

Innovation in Rabbit Farming



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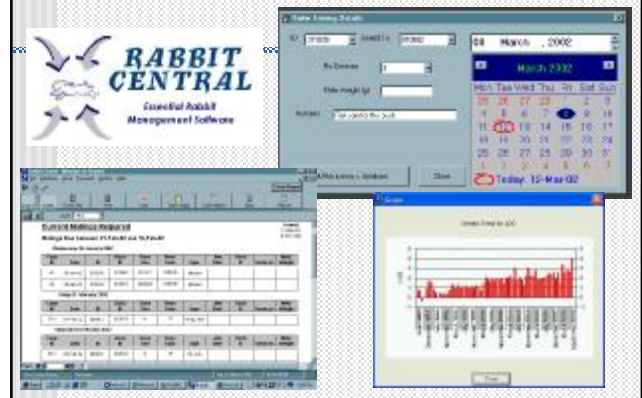
Outline

- n Management / Recording
- n Feeding
- n Mating
- n Palpation
- n Waste Disposal
- n Breeding Programs

Management

- n Daily Management
- n Performance and pedigree recording
 - n Performance evaluation
 - n Animal / Business
- n In-shed recording
- n Labour Efficiencies
- n Business Reporting

Rabbit Central Software



Rabbit Central - Rabbit Reproductive Performance Report

Report Produced on 12 March, 2002

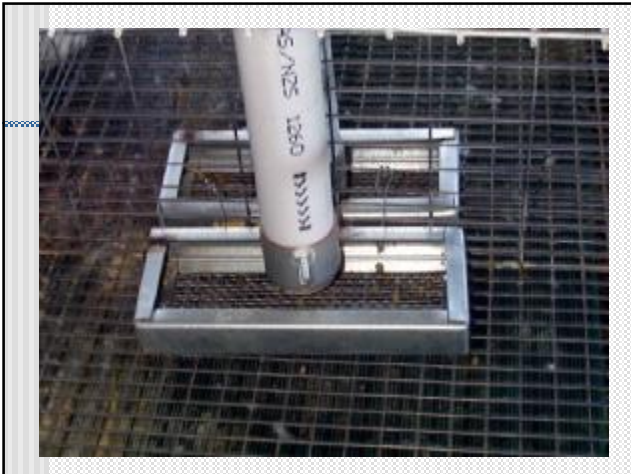
ID	WG	NLA	NW	%	LWV	Jaws	Col	MM	Items	Fur	Mothers	Col	EG
210003	0.2	0.2	1.6	0.5	1179.2	7378	5						45.3
210004	0.4	0.4	3.4	0.5	2053.4	8039	5						44.8
210071	7.0	7.0	6.0	0.0	3414.0	5691	8						51.5
210075	0.4	0.4	4.8	0.9	2808.0	884.0	3						40.3
210079	0.8	0.8	3.5	0.5	2202.0	5291	8						50.8
210080	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.5	2097.0	2897	2						30.8
210087	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3						35.3
210107	4.0	4.0	1.0	0.2	975.0	975.0	2						82.0
210108	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	1530.2	8918	5						30.9
210128	0.0	0.0	3.5	0.5	2507.0	2391	4						75.3
210131	0.4	0.4	2.8	0.5	2400.0	8074	5						50.3
210146	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.0	364.0	3190	5						45.8
210147	7.0	7.0	4.3	0.8	3698.0	8339	4						60.3
210148	0.3	0.3	2.5	0.4	1400.0	5992	8						52.3
Overall	0.3	0.3	2.8	0.5	1026.5	6482	4.3						53.2

In Shed Recording



Feeding

- n How many hours a day do you spend feeding?
- n Empty feeders = lost profit
- n Feeder quality is vital;
 - n Dustless
 - n Scratch-less
 - n Clean



Mating

- n Natural Mating is inefficient
 - n Labour / time
 - n Doe accepting buck?
- n AI
 - n Greater labour and management efficiency
 - n Importing high quality genetics
 - n Disease control
 - n Batching
 - n Less bucks needed

