

When to Start Breeding After Calving

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It takes at least 30 days after calving for a cow's reproductive tract to return to normal. Therefore, some cows can be bred starting 45-60 days after calving. Your veterinarian should palpate the reproductive tract of each cow as soon after 30 days after calving as possible to make sure the cow is ready to breed.

Healthy cows that did not have any problems during calving can be expected to have at least one heat period before 50 days after calving. If the first heat does not occur by this time, your veterinarian should re-examine the cow.

Cows which experience problems around the time of calving usually have more reproductive problems which extends the time from calving to first ovulation and first heat. Proper care of cows during the three weeks before calving, at calving, and after calving will help maximize dairy herd reproductive performance.