

# **Breeding Programme of the Irish Speckle Park Cattle Society**

(as approval under the EU Animal Breeding Regulations (2016/1012) by the Department of  
Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Initially Approved by the Council of the Irish Speckle Park Cattle Society on  
18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

*(Please see schedule of amendments in Addendum at end of document.)*

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## **Name of Breed**

Irish Speckle Park Cattle

## **Aim of Breeding Programme**

The aim of the Irish Speckle Park breeding programme is to outline and implement the Rules, Regulations and Guidelines to all Society breeders with the overall goal of improving and enhancing the Irish Speckle Park Cattle Breed by selecting the best genetics available to achieve this goal.

## **Geographical Area**

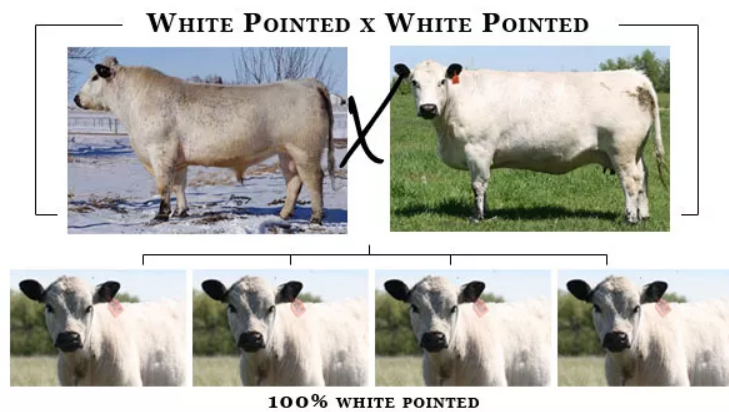
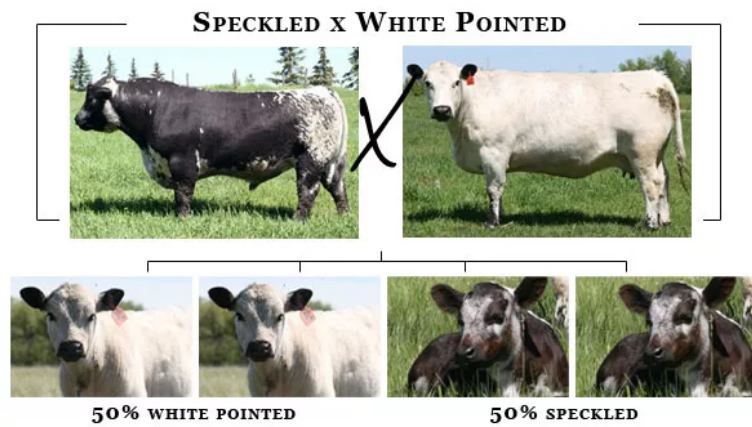
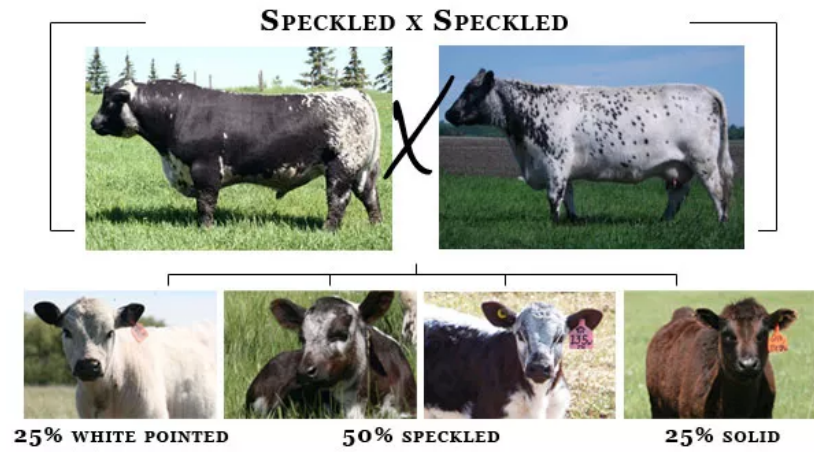
The Irish Speckle Park cattle Society will operate across the following geographic areas.

