Lindsay Barlow (pictured right) & family run the Triple B Brangus Stud based at Dingo in Central Queensland and have been involved in Brangus Group BREEDPLAN since it’s inception in the breed in 1998. Triple B run 450 registered breeders and sell bulls (80 – 90 annually) both at auction in the annual Brangus sale in Rockhampton as well as direct from the property.

The breeding objective at Triple B is to maximise growth whilst maintaining a high standard of female fertility. The Barlow’s apply these objectives on a whole herd basis not simply focusing on particular animals such as their sale bulls, but rather looking to make genetic progress across the entire herd. This philosophy means that any animal sold is from a strong genetic base not simply one of a minority of high performers.

The Barlow’s currently record the weight traits (200, 400 & 600 days), as well as scrotal size. In regards to the Milk EBV Lindsay feels that their cows have the potential to put more milk into their calves without compromising their ability to go back in calf, thus they are placing some
positive selection pressure on this. The future aim is to undertake ultrasound scanning to also identify genetics with optimal fat cover and muscling.

In regards to achieving their breeding objectives at Triple B, the Barlow’s have certainly made genetic progress for 600 day weight as demonstrated in figure 1. The Triple B calves average EBV has increased 12kg since their commencement in BREEDPLAN in 1998.

![Figure 1 Genetic trend for 600 day weight](image1)

Figure 2 demonstrates the little selection pressure been that has been placed on the Milk EBV in the past with minimal change over time. Triple B will be monitoring this trend in the future as they begin to select for females that have a greater maternal influence on their calves.

![Figure 2 Genetic trend for Milk EBV](image2)

The reason they performance record at Triple B however is not only to identify genetics for selection purposes but also due to client demand for the opportunity to compare their animals.
against other breeders. EBVs are presented to clients via sale catalogues and Lindsay feels that whilst a bit slower than they would like, the uptake of the information is continuing to rise.

The value of BREEDPLAN to Triple B is summed up by Lindsay who stated “it’s very valuable because it is an extremely credible system that not only reinforces what you can see in your herd but also highlights what you can’t see. If you’re going to meet your breeding goals then you need to be honest with yourself and take notice of the objective measurements”.

One of the current sires in use at Triple B