Mating ~ AI



Mating ~ AI



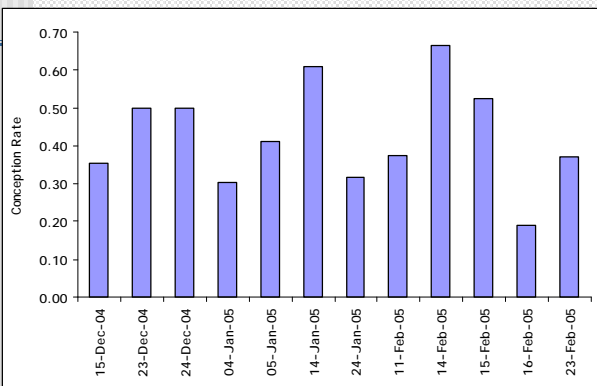
Mating ~ AI R & D

- n Developing technique (350+ Inseminations)
- n Sourcing and refining equipment
- n Preliminary AI Results

	Conception Rate	NB	NBA
Natural	63%	7.7	6.6
AI	41%	7.1	6.2

- n Improvements to come (+90% internationally)
- n Our long term average for Natural Mating is 87%

Mating ~ AI Results



Mating ~ AI Costs

	Conception Rate	NBA	Mate Time (min)	Acceptance Rate	Extra Costs	Cost / Successful Mating	Costs / Litter	Cost / Kitten Born
Nat	85%	6.6	10	75%	0	\$3.33	\$3.92	\$0.59
AI	50%	6.2	2	100%	50c	\$1.00	\$2.00	\$0.32

- n Less cost per kitten produced
- n Need to also consider production per Doe per year
 - Next Newsletter

Palpating

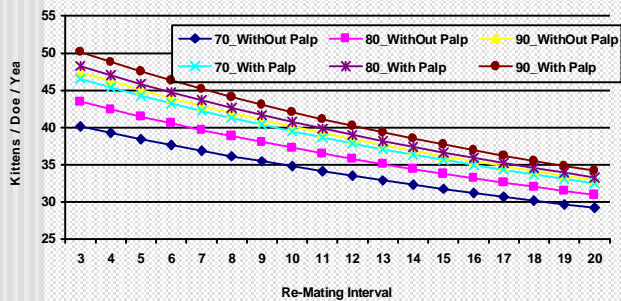
- n Production Efficiency
 - n No room for empty Does
- n Easy to learn
- n Takes only a few seconds
- n Feed savings
- n No wasted Nest Boxes
- n Nor cleaning them!

Palpating



Palpating

The influence of re-mating interval on the number of kittens / doe / year with and without palpation and at differing conception rates



Palpating

- n Palpating Results
 - n 6 month period from Sep 2004 to Mar 2005
 - n 500+ palpations
 - n Based on 200 Does
 - n using real data this equates to
 - n 69 more litters
 - n 456 more kittens born
 - n Labour costs = \$0.30 per kitten
- ➔ Easy Money \$\$\$

Waste Disposal

- n Who likes shoveling?
- n Much time and labour cost
- n Disease control benefits
- n Workplace health and safety
- n Better use of outputs



Labour Efficiency



Breeding Programs

- n High quality breeding stock
- n Accurate recording
- n Efficient performance evaluation
- n Transporting of genetics
- n Modern genetic technologies
- n Estimated breeding values (EBVs)



GROWTEC Products

- n Breeder Rabbits
- n Rabbit Central
 - n Management and Performance Recording Software
 - n Integrated Hand-Held Computer
- n Nest Boxes
 - n Research and Development
 - n Commercial Production
- n Information
 - n Booklet available
 - n Newsletters
 - n www.growtec.com.au

Information

- n Information Packages
 - n Please See Examples
- n Web Site - www.growtec.com.au
- n Newsletters (Email or Normal Mail)
- n Research Reports
- n Forum (see web)
- n Information Articles
- n Basic StartUp Advice
- n Industry Contacts and Web Links

Information Packs



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Thank You



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