



beef+lamb  
new zealand

# GENETICS

## Invitation to submit bulls for the 2017 mating of B+LNZ Genetics Beef Progeny Test

AbacusBio (Jason Archer) on behalf of B+LNZ Genetics would like to invite Angus, Charolais, Hereford and Simmental breeders to nominate sires for use in the 2018 B+LNZ Genetics Beef Progeny Test.

This is will be the 4th year in which this trial has been undertaken. To participate, each breeder would need to supply up to 65 straws of semen per bull.

The semen will be put into several different commercial herds throughout New Zealand and the progeny will be recorded for a wide variety of traits. These traits include growth, fertility, the reproduction of daughters, condition scores, days to calving and others.

This year we will be making some small tweaks to the design for maternal breeds, as the relative priorities of different objectives change slightly. We intend to increase the number of cows mated per bull from the 50 used previously, to 60 this year, in order to increase accuracy of individual bull evaluations. We will also look to include a slightly higher number of unproven sires in the mix this year, so would encourage any breeders who have promising younger bulls to consider putting them forward.

This year we have agreed with the BPT farms to re-balance bull selection so that 90% of the bulls used are in line with the directions that the herds wish to take (previously we had stated 75%, with 25% representing bulls that they may not have chosen).

As in previous years, we will be sourcing a small number of international sires with the objective of providing links to international data sets, using some currently popular bulls to improve genomic selection and benchmarking against international bulls.

**Nominations close Friday 22 September.**

***Semen due 10 November.***

### How to submit a bull

Please fill out the Bull Nomination Form and send it to your Breed Society by Friday 22 September.

### Bull Nomination Form

Click link to download form

