



New Technologies in Cattle Reproduction and the Correlated Acceleration of Genetic Gain



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Genetic Selection – Animal Breeding

- Been going on for thousands of years
- Has accelerated dramatically last 100 yrs
- Massive progress in the last 50 yrs
- Extremely organized systems of genetic improvement in the livestock sectors




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Beef- Genetic Improvement

Year	lbs beef per female #s
1965	375 lbs
1975	398 lbs
1985	508 lbs
1995	523 lbs
2007	618 lbs

- 1975 23.1 billion lbs beef with female counts of 58 million.
- 2007 26.3 billion lbs beef with female counts of 42.5 million

Calculated: Annual Total lbs Beef Produced/Total Numbers of Females

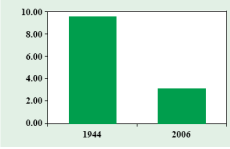
USDA –National Agriculture Statistics Service

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Dairy

Figure 1. Carbon footprint of dairy production, 1944 vs. 2006



lb CO₂ per lb Milk



1940s

- 25 M cows 4500 lbs per lactation

2008

- 9.2 M cows 22,000 lbs per lactation

❖ 2.7 fold reduction in cow numbers

❖ 4.9 fold milk yield per cow increase

1940 cows required 4.5 times more land and produced 2.6 times more Methane.

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Selection Information – Genetic Tool box



- Visual appraisal
- Pedigree information
- Pedigree verification
- Performance data
- Genetic Evaluation and accuracy
- Economic indexes
- Genetic tests for simple recessives
- Targeted panels
- High density panels
- Genomic enhanced EPDs
- Imputation
- Whole genome sequence



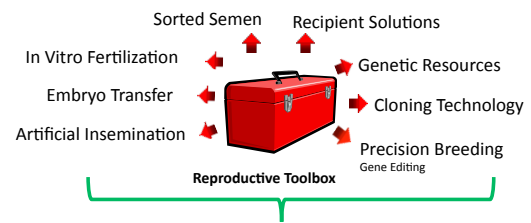
ALL TOOLS ARE TO DO



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The ART Toolbox – Compliments Genomic/Genetics



Animal Husbandry

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TRANS ova genetics

Why use ART?

Assisted reproduction tools coupled with genomic enhanced selection will accelerate:

genetic gain

AI started in 1950's
ET started in 1970's
IVF started in 1990's
GP/Cloning started in late 1990's
SS started in 2000's



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Genetic Improvement – Genetic Gain and Genetic Specifications

Genetic Gain = $\text{accuracy} \times \text{genetic variation} \times \text{intensity}$
 $\text{generation interval}$



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Embryo Transfer – *in vivo*, *in vitro*

ET allows you to increase the genetic impact of superior females.

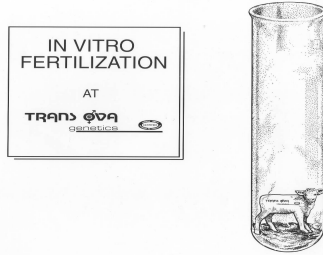
More than one calf per year out of those really good cows.




