

Reproduction management

If the herd of animals on a farm should grow, reproduction must be successful.

Successful reproduction is defined as the ability of animals to mate, capacity to conceive and deliver a viable young one at the end of a gestation period. During pregnancy, cows should be vaccinated and given production licks to enable them produce good colostrum for the calf. Every farmer should have a goal of one calf per cow per year.

Care for cows

The areas of management that need to be implemented by a farmer for good results include vaccination. You need to have a good vaccination programme for the diseases that are prevalent and need to be vaccinated in your area.

A dipping programme is also important when doing tick control either seasonally or strategically and keeping in mind the method that is going to be used on your farm either pour ons, injectable dip, plunge dip or spray race.

As part of your health management programme, you will also have to look at nutrition, housing and security.

Record keeping

It is important to keep records on a farm. This should include a budget tool, year planner and vaccination schedule. The budget tool has either price of vaccination per head or price per given number of animals.