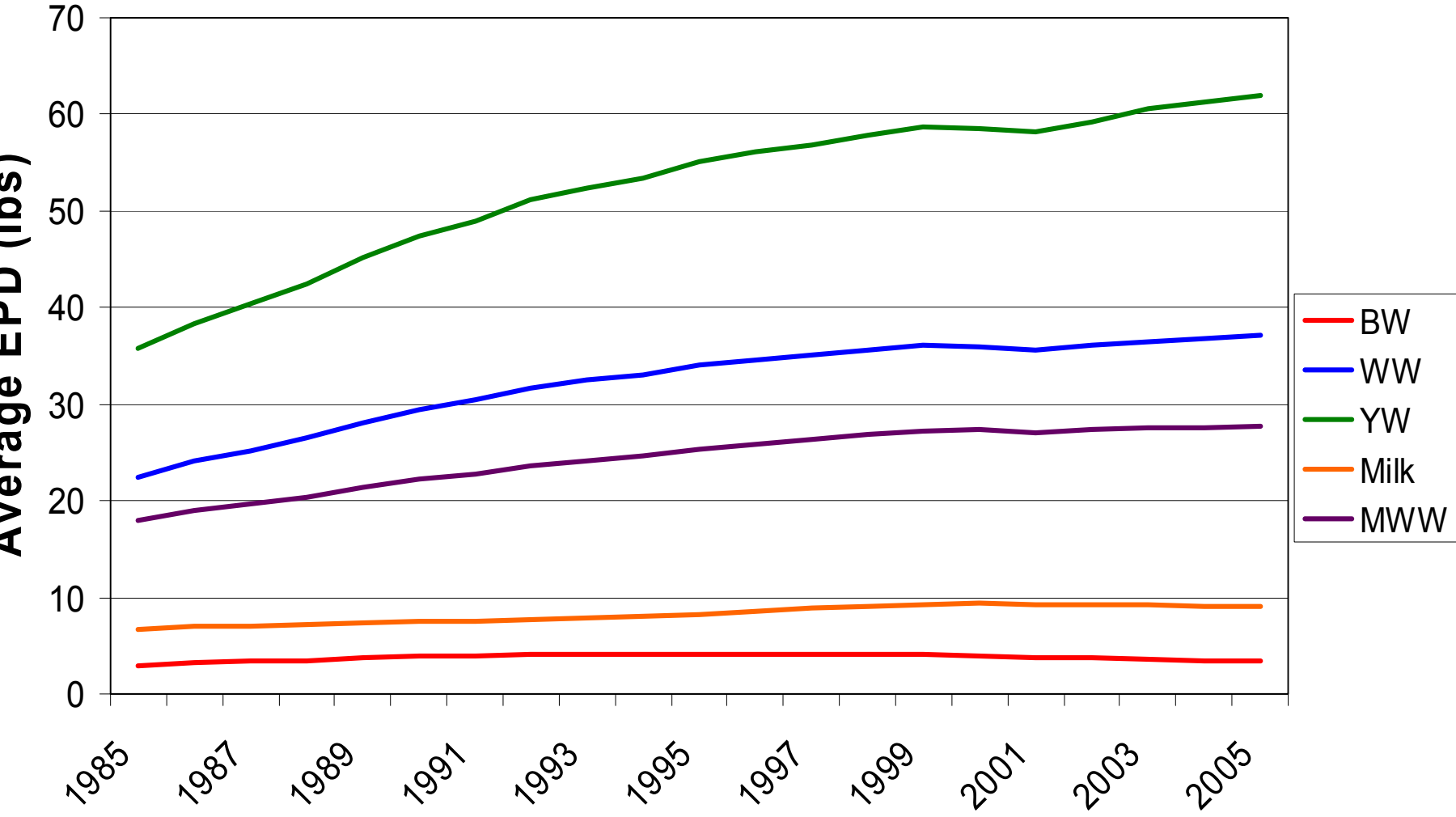
- » USDA Germplasm Evaluation Program Report 22 (January 2004 Cundiff et al.)
- » Canadian Genetic Trends
- » Simmental fits both as a terminal sire (feedlot and carcass calves) and as a maternal sire (replacement females)

	Un. Cal. %	B. Wt. kg	200 d Wt. kg	PW ADG kg/d
Hereford	95.6	41.0	238	1.47
Angus	99.6	38.1	242	1.51
Red Angus	99.1	38.3	239	1.48
Simmental	97.7	41.8	251	1.48
Limousin	97.6	40.6	235	1.42
Charolais	92.8	42.5	245	1.46

