



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management

## TO OPTIMIZE ENERGY BALANCE AND FERTILITY IN DAIRY COWS

Phil Cardoso, DVM, MS, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Animal Sciences



ILLINOIS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

The Fatty Acid Forum sponsored by





# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

We should feed and manage dry and transition cows to:

- Minimize health disorders,
- Maximize production **and reproduction**

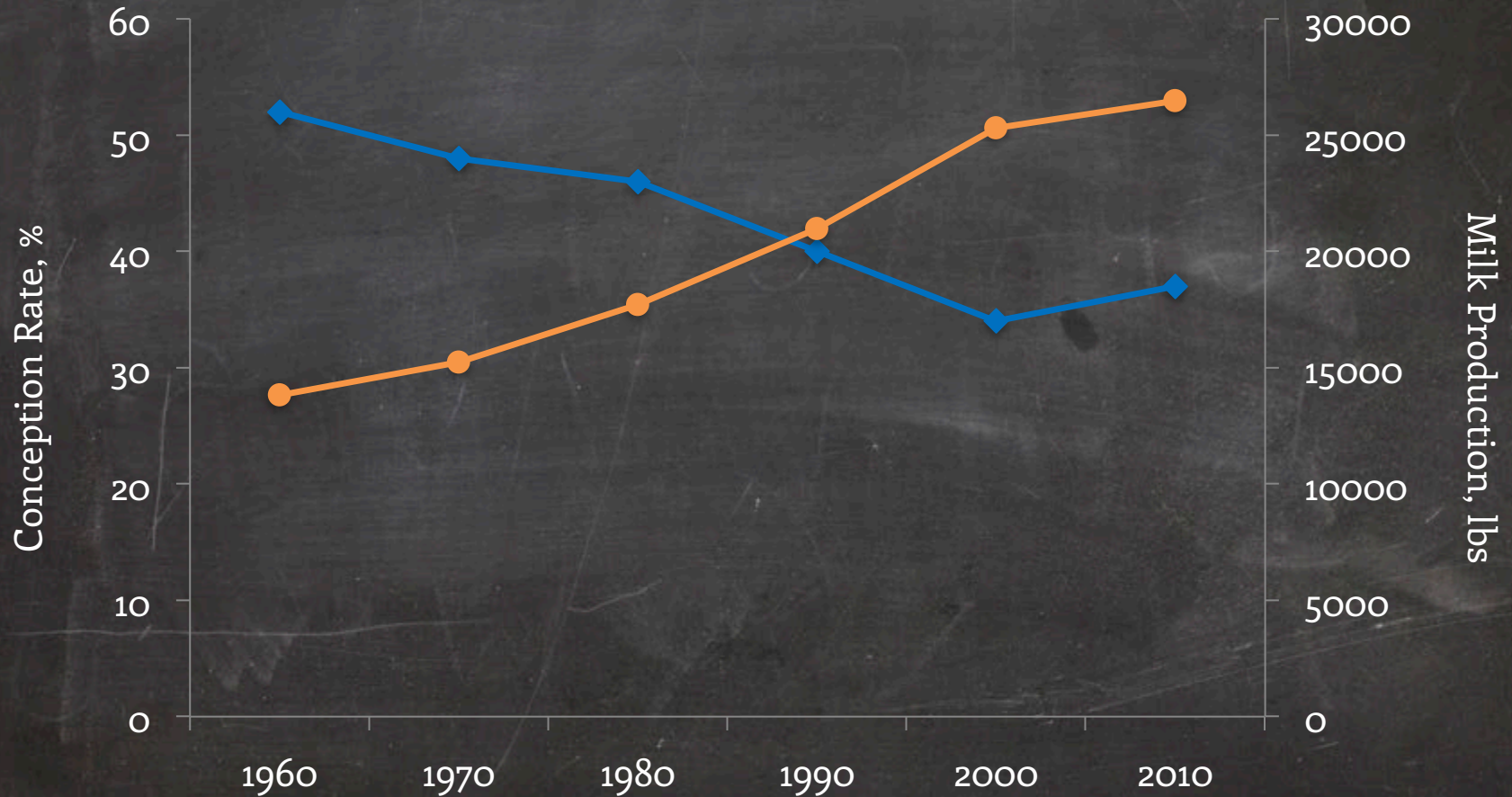


\$\$\$





# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Evolution of Milk Production and Reproduction in the Last 50 years





## Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Fertility and high milk production: Are they biologically compatible?

Quartile	Milk yield (kg/d)	Estrual cyclic. by d 65, %	Pregnant at d 30 post-AI, %	Pregnant at d 58 post-AI, %	Pregnancy loss d 30 to 58, %
1	32.1	72.7	37.2	30.3	12.7
2	39.1	77.6	38.9	29.8	11.6
3	43.6	77.6	39.3	33.7	12.8
4	50.0	75.3	37.6	35.3	15.6
<i>P</i>		0.002	0.74	0.008	0.57

