

2025 FEMALE GENOMIC REPORT

Beauty Hill Majestic



Beauty Hill Maisey



What is Genomics??

Genomics is breeding using DNA (Genotype) to help better predict how well an animal will perform in the future. Genomics identifies genes (good and bad) in 16 different traits such as docility, milking ability, carcass weight, calving ability etc and each trait is given a score, which in turn collectively gives an overall score to the animal. The scoring system used is the Eurostar Index. A 5 star rated animal within breed, means that the animal is in the top 20% for that breed.

The **Eurostar index** is a profit focused index and is divided into the Terminal and Replacement indexes, with traits grouped together according to their importance to achieving the overall goal

The **Terminal Index** estimates how profitable an animal's progeny will be with regards to live weight, carcass conformation and being finished for slaughter.

The **Replacement Index** estimates how suitable an animal's daughters will be for calving ability, milk, fertility, and ultimately being low maintenance suckler cows.


Changes

ICBF has made some important improvements to the Euro-Star indexes in the latest evaluation published on Tue 23rd September 2025. These improvements include:

- **Applying updated economic values:** Teagasc has updated its beef systems model to reflect the outlook of the beef sector, which provides the economic values for the Euro-Star indexes. The principal changes here are in relation to beef price and the cost of farm inputs.
- **Inclusion of suckler cow/calf weight data:** Research was undertaken by ICBF to validate on-farm weight data ahead of its inclusion in the evaluations. This research has been completed and animal weights that satisfy the quality controls are now included.

Updated Teagasc Economic Model

The Replacement & Terminal Index € values are generated by multiplying each of the trait PTA values included in the index (carcass weight, calving difficulty, etc.) by their respective economic values and adding them together to get the overall Index € value. The economic values for each trait are calculated using the recently updated Teagasc Beef Systems model which reflects the outlook for the sector. The positive outlook for beef price has directly impacted the values on carcass weight and cull cow weight and indirectly impacted the values on traits such as calving difficulty and fertility. Table 1 details all the updated trait economic values.

			
	Trait	May-25	Sept-25
Calf traits	Calving difficulty	-€6.04	-€5.43
	Gestation	-€3.01	-€3.68
	Mortality	-€9.61	-€11.91
	Docility	€5.50/€54.96	€5.96/€59.60
	Feed intake	-€0.18	-€0.20
	Carcass weight	€4.68	€5.89
	Carcass conformation	€17.59	€17.59
	Age at finish	-€1.66	-€1.69
	Polled (based on breed or genotype)	€7.30	€8.02
	Meat premium (Angus or Hereford)	€39.12	€39.12
	TB	-€1.13	-€1.13
Cow traits	Age at first calving	-€1.76	-€1.93
	Maternal calving difficulty	-€2.39	-€2.54
	Maternal weaning weight	€2.61	€3.19
	Calving interval	-€3.47	-€4.12
	Survival	€2.22	€2.09
	Heifer liveweight	-€1.27	-€0.94
	Cow liveweight	-€0.32	-€0.33
	Cow docility	€10.24/€102.42	€11.07/€110.70
	Cull cow weight	€3.90	€5.15

Inclusion of suckler cow/calf weight data

ICBF has seen a huge increase in the number of suckler weights recorded annually since the inception of the Beef Environmental Efficiency Programme in 2019. Recording cow and calf weights is now one of the requirements of SCEP. ICBF has been working for some time on validating these on farm weights. All weights that pass the quality control checks are now included in the evaluations. On-farm suckler cow and calf weights are vital data for genetic evaluations as they directly impact several traits in the index such as milk, cow live-weight and carcass weight.

What does the current 4/5-star cow look like?

The increase in beef price from the Teagasc Beef Systems model has seen an increased emphasis on beef traits within the Replacement Index. The average 4/5-star suckler cow maintains the important maternal traits such as milk and

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fertility but now has a higher genetic merit for carcass weight. 5-star cows generate more income than 1-star cows, due to a combination of heavier weanlings, higher prices and better fertility. So, not only are 5-star cows producing heavier, higher value weanlings, but they are also producing more of them, as they are calving more often.

The updated indexes published on 23rd Sep represent further improvements to the ICBF Euro-Star evaluations. Continued research and collaboration with industry partners such as Teagasc and DAFM will ensure that the indexes remain as up to date as possible to best reflect input costs and future beef prices. This will ensure that the Euro-Star indexes will remain an important tool to help farmers breed the most profitable animals possible.

Highest scoring females born in 2023 (1 of 3)