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TRANS ova genetics

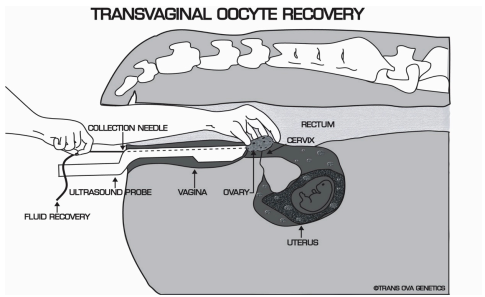
Embryo Production by IVF TOG Early 90's



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TRANS ova genetics

TRANSVAGINAL OOCYTE RECOVERY

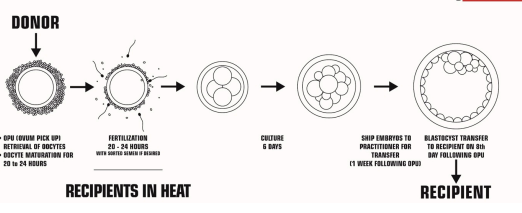


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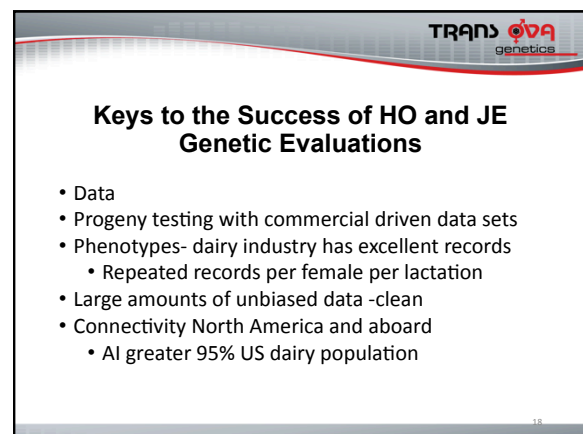
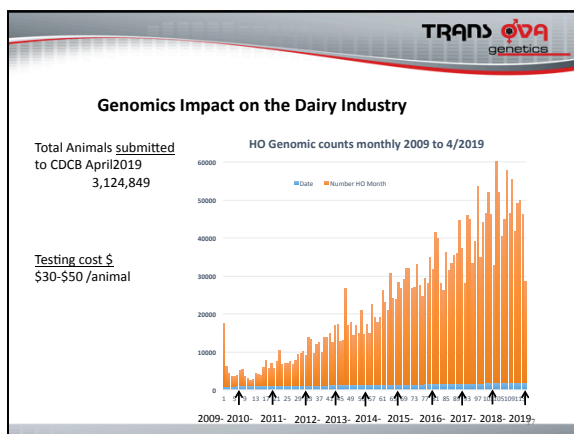
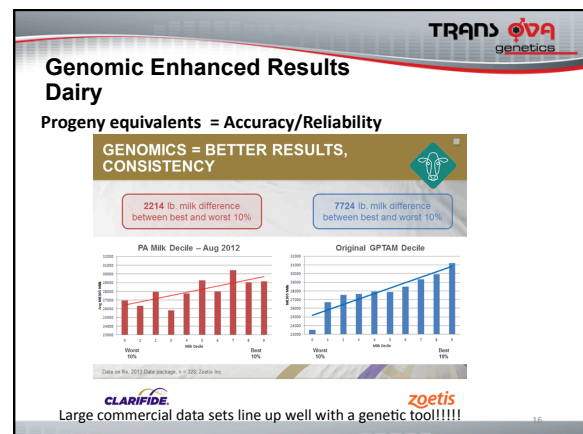
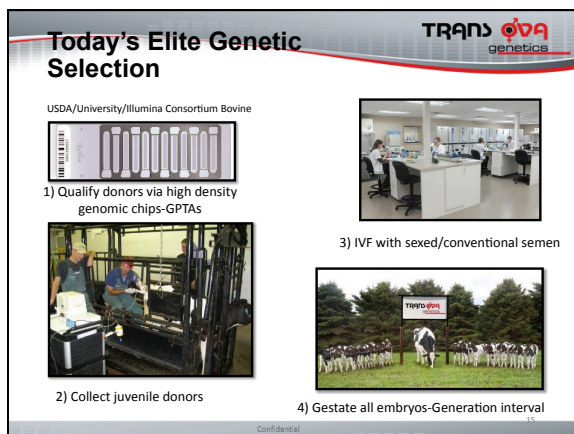
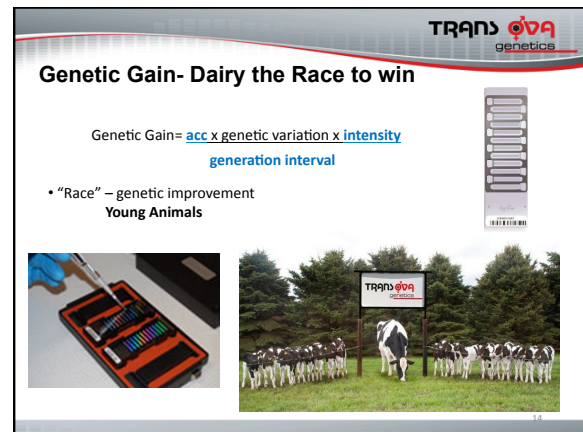
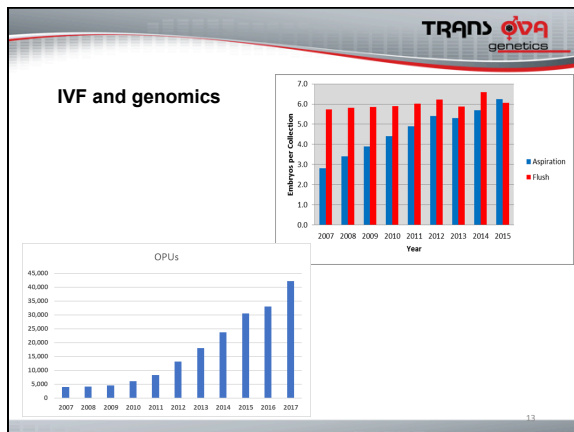
TRANS ova genetics

