

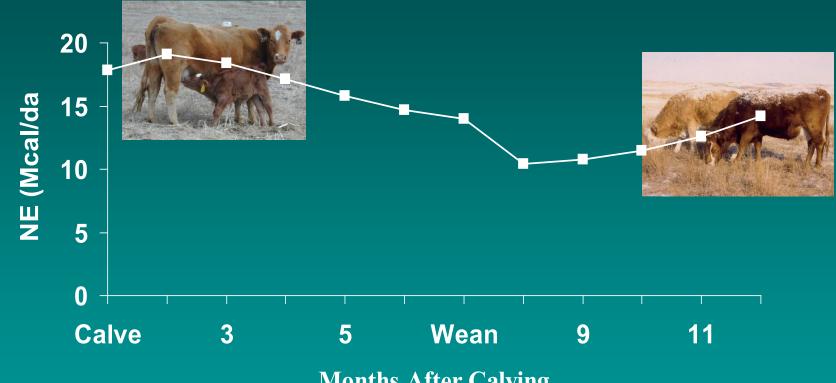
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#### **Milk Production**

Don C. Adams dadams1@unl.edu

# Nutrient requirements of the cow

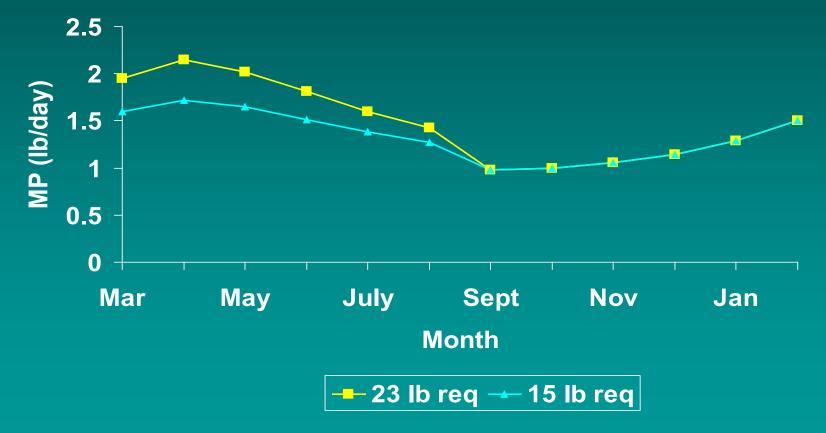
#### Net Energy (NE) Requirements for a 1200 lb March **Calving Cow with 23 lbs/day Peak Milk Production**



**Months After Calving** 



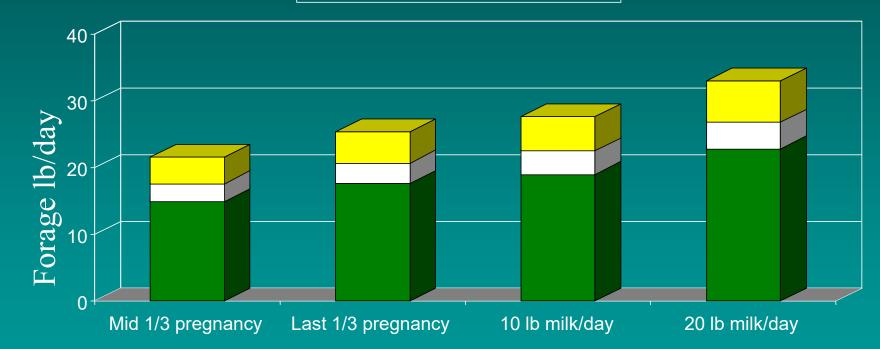
Metabolizable Protein (MP) requirement for a 1200 lb March calving cow with peak milk production of either 15 or 23 lbs/day



NRC (1996)

