

BREEDING DECISIONS WITHIN THE HERD : PRACTICAL EXPERIENCES
FROM A SERVICE ACTIVITY IN THE SWEDISH AI ORGANIZATION

G. BRATT

Association for Swedish Livestock Breeding and Production, Sweden

The central activities such as testing of unproven bulls, selection of proven bulls and bull dams, planned matings etc. still are and will in the future be the most important parts of AI breeding. There is, however, a great interest among farmers to make their own breeding plans. As there is a lot of information of different traits from the proven bulls today there are many possibilities for the farmer to make his own breeding work. The positive effects of making breeding plans for the individual herd can be summarized as follows :

1. The farmer's interest for breeding activities is fulfilled within the cooperative AI breeding work.
2. The breeding potential of cows is used more efficiently, incorrect matings can be avoided.
3. The different types of bulls can be utilized more efficiently.
4. The interest and qualifications of the AI technicians are utilized.

BREEDING VALUE OF ANIMALS IN A HERD

J. PŘIBYL and VÁCHAL

Research Institute for Animal Production, 251 61 Prague 10 - Uhřetěves, Czechoslovakia

There are differences in the breeding value of various cattle categories (heifers, first-calvers, old cows, mothers of bulls, young bulls, progeny tested bulls and fathers of bulls). The values of different categories are expressed in comparison with an average of first-calvers. Using milk fat as the selection character these average breeding values were estimated : heifers 1.4, first-calvers 0, selected first-calver 2.88, cows on higher lactations — 1.6, mothers of bulls 19.45, young bulls 19.11, progeny tested bulls 22.03 and fathers of bulls 27.50 kg. By the herd replacement, determined by lactation number 3.2 in average (including other adequate input informations) the selection effect was estimated as 1.8 kg of milk fat per year and cow.

THE GENETIC IMPLICATIONS OF MULTIPLE OVULATION
AND EMBRYO TRANSFER IN SMALL DAIRY HERDS

F. W. NICHOLAS

Department of Animal Husbandry, University of Sydney, N.S.W. 2006, Australia

The genetic consequences of multiple ovulation and embryo transfer (M.O.E.T.) in an individual dairy herd of 500 cows have been examined. When compared with a conventional (non-M.O.E.T.) progeny testing programme in the same herd, M.O.E.T. can lead to an increase in rate of selection response of up to 100 per cent, with rates of inbreeding no greater than 0.6 per cent per year.