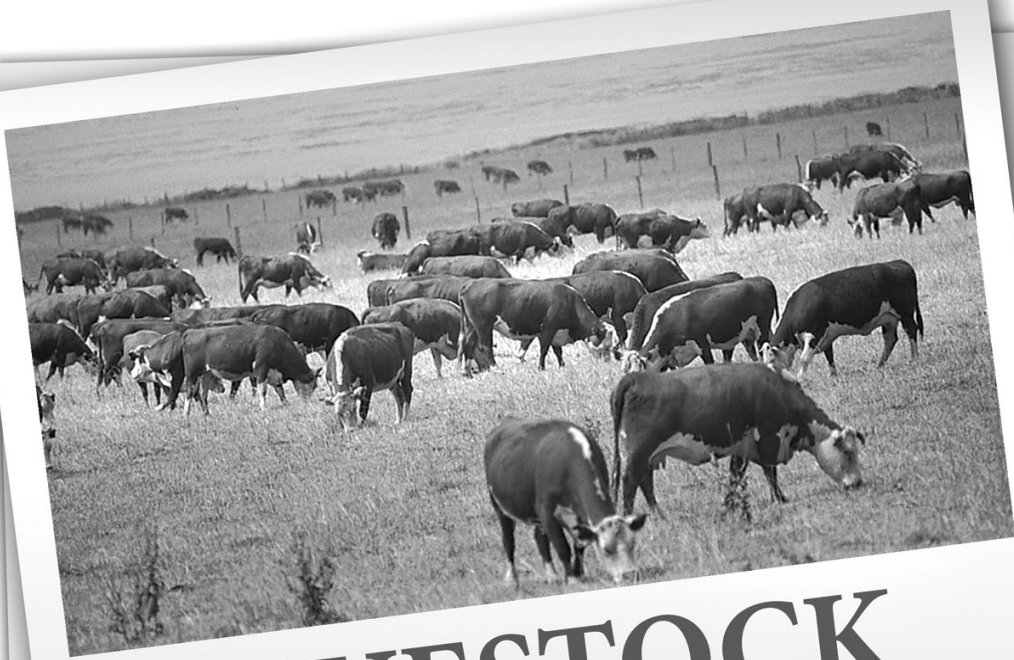




LIVESTOCK

A Look At 2015 Beef Cow Synchronization Protocols

BROOKINGS — The Beef Reproduction Task Force composed of representatives of the AI and pharmaceutical companies, veterinarians and reproduction specialists developed a list of recommended synchronization protocols for use in cows in 2015.

"These protocols are based on research data and field use," said Robin Salverson, SDSU Extension Cow/Calf Field Specialist.

The protocols can be found in AI catalogs and on the Beef Reproduction Task Force website: <http://beefrepro.unl.edu/>.

When reviewing these protocols, Salverson said producers need to remember that not all protocols are for both cows and heifers. "There is a difference in physiological response between heifers and cows. It is important that producers use a cow protocol. Likewise, follow the protocol, give the proper hormone injection or insert at the right time and don't expect to jump-start all cows that are not cycling," Salverson said.

To help increase the success of the synchronization protocol, cows need to be at a body condition score of five or better during breeding season and be at least 50 days post-calving. "If there are young, thin and or late calving cows in the herd, it is likely they are not cycling," Salverson said. "The addition of a progestin such as CIDR® in the protocol can help jump-start some of these non-cycling cows. However, caution needs to be taken, CIDR® or other progestins are not the "cure all" for thin, young and late calving cows."

She added that consideration needs to be taken whether it is cost effective to synchronize these cows. "An evaluation of the nutrition program is recommended if a high percentage of cows are not cycling," she said.

INJECTION SITE CONSIDERATION

Although it may be tempting to

give a cow an injection in the rump, Salverson said not all cull cows end up as hamburger beef. "A majority of the "middle meats" such as ribeye rolls, short-loins, strip-loins, along with round are marketed as such. Therefore, Beef Quality Assurance guidelines should be followed when giving all injectable hormones," she said.

Secondly, Salverson said giving the injection in the rump does not increase the efficacy or speed of the hormone because it was administered "closer to the ovary." "All drugs must enter the blood system and travel to the heart and lungs before reaching the target organ (i.e. ovaries)," she said.