#### FORAGE INTAKE NEEDED TO PROVIDE ENERGY REQUIRED FOR PREGNANCY AND MILK (1200 POUND COW)

■ 65% TDN ■ 55% TDN ■ 45% TDN



Physiological Status of the Cow

#### FORAGE INTAKE NEEDED TO PROVIDE PROTEIN REQUIRED FOR PREGNANCY AND MILK (1200 POUND COW)

■ 12% ■ 8% ■ 4%

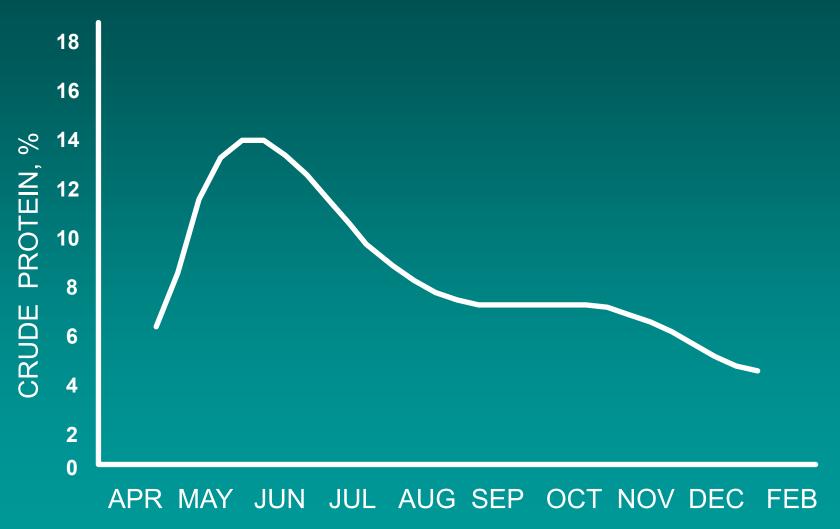


Physiological Status of the Cow

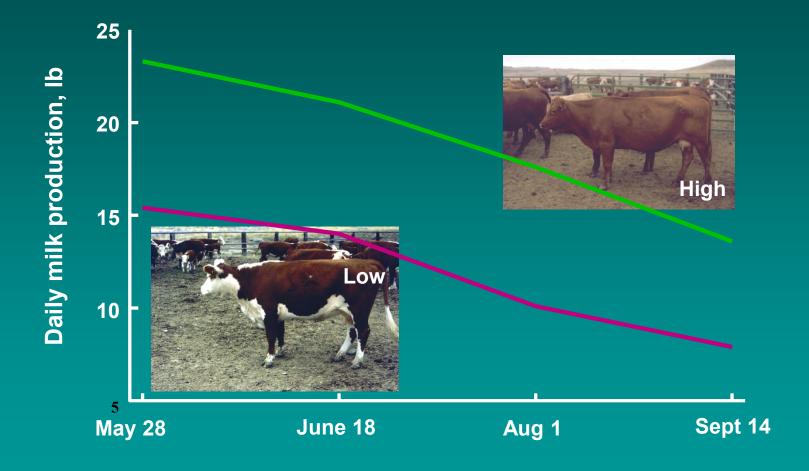
# Amount of Milk Produced by the Cow

279

#### Crude protein in cattle diets on Northern Great Plains rangeland

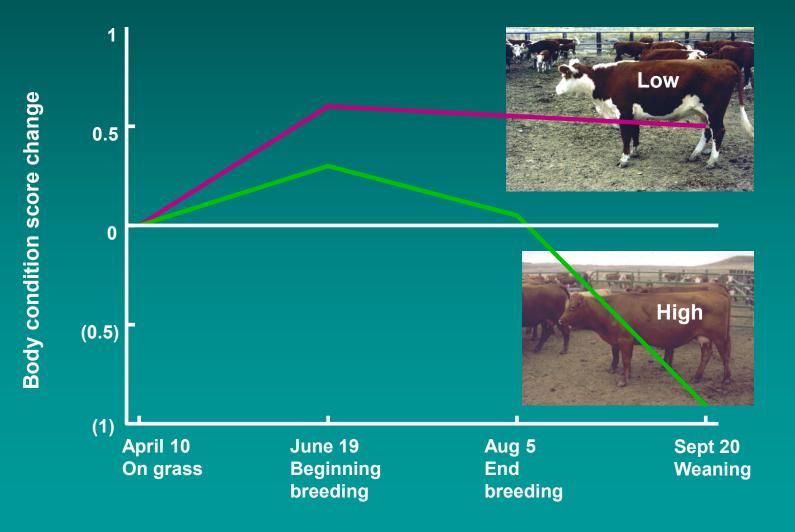


