

FERTILITY MANAGEMENT AND COWS WITH ABNORMAL DISCHARGE (Level 1)

Topic	Training & information Content
5.1	Dairy Cattle Breeds and Breeding
5.2	Breeding program for a dairy farm (medium & large)
5.3	Conformation, Type classification and judging
5.4	Cow handling
5.5	Milk production recording
5.6	Heat Detection
5.7	Artificial Insemination
5.8	Pregnancy Diagnosis
5.9	Fertility Management
5.10	Cows with abnormal discharge
5.11	Fertility disease recording
5.12	Calving recording
5.13	Use of Key Performance Indicators



1. You will learn about (learning objectives):

- Placenta – expulsion and retention
- Vaginal discharge
- Optimizing fertility
- Fertility management



2. Introduction



In Heat

< 30 days



Insemination

< 60 days

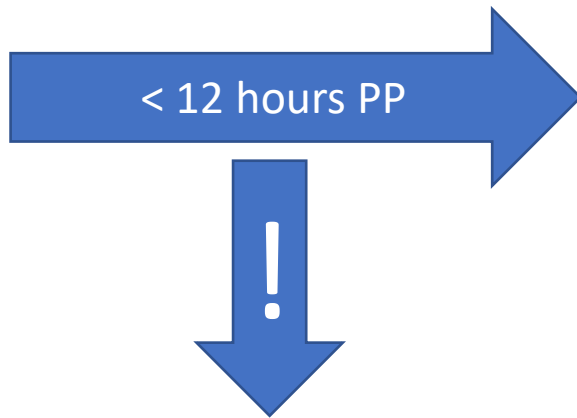


A fertile cow could show heat signs early enough after calving and be inseminated early (<60 days)

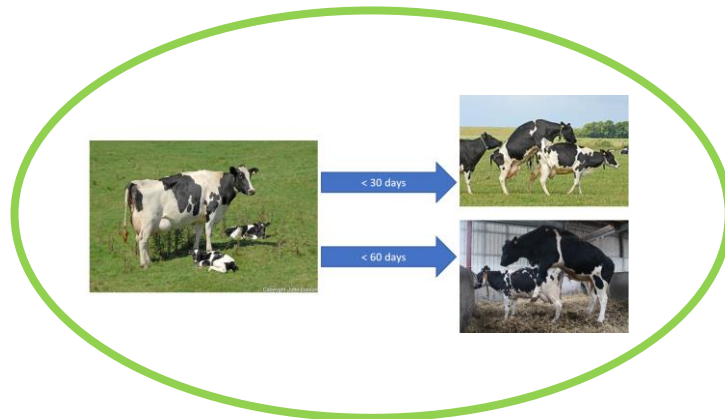
3. Expulsion of placenta



Placenta should be ejected within 12 hours PP (post partum)



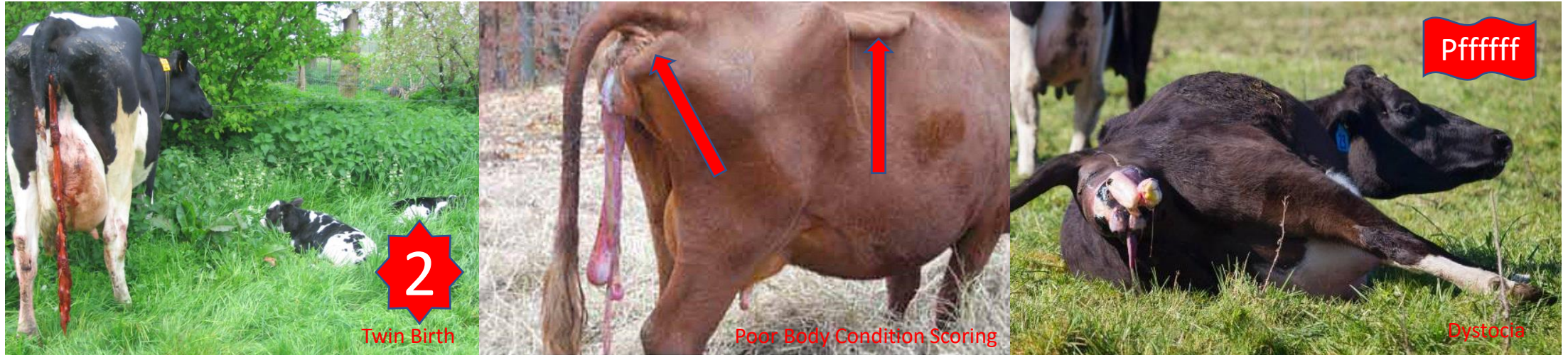
If not expelled within 12 hours, there could be some serious fertility problems.