6,396 cows on 4 TMR-fed farms in California





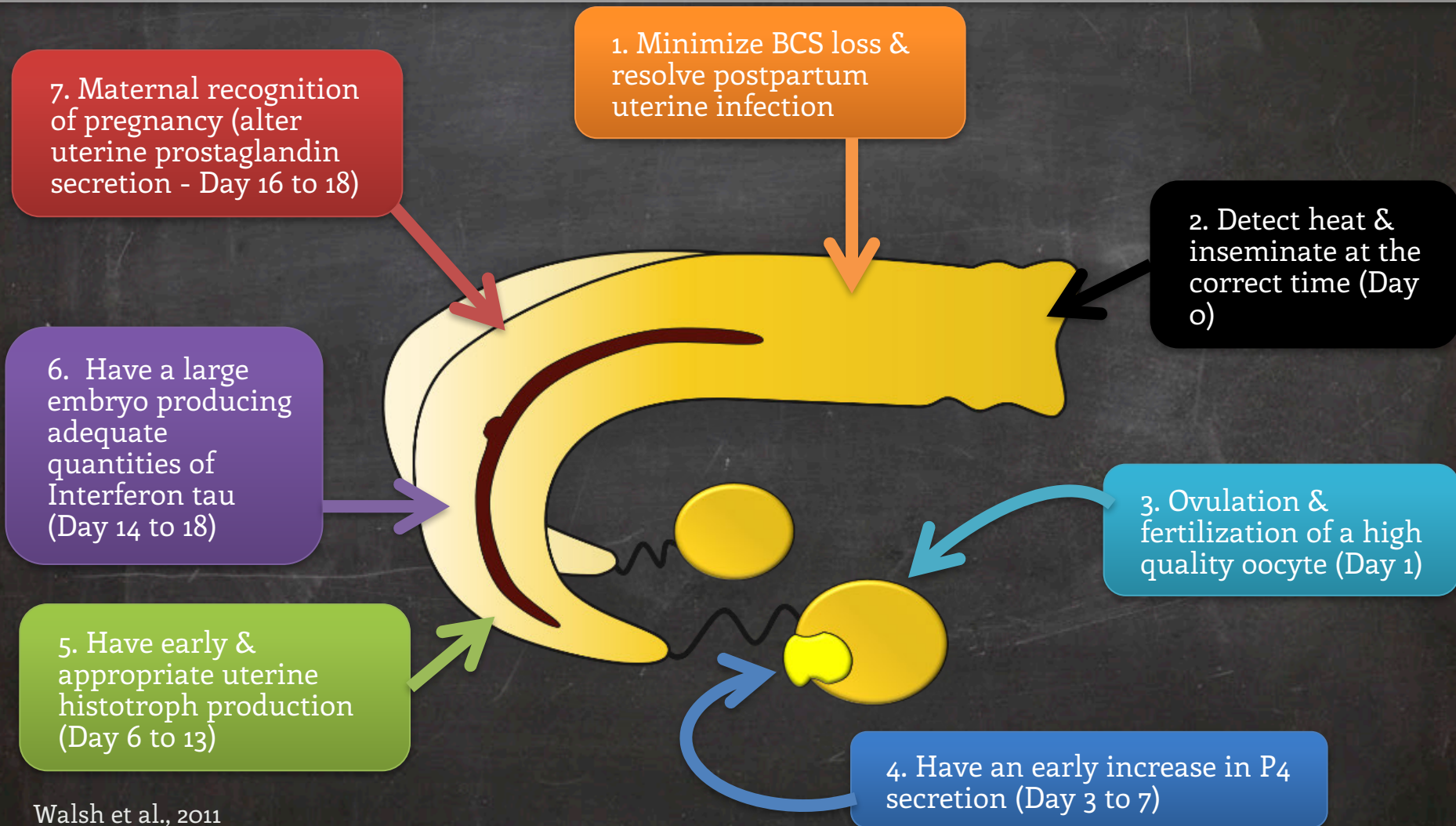
## Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Reproduction: Early Embryonic Loss

Reference	Cows	Days 1 <sup>st</sup> Check	Days last Check	Days	Loss %	Loss/ Day %
Chebel et al., 2002a	195	28	42	14	17.9	1.28
Moreira et al., 2000a	139	27	45	18	20.7	1.15
Chebel et al., 2002b	1,503	31	45	14	13.2	0.94
Stevenson et al., 2000	203	28	45	17	15.8	0.93
Santos et al., 2002b	360	31	45	14	11.1	0.79
Santos et al., 2002a	220	27	41	14	10	0.71
Cerri et al., 2002	176	31	45	14	9.7	0.70
Juchem et al., 2002	167	28	39	11	11.4	1.03

Daily embryonic loss in the first 50 days of pregnancy = 0.9%



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Factors Affecting Pregnancy in Dairy Cows







## Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Dietary Recommendations for Dry Cows

- NEL: Control energy intake at 14 to 16 Mcal daily [diet ~ 1.30 Mcal/kg (0.60 Mcal/lb) DM] for mature cows
- Crude protein: 12 – 14% of DM
- Metabolizable protein (MP): > 1,200 g/d
- Starch content: 12 to 16% of DM
- NDF from forage: 40 to 50% of total DM or 4.5 to 5 kg per head daily (~0.7 – 0.8% of BW). Target the high end of the range if more higher-energy fiber sources (like grass hay or low-quality alfalfa) are used, and the low end of the range if straw is used (2-5kg).
- Total ration DM content: <55% (add water if necessary)
- Minerals and vitamins: follow guidelines (For close-ups, target values are 0.40% magnesium (minimum), 0.35 – 0.40% sulfur, potassium as low as possible, a DCAD of near zero or negative, 0.27% phosphorus, and at least 1,500 IU of vitamin E)



## Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Dietary Recommendations for Dry Cows

- NEL: Control energy intake at 14 to 16 Mcal daily [diet ~ 1.30 Mcal/kg (0.60 Mcal/lb) DM] for mature cows
- Crude protein: 12 – 14% of DM
- Metabolizable protein (MP): > 1,200 g/d
- Starch content: 12 to 16% of DM
- NDF from forage: 40 to 50% of total DM or 4.5 to 5 kg per head daily (~0.7 – 0.8% of BW). Target the high end of the range if more higher-energy fiber sources (like grass hay or low-quality alfalfa) are used, and the low end of the range if straw is used (2-5kg).
- Total ration DM content: <55% (add water if necessary)
- Minerals and vitamins: follow guidelines (For close-ups, target values are 0.40% magnesium (minimum), 0.35 – 0.40% sulfur, potassium as low as possible, a DCAD of near zero or negative, 0.27% phosphorus, and at least 1,500 IU of vitamin E)



Methionine  
Lysine





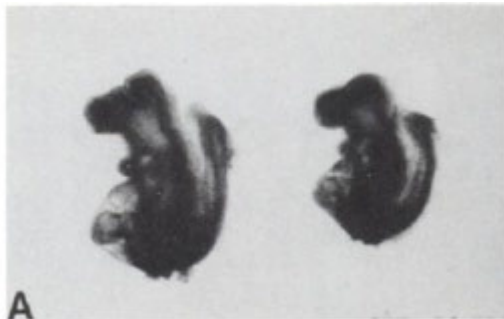
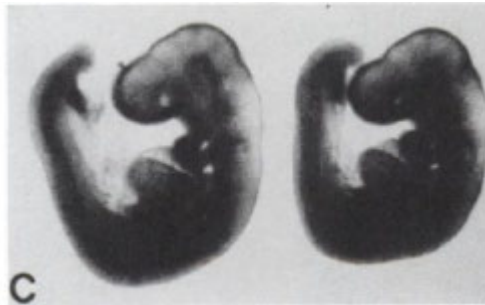
# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Can Methionine Prevent Embryonic Losses?

# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Can Methionine Prevent Embryonic Losses?

