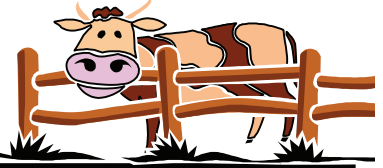


# DAIRY *Update*



Early Fall 2006

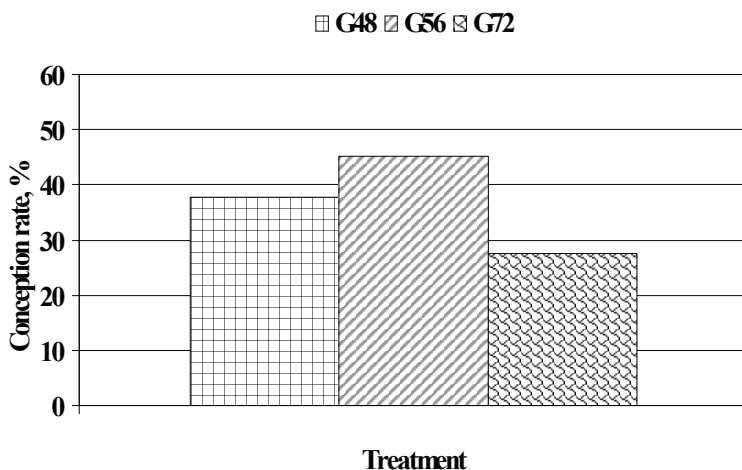
## Dairy Cattle Research Update

**Q** *What is the effect of altering the time of the second GnRH and AI during Ovsynch on conception rates of lactating dairy cows?*

University of Wisconsin researchers recently investigated the effect of altering the time of the second GnRH and timed AI (TAI) during Ovsynch on conception rates in lactating dairy cows. Cows ranged from 30 to 36 DIM at the start of Presynch (two injections of PG 14 d apart with the second injection 11 d before the start of Ovsynch). All cows received GnRH followed 7 d later by PG and then received one of the following:

- GnRH + TAI 48 h after PG (G48)
- GnRH 56 h after PG + TAI 72 h after PG (G56)
- GnRH + TAI 72 h after PG (G72)

Pregnancy was diagnosed by ultrasound. Conception rates (for first service) were 37.8%, 45.2%, and 27.5% for treatments G48, G56, and G72 respectively.



### Take home message

GnRH 56 h after PG + TAI 72 h after PG (G56) resulted in increased conception rates for presynchronized, first service lactating dairy cows, most likely due to a more optimal timing of AI prior to ovulation.

## Coming Events

**Pacific Northwest Animal Nutrition Conference**, Oct. 3-5, 2006, Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel, Vancouver, BC, Canada.  
[www.pnwanc.org](http://www.pnwanc.org)

**World Dairy Expo**, Oct. 3-7, 2006, Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI.  
[www.worlddairyexpo.com](http://www.worlddairyexpo.com)

**52<sup>nd</sup> Annual DHI-Provo Herd Management Conference**, Nov. 2-3, 2006, The Canyons Grand Resort and Conference Center, Park City, UT.  
[www.dhiprovo.com](http://www.dhiprovo.com)

**Dairy Cattle Reproductive Council**, Nov. 6-8, 2006, The Grand Hyatt Hotel, Denver, CO.  
[www.dercouncil.org](http://www.dercouncil.org)

**United Dairymen of Idaho Annual Conference**, Nov. 13-15, 2006, Boise Centre on the Grove.  
[www.udidaho.org](http://www.udidaho.org)

**Elite Producer Business Conference**, Nov. 14-16, 2006, The Mirage Hotel, Las Vegas, NV.  
[www.agweb.com/epbc](http://www.agweb.com/epbc)

**National Mastitis Council Annual Meeting**, Jan. 21-24, 2007, Marriot Riverwalk Hotel, San Antonio, TX.  
[www.nmconline.org](http://www.nmconline.org)

**Western Dairy Management Conference**, Mar. 7-9, 2007, John Ascuaga's Nugget Hotel, Reno, NV.  
[www.wdmc.org](http://www.wdmc.org)

## Learn to Communicate More Effectively on Your Dairy

Introductory English and Spanish lessons are available online to assist farm workers, managers, veterinarians, and owners communicate more effectively. The materials were developed as a public service of the University of California, and can be downloaded for no charge at <http://tinyurl.com/p59b4> (English) and <http://tinyurl.com/gmn9w> (Spanish).

## Spanish Language AI School

The first University of Idaho Extension Spanish Language AI Schools were held in Caldwell and Twin Falls during May and June 2006. Participants completed 10 hours of classroom instruction on topics including: Collection and cryopreservation of semen, anatomy and physiology of the reproductive tract, heat detection, semen handling and AI technique. Following the classroom instruction, the participants completed 10 hours of AI technique training with cows on local dairies. Thanks to Select Sires, Inc., and ABS Global for donating materials and supplies to make this program a success. Watch for another AI school coming soon to your area. For more information, please contact Dr. Joe Dalton at 208.459.6365 or [jdalton@uidaho.edu](mailto:jdalton@uidaho.edu)

## Congratulations to Ballard Family Dairy and Cheese

Ballard Family Dairy and Cheese, Gooding, won a first place award for its Idaho Pepper Cheddar cheese, and a second place award for its Idaho Garlic Herb cheese curds at the recent American Cheese Society's Festival of Cheese. There were 941 entries this year, nearly 200 more than any previous American Cheese Society competition. For more information please visit: [www.cheesesociety.org](http://www.cheesesociety.org)

## For Employees ...

### Economic aspects of pregnancy rate

What's the value of a 1% increase (or decrease) in pregnancy rate? Each 1% increase (or decrease) in pregnancy rate results in the gain (or loss) of approximately \$US 12 to 15 per cow per year. Why? Because as pregnancy rate increases, average days in milk for the milking herd decreases, leading to higher average milk production per day of lactation, more time per lifetime spent in the most profitable portion of lactation, and less veterinary and breeding costs. As pregnancy rate decreases, average days in milk increases, leading to increased management, feed, and veterinary costs for cows in the least profitable portion of lactation.

## Para los empleados ...

### Aspectos económicos de la tasa de preñez

¿Cuánto vale un incremento (o decremento) del 1% en la tasa de preñez? Cada punto porcentual de incremento (o decremento) en la tasa de preñez da como resultado una ganancia (o pérdida) de aproximadamente \$US 12 a 15 por vaca al año. ¿Por qué? Porque conforme se incrementa la tasa de preñez disminuye el promedio de días en leche en el hato lactante, aumentando así la producción promedio de leche por día de lactancia, más tiempo en la vida total de los animales dedicado a la porción más rentable de la lactancia, aunado todo esto a menores costos por servicio veterinario y reproducción. En la medida que se reduce la tasa de preñez se incrementa el promedio de días en leche, y esto aumenta los costos por concepto de manejo, alimento, y veterinario a causa de las vacas que están en la porción menos rentable de la lactancia.

Dairy Update is compiled by Joseph C. Dalton, Assoc. Professor and Extension Dairy Specialist for the University of Idaho Department of Animal and Veterinary Science. For more information, contact Dr. Dalton at the Caldwell Research and Extension Center, 16952 S. Tenth Avenue, Caldwell, ID 83607, (208) 459-6365, [jdalton@uidaho.edu](mailto:jdalton@uidaho.edu).



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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



# DAIRY *Update*

A cartoon illustration of a brown and white cow standing behind a wooden fence. The cow is looking towards the viewer. The fence is made of three horizontal rails and two vertical posts. The cow is positioned to the right of the word "Update" in the title.