

Fall Edition
November 2011



The Showbarn

The Official Publication of the Georgia Club Calf Producers Association Est. 1997

New Advertising / Sponsorship Opportunities

GCCPA would like to announce new advertising opportunities for not only our members, but supporters of GCCPA. We have added banner ads to our website that are for sale to members and associate members. There are three different sizes and pricing is based upon the size of the ad and the duration it runs. Check out the website for more info.

In addition, GCCPA has launched a new 2012 Sponsorship Campaign to assist in funding our yearly activities. We are offering three sponsorship packages or would be happy to custom design one to fit the needs of the sponsor. The levels are:

PREMIUM: \$1,000.00

Full page add in "The Showbarn" (our membership directory) (\$300 value)
Small Banner Ad to run all year on website (\$1,100 value)
4x6 Banner - provided by sponsor (exhibited at all events)
Listing in programs and verbal recognition at events

DELUXE: \$500

1/2 page ad in "The Showbarn" (\$150 value)
Small Banner Ad to run 6 months on website (\$500 value)
2x2 Sign - provided by sponsor (exhibited at all events)
Listing in programs and verbal recognition at events

BASIC: \$250.00

1/4 page ad in "The Showbarn" (\$75 value)
Small Banner Ad to run 3 months on website (\$250 value)
Listing in programs and verbal recognition at events

These sponsorship levels offer a lot of advertising "bang" for your "buck". If any of you would be interested in being a GCCPA sponsor or know of a business that we need to contact, please contact Carole Knight (clh@uga.edu, 912-690-1727) or our Sponsorship Chairman Sondra Moser (mosercattleco@gmail.com, 770-500-6950).

President

Holly Alford

Vice President

Carolyn Gazda

Executive Secretary

Carole Knight

Board of Directors

Sondra Moser

Patrick Steed

Lee Crump

Jason Thrasher

Jason Johns

Sid Arnold



Get the most from your advertising dollar!

Place an ad with GCCPA!

Learn more by clicking here.

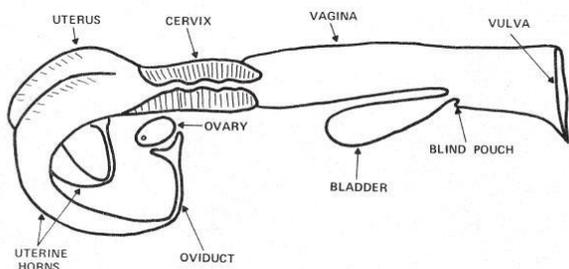


Understanding the Estrous Cycle

Carole H. Knight, UGA Cooperative Extension – Bulloch County

All the recent discussions about the unpredictable “cattle cycle” got me thinking about a very important cycle that is predictable and changeable – the estrous cycle. Understanding how a cow’s estrous cycle works can mean better utilization of techniques like synchronized breeding, artificial insemination, and embryo transfer.

Let’s begin with the basics. The reproductive organs of a cow consist of a pair of ovaries (suspended by ligaments just behind the kidneys), a pair of funnel-shaped tubes (infundibulum), which are part of the oviducts that lead to the uterine horns. These two horns merge together to form the uterine body. The uterus leads into the cervix which has a folded surface surrounded by muscles. The cervix opens into the vagina, which leads posteriorly to the external parts – the vulva and the clitoris.



The ovaries produce eggs (female sex cells, also called ova) and hormones. Each egg is individually generated by follicles within the ovary. Several thousand follicles are present in each ovary of the cow, but only one follicle ovulates per estrous cycle. The basic estrous cycle of the cow averages 21 days (a range of 17 to 24 days) and extends from one period of heat (estrus) to the next. There are four parts to the estrous cycle. Proestrus lasts for three to four days immediately before the cow comes into estrus or heat. Metestrus is the three to

four days after estrus when ovulation occurs, and diestrus is the 10 to 14 days in the middle of the cycle.

Proestrus

During proestrus, the pituitary gland of the brain secretes the follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) that causes the ovary to develop follicles. Several follicles develop in what is termed follicular waves, but only one dominant follicle and egg mature for ovulation. As the follicle develops, estrogen is secreted by the ovary. The egg grows larger as more estrogen is secreted by the ovary. During this phase the cow may start to mount other cows and show some signs of cervical mucous secretions.

Estrus

The rise in estrogen causes estrus (or what we commonly refer to as “heat”) and contractions of the uterus to aid in transport of sperm. Estrus generally lasts 12 to 18 hours. This short phase marks the peak of estrogen production causing a lutenizing hormone (LH) surge released from the pituitary. The LH surge or spike results in ovulation 10 to 12 hours later. Cows in estrus will stand to be mounted, usually act nervous and excitable, and secrete clear cervical mucous.

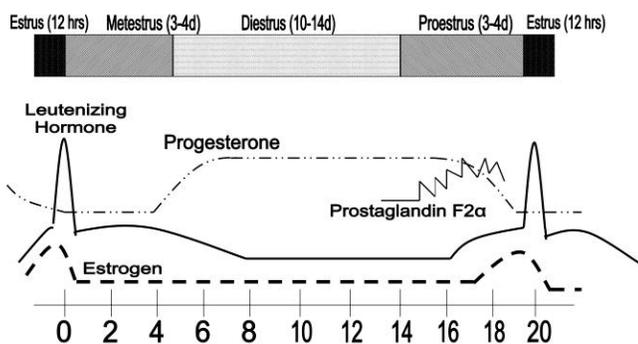
Metestrus

During metestrus, the site of where the follicle ruptured becomes a corpus luteum (CL) that secretes progesterone to inhibit estrus and, if the cow is pregnant, maintains pregnancy. Some cows may have a bloody vaginal discharge during metestrus indicating they were in heat a day or two earlier.

