

Yearling Heifer To Do List

DRENCH

- No point in going into mating with a worm burden
- The younger heifers in the group may also still have a Cooperia burden - the worm that is generally resistant to Abamectin - Combination drenches are the way to go here (Oral or Poured)
- Make sure they are dosed accurately (WEIGH THEM!!)

TRACE ELEMENTS

- Copper - Not likely to be necessary if they have been fed PKE, if they haven't then it is a good idea as copper is essential for good growth.
- **NO COPPER INJECTIONS WITHIN 2 WEEKS OF MATING!!**
- B12 and Selenium will assist as always

WEIGHTS

- Heifers need to be weighed - they need to be **AT 60% OF THEIR MATURE WEIGHT NOW**
- Good condition Heifers are not good enough - they need to be at **WEIGHT TARGETS** to ensure all of them will have reached puberty

BULLS

- Make sure you have enough bulls for mating!!
- Ensure you have a suitable ratio for heifers - We see the best performance when using 1:20 to 1:25. Fewer than this generally results in poorer performance
- Have some spares but unlike the herd you generally won't need two separate teams

Teaser Bull Company Te Awamutu

TEASER BULLS for Lease or Purchase

Improve mating performance using the best heat detectors in town!

All details on their website: www.teaserbull.co.nz

(07) 872 7918

Heifer Synchrony options

For those of you wanting to use AB in your heifers there are a number of options available.

In general we recommend the use of KAMAR heat detectors - they are the most reliable method of heat detection in heifers.

Option 1 - Do nothing

Require yarding of all animals for as long as you want to do AB, lowest cost but expensive on time

Option 2 - One Shot PG

This requires mating for 7 days to detected heat followed by a PG injection to all heifers not yet mated. The remaining heifers will come on over the next 3 days.

Low cost (only about 2/3rds of animals get injected, one vet visit), need 10 days of yarding

Option 3 - Two Shot PG

All heifers are injected with PG 10 days before mating starts, then at the PSM they all receive another PG. All heifers come on over the next 3 days.

Moderate cost - 2 vet visits, all heifers get 2 injections, only yard for about 3 days for heat detection.

Option 4 - Ovsynch PLUS CIDR

Exactly the same as Ovsynch but the addition of the CIDR will induce puberty if heifer live weights aren't up to scratch, if heifers aren't cycling they won't respond to Ovsynch alone!

Call the Clinic to discuss any of these options and arrange times for us to come out