When handling all hormones, including CIDR®, Salverson said to wear latex or non-latex gloves regardless if you are a man or a woman. "Prostaglandin is a smooth muscle contractor, our intestines are the largest smooth muscle in the human body. If prostaglandin is absorbed through the skin it can "tie up" the digestive system," she said. "Additionally, the hormones function in the human body like it does in a heifer therefore, extreme care should be taken when handling all synchronization hormones."

COW ESTROUS SYNCHRONIZATION

The recommended cow estrous synchronization protocols have been put into one of three categories:

- 1) Heat Detection Protocol;
- 2) Heat Detection and Timed AI Protocol and;
- 3) Fixed Time AI Protocol.

Heat Detection Protocols: Cows in these protocols should be inseminated 6 to 12 hours after the first observation of standing heat. During peak heat activity which is approximately 48 to 72 hours after prostaglandin; heat detection should occur at a minimum of three times per day for at least one hour per check for a total of three hours with five to six

hours of heat detection being better.

The heat detection protocols for cows include:

- Select Synch
- Select Synch + CIDR®
- PG 6-day CIDR®

Heat Detect and Time AI (TAI) Protocols: These protocols include a combination of both heat detection and timed insemination. Cows observed in heat should be inseminated six to 12 hours after standing heat. After approximately three days of heat detection, all cows not showing heat after PG injection will be given an injection of GnRH and inseminated (i.e. timed insemination). The amount of time spent on heat detection is reduced and early responders have a better chance of conceiving compared to a single fixed-time AI.

The Heat Detect and Timed AI protocols include:

- Select Synch & TAI
- Select Synch + CIDR® & TAI
- PG 6-day CIDR® & TAI

Fixed-Timed AI (TAI) Protocols: In a fixed-time, all cows are inseminated at a pre-determined time no heat detection occurs. It is important, when considering these fixed-time AI protocols, only synchronize the number of cows that can be inseminated in a 3 to 4 hour period. Fixed-Time AI protocols include:

- 7-day CO-Synch + CIDR®
- 5-day CO-Synch + CIDR®
- PG 5-day CO-Synch + CIDR® (For Bos Indicus cows only)

Using the Estrus Synchronization Planner can help producers develop and compare synchronization protocols and develop a synchronization and breeding calendar for both cows and heifers.

For more information related to estrous synchronization contact Salverson at robin.salverson@sdstate.edu or 605-374-4177 or Dr. George Perry, SDSU Extension Beef Reproductive Management Specialist at george.perry@sdstate.edu or 605-688-5456.

Belden Farmer Inducted into Nebraska Ag Hall Of Fame

BY RITA BRHEL

P&D Correspondent

LINCOLN, Neb. — With a population of 115, Belden is among Nebraska's smallest communities and, as such, doesn't make the news all too often.

But this Cedar County town is now known as the home of one of the latest inductees to the Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement (NHAA).

The NHAA welcomed Belden farmer Jan Miller during its banquet on March 12 at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln (UNL).

"The Nebraska Hall of Agricultural Achievement, formed in 1916, is dedicated to preserving and improving Nebraska agriculture," said Randy Pryor, UNL Extension educator at Wilber, Nebraska. "Each year, the group recognizes at least one honoree and elects new members."

Miller was recognized for her agriculture promotional efforts locally, nationally and internationally. She grew up on a hog farm, and she and her husband, Jim, now grow pork along with corn and soybeans. Miller is the president of the Nebraska Pork Producers and former member of the Board of Directors for the National Pork Producers. Through her work, she has made U.S. Meat Export Federation trips to Mexico and Japan, and has hosted visitors from China.

Miller was among 10 new inductees to NHAA, who also include:

- Steve Nelson, a corn and soybeans farmer from Axtell, Neb., is a past president of the Kearney-Franklin Farm Bureau and the Nebraska Farm Bureau, former member of the Board of Directors for the American Farm Bureau and past chairman of the Feed Grains Committee.

- Ben Steffen, a dairy, corn, soybeans, wheat and hay farmer from Humboldt, Neb., is president of the Nebraska Agriculture Builders, member of the University of Nebraska President's Advisory Committee and former member of U.S. Sen. Mike Johanns' Ag Advisory Council.
- Chris Cullan, a wheat farmer and certified seed dealer from Hemingford, Neb., is a member of the Nebraska Wheat Board and former member of the Board of Directors for the national Wheat Marketing Center.

- Alton Lerwick, a corn, wheat, sunflowers, millet and cow-calf farmer from Lyman, Neb., is known as one of the state's no-till pioneers and has been involved in cooperative research projects with UNL and the University of Wyoming for more than 30 years.

