Using Percentile Band Tables

SIL TECHNICAL NOTE

Relates to: Benchmarking

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Introduction

Percentile bands tables provide a useful benchmark for indexes and breeding values in connected flocks from the New Zealand Genetic Evaluation (NZGE). Every two months the NZ leader lists are updated from the most recent NZGE run and percentile bands tables for Dual Purpose and Terminal traits for Sires and Young Rams are produced.

Sire Percentile Bands Tables

The percentile bands tables are based on values for sires used in <u>connected</u> flocks for each index, sub-index or breeding value (BV) for Dual Purpose or Terminal sires with progeny in the last three years. Stud sires represent a highly selected group of rams with proven progeny performance.

When viewing sires on the leader lists or in Ramfinder, then the Sire Percentile Bands are the appropriate tables to use. For stud breeders looking at young rams for potential stud sires, we recommend using the Sire Percentile Bands tables as it is performance relative to current sires that it most applicable.

Young Ram Percentile Bands

The percentile band table produced for young rams is based on all rams weaned in <u>connected</u> flocks in the previous full birth year. This represents a wider group than the Sire Percentile Bands tables, as it includes all rams weaned in that birth year - many of which will not end up being offered for sale. Young rams for sale generally do not have progeny so predictions of genetic merit are based on their own and relatives performance only.

If viewing young rams for commercial use, use the young ram percentile bands tables.

RamFinder Tool and Percentile Bands

When using RamFinder you can specify the index or breeding value range for animals you are interested in. Choose the most appropriate percentile bands for the purpose - see above.

Where to find Percentile Bands Tables

Tables can be found on the SIL Website www.sil.co.nz. Go to the **Tools** section in the header**, NZGE** and then Percentile Bands Tables .

How to read the percentile band table

Determine which percentile bands tables - Sires or Young Rams?

Select the tables for your production system - Dual Purpose or Terminal Sire

Tables include the NZ Standard Indexes, sub-indexes and breeding values.

Example: How to interpret the percentile band for a Terminal Sire table.

The table is broken into percentile brackets with the corresponding index value. A sire with a New Zealand Terminal Worth (NZTW) value of 1350c would be in the top 30-50% of sires used in connected flocks in the last three years.

An individual with a New Zealand Terminal Worth (NZTW) of 2000c would be in the top 5% of sires , as 2000 is above the value of the 5% threshold.

NZGE 1 September 2017   **Terminal Sire Sheep**

Threshold to be in top X%	NZTW	NZGE Terminal Sire Sub-indexes		
		TSS	TSG	TSM
5%	+1814	+221	+1208	+593
10%	+1683	+183	+1106	+530
20%	+1524	+137	+982	+454
30%	+1410	+104	+893	+399
50%	+1220	+49	+746	+308
70%	+1031	-5	+598	+217
80%	+917	-39	+509	+162
90%	+758	-84	+385	+86
95%	+627	-122	+283	+23
Traits in index or units	Lamb Survival, Lamb Growth, Meat Yield	Lamb Survival	Lamb Growth	Meat Yield
Number of connected flocks	66	121	155	81
Number of sires	1025	1465	1868	1225

NZTW = New Zealand Terminal Worth
TSS = Survival,
TSG = Growth,
TSM = Meat

Index and Sub-index values for different percentile bands

The 50% = average of sires with progeny in connected flocks in the last three years

Traits in the Index - details the traits included in the index or units for BVs

The number of connected flocks and sires/animals for each index, sub-index or breeding value.

For assistance contact 0800 SILHELP