

**EFFECT OF DIFFERENT DOSES OF hCG (VETECOR®) FOR
SYNCHRONIZATION OF COW OVULATION ON FIXED TIME ARTIFICIAL
INSEMINATION PROTOCOL**

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The aim of this study was to adjust the dose of hCG to induce the ovulation in *Bos indicus x Bos taurus* lactating cows on Fixed Time Artificial Insemination (FTAI) protocol with progesterone intravaginal device with or without eCG at moment of device withdrawal. Five hundred twenty one *Bos indicus x Bos taurus* lactating cows ($75,8 \pm 20,5$ days postpartum) kept under pasture regimen at São Manoel - SP were used. The animals were randomly assigned to six treatment groups in a three by two factorial design. At unknown stage of estrous cycle (Day 0), the animals of Group 1 (G1) received an injection of 2mg EB i.m. (Estrogin®, Farmavet) and an intravaginal device containing 1,9 g P4 (CIDR®, Pfizer). On D8, the device was removed and an injection of 25mg Dinoprost i.m. (Lutalyse®, Pfizer) plus 400 IU eCG i.m. (Novormon®, Syntex) was administered. On D10 (54h after device withdrawal) the animals were treated with 500UI of hCG IM (Vetecor® Calier) and submitted to artificial insemination. The animals of Group 2 (G2) and Group 3 (G3) received the same treatment of G1 animals, but they were treated with 1000 e 1500UI of hCG at moment of FTAI, respectively. The Groups G4, G5 and G6 were treated with the same protocols of Groups G1, G2 e G3 respectively, but they were not treated with 400UI of eCG at the moment of device withdrawal. The pregnancy diagnosis was performed by rectal palpation 45 days after FTAI. Pregnancy rates were compared by Chi-square test. No interaction was observed among experimental groups. Pregnancy rates in the groups G1, G2, G3, G4, G5 e G6 were 31.0% (27/87), 21.1% (16/76), 34.1% (30/88), 26.7% (24/90), 34.4% (33/96) and 28.6% (24/84), respectively ($P>0,05$). Considering the main effects, neither eCG [with eCG: 29.1% (73/251) vs. without eCG: 30.0% (81/270); $P>0.05$] or hCG [500: 28.8% (51/177) vs. 1000: 28.5% (49/172) vs. 1500: 31.4% (54/172); $P>0.05$] had a significant influence on pregnancy rates. Although the pregnancy rate found in all groups were low, the reduction on hCG dose of 1500UI to 500UI didn't impair the pregnancy rates in FTAI with intravaginal progesterone device in lactating *Bos indicus x Bos taurus* cows. It was not observed effect of eCG treatment at moment of progesterone device withdrawal in animals treated with hCG to induction of ovulation.

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