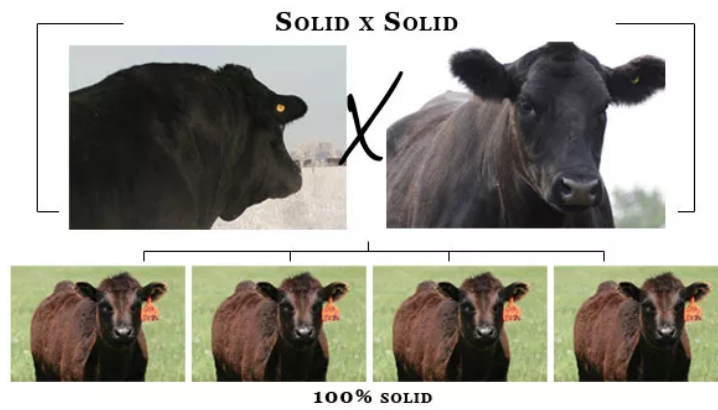
- Republic of Ireland
- Northern Ireland
- Great Britain.

## **Breed Characteristics**

The Irish Speckle Park Cattle Breed is a beef breed of medium size that converts forage very well into beef and has a high dressing out percentage. Speckle Park has established a reputation as a carcass breed, which consistently produces high quality, tasty and tender beef. The Breed has the characteristic of consistently producing quality carcass marbling but without a thick layer of fat cover. This breed is naturally polled and noted for ease of calving. The preferred breed characteristics colour and patterns or variations thereof are,

- The Classic- black sides, with white top line and underline, a black or black frosted face and speckled rear quarters.
- The Leopard - pattern has spotted sides.
- The Pointed White - has black ears, pigmented skin around the eyes, black nose, feet and hooves.
- The Solid - is a solid black in colour.





## **Irish Speckle Park Breeding Book**

The herd book will be comprised of a main section only.

To qualify for entry into the main section animals must meet the following criteria:

1. Be descended from parents and grandparents entered in the main section of the breeding book of the Speckle Park Breed.
2. Be identified in accordance with Union animal health law on the identification and registration of bovines and the rules of this breeding programme.
3. Have a pedigree established in accordance with the rules set out in this breeding programme (genotyped).
4. Be accompanied by a zootechnical certificate in the case of trade in or entry into the union of an animal and where that animal is intended to be entered in the breeding book.
5. Be accompanied by a zootechnical certificate where an animal is produced from a germinal product which is traded, or which entered into the union and where that animal is intended to be entered in the breeding book.

### **The main section is divided into two classes.**

**Class One:** This section will be confined to all animals that meet the criteria for entry into the main section and are free of undesirable breed characteristics such as red coat pigmentation seen as speckled red, white with red points and even solid red calves, or Horns or Double Myostatin carriers. As and from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 all calves to be entered into Class 1 will be required to be genetic tested to determine the presence of the 'red' gene, subsequently as and from 1st January 2022 all calves born going forward are also required to be tested for , The Myostatin Gene and the Horned Gene so that breeders can make more informed breeding decisions.

Animals will be entered into Class 2 of the herdbook until the results of these trait tests are available and moved to Class 1 as appropriate.

**Class Two:** Animals which do not meet the requirements of Class 1 including any animal not tested for the three traits will be placed in Class 2 until all results are available. Any animal which is a double red gene carrier, a double myostatin carrier or has horns will be entered into and remain in class 2 NOTE:

Class 2 Animals bred to Class 2 Animals:

Offspring will be entered and remain in Class 2.

Class 2 Animals bred to Class 1 Animals.

An animal who is a double red gene carrier and is placed in the Class 2 section of our herd book, their progeny will not be allowed to enter into the Class 1 section of our herdbook.

An animal who is a double Myostatin Carrier gene and is placed in the Class 2 section of our herd book, their progeny will not be allowed to enter into the Class 1 section of our herdbook.