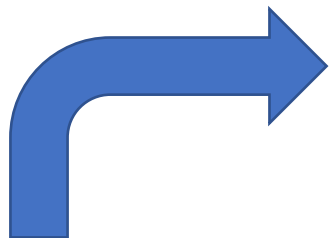
fertile cow

4. Retained placenta

- In case of retained placenta (> 12 hours), treatments are needed to avoid further problems.



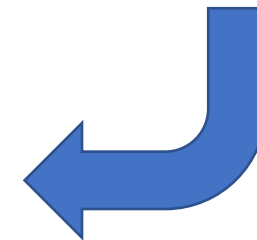
Twin Births, poor BCS, Dystocia are all **risky** situations!



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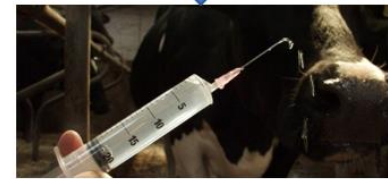
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4.1 Retained placenta Cont'd...



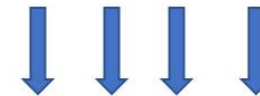
Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Tem	38.5	38.7	38.6	38.8	38.6	39.0	39.3	39.1	39.6	39.3	39.0	38.8	38.7	38.7



In case of retained placenta;

- Take temperature post partum (PP) the first 14 days.
- When temp rises above 39.5° C, start treating immediately IV.

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Tem	38.5	38.7	38.6	38.8	38.6	39.0	39.3	39.1	39.6	39.9	40.6	40.1	39.6	39.2



- The longer you wait, the more time it will take for the cow to recover. **TIME IS MONEY!**

4.2 Retained placenta Cont'd...

In case of retained placenta, avoid manual pulling.



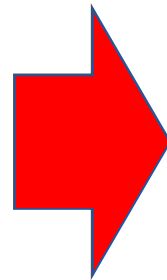
Knotting the placenta is allowed, this means that the "natural" weight causes expulsion.

5. Vaginal discharge

Examples of vaginal discharge from a cow with metritis



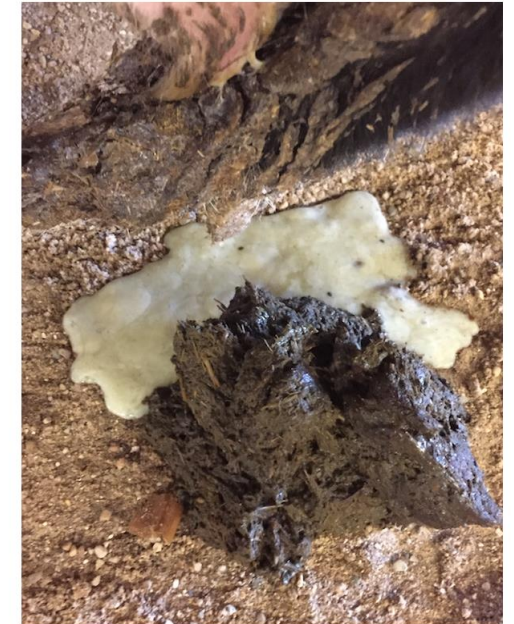
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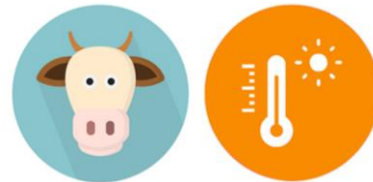
Cow infected with metritis



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Few days after calving



Few weeks after calving

6. Vaginal discharge: Normal vs Abnormal



NORMAL

The reddish/pinkish discharge becomes visible during the days after normal calving.

After 10-12 days the discharge must turn into clear.



ABNORMAL

When white discharge is seen, it (always) must be categorized as abnormal.

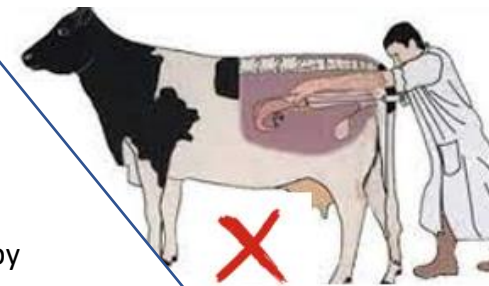
Rectal palpation (massage) will help to make it more visible and determine its severity.

7. Optimizing fertility

- When you observe discharge that doesn't fit to the cow's lactation status it is time to act.



- No insemination!
- Check the severity by rectal palpation.
- Decide whether treatment is needed.
- Doing nothing is no option.



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7.1 Optimizing fertility Cont'd...

- Bloody discharge is a sign that the cow's uterus is clean, and the cow has been in good heat.



- 1-2 days after the cow was in (strong) heat!
- In virgin heifers this is more visible.
- No need to get worried.
- Has no negative impact on fertility.

