

KVC – Beef on Dairy – We have High Fertility, Low-Cost Beef Semen!



You've no doubt heard about the concept of "beef on dairy" – using beef semen to breed animals on your farm whose genetics you do not wish to propagate replacements from. With input costs rising, it is important to get these animals bred in as timely a fashion as you are breeding the animals you are wanting to propagate in your herd.

We have 3 different option of beef semen:

- 1) High Fertility and Low Birth Weight Black Angus semen – Two different sires to choose from
- 2) High Fertility, Easy Calving/Low Birth Weight, Homozygous Black Simmental semen
- 3) "Black Boost" – which is a combination of both Angus sires and the Simmental sire meaning that there is semen from three different sires in one straw!

What you need to look for when choosing beef semen to use in your program:

- 1) **Sire Characteristics** – looking at beef breed specific Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs):
 - a. **Calving Ease (CE)**: describes the % of expected unassisted births when bred to first time heifers, compared to other sires. So, a higher percentage means that a sire's calves will be born unassisted when compared to the average of other sire's calves. For **calving ease**, the higher number the better! Increased calving ease = less need to be there to assist at calving time!
 - b. **Birth Weight (BW)**: describes the difference in expected calf weight on average (in pounds), compared to the average of calves of another sire. So, a lower number means that at birth, the calf will weigh that many less pounds (on average) when compared to the average of other sire's calves. For **birth weight**, the lower number the better! Lower birth weight = less need to be there to assist at calving time!
 - c. **Yearling Weight (YW)**: describes the difference in expected yearling weight on average (in pounds), compared to the average of yearlings of another sire. So, a higher number means that yearling will weigh that many more pounds (on average) when compared to the average of other sire's yearlings. For **yearling weight**, the higher number the better! Higher yearling weight = more pounds of meat!

Note that when reading beef sire proofs, they usually also provide where that sire ranks for each EPD in that breed. This makes it easy to choose bulls that rank in the top percent for the traits which are important when making beef sire choices to use in your herd.



2) **Semen Quality/Fertility:**

- a. The semen needs to be assessed in a qualified lab for 2 main things: motility and morphology.
 - i. Motility = the ability of the semen to swim forward in a straight line. The higher the motility, the better the chance that it can swim to meet the egg = the higher the potential conception rate.
 - ii. Morphology = how the individual sperm look. This requires a sample of semen to be stained and evaluated under a microscope. The fewer the imperfections in any part of the sperm including the head, midpiece, or tail = the higher the potential conception rate.
- b. Number of sperm per dose of semen.
 - i. Simply put, more semen per dose = the higher the potential conception rate as there's an increased chance that one of the sperm will make it to the egg!

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The semen we offer has 40 MILLION sperm/straw. Most AI companies put between 20-24 million sperm/straw, so in most cases only half of the sperm/straw compared to what we have to offer!

SUMMARY

*For the animals in your herd that you don't want to propagate their genetics, consider using beef semen!

*KVC now offers 3 different low-cost, high fertility, high sperm volume/straw options for beef semen

*Angus: \$10/straw

*Simmental: \$10/straw

*Black Boost (combination of 3 different sires): \$15/straw

VOLUME PRICING AVAILABLE on 50 and 100+ straw orders!

*Regardless of where you purchase your beef semen, please ensure the beef sire is high calving ease, low birth weight, and high yearling weight.

*Make sure to ask how many sperm/straw the beef semen is that you are currently purchasing!

Contact us today with any questions or to place an order!

(519) 229-8911