Bull Fertility Conference - Theory to Practice

Castlecourt Hotel, Westport, Ireland

27-30 May 2018

Provisional Programme

Sunday 27th May 2018

12:00   Registration
15:00   Pre-conference tour
18:30   Session: Setting the Scene
        Chairperson: Michael Diskin
        19:00  Historical and futuristic developments in semen technology
                Pat Lonergan, University College Dublin, Ireland
        20:00  Conference Reception

Day 1 Monday 28th May 2018

8:00   Registration

Session: Male Reproductive Physiology

8:30   Ontology and endocrinology of the male reproductive system from foetus to maturity – a review.
        Mike McGowan, University of Queensland, Australia

9:10   A review of spermatogenesis in the bull
        Christophe Staub, INRA, France

9:50   The effect of nutrition on timing of pubertal onset and subsequent bull fertility
        David Kenny, Teagasc, Ireland

10:30  Coffee/Tea
### Session: Optimising Semen Procedures

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>Semen handling, thawing, deep intrauterine insemination/ heterospermic Ai</td>
<td>Michael Diskin</td>
<td>Teagasc, Ireland</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:40</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:20</td>
<td>Short presentations</td>
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<td>12:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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### Session: Al Bull Fertility

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<tr>
<td>13:30</td>
<td>Using AI vs natural service in beef and dairy herds</td>
<td>Pietro Baruselli</td>
<td>University of Sao Paulo, Brazil</td>
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<td>14:10</td>
<td>In vitro assays to increase our understanding of reproductive wastage between bulls</td>
<td>Sean Fair</td>
<td>University of Limerick, Ireland</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:50</td>
<td>Linking in vitro assays and sire fertility estimates</td>
<td>Matt Utt</td>
<td>Select Sires Inc, USA</td>
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<td>15:30</td>
<td>Tea/Coffee and Poster Session</td>
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### Session: Sexed semen

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<tr>
<td>16:30</td>
<td>Semen Sexing : current state of the art</td>
<td>Vish Vishwanath</td>
<td>Sexing Technologies, USA</td>
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<td>17:10</td>
<td>Cost benefit of sexed semen in dairy and beef herds</td>
<td>Stephen Butler</td>
<td>Teagasc, Ireland</td>
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<td>17:50</td>
<td>End of Day 1</td>
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**Day 2 Tuesday 29th May 2018**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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### Session: Sperm and Seminal Plasma

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<tr>
<td>8:30</td>
<td>The role of seminal plasma in fertility</td>
<td>John Bromfield</td>
<td>University of Florida, USA</td>
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<td>9:10</td>
<td>Sperm interaction with the female reproductive tract</td>
<td>David J Miller</td>
<td>University of Illinois, USA</td>
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<td>9:50</td>
<td>Sperm-oocyte interactions and their implications for fertility - The ubiquitin-proteasome point-of-view.</td>
<td>Peter Sutovsky</td>
<td>University of Missouri, USA</td>
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<td>10:30</td>
<td>Coffee/Tea</td>
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### Session: Thermoregulation and Behaviour

11:00  Scrotal thermoregulation semen quality, and sperm production in beef bulls  
*John Kastelic, Department of Production Animal Health, University of Calgary, Canada*

11:40  Bull breeding behaviour, libido and maximising semen production  
*John Schenk, Colorado, USA*

12:20  Short presentations

12:30  Lunch

### Session: Pathophysiology of Bull Subfertility

13:30  Abnormalities of the bull: occurrence, diagnosis and treatment of abnormalities of the bull including structural soundness  
*Dwight Wolfe, Auburn University, USA*

14:10  The use of BBSE to identify sub and infertile bulls  
*Al Barth, University of Saskatchewan, Canada*

14:50  Disease transmission by bulls/ semen  
*Daniel Givens, Auburn University, USA*

15:30  Tea/Coffee

### Session: DNA Technologies

16:00  Genomics for bull fertility  
*Jerry Taylor, University of Missouri, USA*

16:40  Short presentations

17:30  End of Day 2

19:30  BBQ, The Tavern, Murrisk. Please meet at the Castlecourt Hotel for 19:00 hours.

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**Day 3 Wednesday 30th May 2018**

8:00  Registration

### Session: Bull Production, Selection and Evaluation

8:30  Overview of Pedigree Bull Production – is it conducive to good fertility?  
*Doreen Corridan, Munster Cattle Breeding Company, Ireland*

9:00  What goes wrong with bulls in AI  
*Bernard Eivers, National Cattle Breeding Centre, Ireland*

9:30  Identifying problem bulls at farm level  
*Donal Murphy, XLVets, Ireland.*

10:00  Tea/Coffee
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| 11:00 | Physical examination of bulls. Feet, musculoskeletal system, eyes, teeth, heart and lungs, testicles, accessory sex glands, and penis  
        *Doreen Corridan and Michael McGowan* |
| 11:30 | Semen collection from bulls  
        *Al Barth, Robert Anderson and Donal Lynch* |
| 12:15 | Gross motility, progressive motility, live-dead counts  
        *Donal Murphy and Colin Penny* |
| 12:45 | Lunch |
| 13:45 | Sperm Morphology Workshop; Recognition, aetiology, prognosis  
        *Al Barth and Stuart Revell* |
| 16:15 | Troubleshooting forum - the bull that won’t give a sample  
        *Al Barth, Rob Anderson, Donal Murphy, Colin Penny, Doreen Corridan and Michael McGowan* |
| 16:45 | Bull Surgery:  
        - Bull Epididymectomy  
        - Bull Vasectomy  
        - Pudendal Nerve Block  
        *Eoin Ryan* |
| 18:00 | Finish |