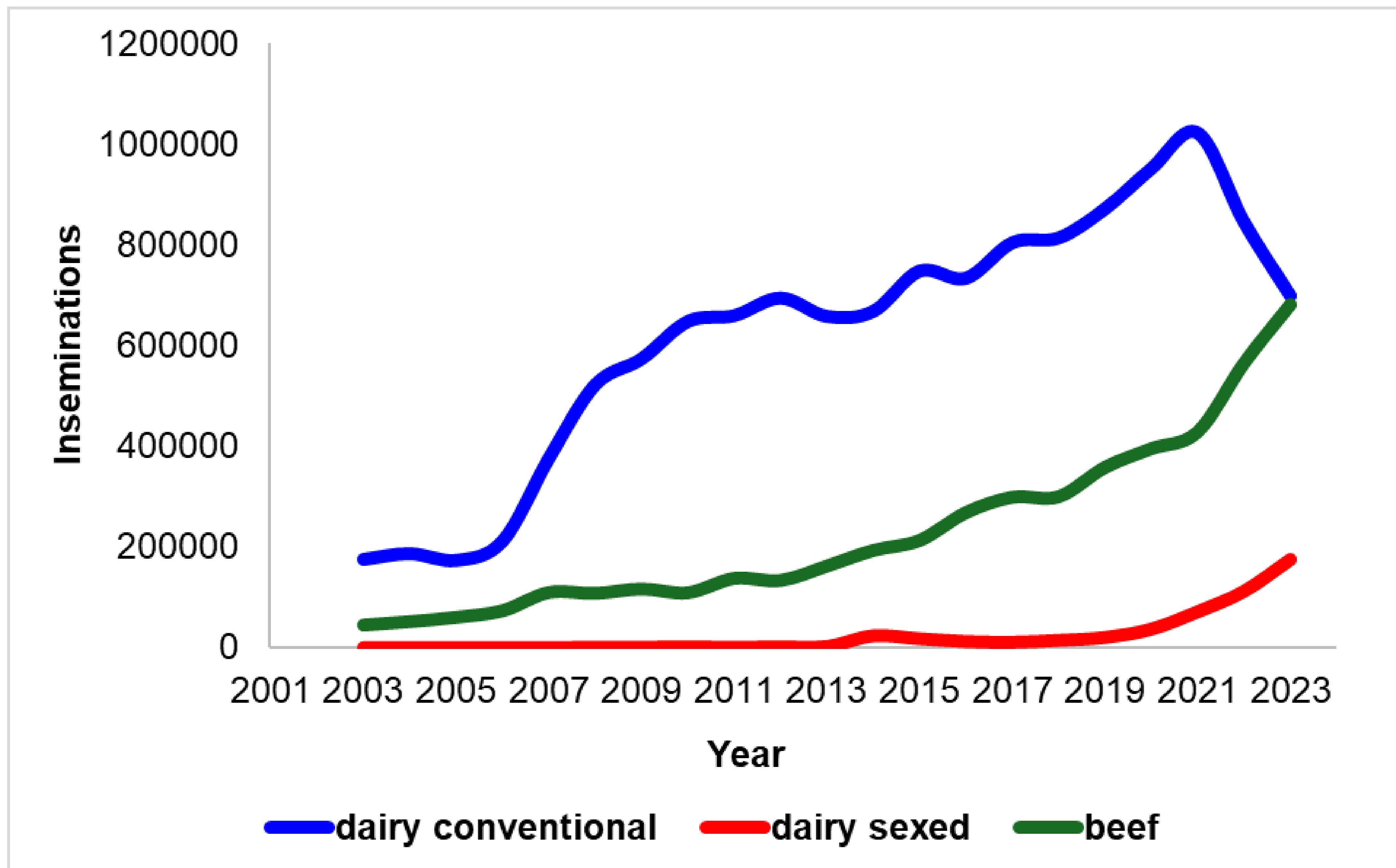


A modern breeding strategy for

Breeding strategies in dairy herds

National dairy herd breeding strategies changing;

- Dairy sexed semen has doubled in last 2 years
- Over 54% of inseminations are to beef sires
- Less dairy conventional required



Dairy Beef Index (DBI)

