

# White Suffolks LAMBPLAN Update

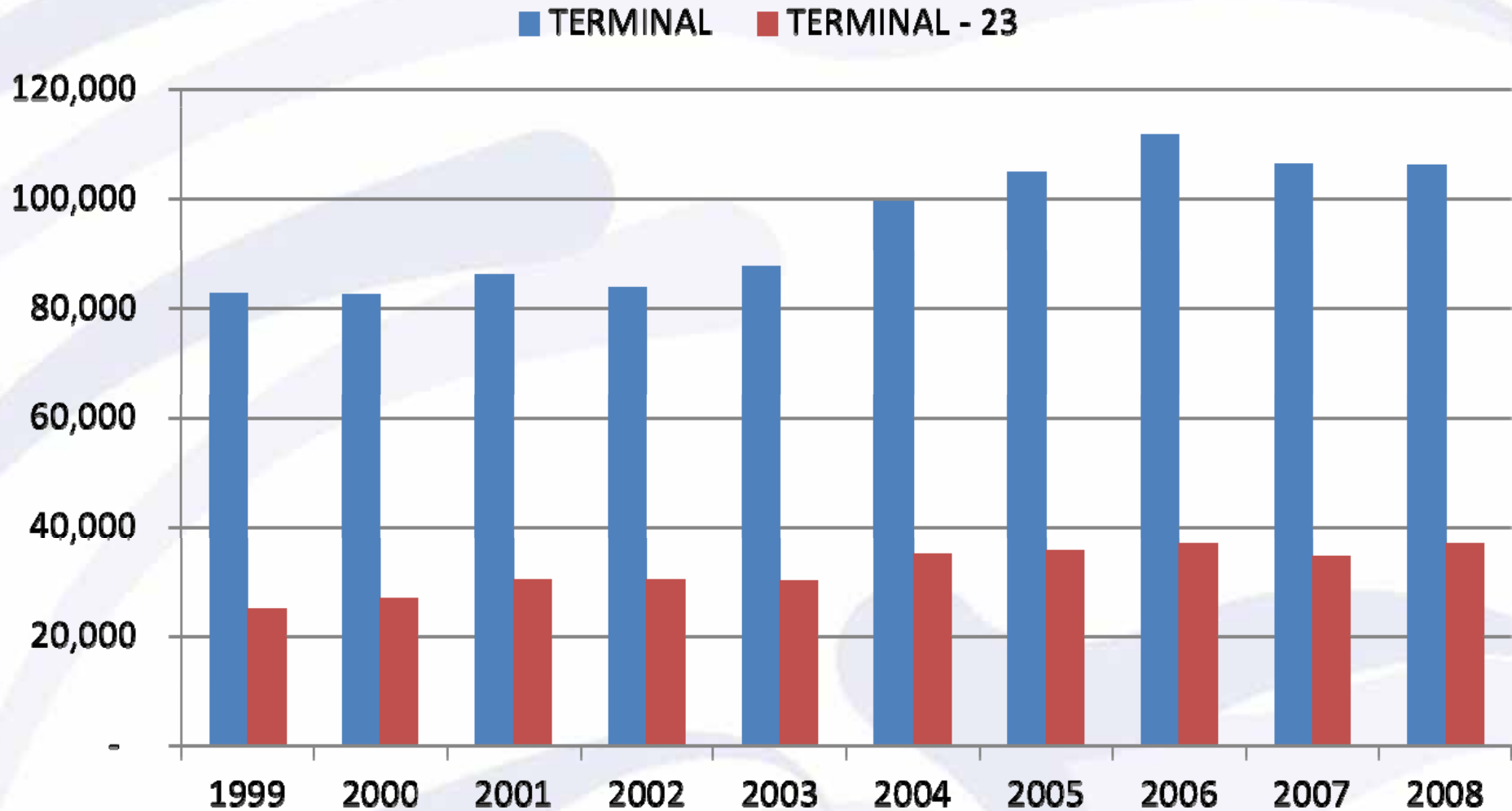
12<sup>th</sup> February 2010

# Agenda

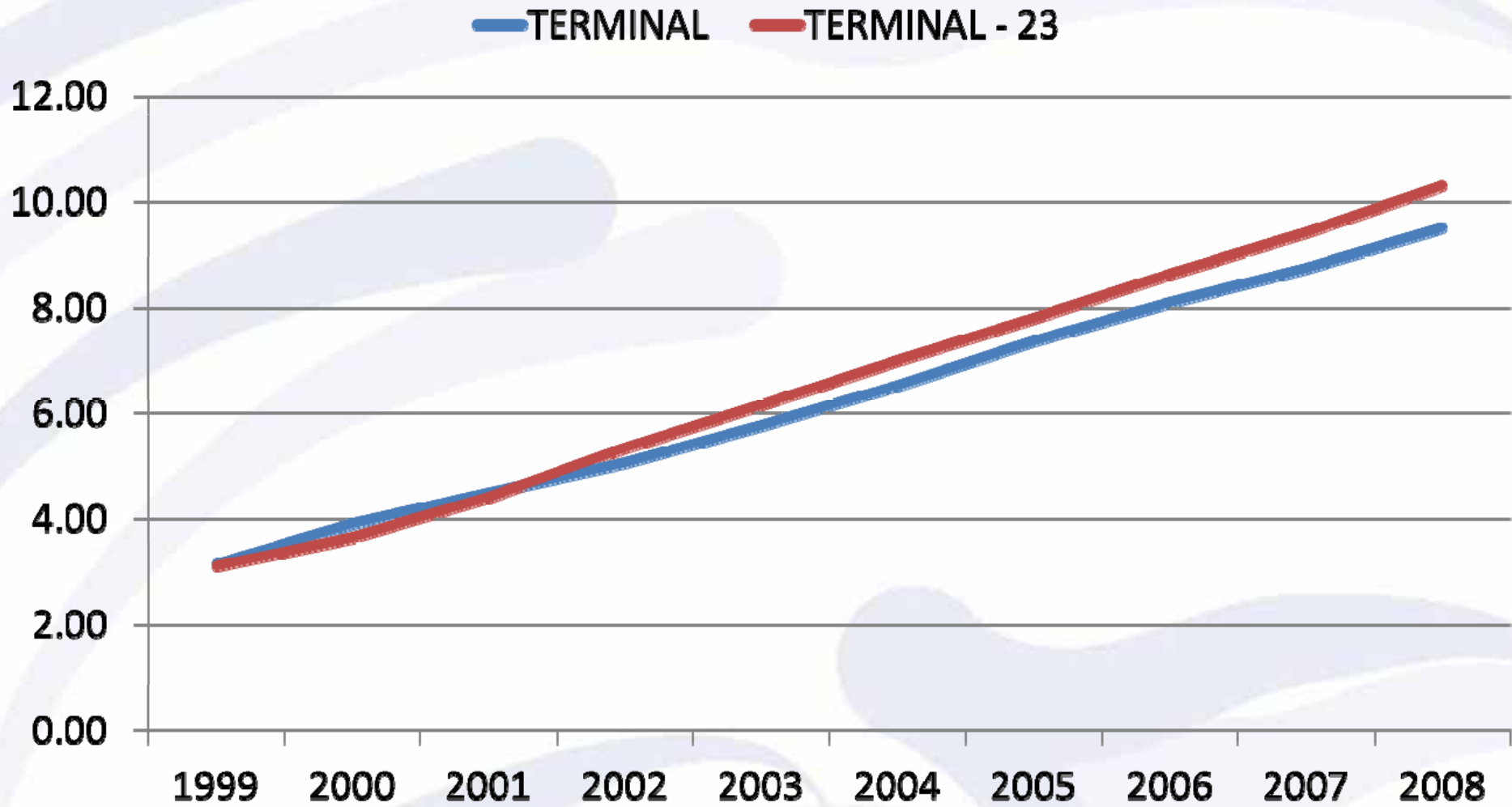
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- Trends
- Development of new traits / indexes
- Sheep CRC open days
- Workshops for early 2010
- Scanner accreditation workshops
- 2011-2015 Business Plan

