

# Treating non-cycling cows early is a very worthwhile investment

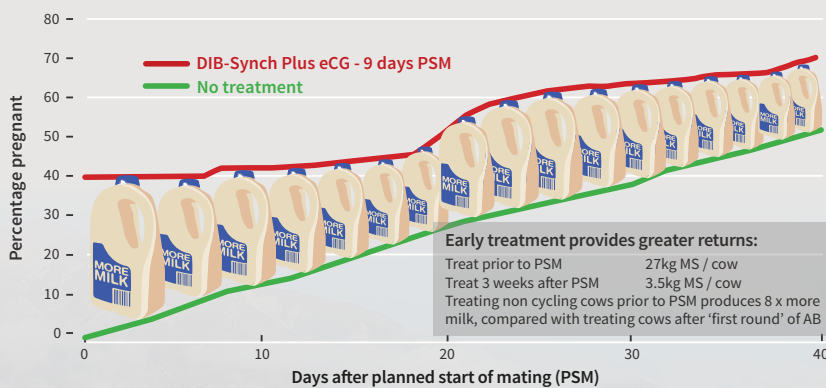
## Benefits of treating non-cyclers early (so these cows are inseminated during the first few days of the mating period)

- Treated cows have more days in milk
- More AB heifer calves
- Tighter calving spread
- Fewer non-cycling cows requiring treatment the following season
- Benefits far exceed treatment costs even when milk payout is low

## Use the best non-cycler treatment prior to Planned Start of Mating

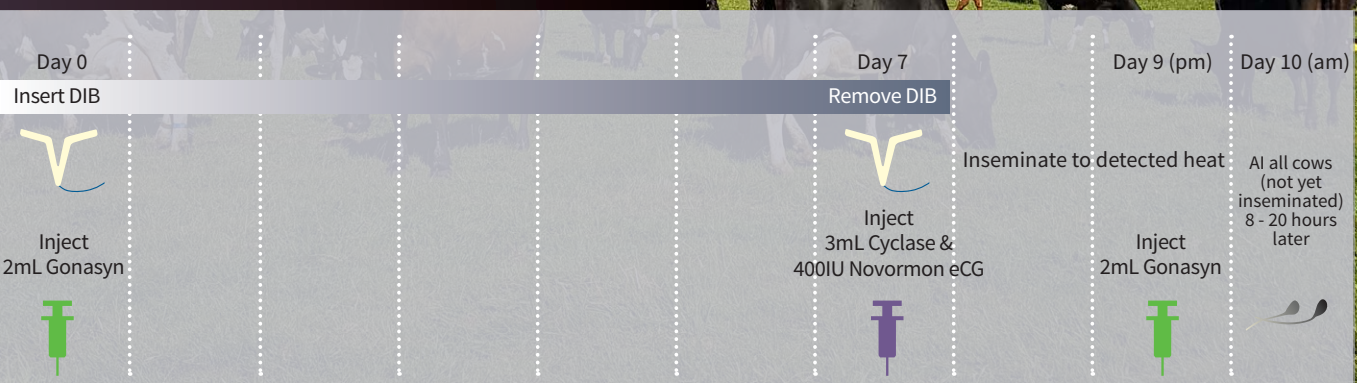
- Better conception rates
- Increased early in-calf rates by 6 – 12% compared to inferior programs
- Higher proportion of treated cows are seen in 'standing heat'
- Higher return on investment
- More cows in-calf early = more milk

## Extra milk production following non cycling cow treatment prior to PSM



Return on investment	DIB-Synch Plus
Additional days in milk	19
kg MS / day	1.6
\$ / kg MS	\$6.50
<b>Additional milk income</b>	<b>\$198</b>
Costs	\$45
<b>Profit per cow</b>	<b>\$153</b>

## Non-cycling cow treatment DIB-Synch Plus



Evidence based vet medicines

AgriHealth

# Trials investigating alternate ways to manage non-cyclers

## Splitting non-cyclers from main herd

- Non-cycling cows split from the herd one week prior to PSM and for first round of mating had significantly worse reproductive outcomes than non-cyclers left in the herd
- Disruption of social structure
- Less involvement in sexually active groups (SAGs) making heat detection more difficult

## Once a day milking

- Non-cycling cows milked once day from one week prior to PSM and for the first round of mating (total 4 weeks) had slightly improved reproductive outcomes compared with non-cyclers that remained on twice a day milking
- Loss in milk production significantly larger cost than benefit seen in reproduction

Both trials showed that early intervention with the best reproductive program (DIB-Synch Plus eCG) had the greatest benefit and financial return for farmers

## Treating non-cyclers too late

- Treating non-cycling cows during the mating period provides an inferior financial return as the milk produced is significantly less

## Treating non cycling cows does not 'breed for infertility'

- Most cows that fail to ovulate by PSM are later calvers or in energy deficit rather than 'poor breeders'
- Getting these cows cycling and in calf early increases their milk production by 27kg milk solids and also improves the likelihood of earlier calving the following year

Delayed non cycler treatment compared with no treatment