## Whole Rat Embryos Require Methionine for Neural Tube Closure when Cultured on Cow Serum<sup>1-4</sup>

CAROLINE N. D. COELHO,\*†‡<sup>5</sup> JAMES A. WEBER,\*‡<sup>6</sup> NORMAN W. KLEIN,\*†‡<sup>7</sup>  
WILLARD G. DANIELS,§ AND THOMAS A HOAGLAND†

Center for Environmental Health,\* Department of Animal Science,† Department of Molecular and Cell Biology‡ and Department of Pathobiology,§ University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269







# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

Cow serum with:	Embryo Protein	% Abnormal
None	$73.7 \pm 8.6^a$	100%



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

Cow serum with:	Embryo Protein	% Abnormal
None	$73.7 \pm 8.6^a$	100%
Amino acids + vitamins	$130.0 \pm 7.7^b$	0%





# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

Cow serum with:	Embryo Protein	% Abnormal
None	$73.7 \pm 8.6^a$	100%
Amino acids + vitamins	$130.0 \pm 7.7^b$	0%
Amino acids	$117.1 \pm 8.5^b$	0%



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

Cow serum with:	Embryo Protein	% Abnormal
None	$73.7 \pm 8.6^a$	100%
Amino acids + vitamins	$130.0 \pm 7.7^b$	0%
Amino acids	$117.1 \pm 8.5^b$	0%
Vitamins	$56.6 \pm 5.76^a$	100%





# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

Cow serum with:	Embryo Protein	% Abnormal
None	$73.7 \pm 8.6^a$	100%
Amino acids + vitamins	$130.0 \pm 7.7^b$	0%
Amino acids	$117.1 \pm 8.5^b$	0%
Vitamins	$56.6 \pm 5.76^a$	100%
Amino acids w/o methionine	$82.9 \pm 8.7^a$	100%



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

Cow serum with:	Embryo Protein	% Abnormal
None	$73.7 \pm 8.6^a$	100%
Amino acids + vitamins	$130.0 \pm 7.7^b$	0%
Amino acids	$117.1 \pm 8.5^b$	0%
Vitamins	$56.6 \pm 5.76^a$	100%
Amino acids w/o methionine	$82.9 \pm 8.7^a$	100%
Methionine	$133.7 \pm 5.5^b$	0%





# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

Cow serum with:	Embryo Protein	% Abnormal
None	$73.7 \pm 8.6^a$	100%
Amino acids + vitamins	$130.0 \pm 7.7^b$	0%
Amino acids	$117.1 \pm 8.5^b$	0%
Vitamins	$56.6 \pm 5.76^a$	100%
Amino acids w/o methionine	$82.9 \pm 8.7^a$	100%
Methionine	$133.7 \pm 5.5^b$	0%



## Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Effects of Rumen-Protected Methionine/Choline Supplementation on the 1st Dominant Follicle

- 72 Holstein cows entering 2nd or greater lactation
- Experimental design was a randomized block design
- Housed in tie stalls with sand bedding
- Milked 3x per day
- Fed same basal TMR to meet but not exceed 100% of the energy requirements as outlined by NRC, 2001
  - From -34 d to calving: prepartum diet
  - From 0 to 30 DIM: fresh cow diet
  - From 31 to 72 DIM: high cow diet
- Treatments were given as top-dress





# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Effects of Rumen-Protected Methionine or Choline Supplementation on the First Dominant Follicle

1. Rumen-protected methionine (**MET**; n = 20, received 0.08% of the DM of the diet/d as methionine, Smartamine M<sup>®</sup>, Adisseo, Alpharetta, GA, USA, to a Lys:Met = 2.9:1)
2. Rumen-protected choline (**CHO**; n = 17, received 60 g/d choline, Reassure, Balchem Corporation, New Hampton, NY)
3. Both rumen protected methionine and choline (**MIX**; n = 19, received 0.08% of the DM of the diet/d as methionine to a Lys:Met = 2.9:1 and 60 g/d choline)
4. No supplementation to serve as control (**CON**; n = 16, fed TMR with a Lys:Met = 3.5:1)



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Diets

	Pre-Fresh -21 d to calving	Fresh Calving to 30 DIM	High 31 to 73 DIM
Ingredients	% DM		
Alfalfa silage	8.35	5.07	6.12
Alfalfa hay	4.29	2.98	6.94
Corn silage	36.40	33.41	35.09
Wheat straw	15.63	2.98	---
Cottonseed	---	3.58	3.26
Wet brewers grain	4.29	9.09	8.16
Soy hulls	4.29	4.18	4.74
Concentrate mix	26.75	38.71	35.69





## Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Diets; Chemical Composition

	Pre-Fresh -21 d to calving	Fresh Calving to 30 DIM	High 31 to 73 DIM
Item	% DM		
DM, %	47.1	47.9	47.1
CP, % of DM	18.0	17.6	18.3
ADF, % of DM	22.7	24.4	23.2
NDF, % of DM	35.6	37.3	36.3
Lignin, % of DM	4.53	4.00	3.80
Starch, % of DM	22.3	21.4	23.6
Crude fat, % of DM	5.23	4.70	4.57



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Milk Yield and Components

	MET			P-value			
Parameter	With	Without	SEM	MET	Parity	Time	M × T
Milk composition (%)							
Fat	3.72	3.74	0.11	0.92	-	<0.01	0.58
Protein	3.32 <sup>a</sup>	3.14 <sup>b</sup>	0.05	<0.01	-	<0.01	0.67
SCC	1.86	1.81	0.07	0.55	-	<0.01	0.85
Lactose	4.70	4.69	0.03	0.79	<0.01	<0.01	0.90
Total solids	12.65	12.39	0.12	0.13	-	<0.01	0.24
Other solids	5.62	5.60	0.03	0.58	<0.01	<0.01	0.82
MUN	12.80	12.94	0.30	0.75	-	0.50	0.92
Milk production							
Milk yield	44.32 <sup>a</sup>	40.32 <sup>b</sup>	1.29	0.03	-	<0.01	0.60
Milk fat yield	1.67 <sup>a</sup>	1.53 <sup>b</sup>	0.05	0.04	-	<0.01	0.47
Milk protein yield	1.51 <sup>a</sup>	1.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.05	<0.01	-	<0.01	0.73
ECM	44.81 <sup>a</sup>	40.25 <sup>b</sup>	1.05	<0.01	-	<0.01	0.16





