

Subject

WHAT IS PHASE D?

Phase D is a veld-based performance test that helps identify the young bulls whose genetics perform best under practical farming conditions.

PHASE D FACT

Phase D testing does not require bulls to be fed like feedlot animals.

Bulls can be tested under extensive veld conditions where the objective is to identify genetics that perform under the same practical conditions encountered by commercial cattle producers.

THE TEST IS DONE WITHIN A CONTEMPORARY GROUP, MEANING:

- A maximum 100-day age difference.
- The same feeding and management conditions.

This allows the environmental effect to be eliminated so that genetics can speak.

Breeders can earn up to **21 Logix Elite points** for a successful completed phase D test.



HOW DOES THE PHASE D TEST WORK FOR TULI BULLS?

- Bulls first complete a 2–3 week adaptation period, depending on how different the test diet is from their usual feed.
- The growth test runs for at least 84 days and may extend to 270 days.
- The aim is an average weight gain of approximately 100 kg, allowing growth patterns to become clear.
- Tuli bulls are compared under the same feeding and management conditions so their growth differences can be assessed fairly.

The goal is to measure growth potential under controlled conditions, without pushing bulls for maximum gain.



WHY IS PHASE D IMPORTANT IN STUD BREEDING?

In stud breeding, the goal is to supply the commercial producer with genetics that are:

- Functional.
- Fertile.
- Financially viable under real farm conditions.
- To see what bulls is best adapted on the veld.

Phase D performance data is recorded with SA Stud Book and processed into breeding values, supporting better long-term selection decisions.



WHERE TO START WITH PHASE D?

Start Phase D testing:

- From ± 8 months under higher nutritional conditions.
- Up to 12 months of age under extensive, low-input conditions.

The bulls must be weighed every 3–4 weeks.