At any stage where undesirable breed characteristics are identified on an animal, these must be notified to the society.

Any animals not genetically tested to determine the presence of the 'red' gene, Horn and Myostatin Gene will automatically be entered into Class 2.

Breeders are required to notify the Irish Speckle Park Society of any abnormality or genetic origin, visible or not.

## Animal Identification

1. Each animal shall be uniquely identified at birth with National Bovine Identification number in an eartag.
2. In line with the Rules of Procedure each member must make an application to register an approve Herd Prefix name composed of not more than sixteen letters this prefix name shall not have been allocated to another member of the society, either in the past or at present. This shall be applicable to all animals bred and notified by the member, either alone or jointly with any partners or other persons in any one herd.
3. In addition, each animal shall be named as selected by the breeder. The first letter of the name must be that of the current Society year letter. For example, each animal born in 2021 shall have a name commencing with the letter ‘I’.
4. All animals which are produced from an embryo transfer must contain the letters “ET” at the end of their name.
5. The maximum length of the animal’s name including spaces is 30 characters.
6. No inappropriate names as deemed by the Council will be accepted.

## Entry into the Breeding Book

### Breeding animals

The Irish Speckle Park Society operate a closed herdbook and the following procedure is required for entering an animals into the breeding book which consists of a two stage process as follows:

1. Each animal shall be Notified at birth on the ICBF animal event form duly completed or electronically through the Departments on-line service [www.agfood.ie](http://www.agfood.ie) giving details of
  - Date of Birth
  - Sex
  - Ear Tag number
  - Dam details
  - Sire details
  - Name of calf
  - Calving survey

On completion of the calf’s name facilitates the forwarding of this information to the Society and the breeder’s request for the animal to be entered into the breeding book. Please ensure correct letter, corresponding to the year of birth is used when naming the calf.

2. In order to complete the entry of the animal in the breeding book the animal must then be **Genotype Tested** and **Parent Verified** and for Class 1 have their Red gene, Horn and Myostatin status determined by an accredited laboratory designated by the Society i.e. Weatherbys Scientific. The results will determine the classification of the animal in the main section of the breeding book.

Animals should then be registered with the society within 3 months of receiving the results of the Genotype along with Red Gene, Myostatin & Horn status test results. This should be done in writing by one of the society calf registration forms accompanied by the results and the relevant registration fee. All society applicable fees are available on website.

## Offspring from Embryos

1. If a breeder is purchasing / harvesting embryos the society must be notified at the time of collection with the appropriate embryo registration form, (available from our website), which must be properly and accurately filled out with a signature from both the owner of the donor female and the representative of the approved collection team.
2. The original copy must be sent to the society within 14 days of collection of embryos. The breeder is advised to keep a copy of all documentation for their own records.
3. When an embryo notified as above in any way changes its status by means of thawing, implanting, change of ownership etc, the society must be notified via the Embryo Amendment Form. This form must be signed by the owner and new owner if necessary.
4. In the case of calves being born as the result of embryo transfer both the donor sire and dam must be blood / DNA typed and the resultant calf must have its parentage verified (sire and dam verified.)
5. The society should be notified of the imported of embryos within 1 month of arrival either in writing or by email and the Official documentation must be supplied as appropriate including the original zootechnical certificate and DNA test certificates of both donor animals to allow parentage verification, together with appropriate fee.
6. All donor dams must have undergone performance testing or genetic evaluation.
7. All animals which are produced from an embryo transfer must contain the letters “ET” at the end of their name.

## Imports

1. Each imported animal must be registered with the society within 1 month by submitting the official Zootechnical Certificate of the County of Origin together with the appropriate registration fee. In the case of bulls, a DNA test certificate must be submitted together with the relevant registration fee.
2. Any animals born in the United Kingdom post 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018 whom were issued a Canadian Certificate of Registration must apply to enter the animal into the Irish Speckle Park Society Herdbook. The EU Animal Breeding Regulation applicable from the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018 did not permit breed societies in a third country issue zootechnical certificates to animals located in EU Member States. Therefore, these animals do not have legal entitlement to be entered into the Irish Speckle Park Society Herdbook and will be required to be considered as first time registrations. This includes meeting the trait test requirements as with all animals who now enter the herdbook as specified in Paragraph 2 of ‘Breeding Animals Entry into Herdbook’ in the breeding programme. This rule will be applied to all ancestry on an individual animal or an original embryo combination from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018.

