

## ALL CONTINENTALS ARE NOT CREATED EQUAL...

### Limousin Produce More Retail Product Due to Advantages in Muscle, Leanness and Muscle to Bone Ratio

**Table 1. Carcass and yield parameters for close-trimmed ( .3" ) retail product**

Breed Group	Live Weight(lbs.)	Carcass Weight (lbs.)	Dressing Percent	Percent of Retail Product	Pounds of Retail Product
<b>Limousin</b>	<b>1,142</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>555</b>
Charolais	1,261	766	60.7	73.2	560
Simmental	1,278	766	59.8	72.8	557
Gelbvieh	1,247	748	59.9	74.2	555
Angus	1,133	695	61.3	67.1	466
Hereford	1,115	673	60.3	66.0	444

The importance of Dressing Percent and Retail Yield becomes dramatic when you consider:

- Limousin cattle with approximately the same live weight as Angus and Hereford produced approximately 100 lbs. mor close-trimmed retail product.
- When contrasted with Gelbvieh, Simmental and Charolais, Limousin weighing 100 to 130 lbs. less live weight produced the same quantity of retail product.

**Table 2. Growth and efficiency when fed 207 days**

Breed Group	Initial Weight (lbs.)	Slaughter Weight (lbs.)	ADG lbs. per day (lbs.)	*Mcal of Energy Consumed	*Mcal of Energy for Maintenanc	Live Gain per *Mcal of Energy, grams	Close-Trimmed Retail Product per *Mcal of Energy, grams
<b>Limousin</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>1,151</b>	<b>2.80</b>	<b>4870</b>	<b>1394</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>49</b>
Charolais	635	1,283	3.13	5632	1513	52	43
Simmental	635	1,294	3.20	5876	1523	51	41
Gelbvieh	662	1,270	2.94	5697	1517	48	42
Angus	571	1,164	2.86	5319	1403	50	38
Hereford	516	1,127	2.95	5128	1353	54	38

\*Mcal=megacalorie

MARC 1994 (JAS 72:1152)

We often hear from cattle feeders that Limousin cattle do not consume as much per day or gain as rapidly

as other Continentals. These data support those observations, however:

- When efficiency of gain is measured as Mcal of energy per unit of live gain, Limousin cattle excel Gelbvieh, Simmental and Charolais by 11.1%, 5.5% and 3.7% respectively.
- When efficiency of gain is measured on a close-trimmed retail product basis, Limousin advantages become even greater. Comparative advantages in inherent efficiency, dressing percent and retail yield combine to result in advantages of 22.4%, 22.4%, 14.2%, 16.3% and 12.2% over Hereford, Angus, Gelbvieh, Simmental and Charolais respectively.

### **Limousin... Muscle Into Profit**