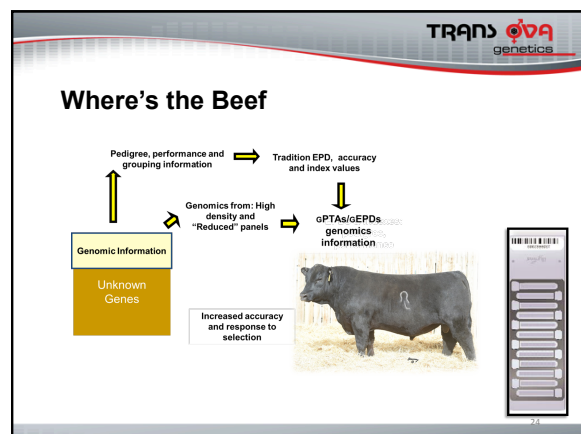
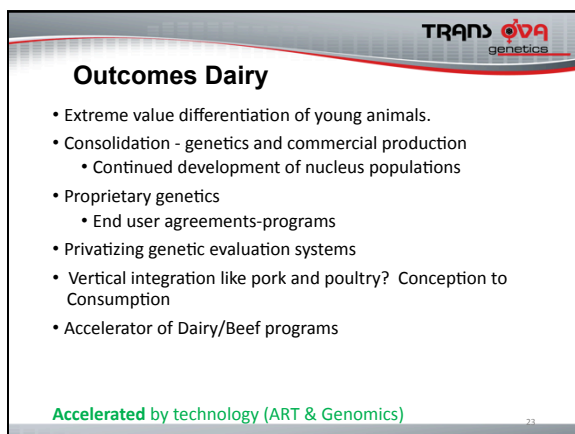
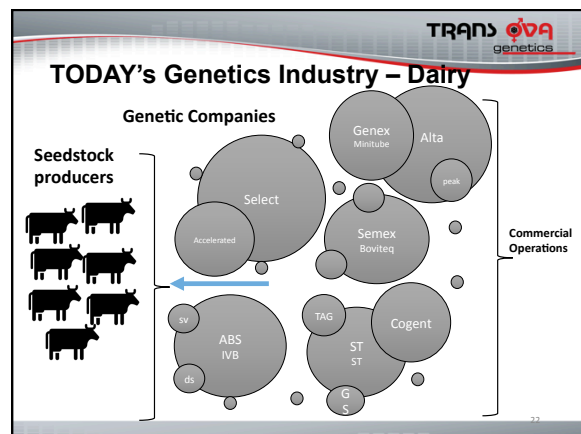
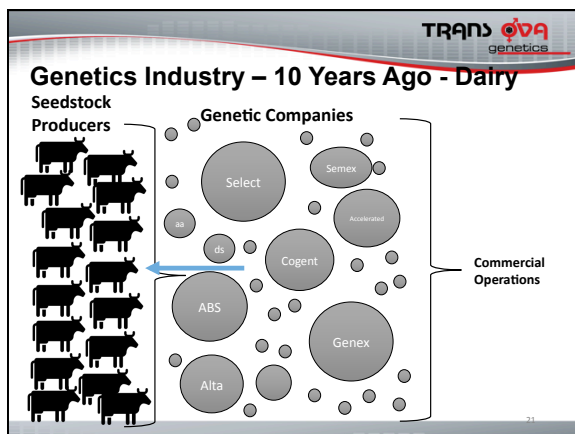
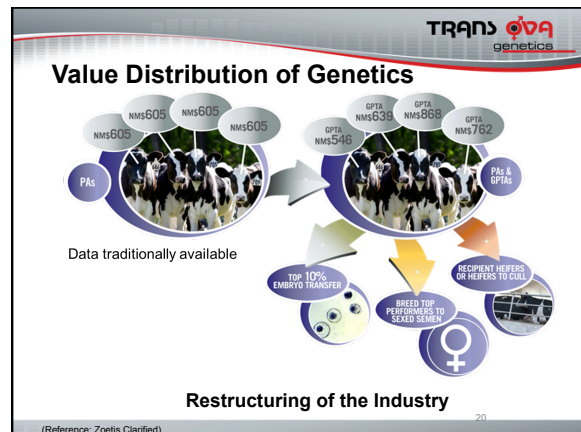
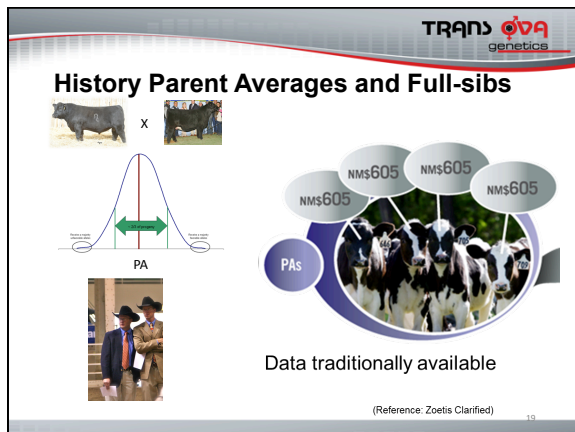
The IVF Process

