



GERIR A VACADA DE CARNE PARA UMA MAIOR EFICIÊNCIA PRODUTIVA

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To improve production efficiency the operation must first know where the losses in efficiency are occurring. This sounds simple but without some kind of standardized analysis of annual production time and money may be spent trying to improve efficiency by working on the wrong production area.

Focus in this presentation will just be on the production side however, it cannot or should not be uncoupled from the analysis on the financial side. Production efficiency can be improved while at the same time decreasing the profitability of an operation. Every production input comes with a cost with the expectation that it will improve profitability. There is a point of diminishing return where trying to achieve additional production is not economically feasible.

Income is determined by:

1. Number of animals
2. Weight of those animals
3. Price received, either per head or per pound

Currently we use a standard measure of production based on the number of cows that were exposed to bulls in the previous breeding season. By looking at production in relationship to the number of exposed females a measure of reproductive efficiency, maintenance of pregnancy, calf death loss, weaning weight, expenses and income per cow and cow exposed can be calculated.

Factors affecting the number of calves to sell include:

1. Conception rate
 - a. Days post partum
 - b. Cows cycling
 - c. Bull fertility
 - d. Libido
 - e. Health/disease
2. Maintenance of pregnancy
 - a. Uterine involution
 - b. Embryo viability
 - c. Disease
 - d. Nutrition
 - e. Stress
3. Calf Death Loss
 - a. Dystocia
 - b. Environment
 - c. Temperature
 - d. Moisture
 - e. Disease
 - f. Scours
 - g. Viral
 - h. Bacterial



4. Weaning Weight

- a. Age
- b. Nutrition
 - i. dam
 - ii. forage
 - iii. energy
- c. Health

Evaluations of all factors that come to play in these four areas are necessary to measure efficiency and to understand where losses in efficiency are occurring. Every production system will be similar but at the same time very different. Until losses are identified solutions cannot be determined nor corrections implemented.