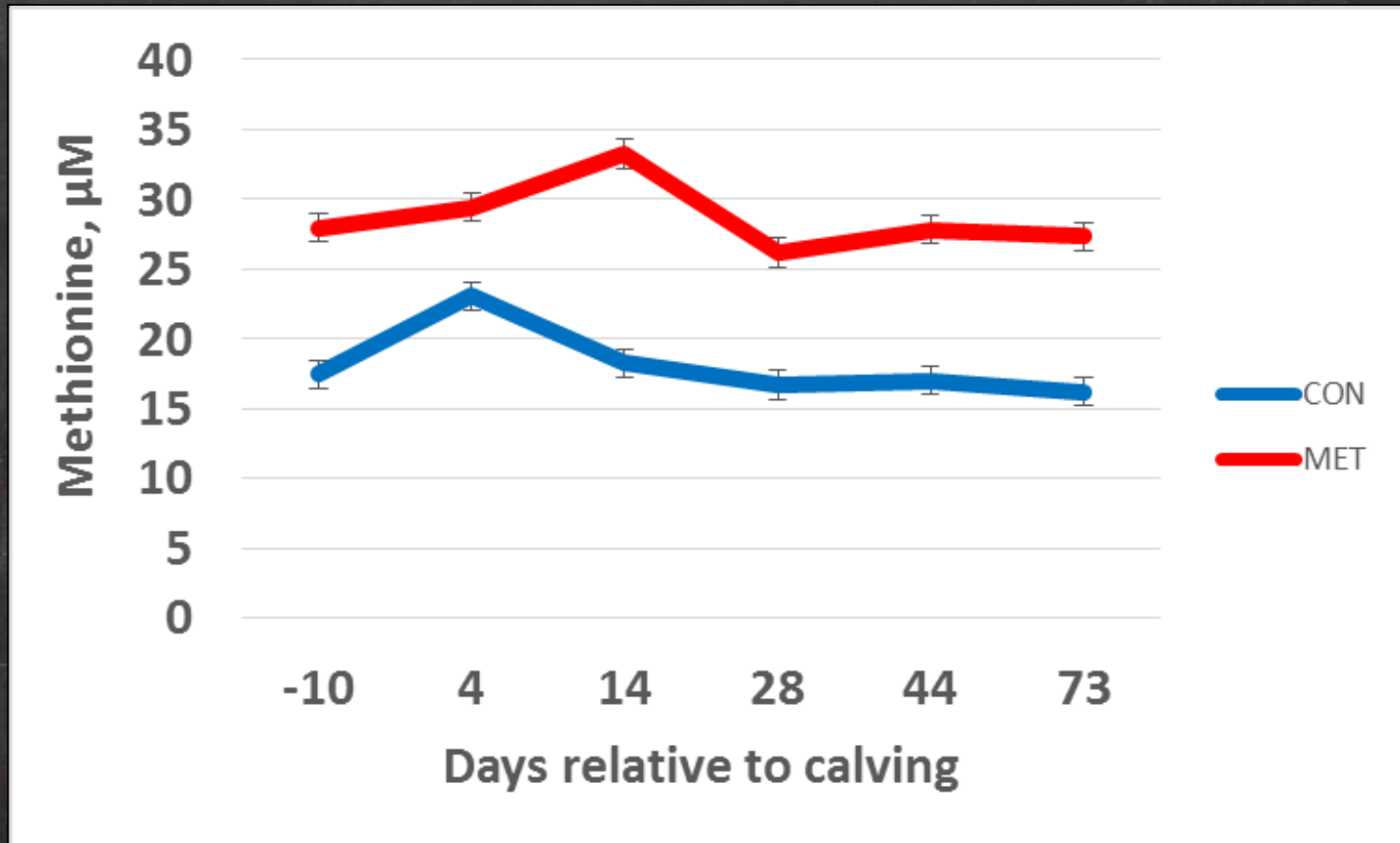
# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Milk Yield and Components

	MET			P-value			
Parameter	With	Without	SEM	MET	Parity	Time	M × T
Milk composition (%)							
Fat	3.72	3.74	0.11	0.92	-	<0.01	0.58
Protein	3.32 <sup>a</sup>	3.14 <sup>b</sup>	0.05	<0.01	-	<0.01	0.67
SCC	1.86	1.81	0.07	0.55	-	<0.01	0.85
Lactose	4.70	4.69	0.03	0.79	<0.01	<0.01	0.90
Total solids	12.65	12.39	0.12	0.13	-	<0.01	0.24
Other solids	5.62	5.60	0.03	0.58	<0.01	<0.01	0.82
MUN	12.80	12.94	0.30	0.75	-	0.50	0.92
Milk production							
Milk yield	44.32 <sup>a</sup>	40.32 <sup>b</sup>	1.29	0.03	-	<0.01	0.60
Milk fat yield	1.67 <sup>a</sup>	1.53 <sup>b</sup>	0.05	0.04	-	<0.01	0.47
Milk protein yield	1.51 <sup>a</sup>	1.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.05	<0.01	-	<0.01	0.73
ECM	44.81 <sup>a</sup>	40.25 <sup>b</sup>	1.05	<0.01	-	<0.01	0.16



