



ALMA
Alberta Livestock & Meat Agency Ltd.



Government of Alberta ■

Canadian Bovine Genomics Workshop

September 14, 2009

Calgary, Alberta

“Past, Present and Future Opportunities in Cattle”

Robert Church

Cattle in Northwest Territories

1870-1900

Bison – head into wind – “gone with the wind”

Texas Longhorns – thin hided – “with the wind”

Shorthorn – F.W. Stone, Guelph 1841

Angus – W. Brow, Guelph 1876

Hereford – F.W. Stone, Guelph 1860

Ayrshire / Holstein / Shorthorn (D)

**Thick
hided,
Meat and
Milk**

- **Early purebred breeders in central Alberta supply Cochrane Ranch, A7, Burns, Pallesen, etc.;**
- **Outfits brought in bulls/heifers to add hardiness, Fleshing ability, Milk**

Original Genetic Revolution

1900-1950's

- 1901 - Territorial Purebred Cattle Breeders – Calgary Bull Sale**
- 1905 - ACBA: world's largest consignment sale**
 - National Records Board – Livestock Pedigree Act**
- Era of Master Breeders – big rough cattle to thick, small, smooth beef cattle. Herefords, Shorthorns, Angus, Galloway Highlord: Ayrshire, Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, etc.**
- Cattelo – One Four – Hobart Peters – behaviour, tough**
- Snowlander – Charlie Flick – reproductive Foragers**
- Line I – Miles City – Bob Woodward**
- Beefmaster; Santa Gertrudus**

Explosive Genetic Revolution

1950's-1970's

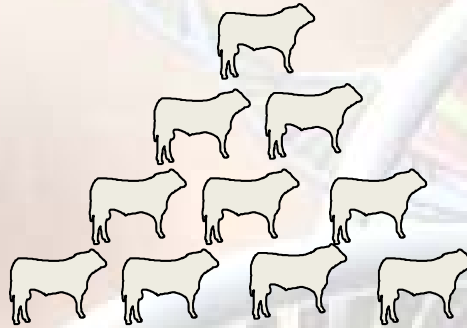
- 1956 : LK started beef AI from Guelph/Beckton
beef and dairy progeny test
- 1961/3: LK – Western – Burns – Safeway
built EPDs for ADG, Carcass
- Kinsella hybrids build on Holstein
sire progeny tests with AI
- Berg . Fredeer et al.
- 1967-68: Hays.Williams.Wells – Continental
multipurpose breeds add to gene pool with worldwide demand – BCAI, ABS, Prairie, Western
- 1969: Hyline, Shaver – DNA parentage – Monro
- 1970-72: Alta. Embryo Transfer – Rowson et al.
- litters, split embryos, IVF
Protein – DNA parentage – HoFA – Bovacar
For sires, donors, parentage tests by purebred breed associations
- 1976: VIDO – Bigland, Acres, Babiuk
- Childrens Hospital Genetic Testing Lab – karyotype – DNA . Hoar
- 1986: Animal Genetics Laboratory . U of C

Bovine Genomics

1980-2005

- **Pedigrees with EPDs, Parentage DNA testing; abnormalities testing and markers introduced.**
- **First DNA markers – polled gene Herefords
Ross Bricker**
 - **Muntjac sexing – Linn/McWhir**
 - **Dairy Progeny Testing / ET Marketing**
- **Heterosis Hybrid Programs - Beefbooster**
- **Human Genome Project**
- **Sequencing gels – SNPS, Markers, etc. enter marketing programs**
- **Global Bovine Genome Program, and**
- **U of A Genomics Program – Moore et al.**
- **Pedigreed Breeding Stock sales of live animals, semen, embryos becomes major worldwide industry. Alta. Genetics world leader in elite genetics of dairy and beef**

ADDRESSING THE “PHENOMIC GAP”