#### Milk Production by Cows With High and Low Production During Summer Grazing

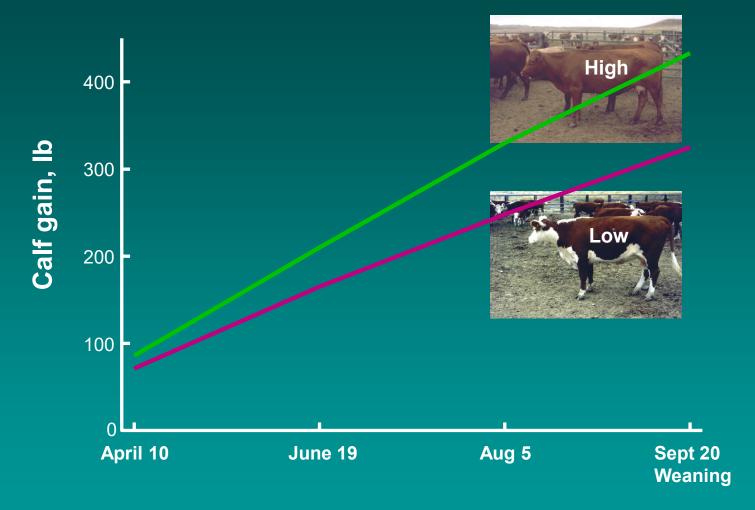


Adams et al. 1993

#### Body Condition Score Change for Cows With High or Low Milk Production During Summer Grazing



#### Weight Gain of Calves From Cows With High or Low Milk Production During Summer Grazing



Nutritive content of grazed forages

### Crude Protein in Cattle Diets on Sandhills Range



Crude Protein, % OM

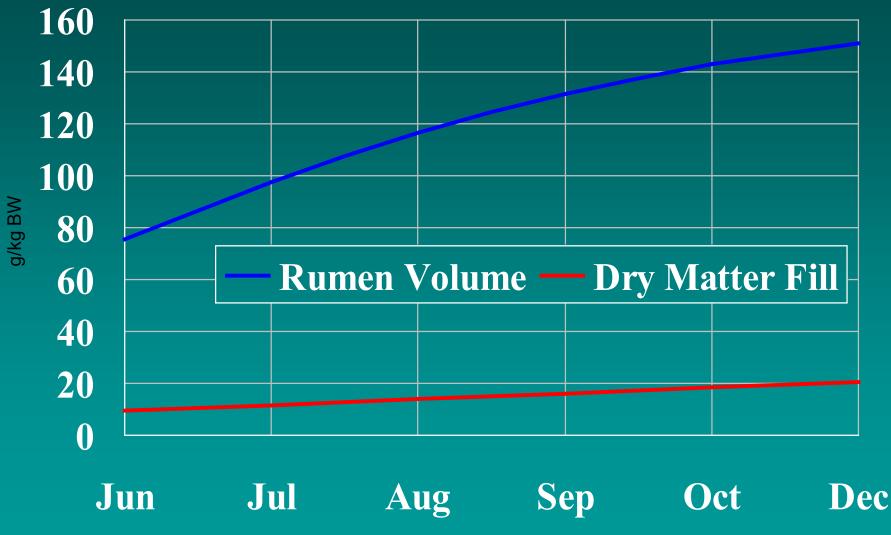
#### FORAGE INTAKE NEEDED TO PROVIDE PROTEIN REQUIRED FOR PREGNANCY AND MILK (1200 POUND COW)

