

The Challenge

Beef producers are paid based on the grading system (conformation and fat class). Within a group of animals of the same weight and grade, however, the beef retail value may vary by up to £100 per head, due to some having a higher retail meat yield.

generate higher end market return would create a more market focused breeding strategy.



This information can also be combined with DNA data to develop genomic estimated breeding values (GEBVs) for six primal cuts.

The Research

Visual Image Analysis (VIA) more accurately shows the value of meat and so can help ensure a fair price per carcass.

The research team have used the technology to collect more than 100,000 VIA records from four abattoir sites, along with DNA samples from around 2,000 Limousin bred cattle.

SRUC analyse information from the abattoir (weight, conformation etc) then be used to predict meat yield for animals based only on a DNA sample.



Visual Image Analysis of the carcass can measure the size and value of individual meat cuts.

The Results

Visual Image Analysis (VIA) can accurately predict those animals that have higher meat yields from their carcasses in the abattoir.