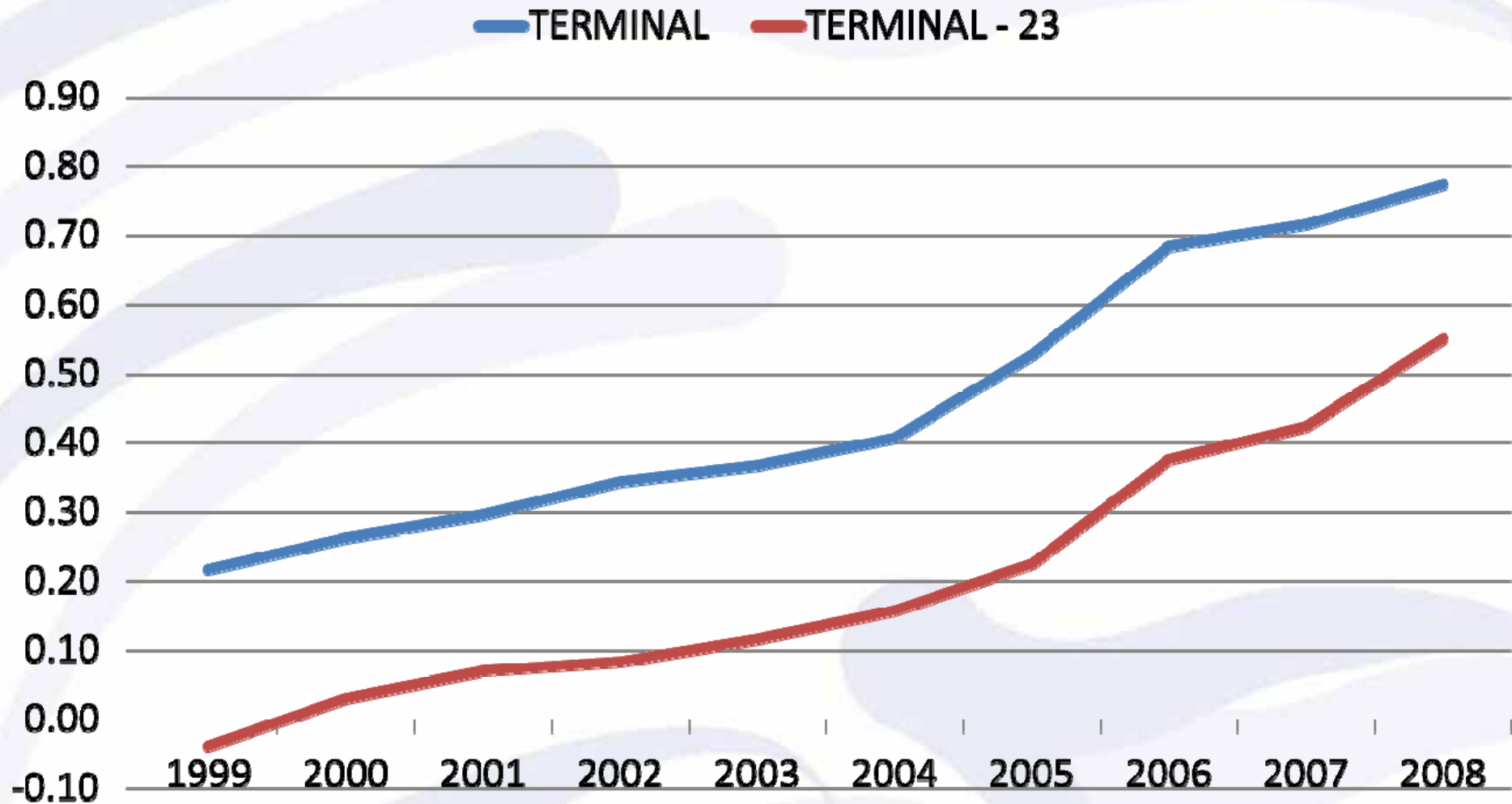
# Counts



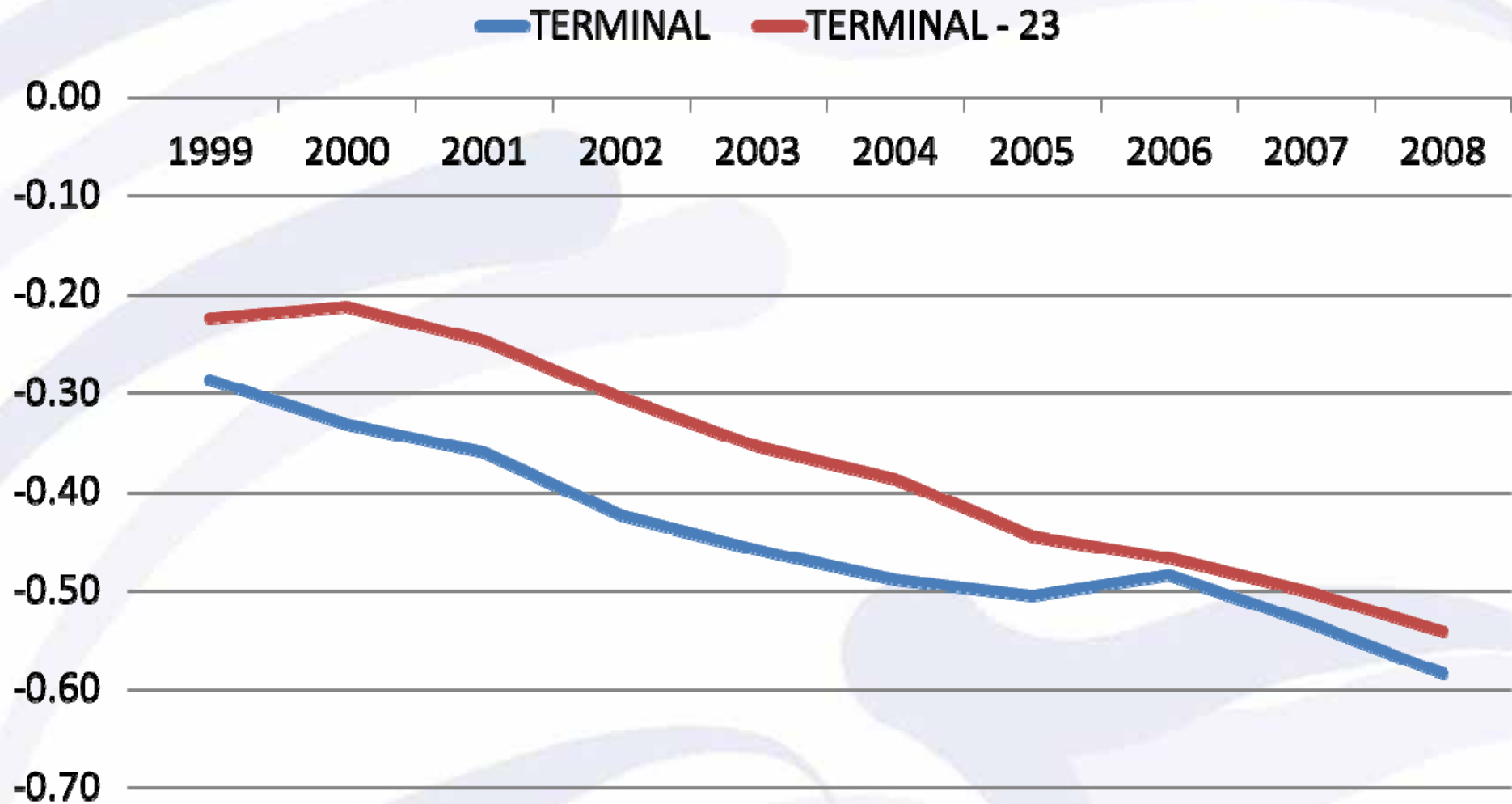
# Post Weaning Weight



# Post Weaning Eye Muscle Depth



# Post Weaning Fat Depth



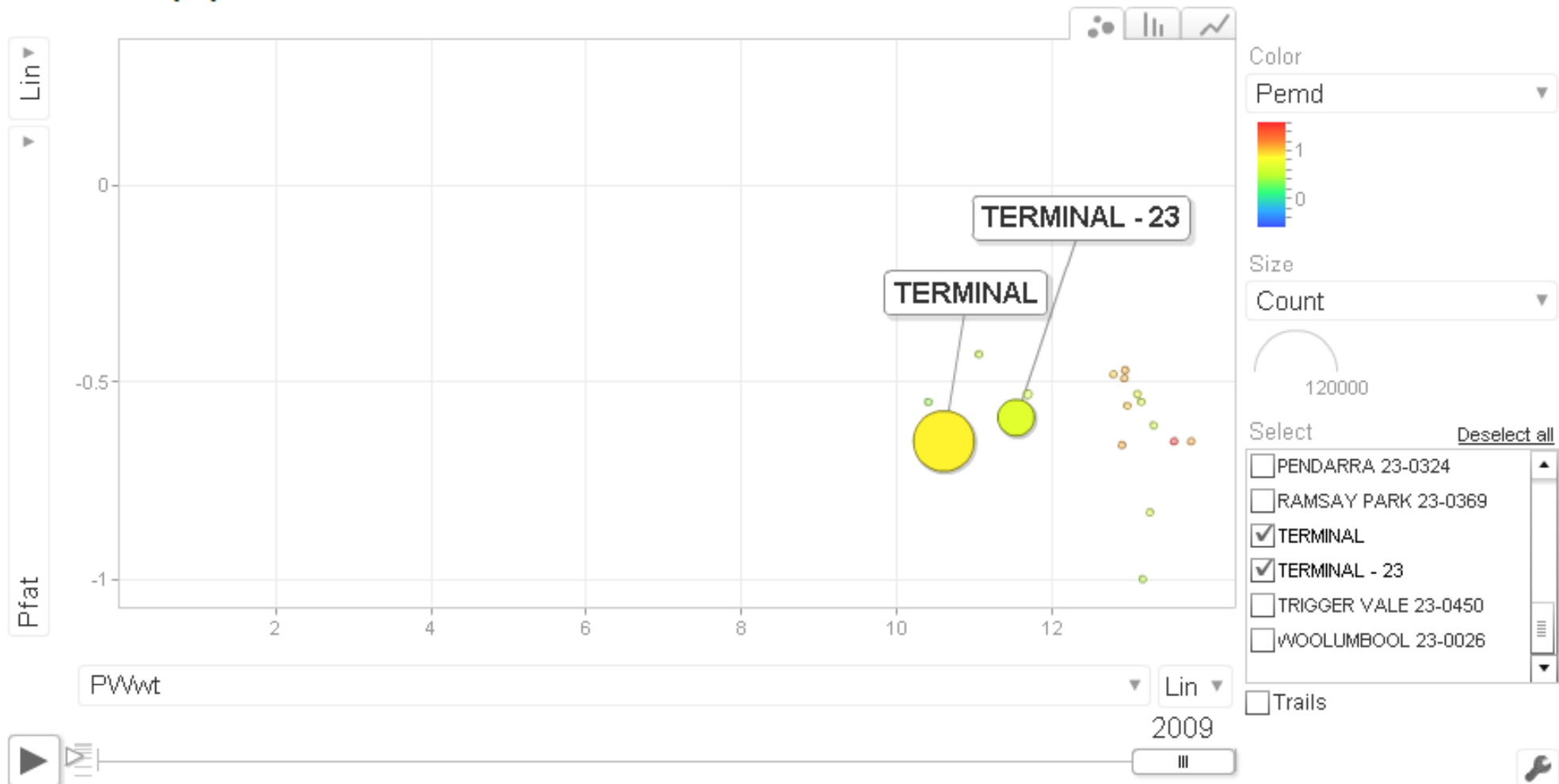
Navigation bar with back, forward, and search buttons. Search bar contains "Google".

Links: 2007unoff, AASMB, ABC, AR2, AWI, BI, Com, Congress, CRC, D, ME-BREEDERS, Media, MLA, MMFS, MSS, Pr

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Star, Home, and other utility icons.

