

# Using Bulls The benefits and the pitfalls

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Please circle one answer only e.g.  A

The cost of keeping a bull is

- Not worth bothering about as the cull value will cover all costs
- £5/week
- £30/week
- £50/week

A bull that is blood tested for BVD must be:

- Virus positive on two tests
- Virus positive on one test
- Antibody negative
- Virus negative

Vaccination against BVD:

- Is not necessary for bulls
- Should be completed when the bull is 3 months old
- Should start at least 6 weeks before they are due to be used
- Requires six monthly boosters

A bull breeding soundness examination (BBSE) will:

- Identify most bulls with sub-fertility
- Identify all bulls with sub-fertility
- Only identify completely infertile bulls
- Just confirm a bull has no clinical disease

The scrotal circumference of 12-month old bull should be:

- <32 cm
- >32 cm
- >40 cm
- >50 cm

Which of these statements is true?

- Semen should always be sampled as part of a BBSE
- Semen sampling is only useful if there is a problem after bull purchase
- Semen sampling is useful if the rest of the BBSE tests show no problems
- Semen sampling is simple and easy

For a bull that is <2 years old the maximum number of cows should be:

- 20
- 30
- 40
- 50

If you have multiple bulls on a farm:

- Ensure that you have one bull that is larger than the rest
- Separate them when you are not using them
- Make sure they all come from different sources
- Ensure they are all used to humans and not aggressive

If you have bulls at pasture:

- They need to come in to the collecting yard with the cows
- They can be kept in sight of yearling heifers (such as in the next field)
- You need to check that gates and fences are up to bull pressure
- Keeping them with the cows during milking is a safe way of knowing which cows are on heat

If you keep cows in cubicles which need to be mated by the bull:

- Keeping the bull in cubicles is the best option
- Keep the bull near the cows and bring the cows to the bull for mating
- Keep the bull in a bullpen away from the cows and bring cows to the bull when you see them on heat
- Keep the bull in a small loose yard with a 50 cm high gate separating him from the cows