

Revolutionary New Breeding Tool Lets You Select The Sex Of Offspring

A first-of-its-kind new breeding instrument lets you select the sex of offspring in dairy cows, beef cows and horses with more than 90 percent accuracy, according to the manufacturer.

Advanced Bovine Technologies LLC of Corrales, N.M., says its Ovatec vaginal probe can be used to determine the best time to inseminate to produce male or female offspring.

"We've discovered that we can control the sex of offspring by breeding at a specific time in relation to the time of ovulation. We're also able to dramatically increase conception rates," says Jim Johnson, president. "The unit also helps detect infection, cysts, silent heat, early ovulators, late ovulators and nutritional problems with the herd."

Here's how it works.

The Ovatec takes readings of estrogen, electrolytes and ions in the vaginal mucus. This information is translated into a numerical reading. That reading will be 90 or slightly above for any cow that is not in estrus and doesn't have an infection. As estrus occurs,

the numbers will drop to a low point, usually in the mid 30s to mid 40s, before returning to 90 as they come out of estrus. Ovulation occurs between 60 and 80 as the numbers rise. "By breeding when the numbers are on the decline, within 10 points of the bottom number, we achieve over 90 percent female offspring," says Johnson. "By breeding when the numbers are on the rise, as close to ovulation as possible, we achieve over 90 percent male offspring."

"The reasoning behind this is simple. The sperm carrying the male chromosomes swim faster but die off much quicker. The sperm carrying the female chromosomes, though swimming slower, live much longer. Therefore, by inseminating close to ovulation, the male sperm outswim the female sperm creating a male embryo. By inseminating 12 to 18 hours before ovulation, the male sperm have died off leaving only the female sperm to inseminate the egg."

"Most of our customers are averaging 80 to 90 percent conception on the first service.



Instrument features a specially designed smooth sensor, stainless steel shaft and sophisticated electronics.

We can also determine what sex the offspring is in a pregnant animal as early as 10 days after insemination."

The Ovatec sells for \$2,500. References from users are available upon request.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Advanced Bovine Technologies LLC, 7670 Corrales Rd., Corrales, N.M. 87048 (ph 888 474-5123 or 505 286-5067; fax 5070).

Squeeze-Type Instrument For Prolapsed Uterus

"It's the sort of thing you may need only every 100 or 200 calvings, but when you need it you really need it, and fast," says Len Digney who's come up with a simple new squeeze-type instrument for replacing prolapsed uteruses.

The Raymore, Sask., rancher says he worked on the idea for 50 years trying many different methods before finally hitting on this latest new idea.

It consists of a 3-ft. long, 9/16-in. dia. steel roller with crank and lock made out of flat iron. A length of ordinary heavy-gauge plastic, in a loop, attaches to the roller.

To use, thoroughly clean the womb and open the squeeze until the plastic extends from the roller to form a loop big enough to fit around the uterus. Thoroughly lubricate the inside of the plastic and the womb with

liquid detergent or mineral oil and slip the uterus inside the plastic loop. Then, gently begin tightening the squeeze with the crank. Tighten until the uterus, which can be 1 ft. or more in dia., is about 8 in. in dia., depending on the size of the cow. Lock the squeeze and, with the aid of an assistant, slowly push the uterus out of the plastic and back inside the cow. Afterward, you'll have to pull the womb inside out, stitch the cow's vulva to ensure the womb stays in place, and give her an injection of penicillin.

The instrument can replace a prolapsed uterus in as little as 15 minutes, Digney says. If the womb is badly torn to begin with, call a veterinarian, he cautions.

Digney plans to build the instruments to sell for about \$80 (with a full money-back guarantee), about half the price of a



Digney's squeeze consists of a roller and hand crank to help replace a prolapsed uterus. Balloon shows how plastic squeezes uterus.

veterinarian's "house call" to do the same job, he notes.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Len

Digney, Box 53, Raymore, Sask., Canada S0A 3J0 (ph 306 746-2013).

Solar-Heated Dairy Barn Cost Less Than A Conventional Design

"I've milked cows for 60 years and have seen nothing to compare anywhere with the comfort and labor-saving features of my solar-heated barn," says William Russ, who designed and did much of the construction on the barn himself.

"What's great about this barn is that it doesn't have to be cleaned every day and it's warm and dry with air moving through from all directions. Cows are cleaner and more content. A conventional free-stall barn for 100 cows costs much more than I spent and has to be cleaned each day but is still forever damp. Total cost of my building was \$82,000, including milking equipment."

The key features are the slatted floor and the solar design which heats and provides light to the barn. The barn has a roof that slopes from 8 ft. tall on the lower end up to 22 ft. tall at the upper end. The south-facing side is covered with clear fiberglass roof panels that let heat and light inside. A feed bunk - which can be filled from outside the barn - is located at the base of the solar wall. Russ built free-stalls out of wood.

"The first \$10,000 went for excavation and cement work. The next \$10,000 went for concrete slats. There are mattresses in the free stalls covered with a layer of sawdust.

"There are ramps leading down into the pit so I can clean out with a skid steer loader or pump it out whenever I have time. Lets me clean on my schedule. I figure I'm eliminating the inconvenience and expense of a big lagoon and avoiding the labor requirement and machinery wear and tear of daily cleanup inside the barn.

"Another savings is feeding into the bunk from outside the barn. I don't have to stop to open gates to chase cows out of the way. I can do the whole job in 5 min. from the seat of my tractor using a total mixed ration. I just open a line of access doors above the bunk."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, William Russ, 8309 Mitchell Rd., Roscoe, Ill. 61073 (ph 815 885-3465).



Barn roof slopes from 8 ft. on lower end to 22 ft. on upper end. South-facing fiberglass panels let in heat and light.



Russ built his own freestalls out of wood.