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Mate Select Estimated Breeding Value

Retriever (Labrador)

Cynhinfa John

An Estimated Breeding Value (EBV) evaluates the genetic value of an individual dog, in relation to the whole of the dog's breed. These EBVs are intended to help breeders reduce the prevalence of hip and/or elbow dysplasia by more accurately evaluating genetic risk.

	Score	EBV	Confidence	
Elbow	0	-37	73%	
Hip	3/3 = 6	-12	83%	

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EBV calculations are using data last updated on the 30th September 2015.

EBVs are computed using available hip and/or elbow scores for the dog and all its relatives. Pedigree information is used to determine the relationships among dogs. This allows the genetic risk of individuals to be evaluated, stripping away any environmental effects. Using EBVs to make mating decisions will be more accurate than using the observed hip or elbow score and will lead to faster progress in reducing the prevalence of disease.

A dog's EBV allows it to be placed on a scale of liability, identifying those individuals at highest risk of passing on the condition and those at lowest risk.

What does the EBV value mean?

- The breed average is always set to 0. Higher risk EBVs are shown as a positive number (red area on the left of the centre bar) and lower risk EBVs as a negative number (green area on the right of the centre bar).
- The further a dog's EBV is from the average, the higher or lower its genetic risk. One [standard deviation](#) is represented by 20 units. So a dog with an EBV of +40 is two [standard deviations](#) worse than average, while a dog with an EBV of -20 is one [standard deviation](#) better than average.
- At birth a puppy's EBV will be the average of its parents' EBVs. A dog's EBV can change during its lifetime, as more information becomes available, either about the dog itself or its relatives.
- The accuracy is a measure of how much information has been used to calculate the EBV. If the dog has been hip or elbow scored itself and has several relatives with scores then the accuracy will be higher than if it has not been scored and has few relatives with scores. Individuals with several scored offspring tend to have high accuracies. Accuracy is the correlation between the estimate of the breeding value and the true value. The more information available the closer the estimate will be to the true value.

