
SEPTEMBER 2021 DAIRY NEWSLETTER

Managing Animal Inventory – A NEW CONCEPT!

You've no doubt heard the concept of "beef on dairy". This is where animals whose genetics have reached an endpoint in your herd are bred using beef semen. The resulting offspring would be considered an F1 with 50% of it's genetic makeup being from the Holstein dam and the remaining 50% from the Beef sire. If conventional semen is used, approximately 50% of these F1's will be heifers and 50% will be bulls.



However, here's something to consider – instead of doing "beef on dairy", why not consider "**BEEF IN DAIRY**"? This is something we are developing where you take the same animals that you don't want offspring from and instead of breeding them to beef and creating an F1, you would implant a beef embryo into her. The resulting offspring would be 100% beef!

The benefits of **Beef-IN-Dairy** are multiple:

*Offspring are **100% BEEF** - Prices week of September 14, 2021

*F1 Heifer Calves	\$222.87
*F1 Bull Calves	\$322.87
*100% Beef Bull Calves	~\$422.87 (Conservative value of \$100 premium over F1 Bull Calves)

*We will be using sexed **MALE** beef semen to produce embryos – so note the premium you would be receiving for a beef bull calf versus an F1 heifer and F1 bull calf!

*Pregnancy rate improvement especially when environmental heat stress is present

*Pregnancy rate in a large study in Florida shows a 15.7% increase in pregnancy rate in lactating dairy cows when implanting an embryo versus performing AI during environmental heat stress.
 *This is because only viable frozen embryos are implanted (so we know that conception has already happened!) versus the requirement for conception to take place during times of heat stress when performing AI.

Return On Investment (ROI)

*Price to create an F1 Pregnancy	
*Semen	\$15
*Time/Supplies to AI:	<u>\$10</u>
TOTAL:	\$25
*Price to create a Beef-IN-Dairy Pregnancy	
*Embryo	\$100
*Implant Fee	<u>\$49</u>
TOTAL	\$149

*Average price of an F1 calf (assuming 50% are heifers and 50% are bulls):	\$272.87
*Price of a 100% Beef Bull Calf:	<u>~\$422.87</u>
PREMIUM:	~\$150

F1 Pregnancy ROI:	$\$272.87 - \$25 =$	\$247.87
Beef-IN-Dairy ROI:	$\$422.87 - \$149 =$	<u>\$273.87</u>
PREMIUM:		\$26 per pregnancy!
NOTE: No premium was added to this equation for the gain in pregnancy rate, however there would also be a significant additional economic advantage of Beef-IN-Dairy over breeding to create an F1 too!		

Please also note the even larger ROI of using Beef-IN-Dairy versus purebred Holstein bull calves – a difference of >\$350 per pregnancy!