

# Reproductive performance Function of certain management policies Cow condition Implementation

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Matching losses to current program

	500-cow dairy	Cost to dairy
Calving interval	398 days	\$39
Dry period	66 days	\$18
Services per conception	2.2	\$7
Age at freshening	26 months	\$60
Reproductive losses per cow	-	\$124/cow/year
Reproductive losses annually	-	\$62,000/year

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What is the most limiting factor for reproduction?  Answer: Failure to detect heats
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### Advantages of a systematic breeding program

- · Improve efficiency of heat detection
- · Achieve timelier first service
- Reduce variation in calving interval among cows
- Reduce involuntary culling for reproductive reasons
- Concentrate labor for reproductive management to specific time periods
- · Improve overall reproductive performance of herd



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### 1995...The year that gave us OvSynch

### Trust the technology!

It gets the cows pregnant. People, on the other hand, tend to cause most of the problems.

Poor performance is rarely due to physiologic responses of individual cows to the hormonal protocol, but almost always can be attributed to compliance issues at the farm level.

### Economic impact:

For every day a cow is not pregnant beyond 120 DIM, it costs about \$3 per cow per day. In a 250-cow herd with an average 140 days open, the cost is \$60 per cow, or \$15,000 per year for the extra 20 days open.



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# Protocol objectives: Synchronize heats and induce ovulation

- · Reproduction is naturally controlled by hormones
- · Protocols use natural process to our advantage
- Hormones must be administered at specific times following a proven standardized system
- · Failure to follow leads to poor results and additional costs



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### Factors to achieve success

- Good body condition of cows and not stressed
- Commitment to follow precise synch program
- Proper employees training to follow the protocol
- Efficient and accurate heat detection for specified days
- Post breeding heat (or return heat) detection must be high
- $\bullet\,$  Proper needles, syringes, and hormones usage
- Proper Al technique



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# What is compliance?

The administration of treatments or actions according to a prescribed protocol.



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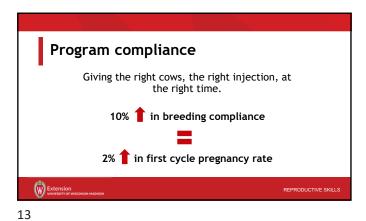
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## Compliance monitoring points

- The execution of the event itself, or
- The resulting outcome from that action that is related to the process.



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### Important compliance factors

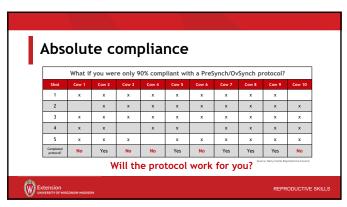
- · Accurate cow identification
- · Appropriate drug type and dosage
- · Correct time, day, and route of administration
- Appropriate time of insemination

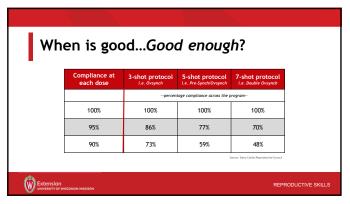


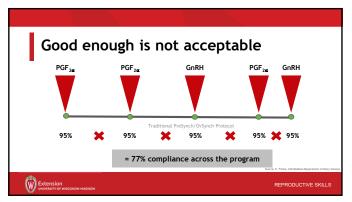
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To achieve compliance

Correct injections | Correct cow | Correct days

## To ensure breeding success

- 1. Use 18- to 20-guage, 1-1/2" needles for deep muscle injections
- ${\bf 2.}$   ${\bf Choose}$  correct size of syringe based on the volume of injection
- 3. Handle and store hormones according to instructions  $\ \ \,$
- 4. Include health and cycling status of cows as part of the decision to use a timed AI protocol
- Ensure the correct hormone is administered to the right cow at the prescribed time
- 6. Double-check ear tag IDs of cows before each injection.

  Prostaglandin will lyse the corpus luteum and induce abortion



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