Green = 5 star within breed value

based on the Sept 2025 evaluation

OWNER		NAME	MAT	TER	D/B	COM	SIRE	DAM	MATERNAL GRAND SIRE
A & J Baxter	NI	Beauty Hill Maisy	104	-63	28	69	Woodbine Elmo	Beauty Hill Iliza	Beauty Hill Brigadier EX93
A & J Baxter	NI	Beauty Hill Majesty	111	-71	14	54	Woodbine Elmo	Beauty Hill Jolly	Atlantic High-Tide VG88
Dermot McGeady	NI	Glassdrummond Bluebell 85	95	-80	17	32	Curraghnakeely Masterpiece EX95-4	Glassdrummond Bluebell 82 EX91	Ballylinney Harry 1628 (M1) EX93
Stephen Magowan	NI	Beauty Hill Melda	89	-71	9	27	Woodbine Elmo	Beauty Hill Helga	Beauty Hill Brigadier EX93
Bernard O'Kane	NI	Beauty Hill Mercedes	72	-69	20	23	Woodbine Elmo	Beauty Hill Ferrari	Beauty Hill Brigadier EX93
A & J Baxter	NI	Beauty Hill Molly	88	-73	8	23	Woodbine Elmo	Beauty Hill Dolly G76	Beauty Hill Brigadier EX93
Penny Hutchinson	NI	Braefield Len	84	-75	2	11	Glassdrummond Maestro EX92	Braefield Moira VG88	Dungallia Taurus (M1)
Emmett McCorry	NI	Glenfield Juliet	70	-77	15	8	Woodbine Eddie	Derrypark Jean	Castledale Ollie
Seamus Heverin	ROI	Clonmore Monica	49	-62	19	6	Atlantic High-Tide VG88	Woodbine Annie EX90	Tully Jack EX92-2
Gerard McCloskey	NI	Meencraig Maggie 2	68	-78	15	5	Ravelglen Kane	Glassdrummond Bluebell 74	Castledale Ollie

Highest scoring females born in 2023 (2 of 3)

Green = 5 star within breed value

based on the Sept 2025 evaluation

OWNER		NAME	MAT	TER	D/B	COM	SIRE	DAM	MATERNAL GRAND SIRE
Andrew McConnell	NI	Glenfield Laura 2	71	-80	11	2	Woodbine Felix	Mullaghcarton Laura	Strawpark Cavalier VG86
Sam Smiley	NI	Glassdrummond Cherry 133	104	-97	-7	0	Curraghnakeely Masterpiece EX95-4	Glassdrummond Cherry 114 EX92-2	Ballylinney Harry 1628 (M1) EX93
A & J Baxter	NI	Beauty Hill Mabel	85	-83	-4	-2	Woodbine Elmo	Beauty Hill Glacier	Beauty Hill Brigadier EX93
Bernard O'Kane	NI	Beauty Hill Marigold	86	-87	-2	-3	Woodbine Elmo	Beauty Hill Ivy	Beauty Hill Brigadier EX93
Robert Davis	NI	Ballyvesey Maisie	71	-86	11	-4	Tyrone Timbit EX90	Ballyvesey Emma EX93	Glassdrummond Patrick VG86
Geraldine Heverin	ROI	Derryharriff Primrose (M1)	72	-89	11	-6	Curraghnakeely Palmer (M1) VG88	Gortluchra Bluebell VG85	Ballyshanny Big Hugh
Gerard O'Reilly	ROI	Glasleck Ciara	73	-88	8	-7	Atlantic High-Tide VG88	Woodbine Eliza VG85	Tully Jack EX92-2
Emmett McCorry	NI	Glenfield Becky	77	-88	3	-8	Woodbine Felix	Ravelglen Becky	Glenmaquin Blossom 4 EX93-2
Ross McVitty	NI	Drumany Apate	53	-76	12	-11	Crewe Jack	Clandeboyne Dianna	Ballyvesey Ben
Sam Smiley	NI	Glassdrummond Cherry 141 (M1)	88	-101	0	-13	Curraghnakeely Masterpiece EX95-4	Glassdrummond Cherry 119 (M1)	Ballylinney Harry 1628 (M1) EX93

Highest scoring females born in 2023 (3 of 3)

Green = 5 star within breed value

based on the Sept 2025 evaluation

OWNER		NAME	MAT	TER	D/B	COM	SIRE	DAM	MATERNAL GRAND SIRE
Gerard McCloskey	NI	Meencraig Jean	71	-86	2	-13	Ravelglen Kane	Glassdrummond Cherry 103	Glassdrummond Adam EX91
William Fitzgerald	ROI	Kilpatrick Rose	76	-86	-5	-15	Atlantic High-Tide VG88	Woodbine Fern GP82	Beechmount Nordic EX92
A & J Baxter	NI	Beauty Hill Millicent	70	-83	-4	-17	Woodbine Elmo	Beauty Hill Innocent	Thierafurth Apple
Andrew McKee	NI	Mountstewart Barbara	96	-104	-10	-18	Beechmount Dan	Beechmount Cherry (M1)	Ballylinney Harry 1628 (M1) EX93
Andrew McKee	NI	Mountstewart Beryl	87	-97	-8	-18	Beechmount Dan	Ballylinney Grainne	Atlantic Champion
Nigel Edwards	NI	Curraghnakeely Sylvia 0627	108	-110	-17	-19	Ardfert Jackal EX92	Curraghnakeely Sylvia 0576	Glassdrummond Brexiteer
Chis Ball	GB	Dilhorne Prestwood Holly	66	-90	4	-20	Fairy Glen Cuchulainn	Glassdrummond Holly 15 EX92	Clandeboyne Ruairi
Robert Boyle	NI	Beechmount Sylvia	74	-97	0	-23	Ravelglen Nate	Curraghnakeely Sylvia 0593	Derrynagarra Clarence
Seamus Heverin	ROI	Cloonglas Bonny	71	-95	-4	-28	Ballyreagh Limited Edition	Cloonglas Brona	Latton Spin
Chris Forde	ROI	Duhallow Willow	80	-101	-9	-30	Croaghgorm Limited Edition	Croaghgorm Alder	Beauty Hill Eithan