These animals will incur a €50 late fee penalty for each generation in the back breeding back to the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018 on top of the standard €40 registration fee.

### **General Notes:**

1. Breeders shall inform the Society of the sale of any of their registered or notified cattle meaning cattle the births of which have been officially notified to the society, but which have not yet been accepted for registration in the society's Herdbook.
2. In the case of twins and multiple births, calves will be notified as usual to ICBF
3. The society reserves the right to refuse to accept the notification of the birth of a calf where the date of birth provided is deemed to be deficient or inaccurate.
4. Where calves are born as a result of a service procedure from a bull not owned by the breeder, a certificate stating such shall be forwarded to the society at the time of notification of birth.
5. Any errors must be notified to the society immediately to be rectified either by email or in writing to the secretary/office.

### **Control Checks for recording of Pedigrees**

1. All Embryo registrations will be DNA tested at the expense of the breeder/owner and parentage verified.
2. All Donor Bulls must be DNA tested (sire and dam) and have undergone a genetic evaluation
3. Any Stock Bull retained/purchased into a purebred herd for breeding must be DNA tested.
4. All Semen from another breeding book must be accompanied by a Zootechnical Certificate
5. Where the sire and dam of a calf were not in the same ownership at the time of service or insemination, a properly authorised service or insemination certificate verifying his service or insemination must, unless otherwise decided by the board of the society, be submitted when the calf is tendered for registration.
6. Where a breeder operates DIY AI, they may be requested to submit evidence of DIY AI Licence with its expiry date and evidence of semen intake and/purchase and random DNA testing will be requested as decided by council.

### **System for Recording Pedigree of Purebred Breeding Animals**

All purebred breeding animals will be recorded using the Irish Cattle Breeding Federation's (ICBF) TAURAS Electronic system for recording & maintaining pedigree breeding animals to be entered into the herd book. The information record for each animal entered in the herdbook is:

- Herd Name
- Animal ID Number
- Sire ID Number and Name
- Dam ID Number and Name
- Name of the animal,
- Date and country of birth,
- Parents and grand-parents details,
- Sex,



- Ear tag identification,
- Name and address of breeder,
- Section of herd book and relevant class,
- Twinning status,
- Progeny of embryo transfer,
- Results of performance testing,
- Date of genetic evaluation,
- Genetic defects and peculiarities,
- Insemination or mating information,
- Other relevant information to the registration process.

## **Breeding Objectives:**

### **Females:**

To produce a highly functional moderate framed cow meeting the breed standards and desired black and white colouring and possessing the desirable maternal traits of fertility, easy calving, milk ability, longevity, docility with excellent foraging ability and one who can pass these traits into her offspring.

### **Male:**

To produce a functional active moderate framed bull meeting the breed standards and desired black and white colouring, of good temperament whose offspring are easily calved and vigorous at birth. He should display good growth rates/ carcass traits and feed conversion rates whilst retaining the desirable maternal characteristics of the breed in his female progeny.

## **Selection Objectives:**

The traits identified in the breeding objectives for the breed are all measured, and the results are published in the ICBF Eurostar indexes. In selecting animals for breeding, breeders should refer to the individual traits within the indexes with relevance in the reliability of each in order to meet the breeding objective of the breed. In addition to achieving the breeding objectives; any animals carrying a single (heterozygous) or double (homozygous) copy of ‘the red gene’ should only be bred to an animal that is homozygous for ‘the black gene’ in order to reduce the prevalence of the red gene in the Irish Speckle Park herd and to avoid any animals being born from pedigree parents with the undesirable red colour pattern.