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management

## Serum Methionine Concentration from Cows Fed rumen-protected methionine (MET) or not (CON)



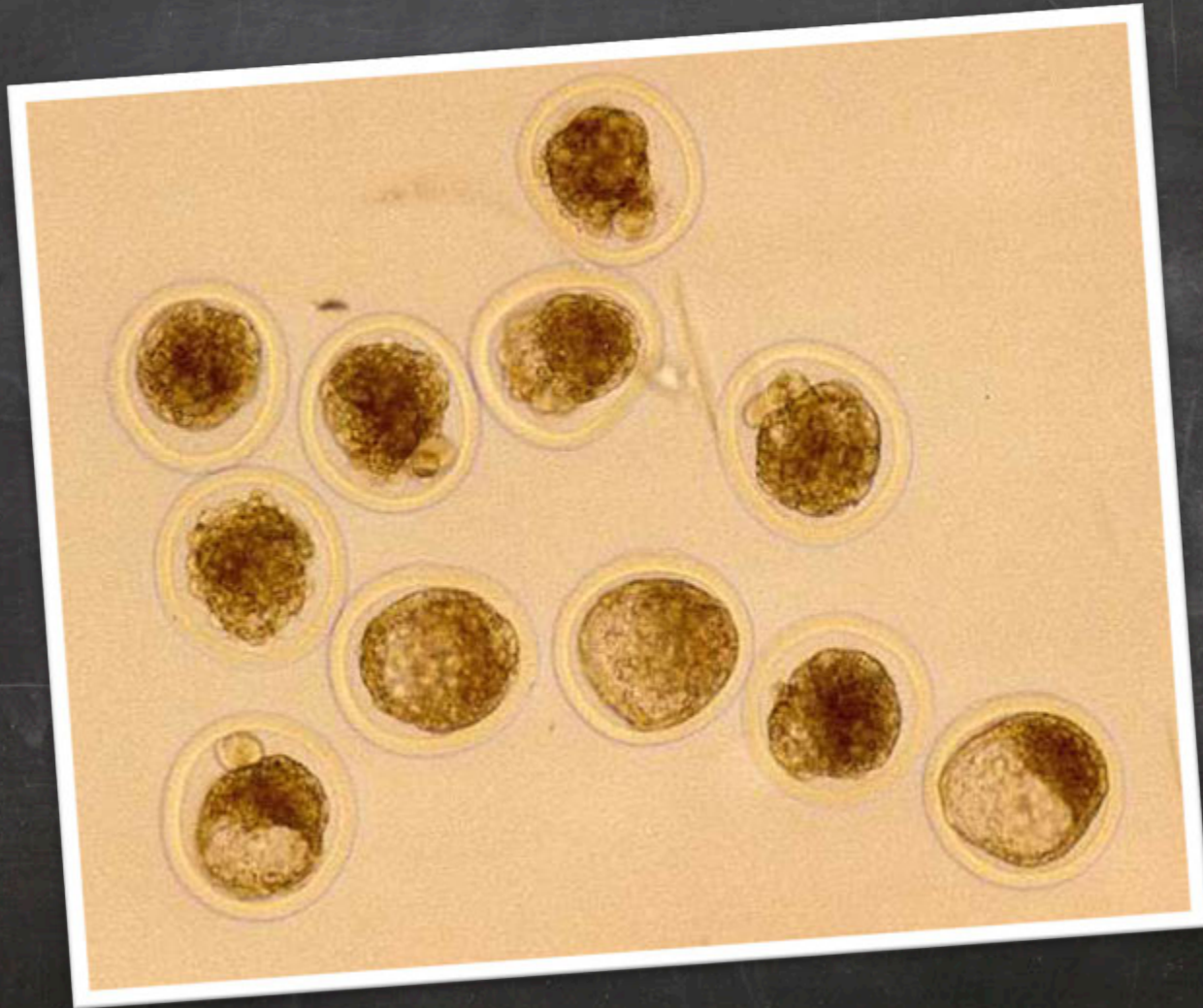
Stella et al., unpublished

Control: n = 7; Methionine: n = 10





# Pre-and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows





# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

Theriogenology 85 (2016) 1669–1679



ELSEVIER

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Theriogenology

journal homepage: [www.theriojournal.com](http://www.theriojournal.com)



## Effects of rumen-protected methionine and choline supplementation on the preimplantation embryo in Holstein cows



D.A.V. Acosta<sup>a,b</sup>, A.C. Denicol<sup>c,d</sup>, P. Tribulo<sup>d</sup>, M.I. Rivelli<sup>a</sup>, C. Skenandore<sup>a</sup>, Z. Zhou<sup>a</sup>, D. Luchini<sup>e</sup>, M.N. Corrêa<sup>b</sup>, P.J. Hansen<sup>d</sup>, F.C. Cardoso<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Animal Sciences, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, USA

<sup>b</sup> Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Clinics, Universidade Federal de Pelotas, Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

<sup>c</sup> Department of Biology, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

<sup>d</sup> Department of Animal Science, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA

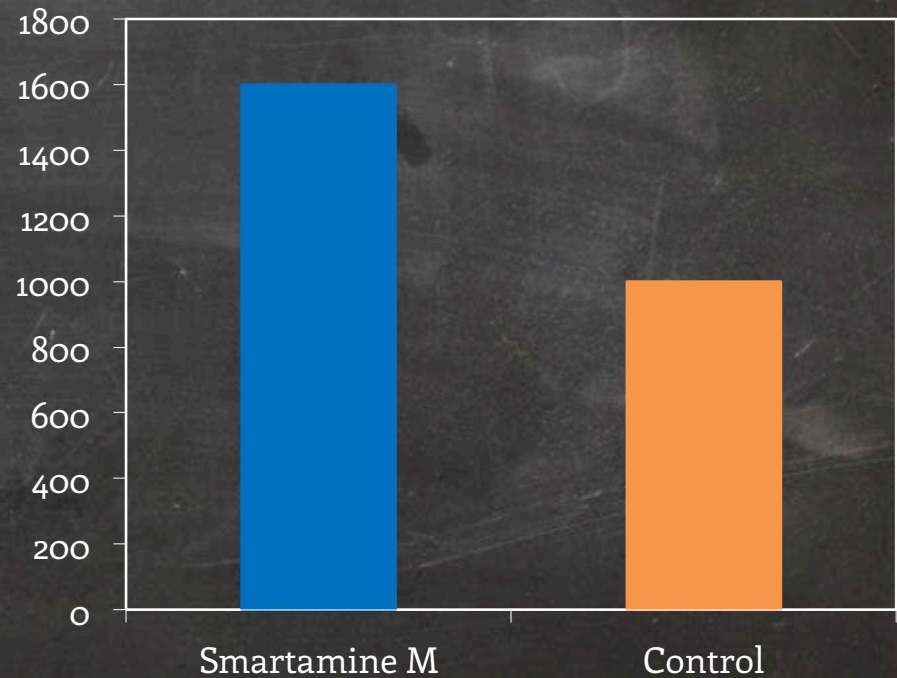
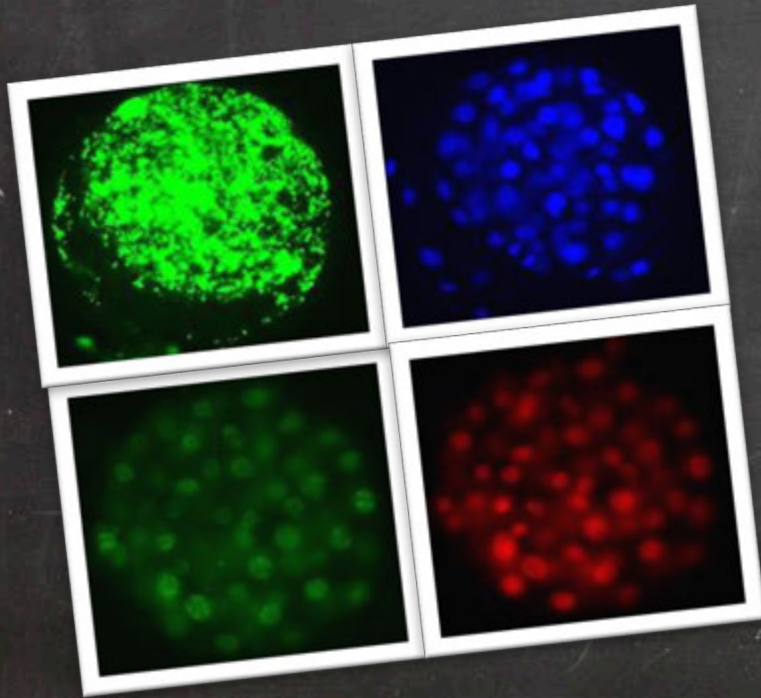
<sup>e</sup> Adisseo NACA, Alpharetta, Georgia, USA





# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Effect of Methionine Supplementation from -21 DIM to 72 DIM on Lipid Accumulation of Preimplantation Embryos

Embryos (n= 37) harvested 7 d after timed AI at 63 DIM from cows fed a control diet or the control diet enriched with rumen-protected methionine.



Fluorescence intensity of Nike Red staining



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online



## Effect of Maternal Methionine Supplementation on the Transcriptome of Bovine Preimplantation Embryos

Francisco Peñagaricano<sup>1</sup>, Alex H. Souza<sup>2</sup>, Paulo D. Carvalho<sup>2</sup>, Ashley M. Driver<sup>1</sup>, Rocio Gamba<sup>1</sup>, Jenna Kropp<sup>1</sup>, Katherine S. Hackbart<sup>2</sup>, Daniel Luchini<sup>3</sup>, Randy D. Shaver<sup>2</sup>, Milo C. Wiltbank<sup>2\*</sup>, Hasan Khatib<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Animal Sciences, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, United States of America, <sup>2</sup> Department of Dairy Science, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, United States of America, <sup>3</sup> Adisseo USA Inc., Alpharetta, Georgia, United States of America





# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

OPEN ACCESS Freely available

## Effect of Maternal Transcription

Francisco Peñagaricano,  
Jenna Kropp<sup>1</sup>, Katherine  
Hasan Khatib<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Animal Sciences, University of Wisconsin, United States of America,

Penagaricano et al., 2013

**Table 3.** Top 30 most significant genes that showed differential expression between control and methionine-rich treatment.

Gene	Name	log2 FC	FDR
LAPTM5	Lysosomal protein transmembrane 5	-14.9	$4.7 \times 10^{-9}$
NKG7	Natural killer cell group 7 sequence	-13.6	$4.4 \times 10^{-8}$
VIM	Vimentin	-13.8	$1.8 \times 10^{-7}$
TYROBP	TYRO protein tyrosine kinase binding protein	-13.2	$3.2 \times 10^{-6}$
IFI6	Interferon, alpha-inducible protein 6	-12.6	$1.5 \times 10^{-5}$
CUFF.2147.1	Novel transcript unit	-8.2	$1.5 \times 10^{-5}$
LOC505451	Olfactory receptor, family 1, subfamily J, member 2-like	-13.0	$1.5 \times 10^{-5}$
SLAMF7	Signaling lymphocyte-activating molecule family 7 family member 7	-10.4	$3.5 \times 10^{-5}$
LOC788199	Olfactory receptor 6C74-like	-10.4	$7.6 \times 10^{-5}$
LCP1	Lymphocyte cytosolic protein 1 (L-plastin)	-9.9	$1.1 \times 10^{-4}$
LOC100849660	Uncharacterized	11.9	$2.2 \times 10^{-4}$
BLA-DQB	MHC class II antigen	-11.1	$2.2 \times 10^{-4}$
SHC2	SHC (Src homology 2 domain containing) transforming protein 2	-11.5	$3.4 \times 10^{-4}$
NTSC3	5'-nucleotidase, cytosolic III	-11.5	$3.5 \times 10^{-4}$
LOC510193	Apolipoprotein L, 3-like	7.8	$4.3 \times 10^{-4}$
LOC100848815	SLA class II histocompatibility antigen, DQ haplotype D alpha chain-like	-11.4	$4.3 \times 10^{-4}$
CUFF.606.1	Novel transcript unit	-5.6	$4.3 \times 10^{-4}$
LOC100850656	Uncharacterized	-11.2	$4.8 \times 10^{-4}$
SLC11A1	Solute carrier family 11 (proton-coupled divalent metal ion transporters), member 1	-10.7	$6.9 \times 10^{-4}$
LOC100852347	Beta-defensin 10-like	-11.2	$7.3 \times 10^{-4}$
LOC100297676	C-type lectin domain family 2 member G-like	-6.8	$9.2 \times 10^{-4}$
BCL2A1	BCL2-related protein A1	-7.1	$1.2 \times 10^{-3}$
INSR	Insulin receptor	-5.1	$1.3 \times 10^{-3}$
NOVA1	Neuro-oncological ventral antigen 1	-10.6	$1.5 \times 10^{-3}$
TBX15	T-box 15	-11.2	$2.2 \times 10^{-3}$
TMEM200C	Transmembrane protein 200C	-6.6	$2.2 \times 10^{-3}$
GNPMB	Glycoprotein (transmembrane) nmb	-7.5	$2.3 \times 10^{-3}$
ARHGAP9	Rho GTPase activating protein 9	-5.7	$2.7 \times 10^{-3}$
EIF4E1B	Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4E family member 1B	-11.3	$3.1 \times 10^{-3}$
LOC100295170	Protein BEX2-like	-9.3	$3.5 \times 10^{-3}$

A negative log2 Fold Change (FC) value means that the gene showed higher expression in control treatment while a positive value means that the gene showed higher expression in methionine-rich treatment.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0072302.t003

ONE

e

adison,



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility in Dairy Cows

OPEN ACCESS Freely available

## Effect of Maternal Transcriptome

Francisco Peñagaricano  
Jenna Kropp<sup>1</sup>, Katherine  
Hasan Khatib<sup>1\*</sup>

**Table 3.** Top 30 most significant genes that showed differential expression between control and methionine-rich treatment.