### LAMBPLAN - Group Superwhites



Run name: TERMINAL Data - 01/02/2010 (01FEB10.TER)

Click a bubble series to enable trails and data labels

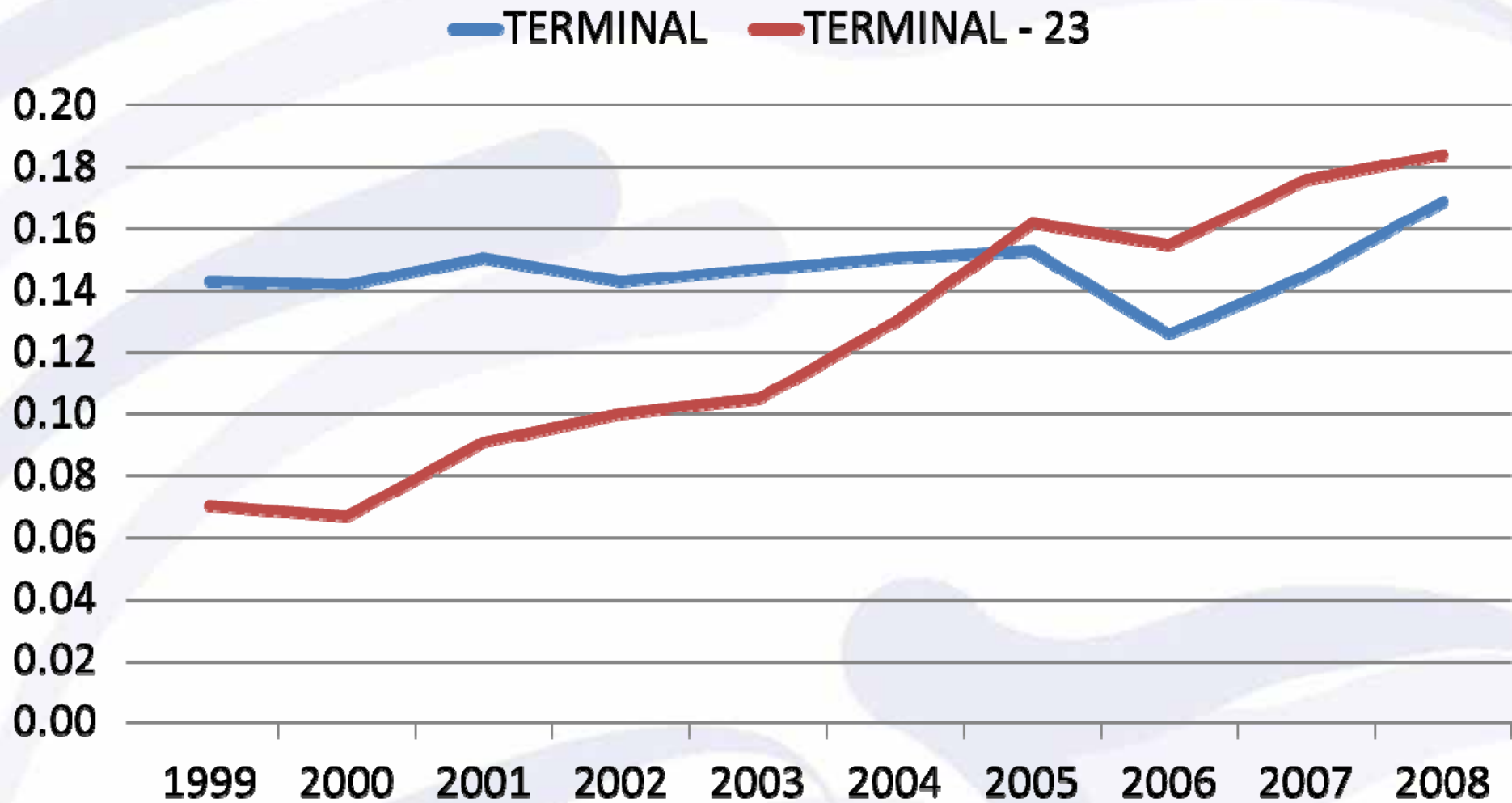
# Mating Records

- Documentation regarding mating close to being released
- Major things to record at mating are:
  - Mating group
  - Ewe
  - Sire
  - Conception Method
  - Date (ie AI date or ram in date)
- At Pregnancy scanning:
  - Scanning Date
  - Lambs Scanned
- Lambed and Lost
  - Marking date
  - Lamb management group
  - Lambed & Lost

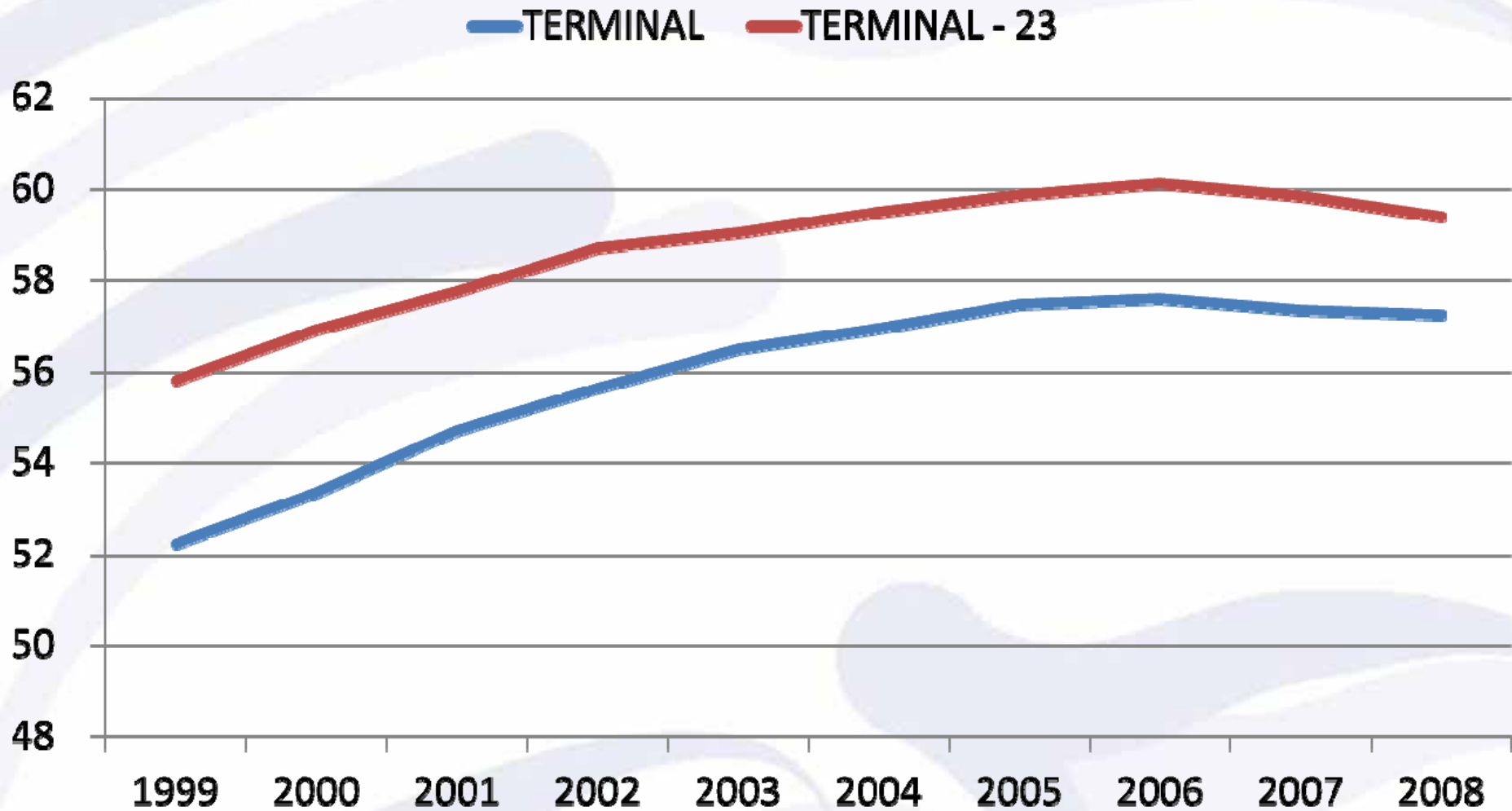
# New traits

- Lambing Ease and Gestation Length ASBVs launched in November
- New traits under development
  - Intra-muscular fat
  - Wool characteristics
  - Dag & Colour