Diestrus

Once the CL matures, the cow is in diestrus. If the uterine wall does not get a signal by days 16 to 18 of the estrous cycle indicating that a fertilized egg has been implanted in the uterine wall, the hormone prostaglandin is secreted from the uterus, and the CL regresses to complete the reproductive cycle.

Understanding how all of these structures and hormones work together is important to utilizing advanced reproductive techniques. Knowing how the administration of estrus synchronization hormones affects the estrous cycle of the cow can help you achieve better results and hopefully more cows bred.



The Estrous Cycle

Attention GCCPA Exhibitors!

An official copy of the results of the show must be turned in to GCCPA for the points from that show to be counted. Refer to Rule #2 of the 2011 -2012 Point System Rules : Exhibitors may earn points at any show, regardless of the location (including out of state shows) or size of the show. However, for points to be counted the show must be certified and results from that show submitted to GCCPA.

GCCPA Apparel makes great Christmas Gifts!



2011 GA National Fair

Top 5 Heifers

- 1- Lea Crump – Gordon Central FFA – Commercial Champ
- 2- John Reasor – Dade Co 4-H – Shorthorn Champ
- 3- Gibson Priest – Gordon Co 4-H – Simmental Champ
- 4- Brandon Webb – – Shorthorn Res Champ
- 5- Logan Steed – Central Carroll FFA - Angus Champ

Top 5 Steers

- 1- Adam Klingler – Peach Co FFA – Crossbred Champ
- 2- Cal Pope – Carroll Co 4-H – Crossbred Res Champ
- 3- Bo Bailey – Decatur Co 4-H – Charolais Champ
- 4- Cody Corbett – Echols FFA – Chi-Inf Champ
- 5- Megan Crooms –West Laurens FFA – Simmental Champ

2011 GNF Junior Invitational

Top 5 Heifers

- 1- Austin Floyd – Hart Middle FFA – Commercial Champ
- 2- Wyatt Chandler – Jackson Co 4-H – Commercial Res Champ
- 3- Hunter Wilson – Carroll Co 4-H – Angus Champ
- 4- Brett Dyer – Dade Co 4-H – Chi- Inf Champ
- 5- Hannah Barrett – Lumpkin High FFA – Shorthorn Champ

Top 5 Steers

- 1- Conner Harris – Houston Co 4-H – Crossbred Champ
- 2- Megan Crooms –West Laurens FFA – Chi-Inf Champ
- 3- Anna Scott – Coffee Co FFA – Limousin Champ
- 4- Courtney McPhail – Perry High FFA – Maine Champ
- 5- Wyatt Chandler – Jackson Co 4-H – Simmental Champ

Notes from GCCPA Executive Secretary

Greetings fellow GCCPA members! I hope that this letter finds each of you well. The thermostat has certainly dropped here in southeast Georgia and it is finally feeling like fall. Just wanted to mention a few items of note and some upcoming GCCPA events:

- I still have 2011-2012 GCCPA tags for sale! It's not too late – just remember that the tags have to be in the calf's ear to claim the points.
- GCCPA Apparel for sale – check website for listing!
- The **GCCPA Steer Show**, held in conjunction with the State 4-H and FFA Steer Show, is coming up. If you would like to help sponsor or know of someone we should contact please contact me or Sponsorship Chairman – Sondra Moser – mosercattleco@gmail.com
- Begin thinking about the *Club Calf Sale* – nomination info requests will go out in December along with membership renewals. Patrick Steed (patanmel@msn.com) will again be serving as this year's Sale Chairman.
- We will begin putting the 2012 GCCPA Directory together after the first of the year – look for ad rates and info with membership info next month!

I look forward to seeing you around the showbarns! - *Carole*

Georgia Club Calf Producers Association

863 Effingham Hwy
Sylvania, GA 30467

PHONE:
912-690-1727

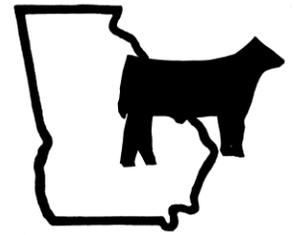
E-MAIL:
CLH@UGA.EDU

We're on the Web!

See us at:
www.georgiaclubcalves.org

Calendar of Events

- November 12 – Peach County Steer and Heifer Show – Ft. Valley
- November 18-20 – GA Farm Credit Southern Classic – Perry
- November 19 – Title Town Showdown – Valdosta
- November 19 – 15th Annual ABAC Steer and Heifer Show – Tifton
- December 3 – AGR Christmas Classic – Auburn, AL
- December 9-10 – Elbert County Steer and Heifer Show – Elberton
- December 9-11 – Wiregrass Winter Calssic – Nichols
- January 20-21 – Carrollton Winter Classic – Carrollton
- January 28 – Screven County Moo-Moo Classic – Sylvania
- February 4 – West Georgia Livestock Show – Carrollton
- February 22-25 – Georgia State Heifer and Steer Show – Perry
- February 23 – GCCPA Steer Show - Perry



About Our Organization...

The overall objective of GCCPA is to enhance the Georgia Junior Livestock Program by providing special award programs to 4-H and FFA youth who exhibit GCCPA calves and to assist its membership in the production and marketing of genetically superior show cattle.

GCCPA

C/O CAROLE KNIGHT
863 EFFINGHAM HWY
SYLVANIA, GA 30467

