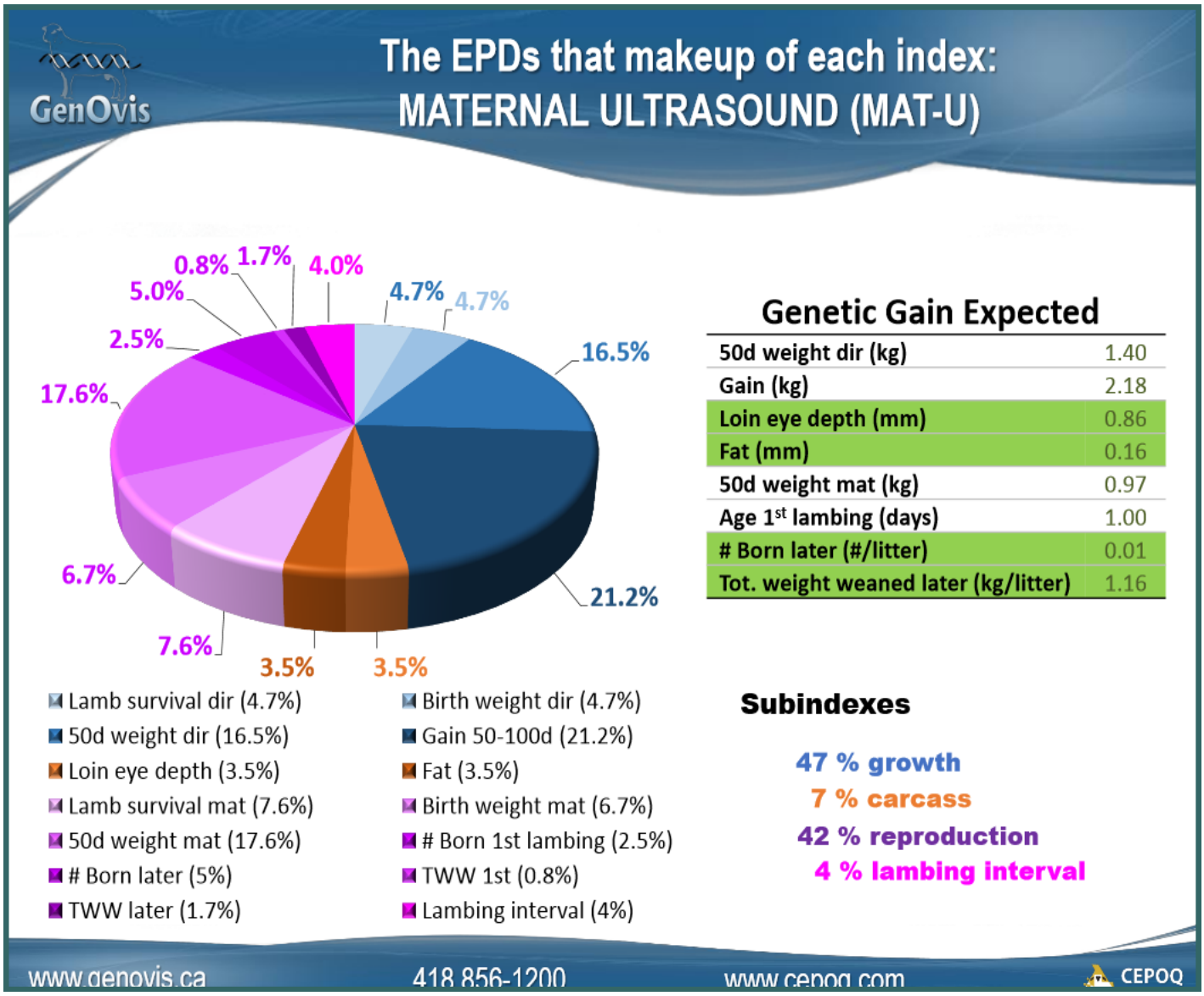

For Suffolk ewes with ultrasound carcass data, use the MAT-U index to select for ewes to increase maternal and carcass traits.

What is an EPD?

Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs) are genetic predictions that producers can use when making selection decisions. A buyer is always advised to use more than just the EPDs regardless of accuracy when making purchase decisions. EPDs come from performance data. We submit data to CEPOQ who administers the GenOvis database. The differences between animals raised in the same environment is analyzed and the portion of that difference that is due to genetics (heritability) is determined. The genetic differences are then compared using the pedigree information contained in the Canadian Livestock Records (CLRC). The result is a value that can be directly compared between animals and across environments, this is the **power of an EPD in genetic improvement.**