

Work with a cow wheel


A cow wheel (or cow calendar) is a very helpful tool that helps one to keep track of the breeding and calving status of all the cows in a herd. One cow wheel can help you keep track of up to 250 cows. It also helps with good record-keeping.

How does a cow wheel look?

- A cow wheel can be turned so that breeding and calving dates can be set for each individual cow.
- The wheel is divided into the 12 months of the year.
- In turn each month is divided into weeks of 6 days (not 7) so that each month is divided into five weeks each.
- The weeks are indicated by dates, e.g. 1-6, 7-12, and so on.
- Some calendars have pointers or magnets, which allows you to mark or indicate a date.
- The following activities are shown on the cow wheel: Calving, heat detection, service, second heat detection, pregnancy diagnosis, dry-off period, steam-up period, calving.

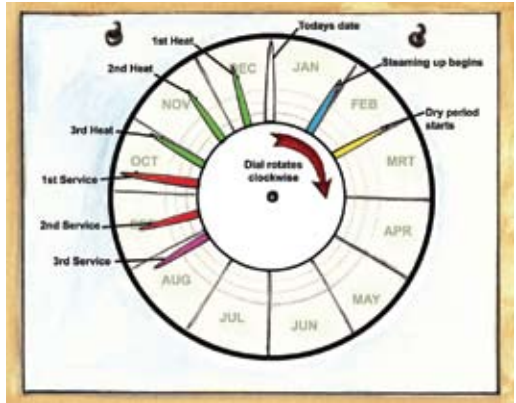
Using the wheel

- 1. Breed** the cow when she is in heat. Breed in the afternoon if she shows heat signs in the morning. If she shows heat signs in the afternoon, breed her the next morning. Note the breeding date on the calendar.
- Check closely for **return heats** 2 to 3 weeks (approximately 21 days) after the first heat signs and breeding. Rebreed her again, if necessary.
- If the cow doesn't need rebreeding, start checking for **pregnancy** 2 to 3 months after the recorded breeding date. If she is not pregnant, you will have to start checking for heat signs again.
- If the cow is indeed pregnant, note the date on the calendar. You can milk her for up to two months before she is due to calve.
- 5. Stop milking:** The cow should be dried off two months (60 days) before calving. Note this date on the wheel during step (4).
- Start with the steaming-up process two weeks before calving. Start feeding concentrate now and continue feeding concentrates for the next four months.
- The cow calves. Note this day on the cow wheel. The next breeding date should be approximately 60 days later – the same date when breeding started in point (1).

Cow wheels and clear instructions on how to use them, can be obtained from DeLaval. Phone Rykie Visser on 082 653 0364 for more information. 

Record-keeping with a cow wheel

1. **Service** the cow when she is in **heat**.
2. Check for **return heats** after 21 days.
3. **Check for pregnancy** 2 to 3 months after the recorded breeding date.
4. Continue milking.
5. **Dry off:** Stop milking 60 days before calving.
6. **Steaming-up:** Start feeding concentrate two weeks before calving. Continue for 4 months.
7. **Cow calves.**



Next breeding date: 60 days after calving. (Same date as point 1.)

Hou rekord met 'n koeiwiel

1. Laat die koei **dek** wanneer sy **op hitte** is.
2. Kyk na 21 dae vir tekens dat sy **weer op hitte** is.
3. Ondersoek die koei 2 tot 3 maande na die aangetekende dekdatum vir **dragtigheid**.
4. Hou aan melk.
5. **Afdroog:** Hou 60 dae voor kalwing op melk.
6. **Opstoom:** Gee kragvoer twee weke na kalwing en hou vir 4 maande hiermee aan.
7. **Die koei kalf.**



Volgende dekking: 60 dae na kalwing. (Dieselfde datum as by punt 1.)

Ukugcina amarekhodi ngesondo lezinkomo

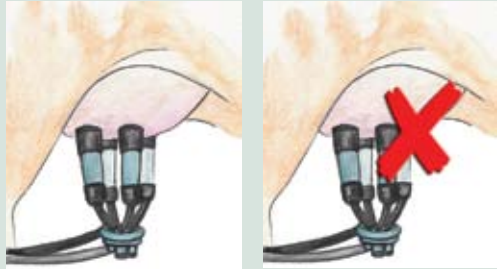
1. Inkomazi isevise uma **ifuna ukukhwelwa**.
2. Hlola **ukubuya kokufuna ukukhwelwa** emva kwezinsuku ezingama-21.
3. **Hlola ukumitha** ezinyangeni ezi-2 ukuya kwezi-3 emva kosuku lokuzalanisa olurekhodiwe.
4. Qhubeka usenge.
5. **Ukoma:** Yeka ukusenga ezinsukwini ezingama-60 ngaphambi kokuba nenkonyane.
6. **Ukufudumala:** Qala ukuyifida okuqinile amasonto amabili ngaphambi kokuba nenkonyane. Qhubeka izinyanga ezi-4 ezilandelayo.
7. **Amankonyane ezinkomazi.**



Usuku lokuzalanisa olulandelayo: izinsuku ezingama-60 emva kokuba nenkonyane Ngosuku olufanayo ngesikhathi okwaqala ngaso ukuzalanisa ephuzwini loku-1.)

Boloka rekoto ya dinako tsa kgomo (cow wheel)

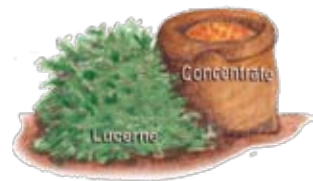
- Hlokomela** kgomo ha e palesa.
- Hlahloba **ho palesa hape** ka mora matsatsi a 21.
- Hlahloba ho jara ha kgomo namane** dikgwedi tse 2 ho ya ho tse 3 ka mora ho rekota letsatsi la ho palangwa ha yona ke poho.
- Tswela pele o hama lebese.**
- Kgaotsa ho hama lebese: Kgaotsa ho hama lebese matsatsi a 60 pele e tswala namane.
- Tswela pele ho fepa kgomo:** Qala ho fepa kgomo dijo tse mokedikedi ka dibeke tse pedi pele e tswala namane. Tswela pele ka dikgwedi tse latelang tse 4.
- Ho tswala namane.**



Letsatsi le latelang hore kgomo e palangwe ke poho: matsatsi a 60 ka mora ho tswala namane. (Letsatsi le tshwanang leo kgomo e palangwang ka lona ntlheng 1.)

Ukugina irekhodi nge-cow wheel (ivili lemazi)

- Lungiselela** imazi xa ikwixesha lokudumba.
- Hlola **iziphumo zokudumba** emva kweentsuku ezingama-21.
- Hlola ukukhulelwa** kwiinyanga ezi-2 ukuya kwezi-3 emva komhla orekhodiweyo wokuzala.
- Qhubeka ukusenga.
- Yomisa: Yeka ukusenga kwiintsuku ezingama-60 phambi kokuzala.
- Thambisa ngomphunga:** Qalisa ukondla ngesondlo esinika amandla kwiiveki ezimbini phambi kokuzala. Qhubeka kwiinyanga ezi-4 ezilandelayo.
- Amathole aziimazi.**



Umhla olandelayo wokuzalisa: iintsuku ezingama-60 emva kokuzala amathole. (Umhla ofanayo xa ukuzala bekuqala kwinqaku loku-1.) 