# Birth weight



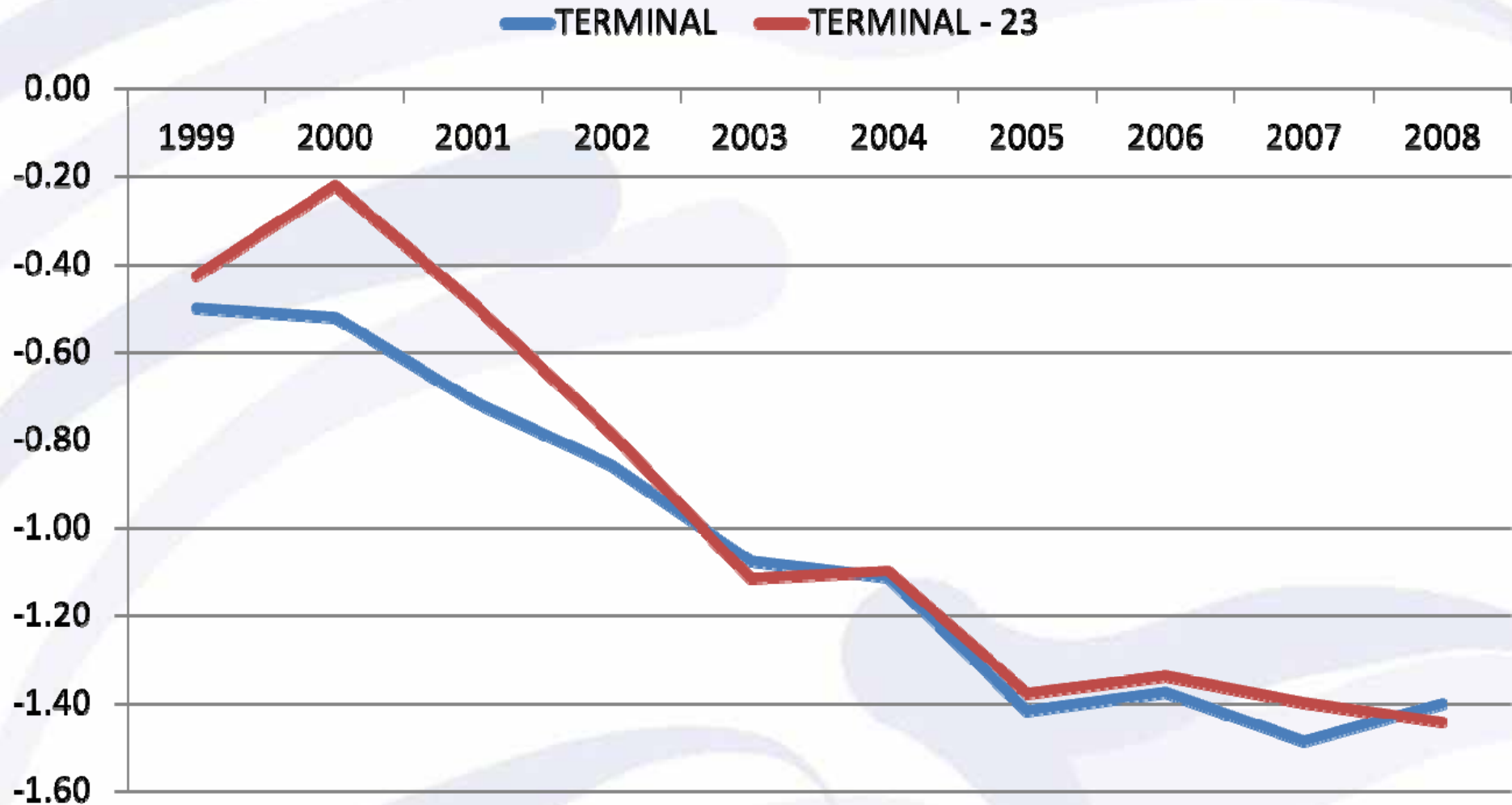
# Birth Weight (Accuracy)



# Lambing Ease

- Sheep Genetics produces two Lambing Ease ASBVs, Lambing Ease Direct (LE DIR) and Lambing Ease Daughters (LE DTR).
- LE DIR expresses how easily a sire's progeny are born.
- LE DTR expresses how easily a sire's daughters have lambs.
- The ASBVs are expressed as differences in the percentages of unassisted lambings.
- A higher value indicates lambs will be born more easily.

# Lambing Ease Direct



# Gestation Length

- Gestation Length (GL) is the period between conception and the subsequent lamb being born.
- A shorter GL is generally associated with lighter birth weights and improved lambing ease.
  - NB don't want to get too short?
- GL ASBVs provide an estimate of the genetic differences between animals gestation lengths in days.
- A lower or more negative value indicates a shorter GL.

