

# Reproduction Management Tips Part III

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***How can I increase the reproductive  
efficiency of my cows?***

**Pregnancy rate = Heat detection rate X Conception rate**

**What Should we do ?  
(Management Policy)**



- 1) Heat Detection
- 2) Conception Rate
- 3) Herd Health
- 4) Proper nutrition management
- 5) Recognize importance of early breeding (reasonable VWP) and systematic breeding program

**I. Increasing Heat Detection Efficiency**

1. Detecting early heats (before 50 days postpartum)
2. Recognizing  
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3. Use heat detection aids
4. Record all observed heats and use the records and monitor heat detection efficiency (use the records)

**1) Detecting .....  
(before .....days postpartum)**

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- **Can tell us about cow reproductive health**
  - cyclic or anestrous
- **Can tell us about the status of .....**
  - Housing
  - Fresh cow problems (dystocia, retained placenta, metabolic disorders)
- **Help managing and organizing breeding programs**

**2) Recognizing Factors that Affect the  
Expression of Heat**

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- **Cow's reproductive health**
  - Uterine health, ovarian cysts, etc.
- **.....**
  - Concrete vs. soil surface and pasture
- **Number of animals in estrus at any given time**
  - Cows during the luteal phase of the estrous cycle do not exhibit estrus

### **3. Use heat detection aids**

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✓ **Utilize**

.....  
.....

✓ **Spend some time**

- Every 21 days a cow may stand to be mounted by a herdmate for only 15 to 23 seconds!

✓ **systematic breeding program**

- **Ovsynch, Modified Targeted Breeding, or CIDR-prostaglandin synchronization programs**

### **Heat Detection Efficiency and Accuracy**

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- **Number of breedable heat**
- **% of breedable heat detected**
  - **In the U. S. < 50%**
- **Estrus detection accuracy**
  - **as low as 5% error rate up to 60 % error rate!!**

**Pregnancy rate = Heat detection rate X Conception rate**

**II. Factors Affecting Conception Rate**

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- Semen handling and quality
- .....
- .....
- Time of insemination
- Cow's fertility
- Heat Stress

## **AI Expertise**

✓ **Inseminator efficiency**

✓ **Retraining:**

- ✓ **Semen handling**
- ✓ **Site of semen deposition**
- ✓ **Time of insemination**

## ***3. Nutrition and management***

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- ✓ **BCS at dry off and during breeding time**
- ✓ **Critical during the “transition period”: three weeks before calving and three weeks after calving**
- ✓ **Encourage high DMI to minimize the degree and duration of negative energy balance**
- ✓ **Consult with a nutritionist**

### **General Comments**

**Diagnose pregnancy prior to 40 days after AI**

