

# Artificial Breeding Program Guide for Cattle

## PLAN AHEAD

- Ensure good paddocks and feed 6 weeks **BEFORE** and **AFTER** program
- Organise **GOOD QUALITY** semen and equipment 6 weeks **BEFORE** required
- Only use cows **KNOWN** to be empty and cycling in program.

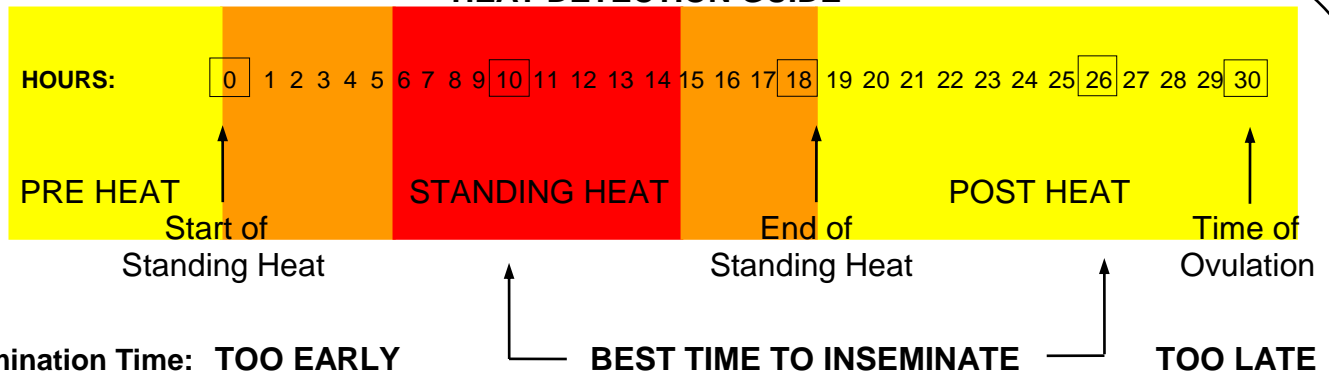
## IDENTIFY BEST TIME TO INSEMINATE

### AM/PM RULE

On heat in morning - inseminate that afternoon

On heat in evening - inseminate next morning

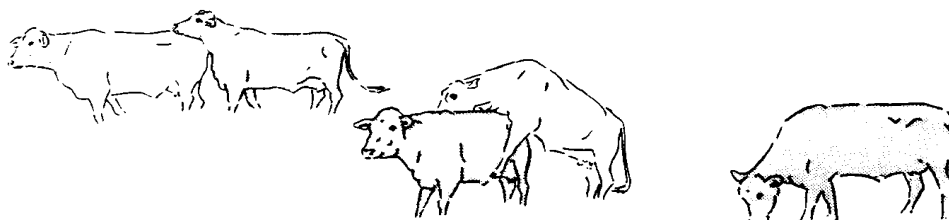
### HEAT DETECTION GUIDE



## SIGNS OF HEAT

<b>Behaviour:</b>	Restlessness	Mounting begins	Mounting activity ceases
	Standing head to tail	Mounting and standing	'Rub marks' on pin bones
	Chin resting	Stands frequently	Dry mucus on tail
	Frequent urination	Rubbed hair on tail	Hair rubbed on tail and flanks
	Half-hearted mounting	Vulva red and swollen	

<b>Mucus:</b>	Watery mucus discharge	Mucus thickens and becomes 'stringy'	Mucus becomes lumpy	Tinge of Blood in mucus
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## SEMEN HANDLING AND INSEMINATION GUIDE

- WORK AREA** Work in the shade as: sunlight kills sperm,  
cows are quieter,  
everyone is more comfortable.
- PREPARATION** Have cow bailed up before handling semen.
- Thawing:** Keep water level just below tip of crimped end,  
temperature of water at 35°C,  
extra supply of hot water to maintain at 35°C.
- Kit Box:** Ensure gun is accessible but protected,  
sheath is accessible but protected,  
scissors are clean.
- Locate semen in the unit using records.
- HYGIENE AND SAFETY** Keep hands clean and **dry**  
Use tweezers when removing semen from the unit  
Do not over-expose semen  
Keep straws as low in the neck of the unit as is comfortable  
Do not handle the tapered end of the sheath.
- GUN LOADING** Handle straw by the ends only  
Dry the straw thoroughly without excess rubbing  
Check ID of the bull  
Roll the double plug end and place the straw in the gun  
(crimped end is always up)  
Pre-warm the gun if necessary  
Cut the crimped end off in the air space and reclean scissors  
Cover gun with sheath  
Bring the semen to tip of sheath and straw so that there is no  
hollow space for contamination transfer.
- INSEMINATION** Avoid gun contact with anything.
- Hygiene:** Wipe vulva  
Open vulva.
- Inseminate cow:** Slowly deposit the semen:  
- half in body of uterus,  
- half in mid-cervix  
Withdraw gun and massage cervix.
- Unload gun:** Check tip of gun for blood  
Recheck bull ID  
Dispose of straw thoughtfully.
- Fill in records.**

**THERE ARE NO SHORT CUTS !!**