

Beef Cattle – Calendar of Operations

A Calendar of Operations is a month-by-month guide to managing a sustainable, productive and efficient farming enterprise with considerations to animal health and productivity. This tool will vary based on production systems, location, breeds, goals and management practices. This 'sample' Calendar of Operations is based on a late winter/early spring calving *Bos Taurus* breed herd.

JANUARY

- ▶ Monitor water quality and quantity.
- ▶ Supplementary feed if conditions are dry.
- ▶ Vaccinate with 5-in-1 or 7-in-1 booster.
- ▶ Remove bulls from breeders.



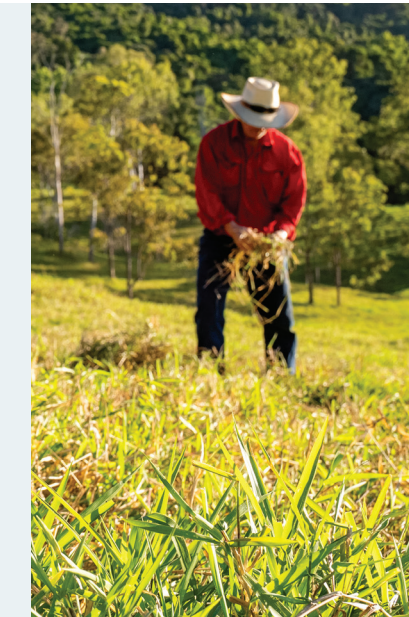
FEBRUARY

- ▶ Sell steers.
- ▶ Condition score pregnant cows and heifers.
- ▶ Parasite protection (drenching) if required.



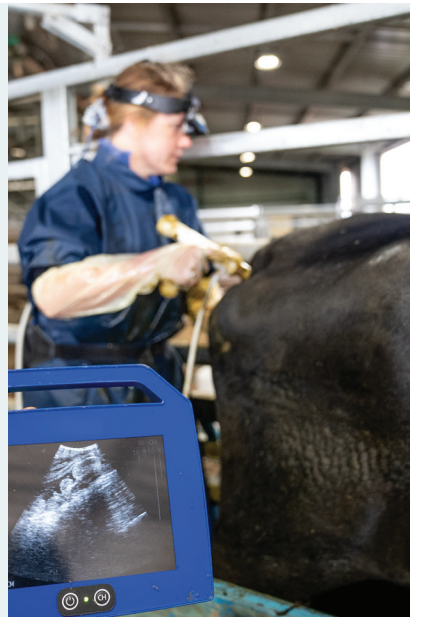
MARCH

- ▶ Pasture planning for autumn sowing.
- ▶ Supplementary feed if needed.



APRIL

- ▶ Pregnancy test breeders.
- ▶ Sell empty breeders.
- ▶ Fertilise pastures or plant autumn forage crops.



MAY

- ▶ Manage feed and water availability.
- ▶ Wean calves if market preference.
- ▶ Supplement feed breeders if needed.



JUNE

- ▶ Check and monitor breeders condition.
- ▶ Drench if necessary.
- ▶ Place breeders in pre-calving paddocks and ensure shelter.



JULY

- ▶ Administer vaccinations to pre-calving breeders to protect calves.
- ▶ Annual vaccination for all non-breeding stock.



AUGUST

- ▶ Calving starts, monitor for birthing difficulty.
- ▶ Predator control.



SEPTEMBER

- ▶ Calving continues.
- ▶ Monitor cows and calves for health.
- ▶ Predator control.



OCTOBER

- ▶ Calving ends.
- ▶ Monitor growth of calves.
- ▶ Mark, NLIS tag and castrate as applicable.
- ▶ Vaccinate bulls before joining.



NOVEMBER

- ▶ Select replacement heifers.
- ▶ Adjust grazing to manage productivity.
- ▶ Joining of bulls and female animals starts.



DECEMBER

- ▶ Prepare market-ready stock for sale.
- ▶ Monitor herd condition.
- ▶ Evaluate end of year production and management.



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Australian Curriculum Content: AC9TDE8K01, AC9TDE8K04, AC9TDE10K01, AC9TDE10K04.

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