

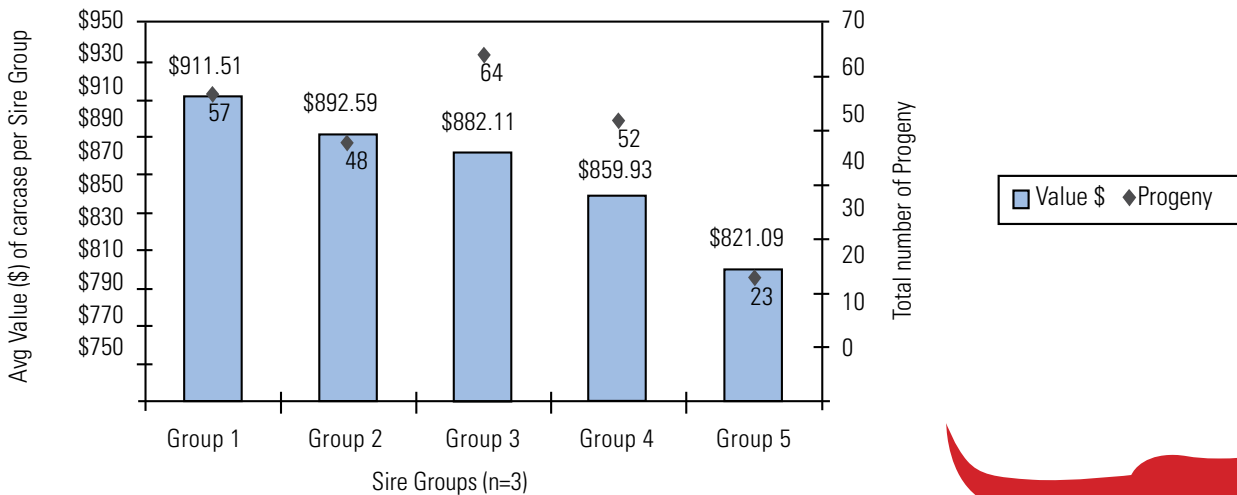
## Enhance productivity with DNA parent verification

Beef CRC research has shown that the productivity from steers can vary substantially due to the genetics of the sire. Commercial producers running multiple sire matings, can better identify the difference in productivity from the bulls being used in their herds by using DNA testing to identifying parentage.

### SireTRACE<sup>®</sup> Case Study

Figure 1 shows data from an extensive northern property that used SireTRACE in a multiple-sire mating situation, where all progeny were retained through to slaughter. The figure shows the results for 244 slaughtered progeny by 15 sires.

- These sires had between 3 and 32 progeny each, clearly showing the different fertilising power of bulls in multiple sire mating situations.
- The average progeny value has been collated into five groups of three sires each.
- **The difference in average value from the progeny of the three best sires and the three worst sires is \$90.42 (\$911.51 compared to \$821.09).**



**Figure 1.** Average progeny carcass value per sire in a multi-sire herd in northern Australia.

### What can SireTRACE do for your herd?

DNA testing 50 steers from a multiple-sire mating herd and identifying their sires would give an excellent assessment of the productivity of those sires. If the ID of those steers was maintained through to finishing, then useful production and economic information can be related back to the sire performance.

By linking steer IDs with carcass results (AUS-MEAT chiller assessment or Meat Standards Australia, MSA) a significant difference in performance and dollar returns can be attributed to different sires. In the previous example that difference was \$90 per steer. If we then multiply that difference by the number of steers produced by a sire it is evident that the difference in productivity from sires in a calf crop can reach thousands of dollars.

### SireTRACE – an integral part of your breeding program

- SireTRACE is an ideal tool for large commercial breeders or studs where single sire mating or manual recording of parentage is difficult
- As demonstrated in the case study, significant financial gains can be made by identifying and using high performing sires



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