Further detailed information on the evaluation carried out by ICBF for the Irish Speckle Park Society can be found

at <https://www.icbf.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Beef-Evaluation-Document.pdf>

The Eurostar index allows the Society to monitor the success of the breeding programme in respect of the aforementioned traits.

## Performance Testing and Genetic Evaluations

The Irish Speckle Park Society undertake 'Performance Testing' and 'Genetic Evaluation' as part of their breeding programme. These services are made available to breeders and are provided by ICBF. There are 3 main objectives for the breed:

1. Replacement: To breed future cows for the Speckle park suckler herd.
2. Terminal: To breed terminal sires for progeny that is destined for slaughter.
3. Dairy Beef: To breed terminal sires for progeny from the dairy herd that is destined for slaughter.

### Performance Testing

Performance Testing The following data is collected as part of performance testing

1. Calving Survey  
Each Breed Society breeder records ancestry and calving data on their calves through the 'Animal Events' recording system. The Calving Survey options are:  
1=Normal Calving,  
2=Some assistance,  
3=Considerable difficulty,  
4=Vet assistance.  
'Abortion or 'Calf died at birth may also be recorded.  
This data is used in the calculation of calving difficulty of an animal.
2. Liveweight & Morphological traits  
Whole Herd Performance Recording (WHPR) is available to Breed Society breeders to participate and is a process through which breeders can get relevant liveweight and morphological trait data recorded on their pedigree animals. Following is a description of the data recorded on the various types of animals in a herd:

<b>Animal Type</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>Under 150 days old</b>	<b>Weighed</b>
<b>150 – 700 days old</b>	<b>Scored &amp; Weighed</b>
<b>Cow with calf sucking</b>	<b>Scored &amp; Weighed</b> (Twice maximum)
<b>Cow with no calf</b>	<b>Checked</b> (no cost) 1. Whether in milk or not 2. Evidence of C-Section

Following is a list of the morphological traits that are recorded on pedigree animals at a WHPR visit.

# Irish Speckle Park Breeding Programme V3

Genetic Evaluation use	Traits recorded	Pedigree Males & Females	Pedigree Calved Females	Pedigree Calved Females	Pedigree Males & Females	Dry Cows & Uncalved Females	Panel Section (Functional, Skeletal, Breed Quality, Muscle)
		1-149 days	1st Scoring	2nd+ Scoring	150-700 days		
Replacement & Terminal Euro-Stars	1 Weight (kg)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
	2 Width at Withers				Yes		Muscle
	3 Width Behind Withers				Yes		Muscle
	4 Loin Development				Yes		Muscle
	5 Dev Hind Quarter				Yes		Muscle
	6 Thigh Width				Yes		Muscle
	7 Height at Withers				Yes		Skeletal
	8 Length of Back				Yes		Skeletal
	9 Pelvic Length		Yes		Yes		Skeletal
	10 Width at Hips		Yes		Yes		Skeletal
	11 Docility		Yes	Yes	Yes		
	12 Milkability (1-5)*		Yes	Yes			
Func-BLUP	1 Fore Legs Front View		Yes		Yes		Functionality
	2 Hind Legs Side View		Yes		Yes		Functionality
	3 Hind Legs Rear View		Yes		Yes		Functionality
	4 Locomotion		Yes	Yes	Yes		Functionality
Cow Traits	1 Teat placement		Yes	Yes			
	2 Teat size		Yes	Yes			
	3 Udder suspension		Yes	Yes			
Other Traits (As decided by each Breed)	1 Width of Pelvis		Yes		Yes		Skeletal
	2 Rump angle		Yes				Breed Quality
	3 Width at Pins		Yes		Yes		Skeletal
	4 Condition score		Yes		Yes		Muscle
	5 Dev Inner Thigh (1 to 15)				Yes		Muscle
	6 Width of Chest				Yes		Skeletal
	7 Canon Bone Thickness				Yes		Breed Quality
	8 Depth of Chest				Yes		Skeletal
	9 Level of Back				Yes		Functionality
	10 Width at Hips				Yes		Skeletal
	11 Harmony				Yes		Breed Quality
	12 Width of Muzzle				Yes		Breed Quality
	13 Colour of Head				Yes		Breed Quality
	14 Type of Head				Yes		Breed Quality
	15 Girth				Yes		Breed Quality
	16 Rib						Breed Quality
	17 Plates						Breed Quality
	18 Depth of Rump (1 to 10)				Yes		Breed Quality
	19 Tail Set						Breed Quality
	20 Colour of Tail						Breed Quality
	21 Depth of Hoof						Breed Quality
	22 Scrotal Circumference				Yes		Breed Quality
	23 Colour of Coat				Yes		Breed Quality
	24 Hair Type						Breed Quality
	25 Shoulder Muscle (1 to 15)						Breed Quality
	26 Top Muscle (1 to 15)						Breed Quality
	27 White Patches						Breed Quality
	28 Skin Thickness						Breed Quality
Edit Info	1 Cow in milk (rearing a calf): Y/N		Yes	Yes		Yes	
	2 Mastitis on Day of Scoring (Y/N)		Yes	Yes			
	3 Mastitis Since Last Calving (Y/N)		Yes	Yes			
	4 Evidence of C-section Last Calving: Y/N		Yes	Yes		Yes	
	6 Lameness on day of scoring (Y/N)		Yes	Yes			
	7 Lameness since last calving (Y/N)		Yes	Yes			
	8 Sick on the Day of Scoring (Y/N)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
	9 *16 Extra Indicators (below)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
*US=Undershot, OS=Overshot, NT=Underscended Testicle, OT=One Testicle, DW=Dwarf, CD=Claw, HD=Hip Defect, TD=Tongue Defect, CD=Colour Defect, SD=Scurs Defect, PD=Pattern Defect, GD=Genetic Dam, BR=Bucket							

