

Tools to Build Your Cow Herd – E-Newsletter

Genetic Tools

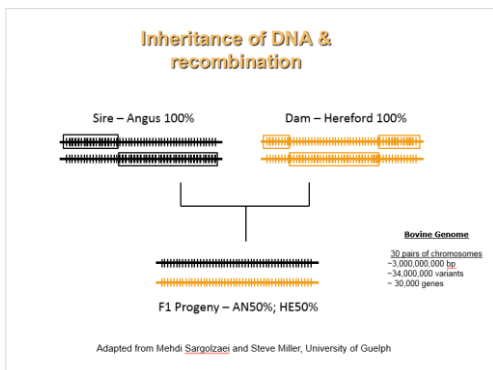
[Residual Feed Intake \(Net Feed Efficiency\) in Beef Cattle](#)

[Making Progress with Feed Efficiency -- the case for RFI \(Residual Feed Intake\)](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions about Feed Efficiency and Residual Feed Intake \(RFI\)](#)

[The Economics of Feed Efficiency -- the case for RFI](#)

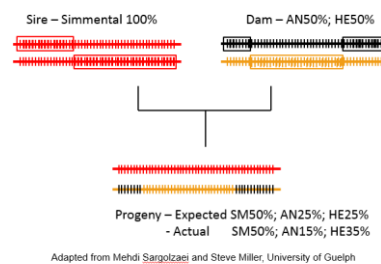
Livestock genetics have been studied for many years and with the premise that the dam and sire each contribute half the genetics, we have calculated the breed composition of the offspring.



Genetic recombination is occurring in every generation on each chromosome.

Want to review the PowerPoint Presentation [Genomic Tools for Commercial Beef Cattle](#) presented at Tools to Build Your Cow Herd?

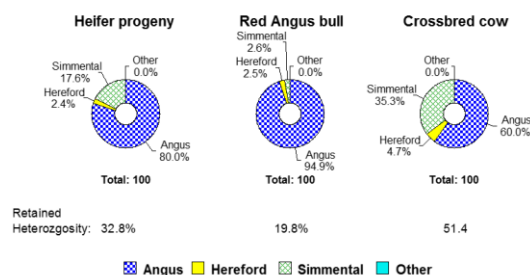
Inheritance of DNA & recombination



While on a herd average the next generation will be 25/25/50 cross, individual animals could be anything from 5/45/50 to 30/20/50. Without doing a DNA test to determine breed composition, it's anyone's guess. Knowing the breed composition of the dam and sire could change the breeding plan if hybrid vigour is a goal.

MyHerdandMe ... genotyping for beef cattle

Genomic-based breed composition & retained heterozygosity



[EnVigour HX™](#) – check out [Delta Genomics](#) website for full details of the EnVigour HX™ service.

Tools to Build Your Cow Herd

The [Technology Access Centre](#) for Livestock Production at Olds College can now assist commercial cattle producers in using Delta Genomics EnVigour HX™.

The Technology Access Centre (TAC) for Livestock Production at Olds College genetic sampling and consultation services include:

Pre-testing Consultation

The TAC's staff can discuss the genetic testing options available (parentage and EnVigour HX™) with producers, and review the sample collection process.

Sample Collection

TAC staff can travel to the farm to collect tissue or hairs samples to submit for analysis (parentage or EnVigour Hx™). Staff collection and travel time are to be covered by the producer.

Results Consultation

TAC staff will review your results, and discuss with you what it means for your herd and how you can use the results to make informed decisions on replacement heifers and bull selection to increase your herd's productivity.

Important information about livestock vitamins (A&E) for the 2017/18 feeding season

Beef Cattle Nutrition/Management

Here is information that addresses many of the issues you may come across this feeding season.

To view a document, select and click

Body Condition Scoring

[Body Condition Scoring Your Cow Herd](#)

[Beef Cow Body Condition Management](#)

[Body Condition: Implications for Managing Beef Cows](#)

Feed Sampling

[Importance of Feed Testing and How to Obtain a Proper Sample – Video](#)

[Collecting Forage Samples for Analysis](#)

Beef Cattle Nutrition

[Know Your Feed Terms](#)

[Water Analysis Interpretation for Livestock](#)

[Beef Ration Rules of Thumb](#)

[Effects of Nutrition on Beef Cow Reproduction](#)

[Nutrients for Cattle](#)

[Ration Options for Beef Cows](#)

[Winter Feeding Programs for Beef Cows and Calves](#)

[Management in the Last Trimester of Pregnancy](#)

[Moldy Feed and Reproductive Failure in Cows](#)

[Major Minerals for Beef Cattle](#)

[Trace Minerals for Beef Cows](#)

Beef Cattle Nutrition Challenges

[Managing Cattle Feed Contaminated with Mycotoxins](#)

[Moldy Feed and Reproductive Failure in Cows](#)

[Drought Management Checklist](#)

[Year Round Drought Management Decisions](#)

[Year Round Drought Management Decisions - Spring](#)

[Year Round Drought Management Decisions - Summer](#)

[Year Round Drought Management Decisions - Fall](#)

[Year Round Drought Management Decisions - Winter](#)

Tools to Build Your Cow Herd

Beef Cattle Feeding

[Winter Grazing Systems](#) – video series
[BCRC's 3 Tips for Swath and Bale Grazing](#)
[Agronomic Management of Swath Grazed Pastures](#)
[Increasing Cow/calf Profitability Using Chaff and Chaff/Straw Feedstuffs](#)
[Creep Feeding Calves](#)

Beef Cattle Management

[Management in the Last Trimester of Pregnancy](#)
[Responsible Use of Veterinary Drugs](#)

High Legume Pastures

2017 was a challenging growing season for most Alberta cattle producers. It was either too hot/dry or too wet. Weather patterns seem to be changing. Beef producers need to be at the ready to handle this “new normal” with pasture and crop production to feed the livestock year round. Ever considered legumes? Not only do legumes fix nitrogen with the help of N-fixing rhizobia bacteria, legumes help to diversify a forage stand to utilize moisture throughout the soil profile.

Over the past two growing seasons, forage and research associations, along with a local producer have been learning more about high legume pastures and creating a story through their experiences. Check out Alberta Agriculture and Forestry's webpage for more details.

[Grazing High Legume Pastures](#)

Have you ever checked out [Foragebeef.com](#)?

This site is a great place to find information on everything beef and forage.

Tools to Build Your Cow Herd Videos 2017

Presentations at the Olds College session were videotaped to be reviewed later. Please feel free to share these with others who may be interested in learning from the day.

[Genomic Tools for Commercial Beef Cattle - Dr. John Basarab](#)

[How to Feed Cows Through a Feed Shortage – Barry Yaremció](#)

[Vitamins to Help Build Your Cow Herd – Dr. Mark Engstrom](#)

[Production Problems and Opportunities Experienced Over the Last Couple Years – Barry Yaremció](#)

Need an excuse to stay indoors this winter?

Check out the Beef Cattle Research Council's ([BCRC](#)) website. Here you will find information in the form of [webinars](#), [blogs](#), [twitter feed](#), reports, you name it, they've got it. A great learning opportunity awaits you this winter, all from the comfort of home.

Western Canadian Cow-Calf Survey

For more information on how you can participate in this survey, check out [WCCCS II](#) **Deadline** to participate is **February 28, 2018** so don't delay! For your participation, you can choose to receive a copy of the report to compare your operation to the average in the region. As a thank you, up to \$50 in gift cards will be sent to you also.

Tools to Build Your Cow Herd

A HUGE thank you to our partners who helped with the “Tools to Build Your Cow Herd” sessions