IVF (IN VITRO FERTILIZATION) TIMELINE



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TRiP genetics

Genomic enhanced results

Progeny equivalents = accuracy/ Reliability

Beef

Table 1. Progeny equivalents (PE) – Carcass trait PE equate to actual carcass harvest data not ultrasound scan equivalents.

Trait	PE	Trait	PE
Calving Ease Direct	28	Heifer Pregnancy	14
Birth Weight	21	Calving Ease Maternal	18
Weaning Weight	26	Milk	33
Yearling Weight	21	Mature Weight	11
Dry Matter Intake	8	Mature Height	8
Yearling Height	11	Carcass Weight	9
Scrotal Circumference	13	Carcass Marbling	9
Dockity	10	Carcass Ribeye	12
		Carcass Fat	10

(American Angus 2019)

Genetics industry –today - Beef

The diagram illustrates the beef genetics industry structure. On the left, a large group of black cow icons is labeled 'Seedstock Producers'. On the right, a group of bubbles representing different genetic companies is labeled 'Genetic Companies'. The bubbles are labeled: Select, ABS, Genex, ST, and MGA. In the center, a large bracket labeled 'Commercial Operations' spans the width of the diagram. A blue double-headed arrow connects the 'Seedstock Producers' group to the 'Genetic Companies' group. A blue arrow points from the 'Commercial Operations' bracket towards the 'Genetic Companies' group.

Seedstock Producers

Genetic Companies

Commercial Operations

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Future- Beef

- Generation interval - younger animals?
- Genetic landscape changing?
- Leveraging data like the dairy industry?
 - Larger progeny tests with high quality data
- Impact of technology in commercial sector increases?
- Change and Improvement



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Genetic Selection – Future

Generation interval reduced

- Fetal cell line selection
- Embryo cell line selection
- Biospy – freeze embryos
- Young female oocyte recovery L-OPU






The diagram illustrates two pathways for genetic gain in cattle, starting from a common point of 3 weeks.

Top Pathway: Embryo cell line selection

- 3 weeks:** IVF embryos are produced.
- Genotyping and genetic merit evaluation:** The IVF embryos are analyzed.
- Embryo transfer:** Selected embryos are transferred to a cow.
- Collected fetuses:** Fetuses are collected from the cow.
- Establish fibroblast cell lines:** Fibroblast cell lines are established from the collected fetuses.

Bottom Pathway: Somatic cell nuclear transfer (SCNT)

- 9 months:** Fibroblasts with desired genetics are used as SCNT donor cells.
- Embryo transfer:** The SCNT embryos are transferred to a cow.
- High genetic merit calves:** High genetic merit calves are born.

Comparison and Acceleration:

- The top pathway (Embryo cell line selection) is highlighted with a blue box and labeled "OPEN" (Open), indicating it is an open system.
- The bottom pathway (Somatic cell nuclear transfer) is labeled "Closed", indicating it is a closed system.
- The diagram shows that the top pathway leads to "Acceleration of genetic gain in cattle by reduction of generation interval" compared to the bottom pathway.

References:

- McKenzie, A., et al. (2010). Genetic gain in cattle by reduction of generation interval. *Animal*, 4(1), 1-10.
- McKenzie, A., et al. (2010). Genetic gain in cattle by reduction of generation interval. *Animal*, 4(1), 1-10.
- McKenzie, A., et al. (2010). Genetic gain in cattle by reduction of generation interval. *Animal*, 4(1), 1-10.

L-OPU

- Collection oocytes
Donor 40 days of age.
- Calf gPТАs for selection
 - Donor Dam 11
months old
- Production in numbers
- Average donor age egg
production 60 day to
150 days of age



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