The traits above are used in the calculation of an animal's 'Linear Type' breeding values. They are grouped into 'Muscle', 'Skeletal' and 'Functional'. The breeding values of an animal in a herd

participating in WHPR can be found by clicking on the 'Linear Type' page in an animal's 'Animal Search' output on the Society's Live Herdbook or the ICBF website e.g.

<https://webapp.icbf.com/v2/herdbook/index.php?vAnimalType=2&end=1>

or

<https://webapp.icbf.com/v2/app/bull-search/view/998726033>

Data collected on Liveweight & Morphological traits provides a strong base of accurate phenotypic data and can increase the accuracy and the reliability % of an animal's 'Euro-Stars (see below).

### 3. Other data sources

ICBF obtains other performance data from different sources including the DAFM's Animal Events system, Meat Factories and Livestock Marts. This data includes calving intervals, age at first calving, insemination dates, gestation lengths, carcass weights, confirmation grades, age at slaughter, weaning weights and so on. All this data is used in the process of genetic evaluations.

## Genetic Evaluations

The ICBF beef evaluation system uses 'Euro-Stars' as its main method of breeding value output. The Euro-Star Index is a breeding index designed to aid beef farmers in the selection of more profitable breeding animals. Euro-Star Indexes quantify the genetic component of an animal's performance across all traits of importance. The Euro-Star Index has two overall indexes – the Replacement Index and the Terminal Index. Breeders can use the appropriate index for their animals depending on their farming systems i.e. breeding replacements or for beef.

### Replacement Index:

There are 17 traits included in the Replacement Index. Each trait has its own Predicted Transmitting Ability (PTA). An animal's PTA is the amount of a trait that it can pass on to its progeny. The PTA for each trait is then multiplied by the Economic Weight (monetary value for each unit of the trait) to generate a Euro value contribution for the trait. All the values are added up to provide an overall Replacement Index. Table 1 details the traits included in the Replacement Index as well as their respective Economic Weights.

