

beef+lamb
new zealand

GENETICS

LIC®

Invitation to submit bulls for the 2020 mating of the B+LNZ Genetics Dairy Beef Progeny Test

B+LNZ Genetics and co-funders, LIC, are excited to call for sire nominations for the 2020 mating of the B+LNZ Genetics Dairy Beef Progeny Test at Pāmu's Wairakei Estate's Renown Farm. Open for nominations from all sires and breeds.

This project aims to improve the quality of dairy beef calves in the industry by identifying and enabling widespread use of superior bulls for dairy beef. Top bulls can be used in AB programmes in the dairy industry and in breeding programmes to generate good bulls for use over dairy cows.

For the first time, entering bulls into the Dairy Beef Progeny Test gives all breeders a potential path to market through LIC. Any bull can be submitted for entry and dairy farmers and dairy beef finishers will be able to see which bulls perform the best.

The ideal bulls will add value to all stages of the dairy beef market, offering easy calving and short gestation length to the dairy farm, rapid growth for the finisher and superior carcass attributes for the processor. The calves will be recorded at birth, throughout rearing and the carcasses assessed at slaughter, as is the current practice in the existing progeny test.

This year there are two entry options

- \$1, 250** excluding GST
 - Grants LIC the right to purchase semen from the bull - a 'First Right To Purchase' bull (FRTP).
 - If the bull is selected by LIC, a minimum of 10,000 straws will be collected at \$3/straw.
 - Bull owner cannot sell or dispose of a FRTP bull during the duration of the progeny test (approximately early 2024) unless LIC releases the bull from the agreement prior to this date (reviewed at 6, 15 and 30 months after the progeny are born).
 - Bull/s can be used for natural mating and 100 straws may be retained for use in registered beef cows.
- \$11,250** excluding GST
 - Full cost of being in the Progeny Test.
 - All rights to the bull remain with the submitter.

To note:

- Bulls must come from herds implementing industry best practice recording programmes and using genetic evaluation/EBVs. Emphasis will be placed on:
 - Gestation Length, Birth Weight, Calving Ease, 400 Day Weight, 600 Day Weight, Eye Muscle Area and Intramuscular Fat %.
- Each bull selected will be used across at least 60 dairy cows. Note that in some cases semen might be used across multiple years, to contribute to robust links across years. A minimum of 45 straws will be used in the first year a bull is submitted.
- Selection of bulls will be made by a selection panel, comprised of the project leader, Associate Professor Rebecca Hickson (Massey University), a representative from Pāmu's Renown Farm, B+LNZ Genetics and LIC.
- The DBPT will not accept sires from farms under Mycoplasma bovis control. This includes Infected Properties, properties under Restricted Place Notice, Notice of Direction and assessment.

How to submit a bull

Please fill out the Bull Nomination Form by downloading or saving the form below to your computer. This will enable you to enter your details, or you can print it off and fill it in by hand. Nomination forms must be received by **Friday 14th August 2020**.

- Nomination outcome will be communicated (by 28th August 2020) and successful nominators provided with a Bull Owners Agreement for signing.
- Please return sire nominations to:
Patrice Grant at PBB
patrice@pbbnz.com
PO Box 503, Fielding, 4740

Bull Nomination Form
Click to download form



For any enquires please contact Anna Boyd (Genetics Operations Specialist – Beef)
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