# Trait Leader Updates

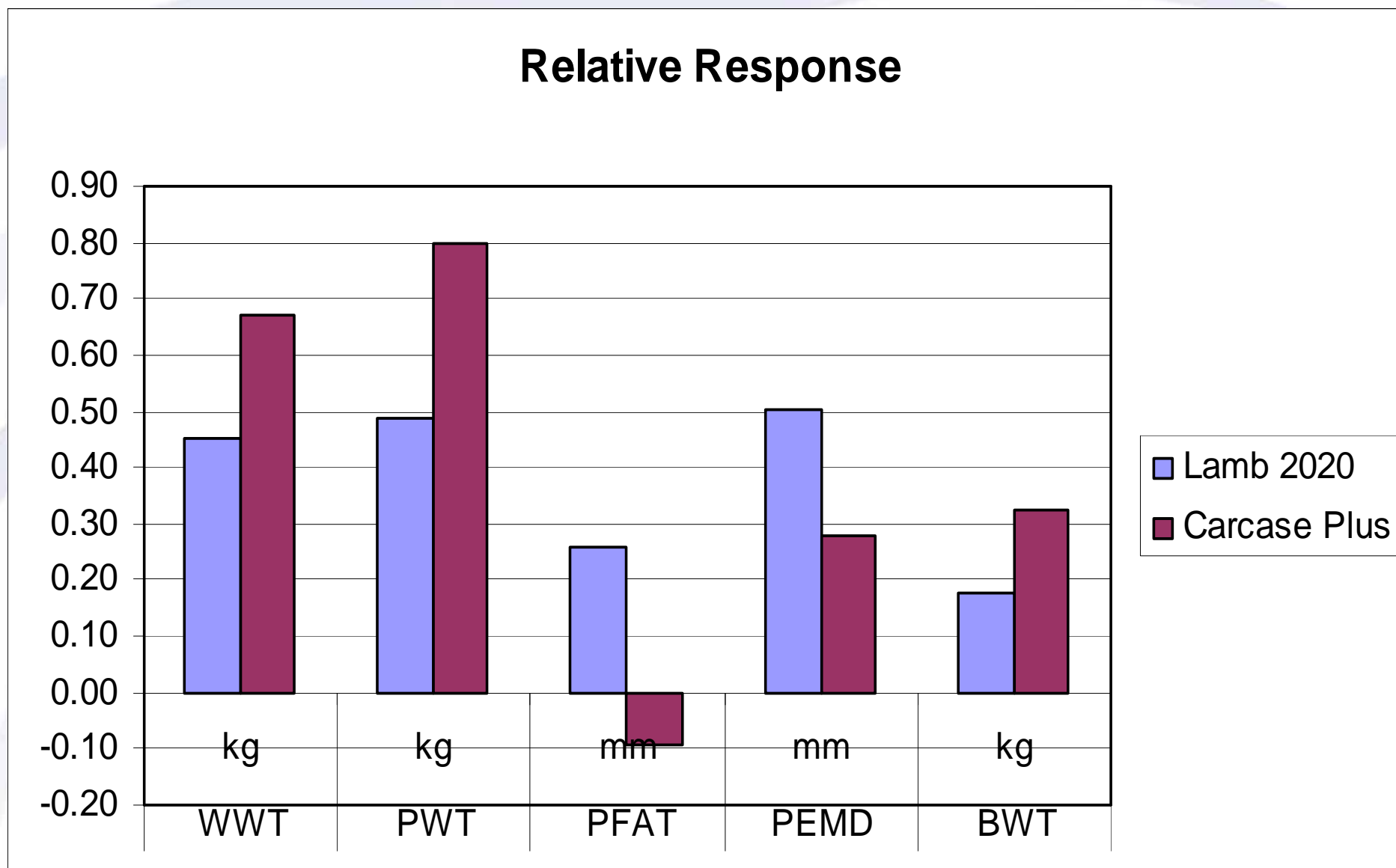
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- Lamb 2020 will be replacing Carcase Plus in the trait leaders list as part of the phase out of Carcase Plus.
- Trait leaders will no longer be reported for the following traits;
  - Fat Depth
  - Birth Weight
  - Gestation Length
- These traits are all traits that should be optimised and not trending further in one direction.

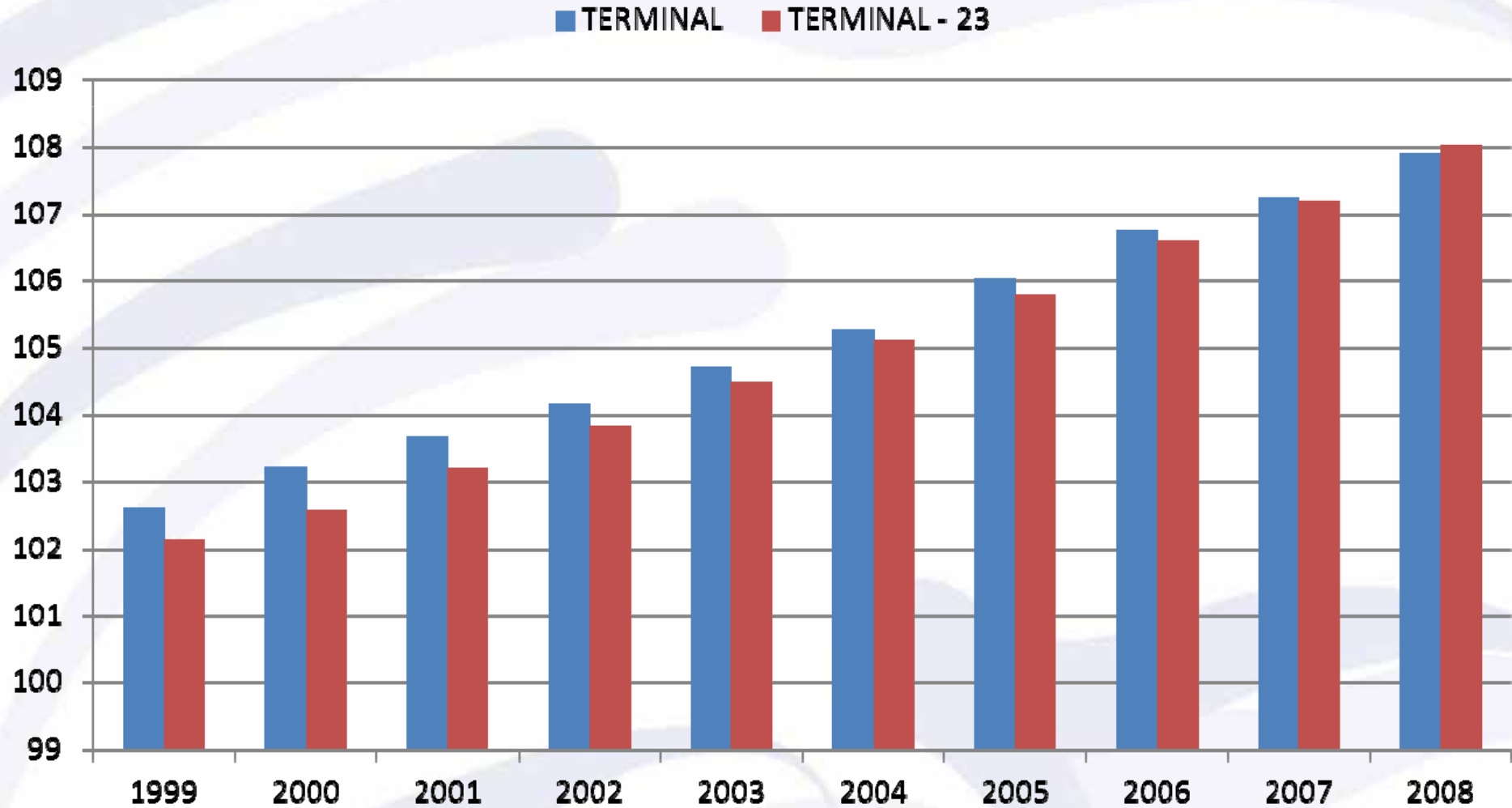
# Lamb 2020 Index

- Terminal breeds trends with Carcase Plus
  - over-performed in increasing growth and reducing fat
  - under-performed in improving muscle.
- Lamb 2020 offers a more balanced approach with a larger range of traits being incorporated.
  - Slows gain in Birth Weight
  - Brings selection for growth forward to include Weaning Weight
  - Reduces emphasis on decreasing fat
  - Introduces selection pressure for Worm Egg Count

