

Table 1**Some of the genetic traits predicted through EPDs and their measurement units¹**

Type	Trait	Abbreviation	Measurements
Production	Calving Ease Direct	CED	Percentage of unassisted births
	Birth Weight	BW	Expressed in pounds
	Weaning Weight	WW	Expressed in pounds
	Yearling Weight	YW	Expressed in pounds
	Scrotal Circumference	SC	Expressed in centimeters
Maternal	Calving Ease Maternal	CEM	Predicts average ease with which a sire's daughters will calve as first-calf heifers. Expressed in percentage of unassisted births.
	Milking Ability	MA	Measured in pounds and predicts a sire's genetic merit for milk and mothering ability as expressed in his daughters.
	Herds	MkH	Reflects number of herds of which data from the bull's daughters are reported.
	Daughters	MkD	Reflects number of daughters that have progeny weaning weight records included in the maternal milk EPD analysis.
	Mature Weight	MW	Expressed in pounds. Only daughters of sires are included.
	Mature Height	MH	Expressed in inches. Only daughters of sires are included.
	Cow Energy Value	\$EN	Expressed in dollar savings per cow per year. Assesses differences in cow energy requirements as an expected dollar savings.
Carcass	Carcass Weight	CW	Expressed in pounds. Predicts differences in hot carcass weight of a sire's progeny.
	Marbling	Marb	Expressed as a fraction of the difference in USDA marbling score of a sire's progeny.
	Ribeye Area	RE	Expressed in square inches.
	Fat Thickness	Fat	Expressed in inches. Predicts difference in external fat thickness at the 12th rib (measured between 12th and 13th ribs) of a sire's progeny.
	Group/progeny	Grp/Pg	Reflects number of contemporary groups and number of carcasses for each sire included in carcass EPD values analysis.
Ultrasound	Intramuscular Fat	%IMF	Percent intramuscular fat in the ribeye muscle.
	Ribeye Area	RE	Expressed in square inches.
	Fat Thickness	Fat	Expressed in inches. Predicts difference in external fat thickness at the 12th rib (measured between 12th and 13th ribs) of a sire's progeny.
	Group/progeny	GP/PG	Reflects number of contemporary groups and number of carcasses for each sire included in carcass EPD values analysis.

¹ Taken from "What Do the Angus EPDs Really Mean?", Milton Orr, University of Tennessee Extension.