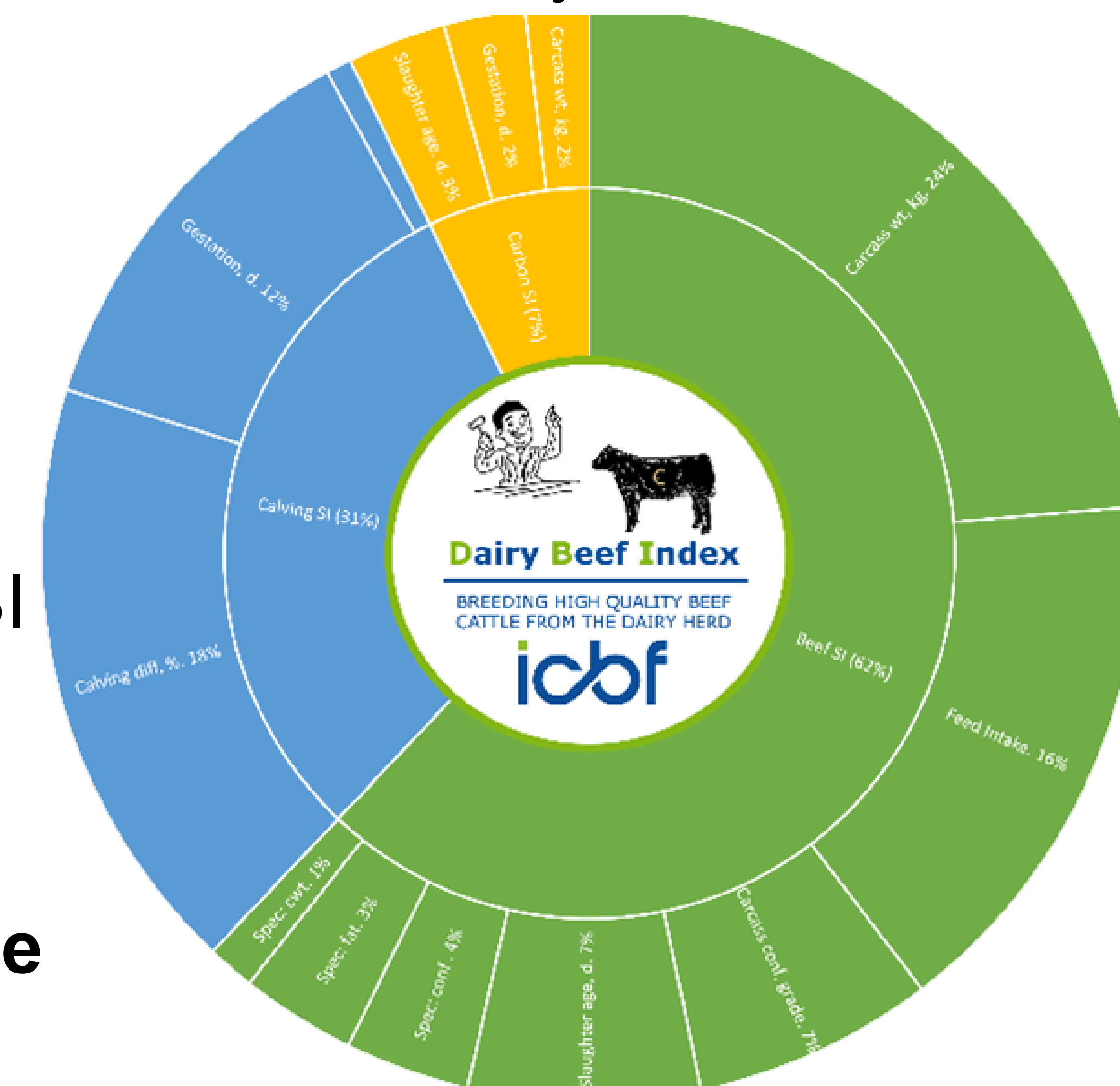
The DBI is a breeding index used by dairy farmers to select beef bulls to produce beef x dairy calves

3 sub-indices

1. Calving
2. Beef
3. Carbon

Select high beef sub-index values in the DBI to improve calf quality

The beef merit traits will be reflected in the CBV of the progeny



high profit dairy farming



Commercial Beef Value (CBV)