Gene	Name	log2 FC	FDR
LAPTM5	Lysosomal protein transmembrane 5	-14.9	$4.7 \times 10^{-9}$
NKG7	Natural killer cell group 7 sequence	-13.6	$4.4 \times 10^{-8}$
VIM	Vimentin	-13.8	$1.8 \times 10^{-7}$
TYROBP	TYRO protein tyrosine kinase binding protein	-13.2	$3.2 \times 10^{-6}$
IFI6	Interferon, alpha-inducible protein 6	-12.6	$1.5 \times 10^{-5}$
CUFF.2147.1	Novel transcript unit	-8.2	$1.5 \times 10^{-5}$
LOC505451	Olfactory receptor, family 1, subfamily J, member 2-like	-13.0	$1.5 \times 10^{-5}$
SLAMF7	Signaling lymphocyte-activating molecule family 7 family member 7	-10.4	$3.5 \times 10^{-5}$
LOC788199	Olfactory receptor 6C74-like	-10.4	$7.6 \times 10^{-5}$
LCP1	Lymphocyte cytosolic protein 1 (L-plastin)	-9.9	$1.1 \times 10^{-4}$
LOC100849660	Uncharacterized	11.9	$2.2 \times 10^{-4}$
BLA-DQB	MHC class II antigen	-11.1	$2.2 \times 10^{-4}$

ONE

e

LOC100849660	Uncharacterized	11.9	$2.2 \times 10^{-4}$
LOC510193	Apolipoprotein L, 3-like	7.8	$4.3 \times 10^{-4}$

CUFF.606.1	Novel transcript unit	-5.6	$4.3 \times 10^{-4}$
LOC100850656	Uncharacterized	-11.2	$4.8 \times 10^{-4}$
SLC11A1	Solute carrier family 11 (proton-coupled divalent metal ion transporters), member 1	-10.7	$6.9 \times 10^{-4}$
LOC100852347	Beta-defensin 10-like	-11.2	$7.3 \times 10^{-4}$
LOC100297676	C-type lectin domain family 2 member G-like	-6.8	$9.2 \times 10^{-4}$
BCL2A1	BCL2-related protein A1	-7.1	$1.2 \times 10^{-3}$
INSR	Insulin receptor	-5.1	$1.3 \times 10^{-3}$
NOVA1	Neuro-oncological ventral antigen 1	-10.6	$1.5 \times 10^{-3}$
TBX15	T-box 15	-11.2	$2.2 \times 10^{-3}$
TMEM200C	Transmembrane protein 200C	-6.6	$2.2 \times 10^{-3}$
GNPMB	Glycoprotein (transmembrane) nmb	-7.5	$2.3 \times 10^{-3}$
ARHGAP9	Rho GTPase activating protein 9	-5.7	$2.7 \times 10^{-3}$
EIF4E1B	Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4E family member 1B	-11.3	$3.1 \times 10^{-3}$
LOC100295170	Protein BEX2-like	-9.3	$3.5 \times 10^{-3}$

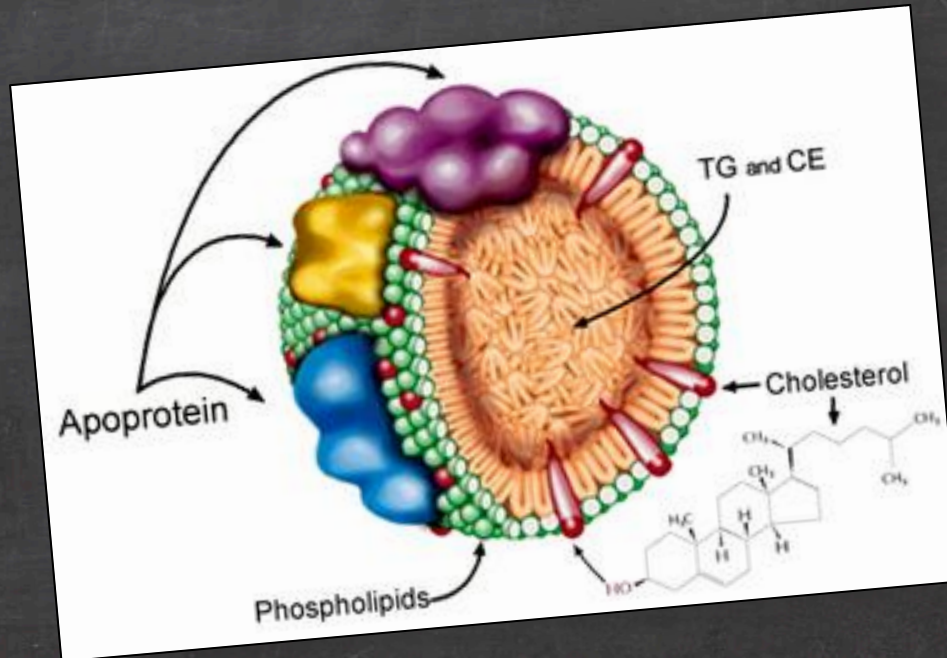
A negative log2 Fold Change (FC) value means that the gene showed higher expression in control treatment while a positive value means that the gene showed higher expression in methionine-rich treatment.

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0072302.t003

Penagaricano et al., 2013



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management



Apolipoproteins are involved in the transport and metabolism of lipids, including cholesterol, and allow the binding of lipids to organelles

Methionine influences lipid metabolism in the preimplantation embryo



# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Effect of Supplementation with Smartamine M on Reproduction of Lactating Dairy Cows

Cows were fed a basal TMR (6.9% Lys of MP and 1.87% Met of MP) from  $30 \pm 2$  to  $128 \pm 2$  DIM and assigned to two treatments:

**RPM:** Basal TMR top dressed daily with Smartamine M

**CON:** Basal diet top dressed daily with DDG





# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Effect of Supplementation with Smartamine M on Reproduction of Lactating Dairy Cows

