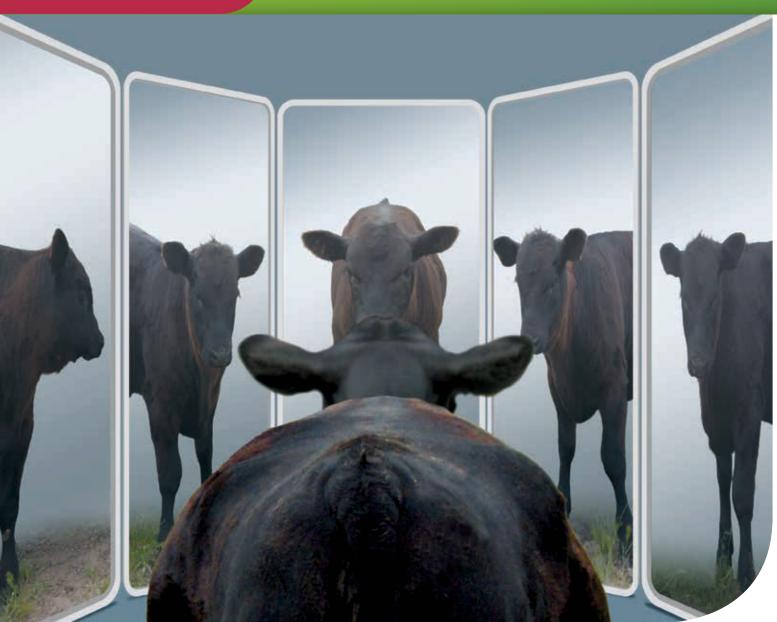


# UNDERSTANDING FIXED-TIME ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION (FTAI) A GUIDE TO THE BENEFIT OF FTAI IN YOUR HERD



### SOUTHERN BEEF CATTLE

Suited to *Bos taurus* cattle (British and European breeds)



# What is Fixed-Time Artificial Insemination (FTAI)?

FTAI allows artificial insemination (AI) of your herd without the need for heat detection.

To enable FTAI, a series of treatments are given to the females according to a protocol that will **synchronise the time of their ovulation**.

The treatments are given to every female in the mob which enables 100% of the females to be submitted to Al

## Why choose FTAI over heat detection programs?

- An AI technician is only required on one day to inseminate your cows. This day can be planned in advance – reducing your costs.
- With some basic training, all treatments can be given by the labor that you have on your farm – saving you money.
- Results in **more calves born** to Al.
- The cost per calf born is usually cheaper than heat detection programs.





# As a commercial cattle breeder, what is in it for me?

- Increase the rates of genetic improvement quicker and cheaper than natural mating.
- The easy management of FTAI means that commercial breeders don't need to have previous experience of running AI program. All you need to do is follow the protocol instructions provided by your veterinarian and organise your veterinarian or AI technician for the day and time of AI.
- Create a uniform calf crop.

# **Experience reproductive gains beyond just profits**

Creating a uniform weaner group through synchronisation and FTAI has many benefits:

Fewer later calving cows.

Can be **used as a tool** to bring the time of calving earlier.



Calving surveillance occurs over a **shorter period of time**.



Heifer progeny will reach the critical mating weight at an earlier and similar time, conceiving earlier in their joining period.



Easier to perform a visual assessment and comparisons of the calves.



They can be marketed as a uniform group.





## **Economic Benefits of FTAI**

Increase your weaner weights... earlier calves born over a shorter duration through synchronisation.

Because the majority of your cows/heifers are pregnant on Day 0, the majority of calves are born early making them heavier at weaning!

#### **Artificial Insemination vs Natural breeding**

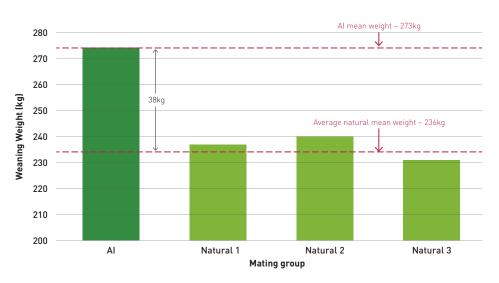
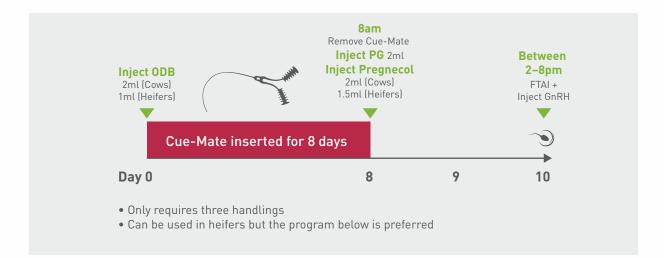
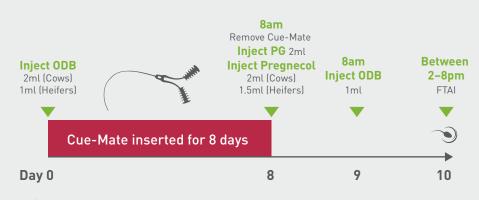


Figure 1: Weaning weights of Angus calves produced from FTAI and calves produced from the backup bulls across three natural mating groups.

# What is the correct protocol for my herd?

There is a variety of protocols that can be used for FTAI in a beef cattle herd. Two protocols frequently used are shown opposite. There are many protocol options so it is valuable having a discussion with your veterinarian or AI technician about the options for your herd.





- Generally gets the best results
- Excellent ET recipient protocol!

#### What I NEED to do FTAI?

In order to synchronise your herd for FTAI you will need a variety of treatments:

Oestradiol benzoate (ODB)

Prostaglandin (PG) Equine chorionic gonadotropin (eCG / Pregnecol)

Gonadotropin releasing hormone (GnRH) Progesterone releasing device (Cue-Mate)

**S4 Products** 

(Supplied only by veterinary prescription)

S3 Products

(Can be purchased without veterinary prescription)



### **CUE MATE® – THE PROGESTERONE DELIVERY DEVICE**

Cue-Mate® uses a curved, flexible wishbone design with soft pod ends for cow comfort, safety and exceptional device retention. Each device contains 1.56 grams progesterone (each of two replaceable pods contains 0.78 grams progesterone).

Cue-Mate can be purchased as a fully assembled ready-to-use device, or active or blank replacement can be purchased separately to reload devices. Cue-Mate applicators are available separately.

- √ Thanks to it's design, Cue-Mate limits device loss from the animals allowing you to achieve more cycling animals.
- ✓ The modular design allows you to reuse the wishbone
  with recharged pods, saving your money and allowing
  you to achieve a more rational use of your resources.
- ✓ The Pods have a larger surface area and is in direct contact with the vaginal wall of the animal, delivering the right quantity of progesterone through the device and acheiving more efficacy.







For more information please visit the website www.repro360.com.au



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