

Getting the most from G6G

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Many dairy producers are utilizing the G6G program (Figure 1) to inseminate cows for both first AI and re-synchronization following a non-pregnant diagnosis. The question that seems to surface most often regarding G6G is: When is a good time to give other presynch injections of PGF_{2α} (Lutalyse, Estrumate, Prostamate) prior to G6G? The answer: There is no good time to precede G6G with additional injections of PGF_{2α}. Our knowledge of ovarian function would indicate that the only time to precede G6G with other PGF_{2α} injections is when a veterinarian prescribes PGF_{2α} to enhance uterine involution. In these cows, the best time to start G6G following this treatment is 21 days.

Most producers utilizing additional PGF injections prior to G6G are generally administering this injection 14 days before the first PGF of G6G. The problem with injecting PGF 14 days prior to the start of PGF_{2α} is that cows that respond to that injection will be on approximately day 10 or 11 of the estrous cycle. This is fine for controlling the regression of the corpus luteum with the first PGF_{2α} of G6G on those days. But it is unfortunately at a time when the second follicular wave is starting in most cows, and the GnRH that is administered two days following the PGF_{2α} will not cause ovulation in a substantial percent of cows. This is critical because the cows that respond to both the first PGF_{2α} and first GnRH of G6G have a much greater chance for pregnancy.

Herds in Michigan and Wisconsin that are reporting the best results with G6G are not utilizing additional PGF_{2α} injections prior to G6G. They are only adding this injection on cows treated in response to a veterinarian's diagnosis. Removing these unneeded injections will have a positive impact on the reproductive performance of your herd and save a little money at the same time.

For more information on G6G and other reproduction issues contact your veterinarian or NorthStar Cooperative Reproductive Solutions specialist. ★

G6G Ovsynch


Figure 1

1 Sunday	2 Monday	3 Tuesday	4 Wednesday	5 Thursday	6 Friday	7 Saturday
PGF _{2α} (62-68 DIM)		GnRH (64-70 DIM)				
	GnRH (70-76 DIM)					
	PGF _{2α} (77-83 DIM) AM		GnRH (79-85 DIM) PM	Timed AI (16h after GnRH) (80-86 DIM) AM		

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