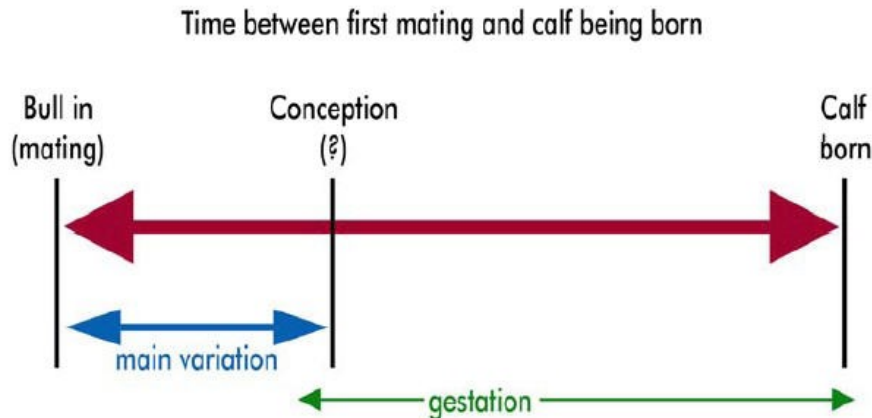


Days to Calving EBVs

While not currently calculated within the Shorthorn GROUP BREEDPLAN analysis, BREEDPLAN has the capability to calculate a “Days to Calving” EBV. This EBV relates to female fertility and provides estimates of genetic differences between animals in the time from the start of the joining period (ie. when the female is introduced to a bull) until subsequent calving.



As part of the ongoing research and development of BREEDPLAN, the information that is required for the calculation of the Days to Calving EBV has recently been reviewed by both the Animal Genetics & Breeding Unit (AGBU) and the BREEDPLAN Technical Liaison Group (BTLG).

Resulting from this review, there have now been significant modifications made to a) the information that needs to be submitted by members interested in having Days to Calving EBVs calculated for their animals, and b) the methods that are available to submit this information for inclusion in the calculation of Days to Calving EBVs.

In order to provide further information on the modifications that have been made to the Days to Calving EBVs a tip sheet has been developed titled “Understanding Days to Calving EBVs”. This tip sheet provides information on Days to Calving EBVs in general, as well as specific information about the information that needs to be recorded to enable to calculation of Days to Calving EBVs. It can be access by [clicking here](#)

While the Days to Calving EBV is not calculated within the BREEDPLAN analysis that is current conducted for Shorthorn, any member that is interested in having Days to Calving EBVs calculated for their animals is now strongly encouraged to submit joining information to BREEDPLAN. Historical information can also be submitted. Once sufficient information has been recorded, the feasibility of calculating a Days to Calving EBV for Shorthorns will be explored.

It is also important to note that any members using a BREEDPLAN compatible herd recording program (e.g. HerdMaster, Stockbook, Herdlink) should contact their software supplier to request a software upgrade that will encompass the necessary recording and submission revisions.

Should you have any queries regarding the recording and submission of joining information or Days to Calving EBVs in general, please do not hesitate to contact Christian Duff at SBTS by phone on (02) 6773 2472 or email: christian@sbts.une.edu.au