- Paul Jasa, of Lincoln, is an UNL Extension engineer who manages research projects at UNL's Rogers Memorial Farm near Lincoln and is known for developing educational programming for no-till equipment and systems management for the past 37 years.
- Steven Jones, of Lincoln, is an UNL animal science professor who has been teaching at UNL for 30 years and is known for developing a 3-D digital model of a beef carcass and a software program to be used in online beef anatomy instruction.

- Jim Schinck, of Lincoln, is an UNL emeritus biological systems engineering



Jan Miller

professor and past assistant dean and associate dean of the UNL College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) and is known for developing the CASNR Study Abroad Program as well as scholarship programs for community college transfer students.

- Ken Vogel, of Lincoln, is a former UNL adjunct agronomy professor and a retired research geneticist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture whose work gave direction to United States' strategic bioenergy plans.

- Jim Schild, of Scottsbluff, Neb., an UNL Extension educator and associate director at UNL's Panhandle Research and Extension Center at Scottsbluff, is known for developing innovative approaches to traditional Extension programming.

Also honored at the NHAA banquet was Johanns for his advocacy work in agriculture. During more than 30 years of public service, he served as Nebraska governor, U.S. agricultural secretary and, most recently, U.S. senator.

As a member of the U.S. Senate from 2009 to 2015, Johanns served on the Agriculture Committee among others, championing new trade agreements and working with Asia-Pacific countries to expand the agricultural market.

As the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture from 2005 to 2007, he conducted 32 international trips, opening or increasing access to 40 international markets and serving as a member of the U.S. negotiating team for the World Trade Organization Doha Development Round. During this tenure, Johanns also developed the 2008 Farm Bill as well as promoted renewable fuels and natural resources conservation.

And as the Governor of Nebraska from 1999 to 2005, he led seven delegations on international trade missions, created incentives for business growth and job creation, and emphasized value-added agriculture, especially the ethanol industry.

An Iowa native, Johanns earned his bachelor's degree in communications at a Minnesota college and then received his Juris Doctor from Creighton University School of Law in Nebraska. His career in public service began on the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners from 1983 to 1987, then on the Lincoln City Council from 1989 to 1991, followed by the position of Mayor of Lincoln from 1991 to 1998.

Online BQA Certification Training Modules Offered

BROOKINGS — Boehringer Ingelheim, Inc., is sponsoring the Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) online certification program allowing beef and dairy producers to complete the certification training for free until April 15, 2015.

This saves producers \$25 to \$50 on the online certification modules offered through the Kansas State Beef Cattle Institute. "This is a great opportunity to provide continued education and stockmanship training to all cattle employees and family members," said Heidi Carroll, SDSU Extension Livestock Stewardship Extension Associate.

Carroll said employee training is critical to raise cattle under best management practices that achieve a consistent level of care for all animals and results in high quality beef products.

ACCESS FREE BQA TRAINING

To access the BQA online training, visit <http://BQA.org/team> and click to enter the webpage containing the modules; the code needed during registration is listed at the top of the page.

The modules contain slide shows and video footage on many topics in livestock handling and husbandry practices presented by industry experts. Livestock producers can work

through the modules at their own pace. Once they start a module, they can leave and later restart where they left off.

Upon completion of the online training, South Dakota producers become Level 1 BQA certified. Next producers work with the S.D. Beef Industry Council to develop, or update, a Site Plan and Treatment Plan for their operation.

Producers consult with their veterinarian to establish a veterinarian-client-patient-relationship (VCPR) and review their Site Plan and Treatment Plan. Once the veterinarian signs off on their plan, they need to submit the signed last page of it to the SD Beef Industry Council.

Once approved they receive a BQA certification card in the mail that contains their SD BQA certification number. Level 2 certification is required in South Dakota to be a BQA-certified producer and market calves as such.

"Producers take pride in selling safe and wholesome products. One way they can do this is by showing con-

sumers they have invested the time necessary to be certified in programs which help maintain best management practices that minimize defects or residues in food products," Carroll said.

By marketing cattle under the BQA best management practices, potential premiums from feeders and cattle buyers may be captured.

If you would like more information about completing a Site Plan and Treatment Plan, contact Carroll at 605-688-6623 or by email at heidi.carroll@sdstate.edu; or contact the South Dakota Beef Industry Council at 605-224-4722 or by email at twalsh@sdb Beef.org.

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