

BULL FERTILITY TESTING

IS YOUR BULL UP TO THE JOB?

Your bull is effectively half of your herd. A bull may have desirable genetic characteristics, but he would be of little value as a herd sire if he is not breeding optimally. Fertility is unquestionably one of the most important traits in bulls and evaluating their breeding soundness is a management practice which is often overlooked.

The Components to Fertility Testing

- Physical assessment eyes, feet, gait, teeth and scrotal circumference.
- Examination of reproductive organs and semen quality.
- Libido assessment.
- Additional lab testing for diseases such as BVD or Johnes etc.

Benefits

- A fit bull can cut your calving interval.
- Reduce input costs.
- Provide greater financial returns.

The more you know about your bull, the better the efficiency to help ensure a productive and profitable calf crop next year. AHDB

Bull MOT Assess your bull

Toes Check feet and locomotion

Testicles Measure – check scrotal circumference recommended for age and breed Feel – firm (like a tennis ball) with no lumps

Tone Body condition score (BCS) of 3.0–3.5 at start of breeding season

Check vaccinations are up-to-date (e.g. BVD and Leptospirosis), internal and external parasites etc.

Test Consult your vet for a thorough examination of your bull's physical soundness and semen quality



We recommend testing your bulls yearly at least 6 weeks before the breeding season or before purchasing any replacements.

Please be aware, in order to effectively carry out a bull fertility test, we will need the bull to be restrained in a crush with side opening doors and access to electricity to power the equipment.

We are fully equipped to carry out fertility and fitness testing on bulls - call us to book in.