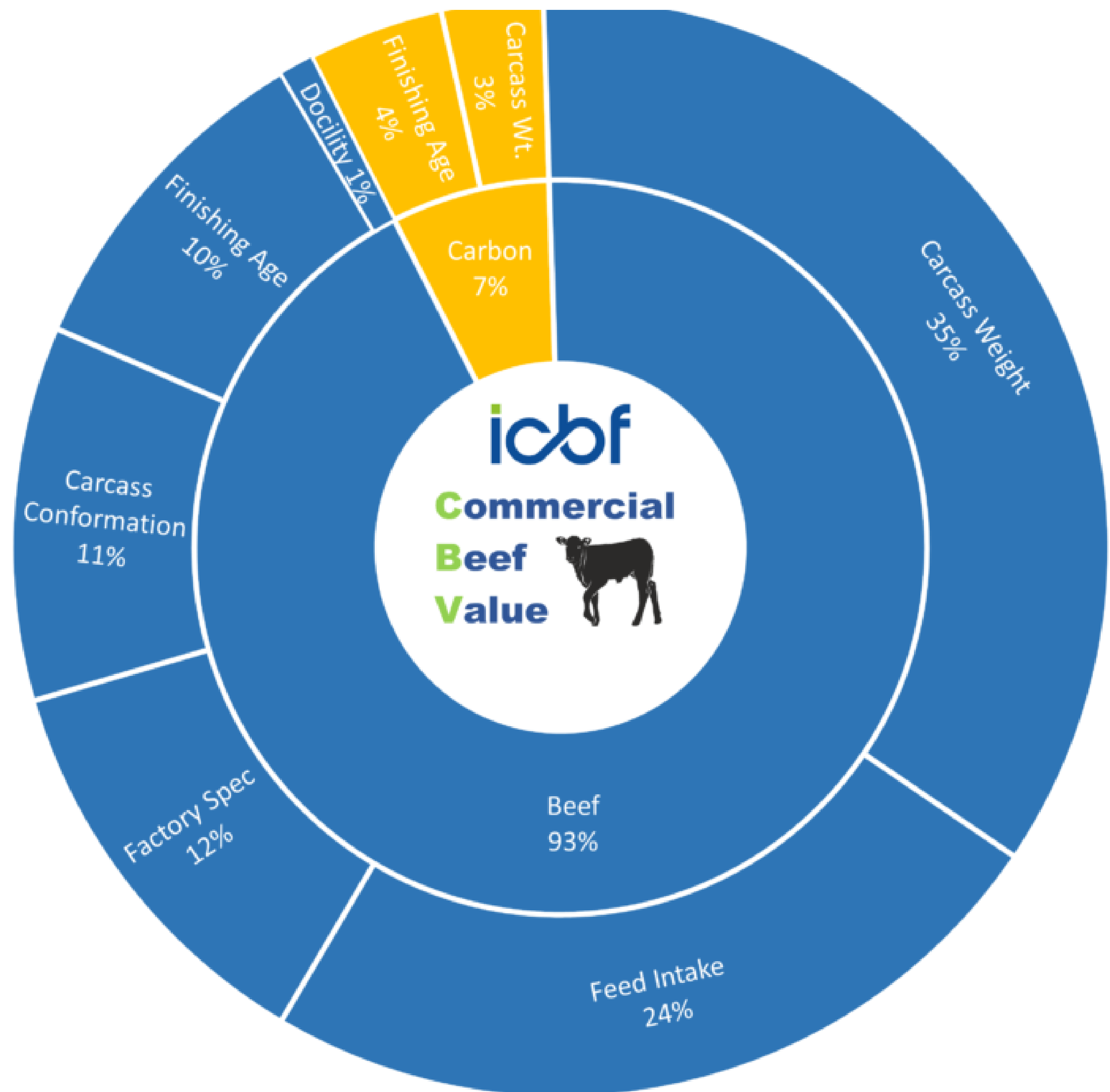
The CBV index ranks non-breeding beef animals on expected profitability

2 sub-indices

- 1. Beef
- 2. Carbon

Used for sales and purchasing decisions

- Available from;
- breeders Herdplus profile
 - mart boards for genotyped cattle



↑ CBV = ↑ Expected Profit

How to achieve high CBV values?

• CBV benchmarking guidelines

Breed Group	*	**	***	****	*****
Dairy x Beef	€62	€82	€92	€102	€133
Dairy x Dairy	-€23	-€7	-€1	€5	€20

Based on March 2024 evaluation

• DBI beef bull guidelines by dairy herd type

EBI Beef SI		CBV ****		CBV *****	
Rank	Value	DBI Beef SI	DBI Beef SI	DBI Beef SI	DBI Beef SI
Low	-€18	€91	€128	€128	€128
Medium	-€5	€78	€116	€116	€116
High	€2	€71	€109	€109	€109

High DBI with high Beef SI required

Take Home Message

- The CBV can help farmers to make more informed decisions when selling & purchasing animals
- Dairy farmers advised to use DBI bulls with high Beef sub-index without compromising calving traits