■ 12% ■ 8% ■ 4%



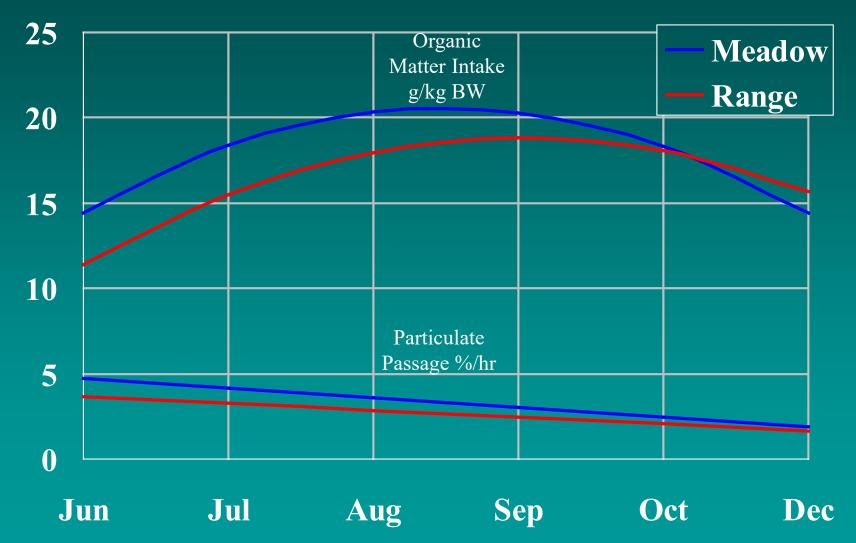
Physiological Status of the Cow

#### Rumen Volume and Dry Matter Fill of steers grazing Sandhills meadow and range





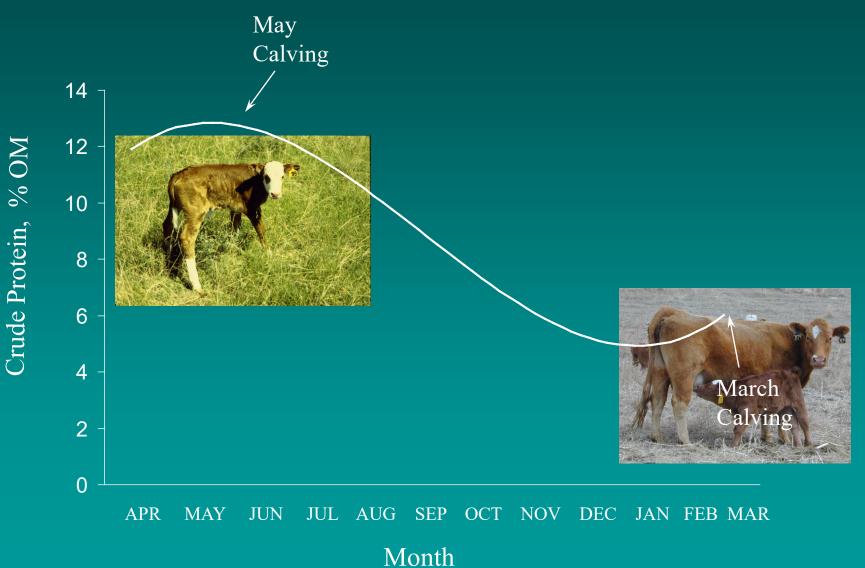
Forage organic matter intake and particulate passage observed using steers grazing Sandhills meadow or range



