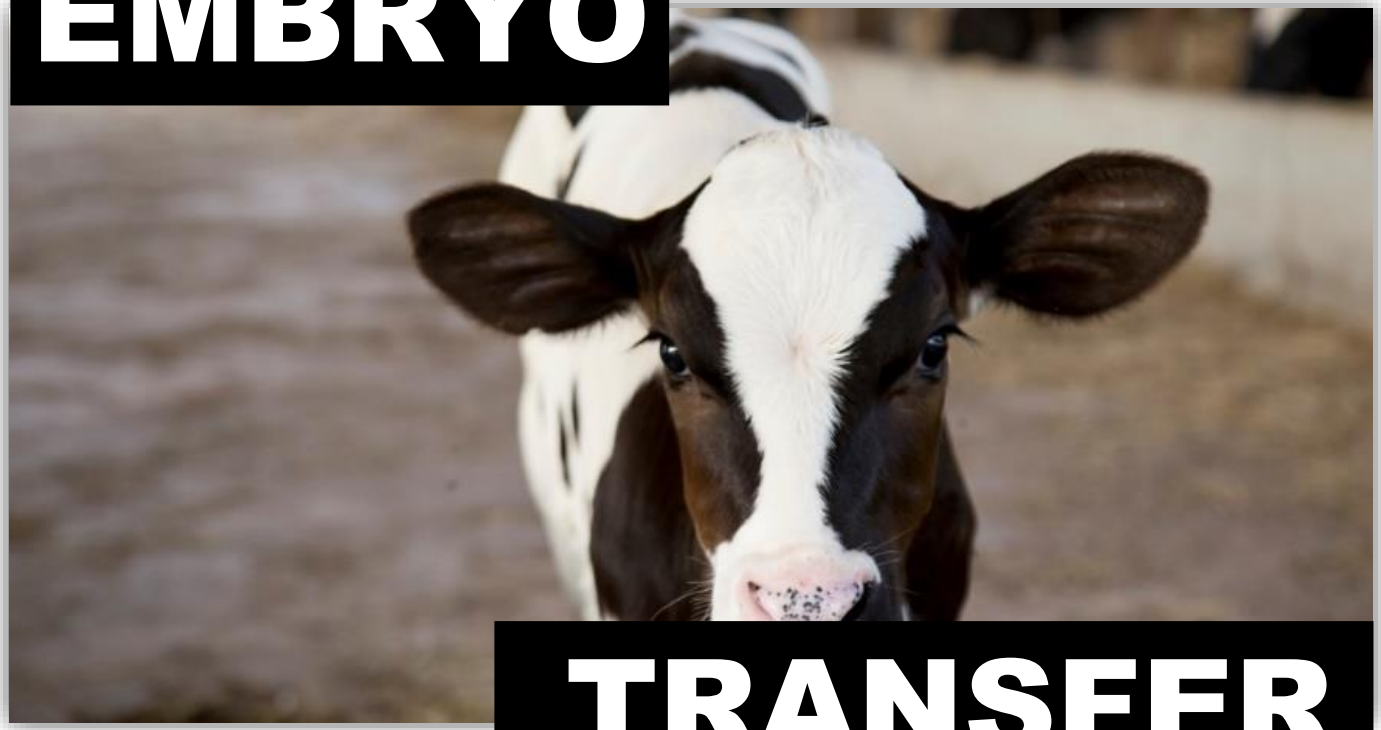
# EMBRYO TRANSFER



Embryo Transfer involves flushing and collecting embryos from super ovulated cows. Cows are given a series of injections to cause them to ovulate multiple eggs. These donor cows are inseminated and the embryos grow in the cow for 7 days. At 7 days we flush the uterus with a saline solution and collect the fertilized eggs or embryos. The harvested embryos can be transferred into recipients who are 7 days past a heat. Embryos can also be stored by freezing them in liquid nitrogen and thawed and transferred at a later date.

The primary reason to utilize embryo transfer is to produce multiple offspring, hopefully daughters, from a cow of exceptional genetics. Without ET a good cow may give birth to 2 to 3 daughters in her entire lifetime. ET allows the same cow to be flushed and her genetics/calves carried by other cows. If you get 3-4 pregnancies per flush and you flush her twice a lactation for three lactations you can get 18 to 24 calves over her lifetime.

Besides producing multiple calves to a single dam, there are other uses for ET. Embryos are easier to buy, sell and transport then a living-breathing animal. Especially with international trade, it is relatively simple to ship a frozen embryo. An embryo is washed to remove any bacteria and viruses prior to freezing. Live animals require extensive testing and quarantine for export. Embryos are used in research projects to acquire a large number of genetically similar animals. Embry transfer is also useful in some cases of infertility. A high value cow that is unable to maintain a pregnancy can be flushed and a healthy cow can carry the calf.

AGRICULTURAL VETERINARY ASSOCIATES

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Professional interests include dairy and cattle reproduction, embryo transfer as well as production medicine.

**Call 717-625-4212 to Schedule**