

# IMPROVER BULLS

*It pays off!*

TRAITS ASSESSED	WHY USE IMPROVER BULLS ?	CASH BACK \$\$\$
Birth weight / Calving ease	Easier calving	↘ Mortality ↗ Income
Weight gain - birth to weaning	Heavier calves for sale	↗ Income
	Faster target weights	↘ Production costs
Maternal milk	Heavier calves for sale	↗ Income
	Faster target weights	↘ Production costs
Frame score / Hip height	Better control of size / Cow weight	↘ Feeding costs
Feet and leg quality	↗ Longevity	↘ Production costs
Postweaning gain	Target steer weight reached more quickly	↘ Production costs
Rib eye area / Back fat	↗ Lean meat yield of steers	↗ Income
Marbling	↗ % of AAA and Prime carcasses	↗ Income

IT PAYS OFF... BECAUSE USING IMPROVER BULLS PROVIDES BENEFITS FOR COW-CALF HERDS, FEEDLOTS AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES !

Estimate of the additional income generated by using improver bulls for weight gain from birth to weaning.

Number of cows bred per bull	30
% of weaned calves per cow bred <sup>1</sup>	85%
Number of calves weaned	26
Average male price in 2023 (\$/pound) <sup>2</sup>	\$3.24
Average female price in 2023 (\$/pound) <sup>2</sup>	\$2.71
Average price of both sexes in 2023 (\$/pound)	\$2.98
ASRA net compensation (\$/pound) <sup>3</sup>	\$0.38

Weight gain - birth to weaning EPD <sup>4</sup>	
Sire A in top 10 % percentile rank	12.5 pounds
Sire B in 75 % percentile rank	- 6.0 pounds
Extra weight of calves originating from sire A compared to those from sire B	18.5 pounds / weaned calf
Additional annual income if sire A is used	\$1,583 / year
Additional income if bull A is used 4 years	\$6,331 for 4 years

References : <sup>1</sup> PATBQ, Changes in provincial averages; <sup>2</sup> PBQ Website; <sup>3</sup> FADQ, final for 2023 Cow Calves product; <sup>4</sup> AgSights/PATBQ Actual distribution of EPD for the breeds average

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