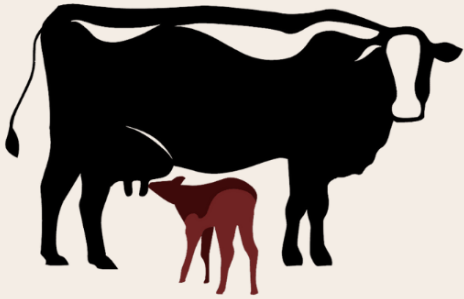


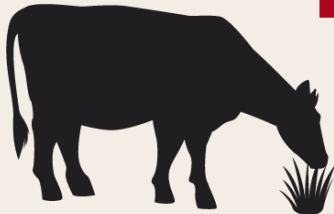
USING ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION (AI) FOR YOUR BEEF HERD



The main objective of artificial insemination (AI) use in beef cattle is to increase genetic improvement for production goals relatively quickly, without purchasing more animals to feed, such as bulls.

You might be asking yourself "Should I use AI in my beef herd?", If so, here are some things you should know.

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW BEFORE I DO AI IN MY HERD?

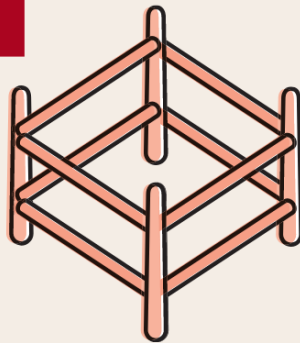


IS YOUR HERD SET UP FOR SUCCESS?

Before thinking about AI you should make sure your animals are healthy. This is done with proper vaccinations and nutrition to set them up for a successful breeding. If your cattle aren't healthy, they might not get pregnant.

FACILITIES

Using AI means you'll need to have good working facilities for your cattle. You'll need to be able to gather and safely restrain the cattle a few times over a few day period for a typical AI protocol. So a good chute and corrals will be important for the cattle and your safety.



LABOR

Depending on your AI protocol you will need to be able to gather up your cows a few times to give shots for the estrus synch (heat cycle) and to AI itself. It should be noted that it is helpful to have more than one person help or even AI.



COST

AI can be as expensive or as cheap as you want to make it. Upfront cost is scary if you're doing everything yourself, as it can cost roughly \$2,000. However, so is the purchase and upkeep of a new bull for natural service.



WHERE TO START?

Attend one of our AZ AI clinics and learn more by visiting:
<https://extension.arizona.edu/beef-cattle>



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Cooperative Extension
Livestock Extension

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