

# MAKING SEXXED™ SEMEN WORK FOR YOU



## WOULD YOUR DAIRY BENEFIT FROM SEXXED™ SEMEN?



- You want to expand your herd but you don't want the high expense of buying replacements.
- You don't have enough heifers to meet your needs.
- You are already, or would like to, sell heifers as an additional source of revenue.
- You want to consider a herd breeding strategy that helps you get more heifers from your best genetics.
- You operate a well-managed dairy with good conception rates.

**YOUR ANSWER IS YES!  
IF YOU CHECK ANY ONE OF THE ITEMS.**

## GUIDELINES FOR USING SEXED SEMEN

- Restrict sexed semen use to 1st or 2nd services when using on heifers and 1st service when using on lactating cows.
- Fertility window for sexed semen is narrower because the sperm are believed to be closer in their timing for optimal fertility. Therefore, it is recommended to breed at peak signs of heat. This may result in a delay in the time of breeding by 4-8 hours compared to best practices when using conventional semen.
- Use on heifers with the appropriate weight, height and body condition.
- Use on heifers that are at the age (or younger) that translates to your targeted age at first calving.
- Try to breed heifers off natural heats (sync programs may be less reliable for heifers).
- When using sexed semen on lactating cows, select higher fertility cows that are healthy with good body condition.
- Sexed semen works well in combination with Semexai24™/Heatime® or other activity monitoring system.
- Many Jersey breeders opt to use sexed semen on their cows as a regular practice since Jerseys have high fertility and bull calves have a low value.

### HEIFERS NEEDED

### REPLACEMENTS FOR MILKING HERD

- Estimated based on expected cull and mortality rate

### EXTRA HEIFERS

### OPPORTUNITY

- HERD EXPANSION
- SELL EXTRA HEIFERS
- SELECTIVE BREEDING STRATEGIES
  - Cull lower merit heifers based on genomic testing or parent averages
  - Use lower merit heifers as recipients in ET program
  - Breed lower merit heifers to beef sires
  - Breed lower merit or problem breeder cows to beef sires - extra heifers to milking herd



# HANDLING AND THAWING SEXED SEMEN

*With the additional investment, the lower sperm count and the importance of fertility when using sexed semen, it is very important to strictly adhere to these standard operating procedures (SOPs) for handling and thawing.*



Animal to be bred **should be restrained** prior to removing the straw from the tank.

The time the canister spends in the neck tube to remove a straw should be **no more than 10 seconds**. Keep the canister below the frost line.

**Use tweezers** and never fingers when handling the straw.

**Flick the straw** to remove any excess nitrogen.

It's recommended to thaw **one straw at a time** and never more than two straws at a time. If thawing two straws, make sure straws do not touch each other at any time.

Double check the water in your thawing device is at **35°C (95°F)**. Temperatures above 37°C (98.6°F) can destroy sperm which can be detrimental to the sperm count.

Use a timer and thaw for **45 to 60 seconds**.

**Thoroughly dry** the straw and immediately load into pre-warmed AI gun. Take all precautions to avoid cold shock to thawed straws.

**Do not split straws** especially with sexed semen.

Animal should be inseminated **within 5 minutes** of loading the AI gun.

Sexed semen must be deposited **inside the uterine body**.



**Sexxed**™

**MORE HEIFERS**