DNA
Blood
Tissues

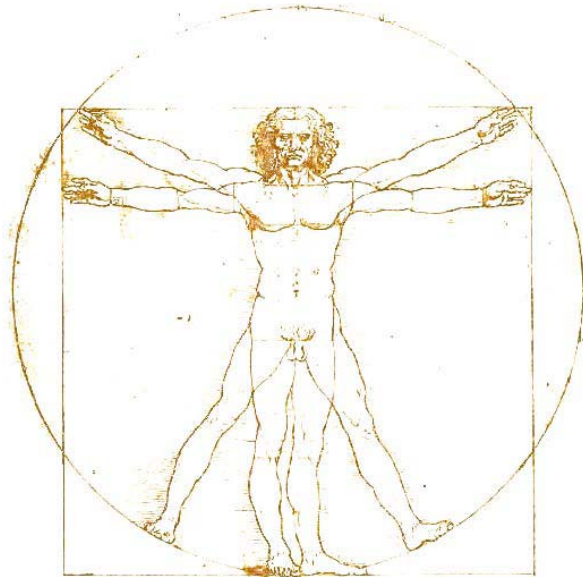
40-50 sires
4-5 herds, 1000 cows/yr
670-800 progeny tested/yr under standard conditions

GENOTYPES/PROTEIN PROFILES
50,000 SNP data base
Proteomics, Bioinformatics,
Marker Assisted Selection
Leptin, IGF-1, UCPs, NPY, calpains,
calpastatin, DGAT, desaturase, etc.

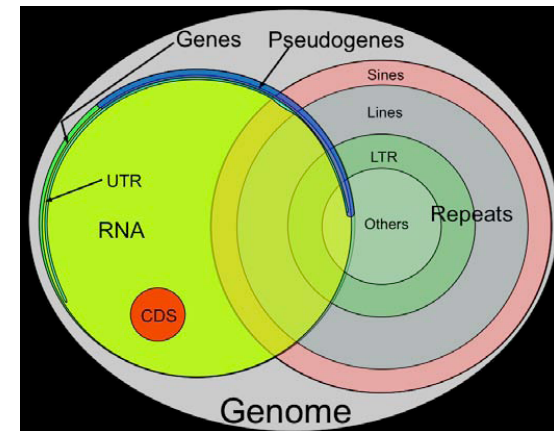
PERFORMANCE DATA
Birth wt, pre- & post wn ADG
Feed efficiency (RFI),
Ultrasound fat, marbling & REA
Basic carcass traits & body composition
Meat quality & palatability at 0, 7, 14 d post-mortem
Fatty acid profile, trans%, saturated %, unsaturated%, etc

ASSOCIATIONS plus MARKER VALIDATION STUDIES

TOTAL NUCLEOTIDE INVENTORY



Human Germline DNA



Gut Flora/Viral DNA	Mitochondrial DNA	Circulating DNA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $10^{13} - 10^{14}$ microorganisms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circular • 37 genes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traces from Damaged Cells
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 x more genes than humans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ~16 kb • 2-10 copies per MT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detects disease related events

Future: Healthy Livestock – Healthy People

- 454 Mass sequencing and high capacity search engines add Total Genomics ↔ Epigenetics Analysis for:
 - Chronic and acute disease?
 - BSE analysis
Urnovitz . Sensen . Czub
 - HIV analysis – Montague
 - BSE . CWD blood test
 - Chronic Disease is phenotype for total genomics, environment and diet
- The eye and commitment of the livestock breeder in the environment where livestock are reared will determine profitable livestock:
Based on Pedigrees enhanced by EPDS, Marker Panels and Total Genomic Profiles.

Proof of Concept- From 454 to Routine Lab Tests

5 sequences discovered in 454 Sequencing were selected and developed into a quantitative Real-time PCR assay -13 BSE vs 38 Normal Cow Controls

	Initial Reactives	Initial Non-Reactives
BSE	13	0
Normals	8	30

RT-PCR Results

Screening Results: 100% Sensitivity, 79% Specificity

	Repeat Reactives
BSE	13
Normals	0

Confirmation Test

Final Results with Confirmation Test: 100% Sensitivity, 100% Specificity

Therefore, Chronix can translate 454 results into a screening and confirmation test for BSE with 100% Sensitivity and 100% Specificity