Nebraska Ranch Practicum

# Calving Date and Milk Production

#### Crude protein in cattle diets on Sandhills range



# **Energy – Protein Balance for March and May Calving Dates**

Item	MP balance, g/day	NEm balance, Mcal/day	Status
March 1			
March 10 Calving	-178	-4.3	273 days Gestation
May 10 Calving	-60	-1.92	223 days Gestation
May 1			
March 10 Calving	385	3.97	50 days Lactation
May 10 Calving	446	4.51	273 days Gestation
July 1			
March 10 Calving	46	88	110 days Lactation
May 10 Calving	-28	-1.72	50 days Lactation

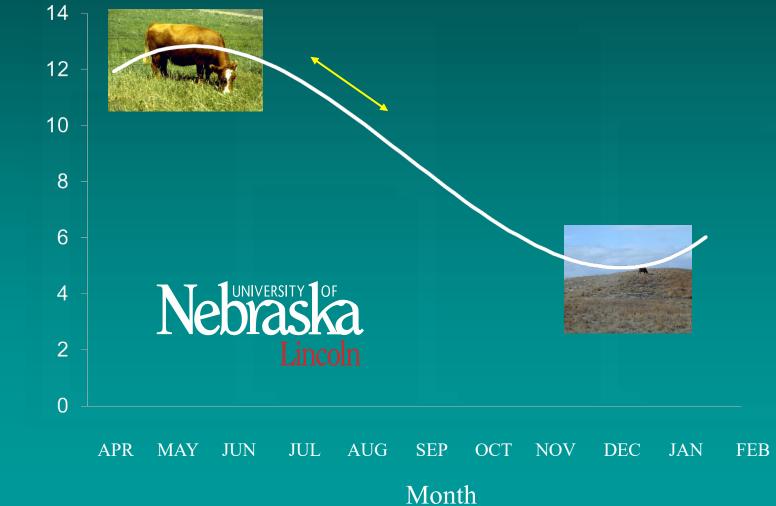
# **Energy – Protein Balance for March and May Calving Dates**

Item	MP balance, g/day	NEm balance, Mcal/day	Status
September 1			
March 10 Calving	-25	-2.52	170 days Lactation
May 10 Calving	-235	-5.61	110 days Lactation
November 1			
March 10 Calving	-125	-4.19	230 days Lactation
May 10 Calving	-243	-5.81	170 days Lactation
Begin Breeding			
June 1; Mar calving	1.3	2.10	80 days Lactation
Aug 1; May calving	-156	-441	80 days Lactation

During a July breeding season cows grazing sandhills range may be deficit in protein and or energy and the deficit will likely be greater during drought. We are seeing an increase in pregnancy rate of 2-yr-old cows fed supplemental protein during the breeding season

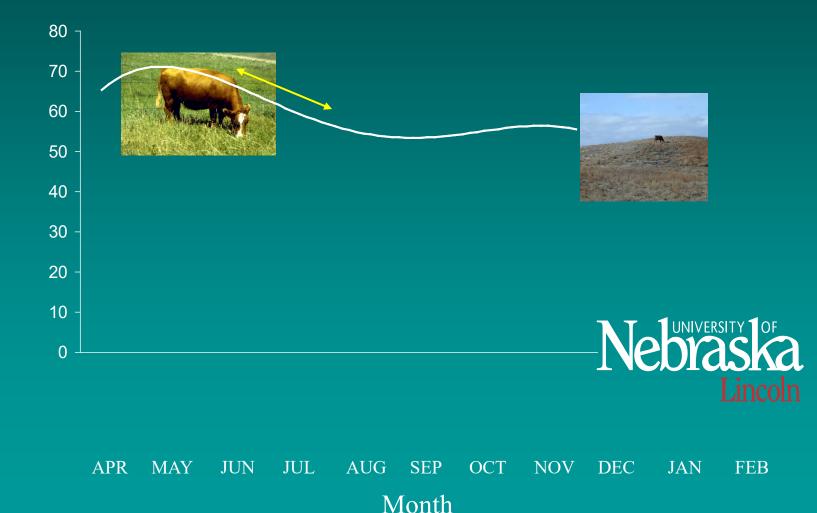


## Crude Protein in Cattle Diets on Sandhills Range



Crude Protein, % OM

#### In vitro Organic Matter Digestibility (IVOMD, % OM) of Cattle Diets on Sandhills Range



IVOMD, %

## Questions

- In calving systems that begin calving in May or later cows may be in a large protein and/or energy deficit during breeding but pregnancy rate may be over 90%. Why?
- What are the greatest reproductive concerns in calving systems that begin calving May or later?