Euro-Star Replacement Index			
Trait	Economic Weight (€ Unit)	Trait Emphasis	Trait Type
Maternal Calving Difficulty	-4.98	6%	Cow Traits 71%
Age 1st Calving	-0.99	6%	
Calving Interval	-5.07	9%	
Survival	8.86	8%	
Milk	5.58	18%	
Heifer Intake	-0.76	8%	
Cow Intake	-0.55	6%	
Cow Docility	77.27	4%	
Cull Cow Weight	0.91	7%	
Calving Difficulty	-5.12	7%	Calf Traits 29%
Gestation	-2.48	2%	
Mortality	-5.87	1%	
Docility	14.72	1%	
Feed Intake	-0.07	4%	
Carcass Weight	2.1	10%	
Carcass Conformation	10.22	3%	
Carcass Fat	-5.44	1%	

Table 1. Traits included in the Replacement Index and their Economic Weights.

#### Terminal Index:

There are 8 traits included in the Terminal Index. Each trait has a PTA and an Economic Weight which are multiplied to give the Euro value contribution of that trait. All the relevant trait contributions are added up to provide an overall Terminal Index. Table 2 details all of the traits included in the Terminal Index as well as their respective Economic Weights

Euro-Star Terminal Index		
Trait	Economic Weight (€ Unit)	Trait Emphasis
Calving Difficulty	-4.65	18%
Gestation	-2.25	4%
Mortality	-5.34	3%
Docility	17.03	2%
Feed Intake	-0.1	16%
Carcass Weight	3.14	41%
Carcass Conformation	14.77	11%
Carcass Fat	-7.86	5%

Table 2: Traits included in the Terminal Index and their Economic Weights.

Evaluations for the breed are also performed across-country through Interbeef. Breeders can assess the genetic merit of a bull in the Irish condition via his Interbeef ranking. These breeding values cannot be compared to the national breeding values. Further information can be found at: [https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page\\_id=13498](https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page_id=13498).

#### Genomics

The Society facilitates the usage of genomics by breeders to help better predict how well an animal will perform in the future from an earlier stage. Genomics can increase reliability figures (by about 20%) even before animal performance data becomes available, provides accuracy to gauge potential performance of the animal from the genetic traits and confirms parentage of the animal (assuming

parents are genotyped) or can predict a sire. More details on the ICBF Genomics service can be found at: [https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page\\_id=7876](https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page_id=7876)

### **Methodology**

ICBF extracts the performance, pedigree and genotype data from the database 6 times per year. The ICBF Animal Evaluation unit uses SAS for pre-processing and post-processing of data before and after the genetic evaluation run itself. 'Mix 99' is used for variance component estimation and for the actual running of the genetic evaluations. The ICBF genetic evaluations are computed 6 times per year. Further information on the genetic evaluation schedules can be found at:

[https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page\\_id=11285](https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page_id=11285). The rules and standards applied for genetic evaluation are those established by Interbull. Further details can be found at:

[https://wiki.interbull.org/public/beef\\_guidelines?action=print&rev=64](https://wiki.interbull.org/public/beef_guidelines?action=print&rev=64)

### **Communication and Use of Performance Testing and Genetic Evaluations Results**

The star rating system (1-5 stars where 5 stars being good, 1 star being poor) is incorporated into the Euro-Star Index to assist breeders in assessing the results for their breeding animals and using this information when considering their selection objectives. However, breeders must note

- Stars 'within' and 'across' breed stars.
- Star rating are assigned to multiple indexes and traits
- The PTA for the specific index or trait first.

The Trait Emphasis is the average contribution of each trait to the index of the average, proven AI bull. Breeders should consider which trait is of importance to their breeding programme and the corresponding percentage assigned to this trait.

The Reliability figure gives an indication as to how confident that an index or trait figure will not change in the future as more data is recorded.

