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Reproduction Programs: Ovsynch Program

The Ovsynch program uses the hormone GnRH (Gonabreed or Receptal) and PG.

The Ovsynch program will synchronise cycling cows and some non-cycling cows.

- Day 0 1ml GnRH in the am
- Day 7 2ml PG in the am
- Day 9 1 ml GnRH in the pm
- Day 10 Fixed time artificial insemination in the am

The main benefit is that no heat detection is required for the first insemination. This program is particularly useful if heat detection is identified as a problem. All cows are blanket inseminated whether or not they are showing signs of standing heat. There are a number of short cycles following the fixed time insemination and cows should be inseminated on these heats. Good heat detection is vital immediately following the fixed time insemination

If Ovsynch programs are used to synchronise cows following a PG treatment the timing of the start of the Ovsynch program is important. Cows will be at the right stage of the cycle if the Ovsynch program starts 11 or 12 days after the last treatment with PG.

Advantages

- Relatively easy to administer all cows are treated
- Heat detection not required for first insemination
- A proportion of non-cycling cows will respond to treatment

Disadvantages

- Uses a lot of semen per calf
- Conception rates to first insemination low but normal in subsequent heats