**RPM** cows were top dressed with 50 g  
(29 g of DDG and 21 g of Smartamine M)

**CON** cows were top dressed with 50 g of DDG



RPM

CON





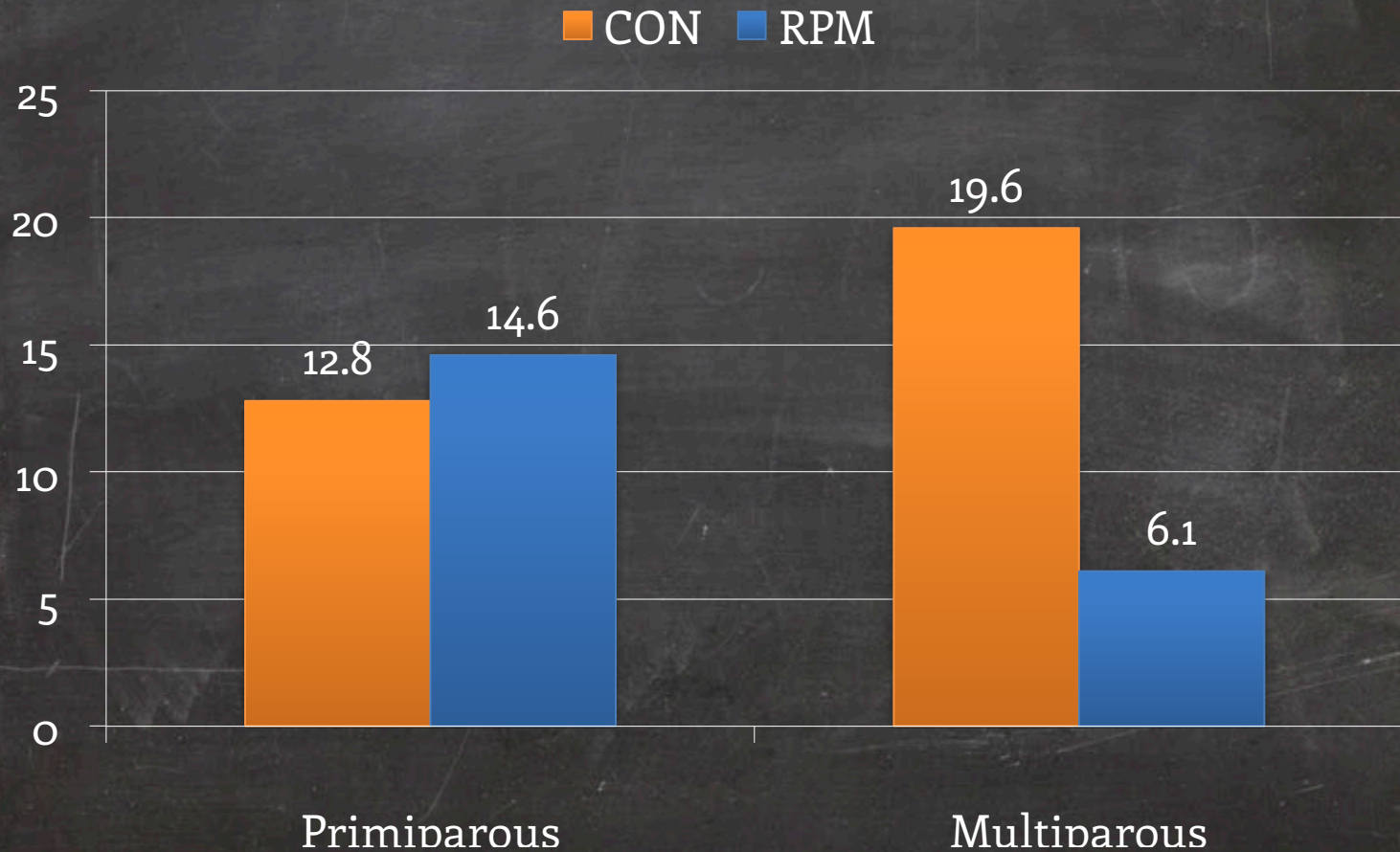
## Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Animals

	CONTROL	RPM	TOTAL
Primiparous	68	70	138
Multiparous	85	86	171
TOTAL	153	156	309





# Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Pregnancy Losses (%) from 28 to 61 days after AI

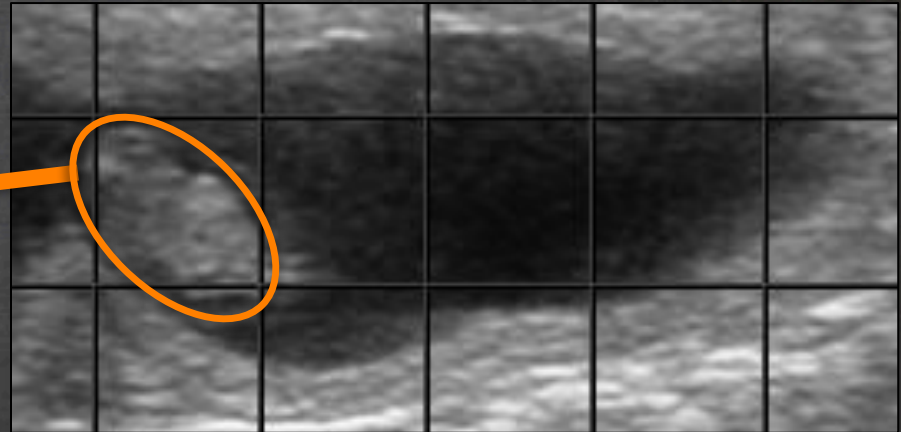
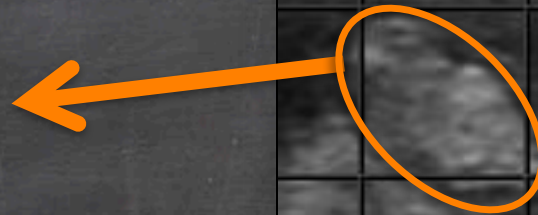


Toledo et al., unpublished



## Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Amniotic Vesicle Size

Ellipsoid  
Volume



Day 33	n	Volume (mm <sup>3</sup> ) $\pm$ SEM
Primiparous		
Control	31	610.6 $\pm$ 38.6
RPM	36	596.0 $\pm$ 36.9
<i>P</i> -value		0.71
Multiparous		
Control	35	472.3 $\pm$ 28.6
RPM	45	592.1 $\pm$ 46.0
<i>P</i> -value		0.05





**Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management  
To Optimize Energy Balance and Fertility  
in Dairy Cows**

**Is Embryo Lipid Composition  
(▲) Associated with  
Lower Embryonic Death in  
Dairy Cows?**



## Pre- and Postpartum Nutritional Management Summary

- Rumen-protected methionine increased methionine concentration in serum and follicular fluid of dairy cows.
- The cow's pregnancy success starts during the transition phase.
- Amino acid balancing (methionine) from pre-fresh to confirmed pregnancy may not only improve milk production and composition, it may also improve embryo quality and reduce early embryo losses.





The Fatty Acid Forum sponsored by **VIRTUS**  
**NUTRITION™**

SMART  
SOLUTIONS  
FOR INNOVATIVE  
DAIRIES