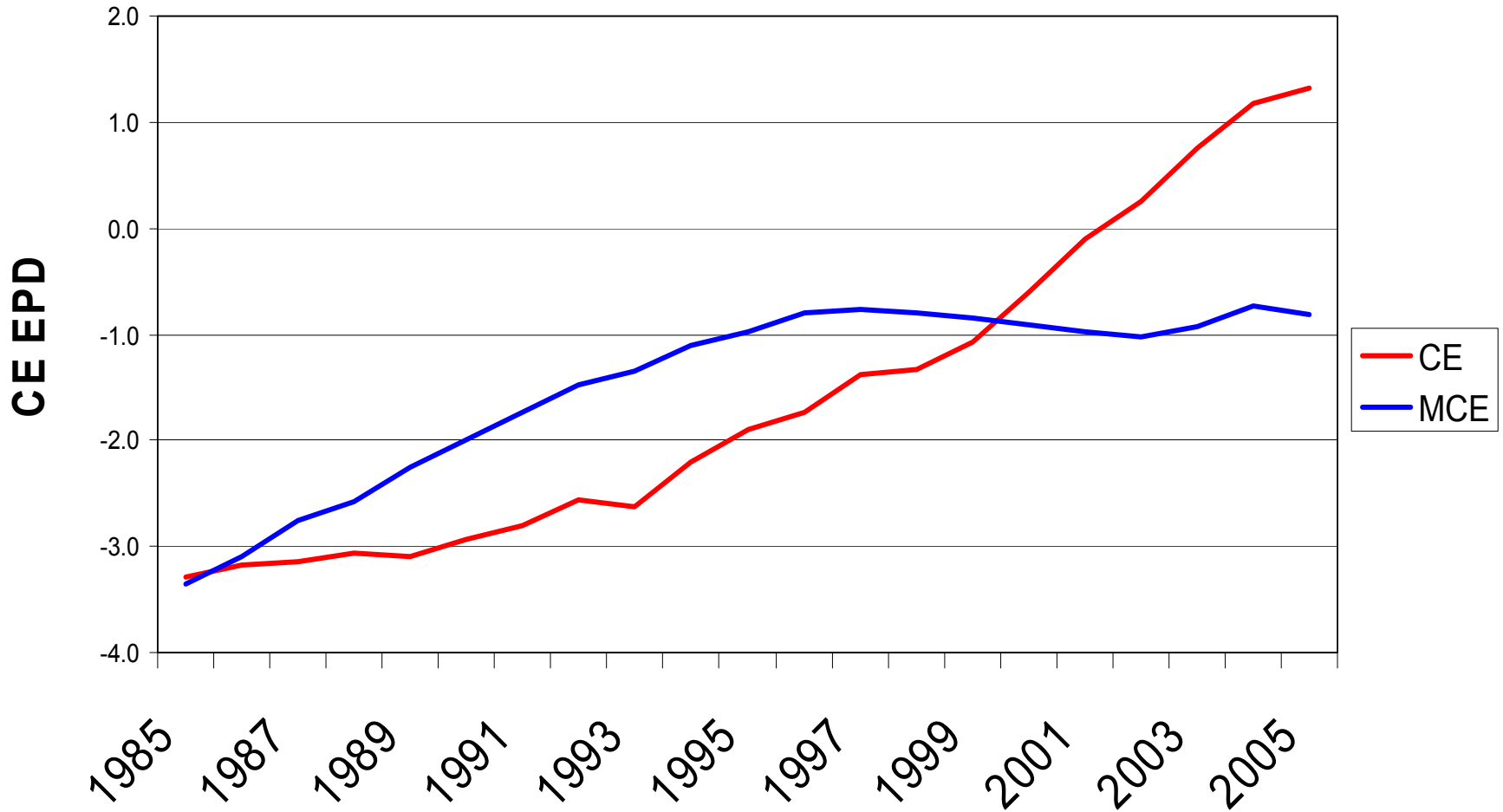
	Car. Wt. kg	Marb. Sc. units	Retail Pr. %	WBS kg
Hereford	364	526	60.7	4.1
Angus	379	584	59.2	4.0
Red Angus	368	590	59.1	4.1
Simmental	376	527	63.0	4.3
Limousin	361	504	63.7	4.3
Charolais	375	517	63.5	4.4

	FE lb/Mcal	Pub. Exp. %	A.A. Pub. d	Pr. Rate %
Hereford	.128	79.2	357	94
Angus	.124	97.2	343	88
Red Angus	.120	97.4	342	91
Simmental	.127	91.6	342	90
Limousin	.123	80.3	377	87
Charolais	.120	88.5	358	91

Canadian Growth and Milk Genetic Trend 1985 - 2005



Canadian CE Genetic Trend 1985-2005



CSA BIC Initiatives

» North American Genetic Evaluation

- CE, Growth & Milk, Carcass
- Multi-breed for all but CE
- External Breed EPDs
- South African Simmental EBVs

» CSA Genetic Evaluation

- Scrotal circumference
- Novel traits (maternal focus)

CSA BIC Initiatives

» New Traits

- Cow Wt. – Calving 2980, Weaning 3455
- Cow BCS – Calving 10178, Weaning 2442
- Udder Scores – 13188
- Mothering Ability – 2221
- Calf Vigour – 3193
- Temperament – Calf (weaning) 8404, Dam (birth) 2335

CSA BIC Initiatives

» New Traits

- Hip Height – weaning 499, yearling 91
- Heifer Pregnancy Rate
- Net Feed Intake or Residual Feed Intake
 - Participated in demonstration projects
 - Producer presentations
 - Plan to incorporate in to carcass progeny test
 - Assisting members collecting on private tests

CSA BIC Initiatives

» Economic Indices

- Current focus is on outputs (weight)
- Need to incorporate inputs (feed, reproduction)
- Maternal and terminal focus
- Relative economic values of traits
- Reduces many EPDs to one value
- Incorporate static average indices and also customised, web-based (interactive) indices

CSA BIC Initiatives

» Carcass and Meat Quality

- Ultrasound – rebate program and involved with training
- Progeny tests
 - Association sponsored structured program using commercial herds and individual members
 - Expect 500 progeny records next year and 1,000/year within 3 years
- Sib tests – assist members with setting up and collecting data from unselected purebreds

CSA BIC Initiatives

» Education and membership information

- Articles – monthly in breed magazine and twice a year in commercial publication
- Regular updates to membership
- Monthly E-News
- Website
- Direct producer meetings
- Two committee meetings per year
- Participate in ASA committee meetings