# Date of Weaning

# **Energy – Protein Balance for March and May Calving Dates**

Item	MP balance, g/day	NEm balance, Mcal/day	Status
September 1			
March 10 Calving	-25	-2.52	170 days Lactation
May 10 Calving	-235	-5.61	110 days Lactation
November 1			
March 10 Calving	-125	-4.19	230 days Lactation
May 10 Calving	-243	-5.81	170 days Lactation
Begin Breeding			
June 1; Mar calving	1.3	2.10	80 days Lactation
Aug 1; May calving	-156	-441	80 days Lactation

# **Weaning Dates**

8 weaning dates:

 August 18, 1999 to November 24, 1999
 August 16, 2000 to November 22, 2000
 (140 to 240 days after calving)

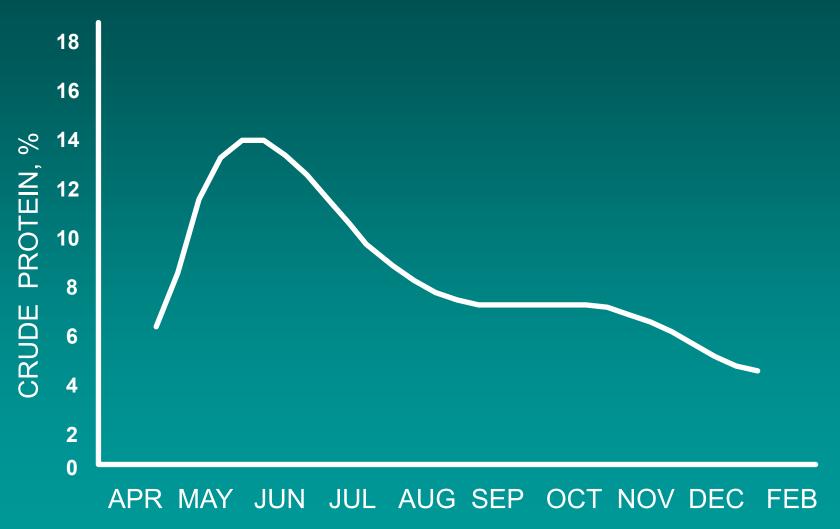
## Effect of Weaning Date on Cow Body Weight



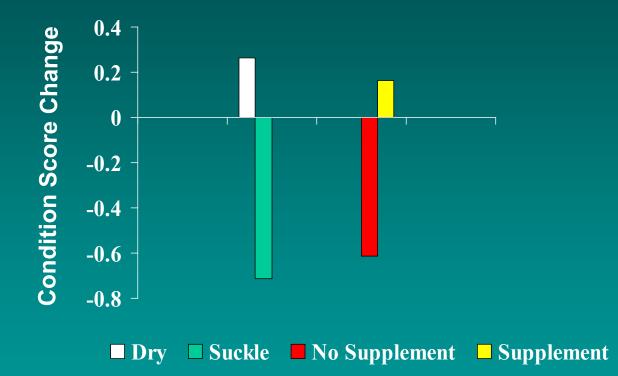
#### Effect of Weaning Date on Change in Cow Body Condition Score



#### Crude protein in cattle diets on Northern Great Plains rangeland



Average weaning and supplement effects on cow body condition score from September to December





