

A close-up photograph of a cow's face, showing its eye, ear, and nose. The cow has light-colored fur with some darker markings around its eye.

# TYNDALE

Embryo Transfer

## Why use Embryo Transfer?

Embryo transfer can be a useful tool in improving the genetics of your herd. It is estimated that a cow will produce 150,000 eggs in her life time. The typical cow will generate 1 pregnancy per year, meaning only 1 of her eggs will be made use of, but by using embryo transfer, more eggs from genetically superior cows can be fertilised and carried by recipient animals to produce calves.

## How it works

Donor cows are treated with a course of reproductive drugs known as a **Super-ovulatory Programme**, causing the donor to produce more follicles for ovulation than in a normal cycle. The cow is served using fixed time AI, with the sire of your choice, 7 days after service the cow is flushed to collect the embryos.

Once the embryos have been collected, they are examined and graded. Suitable embryos are frozen or implanted fresh into recipient animals.

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**YOUR EMBRYO DONOR SHOULD BE**

**THE SUPERIOR ANIMALS IN THE HERD EITHER FOR MILK PRODUCTION, CARCASS OR SHOW RING QUALITY DEPENDING ON THEIR BREED**

**HAVE A NORMAL REPRODUCTIVE TRACT AND BE CYCLING EVERY 18-24 DAYS**

**AT LEAST 12 WEEKS CALVED**

**PAST PEAK MILK YIELD IF A DAIRY ANIMAL**

**BE IN OPTIMAL BODY CONDITION SCORE FOR THEIR BREED**



## **USING EMBRYO TRANSFER FOR REPEAT BREEDERS**

GETTING PRODUCTIVE CATTLE BACK IN CALF CAN BE A PROBLEM, WITH INFERTILITY BEING ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS FOR CULLING IN THE UK. CONCEPTION RATES IN PROBLEM BREEDER CATTLE CAN BE INCREASED BY AS MUCH AS 20% WHEN AN EMBRYO IS IMPLANTED 7 DAYS AFTER THE ANIMAL HAS BEEN INSEMINATED. A BEEF CROSS EMBRYO IS USED, MAKING THE PROCEDURE MORE FINANCIALLY VIABLE, AS THE CALF VALUE COVERS THE COST OF IMPLANTATION.

**YOUR EMBRYO RECIPIENT SHOULD BE**

**IN GOOD HEALTH, FREE FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND IN OPTIMAL BODY CONDITION SCORE FOR THEIR BREED**

**KEPT IN THE SAME GROUP AND FED THE SAME DIET FOR 6 WEEKS OR MORE BEFORE EMBRYO IMPLANTATION**

**AN ANIMAL WITH A GOOD REPRODUCTIVE HISTORY. MAIDEN HEIFERS ARE IDEAL BUT COWS THAT HAVE HAD EASY CALVINGS CAN ALSO MAKE GREAT CANDIDATES**

**FREE FROM RETAINED FOETAL MEMBRANES, ENDOMETRITIS OR METRITIS POST CALVING**

**SYNCHRONISED TO COME INTO HEAT 7 DAYS BEFORE THE IMPLANT DATE**

**OBSERVED VERY CLOSELY FOR HEATS AND HAVE THESE RECORDED CAREFULLY**

**ULTRASOUND SCANNED BEFORE IMPLANTING TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE SUITABLE TO USE**