# Lamb 2020 and Carcase Plus



# LAMB2020



# The New Maternal \$ Index

- A new Maternal \$ Index has been introduced
  - Replaces existing breed specific Maternal Indexes
  - e.g. Border \$ Index
  - Brings the Maternal Indexes in line with Lamb2020
- More balanced approach with a large range of traits being incorporated.
  - Maintains Birth Weight
  - Selection for growth now includes Weaning Weight
  - Maintains instead of decreasing fat
  - Now includes Worm Egg Count

# Other New Indexes

Similar \$ indexes to be released;

- **Dual Purpose (DP)** –
  - higher emphasis on increasing Greasy Fleece Weight
  - small emphasis on reducing Micron
- **Self Replacing Carcase (SRC)**
  - no selection pressure on wool traits.
  - Suitable for Dorpers, Wiltipolls etc

	MWWT (kg)	WWT (kg)	PWT (kg)	PFAT (mm)	PEMD (mm)	NLW (%)	WEC (%)
Carcase Plus			↑	↓	↑		
SRC \$ Index	↑	↑	↑	—	↑	↑	↓

- Maintain fat
- Reduce WEC
- Maintain birthweight

# Index Accuracies

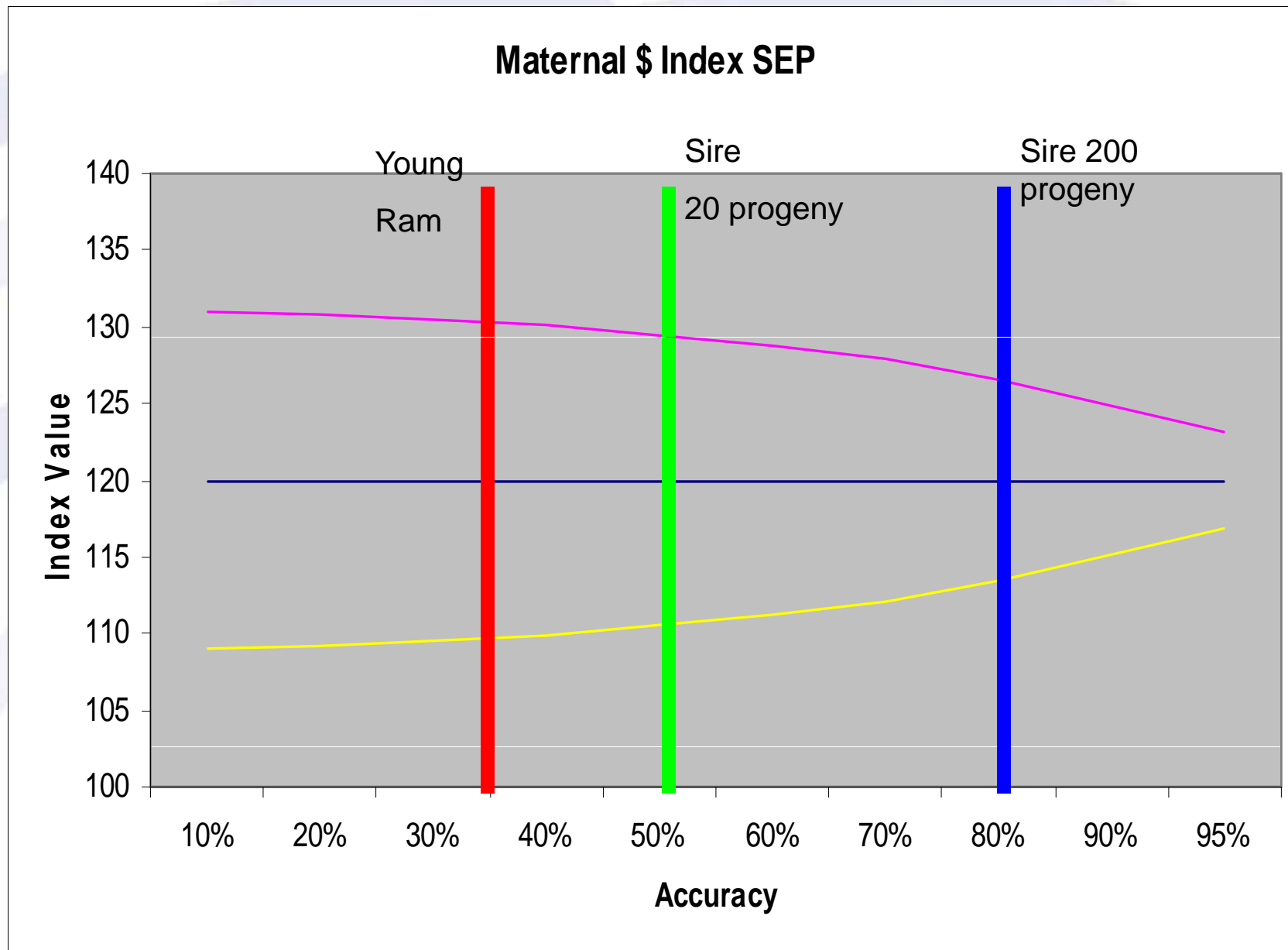
- Index accuracies are a new development for Sheep Genetics
  - released in February 2010 in both LAMBPLAN and MERINOSELECT.
- Presented on the same 0 – 100 % scale as accuracies for ASBV's
  - Higher values represent greater accuracy.
- Minimum threshold required for reporting of indexes
- An index with high accuracy is a more reliable indication of an animal's true genetic merit for that breeding objective.

# What influences Index Accuracy

Index accuracies are influenced by several factors:

- The accuracy of ASBV's of traits in the index:
  - animals with accurate ASBV's will also have accurate index values.
- The relative emphasis of traits in the index:
  - the more important a trait is in the index, the more influence it will have on the accuracy of the index.
- Whether or not all traits in the index are measured:
  - if a sire has no progeny measured for an important trait, the index accuracy will be reduced
  - even if ASBV's for other traits might be highly accurate.

