Pregnancy Check Time!

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Reproductive Efficiency

= Management + Nutrition and Health + Selection pressure + Reproductive technologies

Culling Open Cows!!
Economics of Pregnancy Diagnosis

Cost of maintaining a cow from breeding to weaning:
- $600
- Weaned calf: $800
- Profit: $200

Loss:
- Weaned calf: $0
- Loss: $800
Pregnancy Diagnosis

(Herd Size)

- 1 to 49: 21.7%
- 50 to 199: 50.9%
- > 200: 98.8%
- All Operations 2008: 18.0%
- All operations 2020: 31.6%

(NAHMS, 2008, 2020)
Pregnancy Diagnosis

• Rectal Palpation
  • Immediate diagnosis
  • Low cost ($3-5/hd)
  • Highly accurate
    • Experienced veterinarian
    • Stage of pregnancy
  • As early as 30 days
Pregnancy Diagnosis

- **Ultrasonography**
  - Immediate diagnosis
  - Low cost ($3-5/hd)
  - As early as 26 days
  - Heartbeat
  - Detection of twins
  - Accurate fetal measurements and aging
  - Fetal sexing
Pregnancy Diagnosis

Ultrasonography

26 Day Pregnancy  28 Day Pregnancy  35 Day Pregnancy

45 Day Pregnancy  60 Day Pregnancy  65 Day Pregnancy
Ultrasonography - *Fetal Sexing*

- Male – day 65
- Female – day 65
Ultrasonography - *Fetal Sexing*

- Male – day 65 of gestation
- Female – day 65 of gestation
Pregnancy Diagnosis

- **Blood test** – *Pregnancy Associated Glycoproteins (PAG)*

  - As early as
    - 25 days – heifers
    - 28 days – cows

  - High accuracy: 99% when cow is open
  - 60 to 90 days post calving
  - Not chute side – 1 to 2 weeks to receive results
  - Low Cost - $2.50 to $5.00
  - Need to collect blood!
Pregnancy Diagnosis

- Rectal Palpation
- Ultrasonography
- Blood tests
- Veterinarian relationship
- PREG CHECK YOUR COWS!!
Contact Information

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