



## SIMVITRO® HERDFLEX™ BEEF EMBRYOS FAQ

### Q: WHY USE SIMVITRO® HERDFLEX™ BEEF EMBRYOS?

A: SimVtro® HerdFlex™ beef embryos enhance a dairy's profit potential by creating and marketing higher value beef calves than dairy-beef crossbreds or straight-bred dairy calves. This strategy helps dairy farms optimize profit on pregnancies not needed for replacements.

Calf buyers and feedlots are willing to pay a premium as calves born from HerdFlex embryos are:

- » Feed efficient.
- » Consistent in their genetic package.
- » Available year-round with a consistent supply.
- » Deliver high carcass merit and marbling.

Transferring these embryos into dairy cows allows a steady supply of calves year-round. This strategy contrasts with the beef production system where the majority of calves are born in the spring, marketed in the fall and arrive at the feedlot once a year. This constant supply is a significant benefit to the beef value chain and a business opportunity for dairy producers to become market makers versus market takers.

### Q: WHAT IS THE CONCEPTION RATE FOR HERDFLEX EMBRYOS?

A: You can expect to achieve pregnancy rates similar to the rates achieved by Artificial Insemination (AI). Heat stressed and repeat breeders can even expect an improvement in pregnancy rate over AI because the implanted embryo avoids fertility-related challenges and starts with the placement of an already viable embryo.

PREGNANCY RATE<sup>1</sup>

	Transfers	Pregnant	Pregnancy Rate
Pregnancy Rates	598	283	47.32%

*Pregnancy rates may vary because of factors like environment, animal management, recipient quality and season.*

### Q: DO DAIRIES NOTE ANY CHANGES IN RATES OF PREGNANCY LOSS OR CALF LOSS (DOA)?

A: IVF technology and processes have rapidly evolved over the years, which has lowered the occurrence of abortions. As with AI, abortion rates can vary by farm and production or management systems. Abortion rates ranging from 4 to 14% have been observed in Holstein heifers, Holstein cows and Jersey cows.

PREGNANCY CONCEPTION AND ABORTION RATE PERFORMANCE<sup>2</sup>

ID	Preg	Open	Total	Conception Rate	Abortion	Abortion Rate
Bull 1	266	358	624	42.6%	31	11.7%
Bull 2	176	268	444	39.6%	12	6.8%
Bull 3	144	183	327	44.0%	12	8.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>1395</b>	<b>42.0%</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>9.4%</b>

### Q: WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF USING EMBRYOS DURING HEAT STRESS?

A: SimVtro® HerdFlex™ beef embryos can improve the pregnancy rate in a herd by overcoming heat stress. Previous industry research using commercial IVF embryos showed a 10% increase in one-cycle pregnancy rate vs. AI in the same herds. Heat-stressed animals may show an improvement because the implanted embryo often fertility-related challenges and starts with the placement of an already viable embryo.



A: SimVibro® HerdFlex™ beef embryo sires are specifically chosen with calving ease in mind and should not negatively affect calving. Our initial data indicates that we need to pay attention to birthweight EPD and calving ease direct EPD. The data points below are indications of potential birthweights you can achieve.

BIRTH WEIGHT

Dairy	Average DDC	Average Weight
Jersey Dairy 1	277	78.2
Jersey Dairy 2	278.1	80.5
Holstein Dairy	282	92

Sires Represented: 100X, Compound

## NOTES >>>

A: Depending on market price for day-old calves, SimVibro® HerdFlex™ beef embryo calves can earn up to 30x more than a day-old Jersey and 6x more than a day-old Holstein calf. The newborn calves are worth more than a traditional dairy beef animal sold into the beef supply chain. And even more if dairies opt to retain ownership.

Lot #	Average Daily Gain (lbs)	Host Carcass Weight (lbs)	Igenity Terminal Index Value
1	4.03	959.5	6.07
2	3.79	1,021	5.73
3	3.79	847	5.69
4	4.12	943.5	5.75
5	3.83	803.33	6.17
6	4.44	979.2	6.35
7	3.98	922.5	5.63
8	4.08	984.25	5.66

Preliminary data indicate the use of superior beef sires to create SimVitra® HerdFlex™ embryos generates excellent performance results. Harvest information for this group of HerdFlex animals shows 22% graded USDA Prime and 77% graded USDA Choice. Further, these animals yielded an average daily gain of just over 4 pounds per day.

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<sup>1</sup> 2020 J.R. Simplot Company data on file. <sup>2</sup> 2020 J.R. Simplot Company data on file. <sup>3</sup> 2020 J.R. Simplot Company data on file. <sup>4</sup> Simplot Animal Sciences data on file.

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