**BENEFITS OF FIXED TIME**

**OVERVIEW OF FTAI**

FTAI importantly allows producers to increase the entire profitability of their system through easier calving, shortened breeding and calving seasons, reduced incidence of post partum anoestrus, improved fertility and a more uniform line of calves.

**SUPERIOR GENETICS, SUPERIOR PROFIT**

From fertility and structural traits through to carcass merit, high accuracy genomic and proven sires are perfect for increasing your bottom line.

Benchmarked herds having used FTAI each year are returning $150 per cow more than those not using FTAI. In a 300 cow herd that is $45,000. Joining daughters of high accuracy sires to another high accuracy sire, increases the overall accuracy of EBV’s within the herd. This makes joining decisions more effective as well as improving the ability for clients to accurately select the correct sires for their herds, improving their overall profitability.

**CREASED PREGNANCIES**

Synchronising your herd results in an extra oestrous cycle for your breeding females over a standard 42-44 day breeding season. Effectively you could see 50% of your females conceived on day one of your breeding program.

**SHORTEN YOUR CALVING SEASON**

On average, a standard FTAI program will reduce your herd’s average calving date by 9 days, now referred to as “the 9 day effect” for its sustained benefit to your herd.

- Assuming every day equates to 1kg extra live weight
- At weaning time we would expect animals to be averaging an extra 9kg live weight
- At $5/kg calves are worth average $45 more at weaning time, solely due to a condensed calving interval.

Natural service will leave 43% of animals less than 50 days post partum leading into the next breeding season. Use FTAI to reduce this “at-risk” group to only 7%!!!
**INCREASE LONGEVITY OF BREEDING FEMALES**

Fixed Time AI results in more maiden heifers calving down in the first 21 day window of a calving season, making them 13% more likely to remain in the herd as mature age cows compared to those who have their first calf after the 42 day mark of their maiden calving season.

**REDUCE POST PARTUM ANOESTROUS**

FTAI increases the average post partum interval (PPI) of your breeding females by getting them in calf earlier in the breeding season, allowing greater time for recovery and a chance to begin cycling before the next breeding period. Using exogenous hormones through FTAI will also help animals in post partum anoestrous to begin cycling again, increasing the number of females available to breed on day one of the breeding season.

**IMPROVE RESPONSE TO SYNCHRONISATION OVER TIME**

A study headed by Dr Cliff Lamb of the North Florida Research and Education Center, FL, has demonstrated an increase in pregnancy rates among herds (shown in blue) that had been previously exposed to synchronisation for at least 8 years.

Get your calves dropping earlier and boost uniformity - create your own 9 day effect! You will join larger, healthier and more mature heifers. They will get in calf earlier, calve earlier, and be ready to conceive on day 1 of next year’s mating program, increasing your pregnancy rates year after year.

**SELECTING A PROTOCOL FOR YOUR HERD**

The most commonly used protocol for beef fixed time programs is the 7-day CO-Synch + CIDR for both cows and heifers. These are essentially the same protocol, apart from a larger time interval between CIDR removal + PG and insemination of cows (60-66hr) compared to heifers (52-56hr) as shown here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hormone</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Hormone</th>
<th>Common Name</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oestradiol</td>
<td>Bomerol, Cidirol</td>
<td>Prostaglandin (PG)</td>
<td>Ovaprol, Estimale</td>
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<tr>
<td>Progesterone</td>
<td>CIDR Eazi-Breed</td>
<td>GnRH</td>
<td>Ovurelin, Gonabreed</td>
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