



Nanango Veterinary Surgery

ABN 84 010 681 580

Dr Jon Fearnley BVSc MVS
Dr Sam Morrow BVSc (Hons)
Dr Julia Dowsett BVSc (Hons) B Agri Sc (Hons)
Dr Michelle Rees BVSc

104 Drayton Street
Nanango QLD 4615

Ph: 4163 1611

Fax: 4163 1652

Email: info@nanangovets.com.au
www.nanangovets.com.au

Annual Beef Cattle Management Program

Our recommended annual program for beef cattle management is based around matching the seasonal pattern of pasture growth to the energy demands of raising calves, with the benefit of having simplified management of the herd through uniformity and batch management.



- January:** Monitor mating group. Monitor tick & buffalo fly populations.
- February:** Bulls removed from female herd.
- March:** Pregnancy test females 6-8 weeks after bull removal and manage non-pregnant females (Hold over, fatten or sell).
- April:** Wean calves based on pasture availability. Oldest calf out of heifers is 8 months old & youngest depends on timing of bull removal date (the earlier removal then the more uniform age of calves). Brand, NILS tag, dehorn, castrate, vaccinate, worm, weigh. Start dry season supplementation of herd if needed.
- May:** Educate weaners, supplementary feed if needed, consider Coccidia treatment, administer second vaccinations, place weaners in best paddock.
- June:** Observe herd groups. May worm weaners prior to winter. Consider mineral supplement, protein or energy supplement or winter forage (oats) crop.
- July:** Heifers start to calve.
- August:** Cows start to calve. Check bulls (semen test) prior to introduction to cows. Cull aged bulls or any with defects. Purchase replacement bulls. Vaccinate bulls for BEF & Vibrio. Vaccinate heifers with 7-in-1 (& Pestivirus?). Select replacement heifers.
- September:** Bulls introduced into replacement heifers a month earlier than cows to allow heifers an extra month to recover from calving to fit into the cow management program next year. Booster vaccinations for heifers & cows.
- October:** Bulls introduced into cow herd. Mid-October judged the best time for local climate.
- November:** Observe mating group & record matings and returns.
- December:** Observe mating group & record matings and returns. Weigh & assess weaners. Treat buffalo fly & ticks. Worm weaner group.

For more information, google "Beef Talk", a (DPI sponsored) newsletter for beef producers in SE Queensland.