



RamCompare Update for SBRT

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FUNDERS



COLLABORATORS



SUPPORTERS





Insemination
Date
Sire used

Pregnancy scanning
Conception data

Birth
Birth weight (ideally) **Ewe wt/BCS**
Lambing ease
Birth type (live and dead)
Sire/Dam
Fostering

Ewe wt/BCS



Data Collection Protocol

Lamb mortality (ideally)

56 Day Weight
Weight / date **Ewe wt/BCS**

90 Day Weight
Weight / date
Ultrasound muscle / fat depth
DNA



Meat Quality
Tenderness
Primal yield

Slaughter
Weight / date
Carcase grade/ conformation



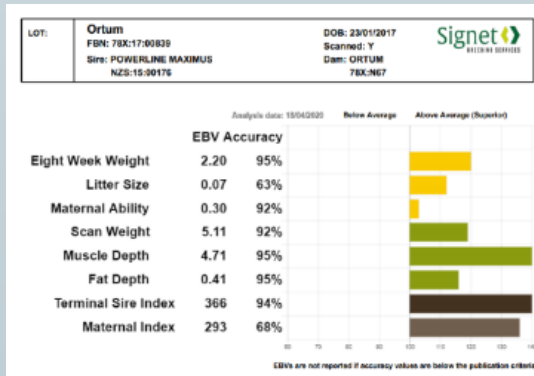
RamCompare – The National Progeny Test

Aims...

- Produce new Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs) for carcass traits
 - Developing breeding tools to get more lambs in spec
- Compare recorded rams under commercial conditions
 - Validate & strengthen the National Terminal Sire Evaluation
 - Assess value of adding commercial data into pedigree evaluations
- Demonstrate commercial value of recorded rams



The problem we are trying to solve



Ram breeders have breeding values for

- Scan Weight
- Muscle Depth
- Fat Depth
- Breeding Index



We need to



- Improve our predictions
- Demonstrate the benefits



Commercial producers are paid on

Carcase weight
Conformation
Fat Class

~Days to Slaughter

Improving Carcass Quality - Is this the right balance?



Are we forgetting this was a pilot project?

RamCompare

National Terminal Sire Evaluation

Eight Week Weight

Scan Weight

Muscle Depth

Fat Depth

CT Traits (11)

RamCompare

Days to Slaughter

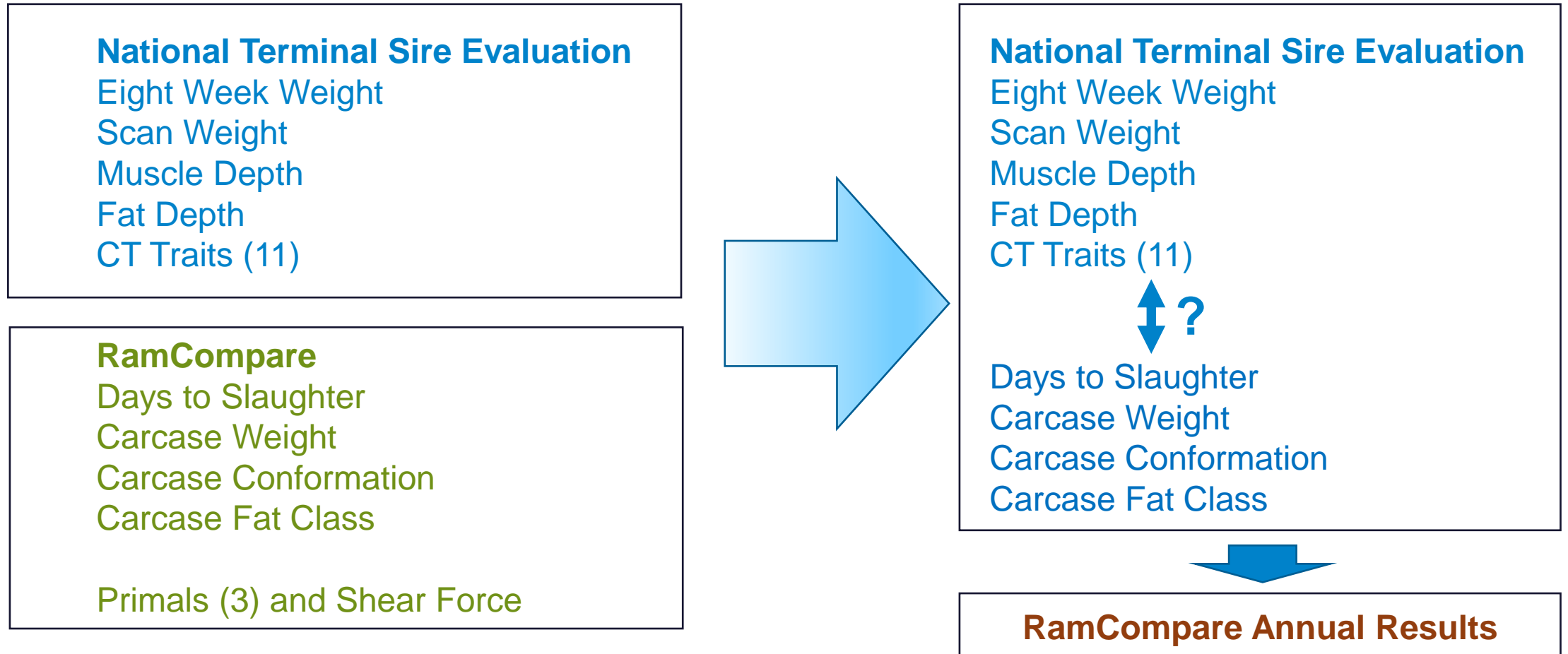
Carcase Weight

Carcase Conformation

Carcase Fat Class

Primals (3) and Shear Force

RamCompare – The Next Steps



RamCompare Research – What we asked Abby

1. Update genetic parameters
 - Advise on trait definitions
 - Publish data on primals and shearforce
2. Widen analysis with more pedigree and phenotypes and implement
 - Include non-RamCompare phenotypes (Dorsets)
3. Review genetic correlations with RamCompare traits
4. Update RamCompare Index
5. Update hill and maternal evaluations