Further information on the Eurostars can be found on

[https://issuu.com/herdplus/docs/euro-star\\_system\\_explained](https://issuu.com/herdplus/docs/euro-star_system_explained)

<https://www.icbf.com/wp/?p=12929>

Information to breeders on Genetic Evaluations is available through

ICBF Animal Search <https://webapp.icbf.com/v2/app/bull-search/>

AI Bull Listing [https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page\\_id=206](https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page_id=206)

Herdplus Reports (where relevant)

<https://www.icbf.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/ICBF-Beef-User-Guide.pdf>

Zootechnical Certificates

Breed Society Sale Catalogue

Participating Mart Boards

### **Outsourcing Specific Technical Activities**

The following technical activities are outsourced to Irish Cattle Breeding Federation (ICBF) for the Irish Speckled Park Cattle Society

- The Taurus data base which contains all data relevant to the Irish Speckled Park Cattle Society breeding book.
- Genetic evaluations
- Training in matters relevant to the Society data base

Contact details are:

ICBF

Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co. Cork.

Tel: 023 882 0452

Website: [www.icbf.com](http://www.icbf.com)

Email: [query@icbf.com](mailto:query@icbf.com)

## **Zootechnical Certificates**

1. A zootechnical certificate, with the animal's ancestry, shall be issued to the breeder by the society when all registration criteria and payment of registration fees are met.
2. The zootechnical certificate will follow the model form as provided under EU Animal Breeding Regulations
3. The onus is on the owner of the animal to verify that all information on the certificate is correct and if not, to contact the Society's office with corrections.
4. Where a programme of official weight recording, progeny and performance testing and linear scoring operated in conjunction with the appropriate official approved body this data shall be made available on the zootechnical certificate
5. Where an animal is genotyped, a Genotype Symbol will be displayed on the zootechnical certificate.
6. Purchasers of animals should return the official zootechnical certificate together with the appropriate fee to effect change of ownership.
7. The council, may at any time, cancel the entry of an animal in the Herdbook or thereto which shall be found to contain any false or inaccurate particulars or statement to have been made on the faith of any false or inaccurate particulars or statements given or made to the society. On the cancellation of the entry of any animal in the Herdbook or thereto the zootechnical certificate issued by the society will be cancelled and any fees paid to the society shall be retained by the society.
8. The Society reserves the right to withdraw any certificate without refund if at any time the animal fails parentage verification.
9. The society will not be responsible for lost or mislaid forms.
10. "The Breeder" is defined as the person/owner whose herd the animal was born into.
11. "The Owner" is defined as the person whose herd the purebred animal now resides after purchase/transfer from the breeder's herd.
12. The zootechnical certificate will be issued in 4 to 6 weeks once the secretary receives all the required paperwork with the appropriate fee and the entry of the animal is deemed to be in order. Any issues or queries arising relating to a certificate will be re-laid back to the breeder for further clarification.

## **Transfer of Ownership**



1. Breeders shall inform the Society of the sale of any of their purebred breeding animals or notified animals i.e. the births of which have been officially notified to the society, but which have not yet been accepted for registration in the Society's Herdbook.
2. Each breeder shall complete the transfer form on the zootechnical certificate or the appropriate transfer certificate for notified animals and forward this to the society for noting and onward transmission to the new owner.
3. A transfer fee shall be charged for both Male & Female animals.

### **Derogations provided for in Article 31 (1)**

A derogation was sought and granted by the competent authority to permit a semen collection or storage centre, or an embryo collection or production team to issue a zootechnical certificate for germinal products based on the information the society has provided. The following being a list of the approved centres/teams:

- Dovea Genetics
- BOVA AI
- National Cattle Breeding Centre
- Munster AI
- Eurogene AI
- Sligo AI
- Dunmasc Genetics
- Elite Pedigree Genetics
- Celtic Sires
- BullBank
- Kevin Genetics

### **Addendum to Breeding Programme Rules**

The following significant changes have been incorporated into the Breeding Programme which has been approved in accordance with Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012

Schedule of Amendments:

Version	Approval Date	Applicable date	Comment
V1	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	Rules apply except for requirement of Red Gene test which is applicable from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2021
V2	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2021	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2022	Requirement of the Myostatin & Horn Gene Status & Parent Verified test
V3	28th September 2023	1 November 2023	Section 7. Entry into Herdbook. Paragraph 3 Imports.