

Table 2: Potential to change key factors for a southern production system tailored to a longfed export market

Description of breeding system								
Traits	Relative importance of factor*(1=most important)	Is within breed selection feasible for this factor? ie is the factor heritable?	Selection criteria	Between breed - opportunities for gain	Are you exploiting between breed differences?	Can hybrid vigour help?	Are you exploiting hybrid vigour in your breeding system?	Suggested actions
Liveweight at point of sale	2	✓✓✓	Yes - 600 day 20kg above breed average	Yes	No	✓✓✓	No	BreedObject
Weaning rate	3	✓	Scrotal size EBV above breed average	Yes	No	✓✓	No	
Carcase yield	4	✓✓✓	No - EMA EBVs below breed average	Yes	No	x	No	Should look at EMA EBVs?
Carcase quality	1	✓✓	No	Yes	No	x	No	IMF EBVs new to my breed. As marbling is the most important factor any change in breeding system would have to ensure no loss of marbling performance. Crossbreeding with Shorthorn or Wagyu could be considered.

\*Indexing programs such as BreedObject, assist to determine the relative importance of traits more accurately.