September Wean, with Supplement



#### December Wean, with and without Supplement



December Wean, without Supplement

#### Daily gain of calves suckling supplemented and nonsupplemented cows



A small amount of milk production can have large negative effects on cow performance with diets low in protein and/or energy Weaning and Supplement Treatments for March Calving Cows

August weaning

1. No protein supplement during winter grazing

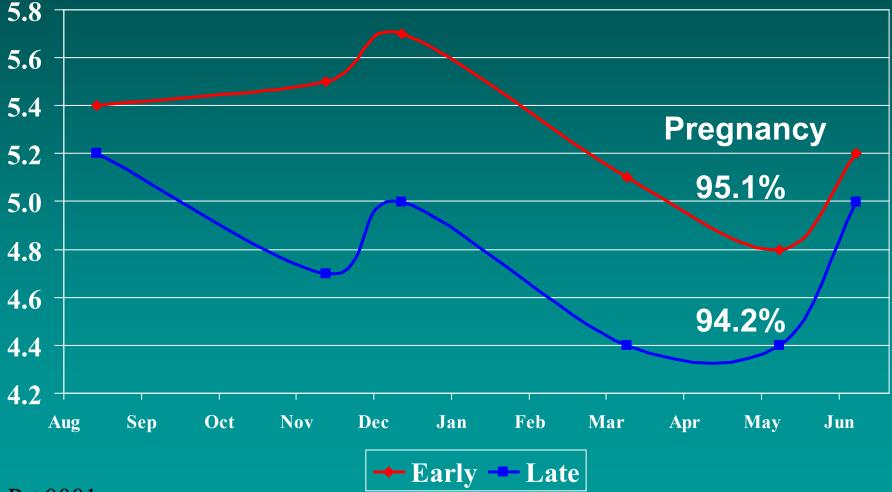
2. Protein supplement during winter grazing

November weaning

No protein supplement during winter grazing
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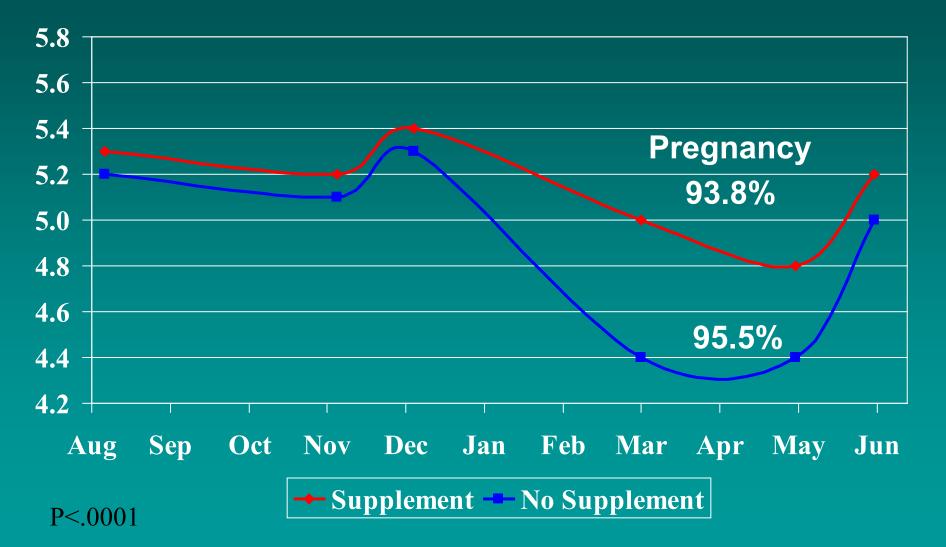
2. Protein supplement during winter grazing

## Effect of Weaning Date on Cow Body Condition Score



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## Effect of Protein Supplementation on Cow Body Condition Score



#### November Wean, with Winter Supplement



#### November Wean, with Winter Supplement



#### November Wean, No Winter Supplement



#### November Wean, No Winter Supplement