# What ranges are expected



# Standard Errors

Accuracy Level	Maternal \$	LAMB2020	Carcase Plus	Merino 7% DP	Merino 14%+SS
10%	11.0	1.8	16.3	33.7	20.0
20%	10.8	1.8	16.0	33.2	19.7
30%	10.5	1.7	15.6	32.3	19.2
40%	10.1	1.7	15.0	31.1	18.4
50%	9.5	1.6	14.2	29.3	17.4
60%	8.8	1.5	13.1	27.1	16.1
70%	7.9	1.3	11.7	24.2	14.4
80%	6.6	1.1	9.8	20.3	12.1
90%	4.8	0.8	7.1	14.8	8.8

# Scanner Accreditation

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- Workshops to be held in conjunction with Sheep CRC kills
- At this stage locations will be
  - Katanning WA
  - Hamilton/Rutherglen Vic
  - Armidale NSW
- Timing still being looked at

# Website Update

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- New stage of website to be released in April-May
- New features will be:
  - Semen and Sale Catalogue
  - Pen Card service
  - Search results printable as PDF
  - More secure login and data download
  - Easier advanced search

[www.sheepgenetics.org.au](http://www.sheepgenetics.org.au)

# Sheep CRC open days

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- Being held from mid February till late April
- All updates on Sheep CRC programs
- Sheep Genetics will be presenting

# Location

Date	Location	SG staff
10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Katanning WA	Alex Ball
11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Northam WA	Alex Ball
24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Cleve SA	Luke Stephen
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Campbelltown Tas	Alex Ball, Hamish Chandler
19 <sup>th</sup> March	Young NSW	Sam Gill, TBC
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Benalla Vic	Sam Gill, Luke Stephen
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Casterton Vic	Sam Gill, Luke Stephen
13 <sup>th</sup> April	Cunnamulla QLD	Alex Ball
28 <sup>th</sup> April	Glen Innes NSW	TBC

# Workshops

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- Sheep Genetics will be running workshops in early 2010
- These are half day workshops covering basic principles and new technologies around selected Sheep CRC open days
- No cost to attend workshops

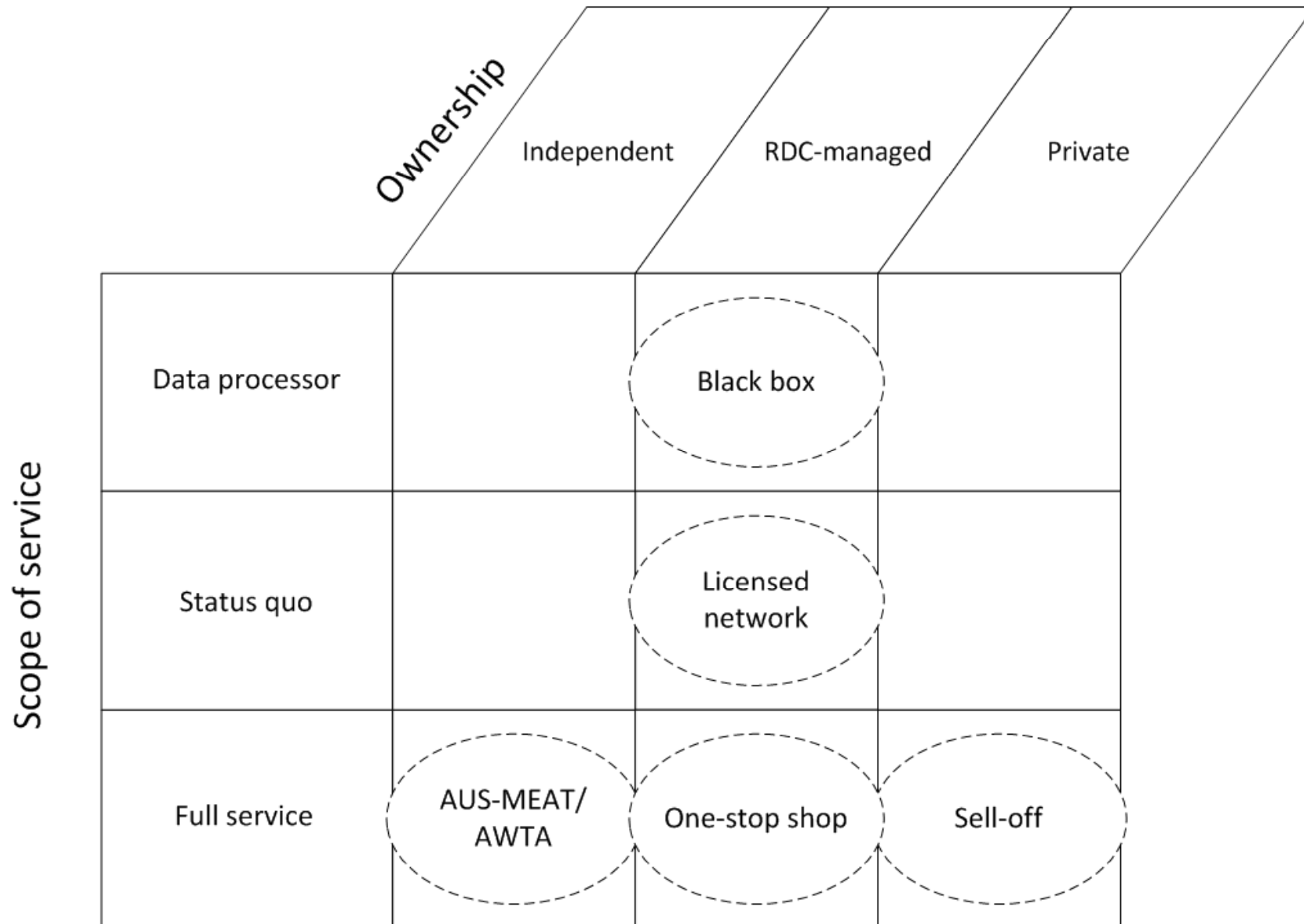
# Workshops

Date	Town	Location	Time
15 <sup>th</sup> or 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Campbelltown TAS	TBC	15 <sup>th</sup> – afternoon or 17 <sup>th</sup> - morning
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Dookie VIC	Ag College	8:00 – 1:00
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Casterton VIC	Glenelg Inn	8:30 - 1:30

# Business Model Overview

- Scott Williams (SED Consulting)
- 90+ stakeholder interviews
  - DAFF, MLA, AWI, CRC, current
- Review of coexisting entities
  - AUS-MEAT; SIL; ABRI; ADHIS
- Current business model
- 5 alternative models
  - Black box; Licensed network; AUS-MEAT/AWTA; One stop shop; sell-off

# Alternative models



# Alternative models

- **The ‘Black box’ model**
  - The core business of SG is facilitating the transformation of phenotypic data into ASBVs, and that is all
- **The ‘Licensed network’ model**
  - A national network of licensed service providers who can ensure data quality is good and thereby leave SG to focus on data processing, marketing and education.
- **The ‘AUS-MEAT/AWTA’ model**
  - Business decisions will be made most efficiently by an appropriately constituted and incentivised organisation that is free to operate independently of industry politics
- **The ‘One-stop shop’ model**
  - SG is well placed to integrate new technologies with its current capability and to become a ‘one-stop genetics shop’ for the industry. This would increase the business scale of SG, increasing its efficiency, and give MLA/AWI greater capacity to drive genetic improvement.
- **The ‘Sell-off’ model**
  - Industry bodies should use commercial agribusiness to take its products to market. Market forces will determine the value of the SG

# Where to now?

- AWI / MLA Board approval of business model
- Development of business plan 2011-15
  - Advisory Committee review
- New management agreement (MLA/AWI)
- Board approval of new business plan
  - Budget
  - KPIs
  - 3 year review