

# Valacta Training Courses

Course prepared under the direction of the  
*Table de concertation sur la reproduction (TCR)*



Thanks to our major partner:



*Toujours là quand ça compte*

Course given in collaboration by:



## ***The Knowledge to Act: Reproduction***

Practical recommendations to improve  
herd reproduction

## **Presentation**

**Main Objective:** Being able to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the reproduction management plan, in order to implement actions to optimize the herd's reproductive performance.

**Specific objectives:**

At the end of this training, the participant will be able to:

- Have a good comprehension of the main conditions of success in reproduction
- Evaluate the reproductive performances of cows according to various criteria
- Evaluate the economic impact of various parameters such as the voluntary waiting period, the calving interval, the breeding interval
- Elaborate an action plan on reproduction, adapted to the conditions of the farm.

**Who should participate?**

Dairy producers interested in maintaining or improving the reproductive performance of their herd.

**Trainers:**

- Valacta Strategic Advisor
- Veterinarian (AMVPQ)
- CIAQ District Manager

**Duration:** 5-hour course, in-class

**Documents needed (next page)**

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## Documents needed:

From the Agri-Lacta *Analyses* module:

- a. Reproduction section:
    - i. Distribution of DIM at 1<sup>st</sup> breeding (for a 12-month period)
    - ii. Distribution of interbreeding intervals (for a 12-month period)
    - iii. Individual interbreeding intervals
    - iv. Interbreeding intervals (table)
  - b. Events section:
    - i. Left Herd (sorted by Reason 1, for a 12-month period)
2. From the *Analyses+ Test* module:
    - a. DIM at 1<sup>st</sup> Breeding (for a 24-month period)
  3. V2K report from your last test: *Performance Record – Herd Summary*
  4. DS@HR reports (for availability, see your veterinarian)

## Course Plan

1. **Table de concertation sur la reproduction** (task force on reproduction) **20 minutes**  
(Valacta)
  - 1.1. Presentation of the course and trainers
  - 1.2. Members of the *Table*
  - 1.3. The 9 conditions of success
2. **Portrait of the situation** **45 minutes**  
(Valacta)
  - 2.1. The link between production and reproduction
  - 2.2. Reproduction and culling (workshop: portrait of your herd)
  - 2.3. Reproductive performances here and elsewhere
  - 2.4. Optimal calving interval: review of economic data
3. **Nutrition: Energy first** **45 minutes**  
(Valacta)
  - 3.1. Energy balance and ovarian activity
  - 3.2. Loss of body condition and ovarian activity
  - 3.3. Valacta and DS@HR reports: useful tools
  - 3.4. The secret: appetite
  - 3.5. Energy-Protein Relationship
  - 3.6. Action
4. **Preventing diseases** **5 minutes**  
(AMVPQ)
5. **Treating diseases effectively** **1 minute**  
(AMVPQ)
6. **Health records** **5 minutes**  
(AMVPQ)

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|---|-------------------|
| <b>7. Voluntary waiting period (VWP)<br/>(AMVPQ + Valacta)</b>                  | <b>45 minutes</b> |
| 7.1. Definition   |                   |
| 7.2. Survey (question 1)  |                   |
| 7.3. Minimum period: biological considerations                                  |                   |
| 7.3.1. Involution of uterus   |                   |
| 7.3.2. Ovarian activity   |                   |
| 7.4. Optimal period: economic considerations                                    |                   |
| 7.5. Days in milk at first breeding (workshop: portrait of your herd)           |                   |
| 7.6. WP for heifers (workshop: portrait of your herd)                           |                   |
| 7.7. Action   |                   |
| <b>8. Breeding all cows within 21 days after the VWP<br/>(AMVPQ)</b>            | <b>50 minutes</b> |
| 8.1. Window of opportunity (survey, question 2)                                 |                   |
| 8.2. Pregnancy rate   |                   |
| 8.3. Taking measures to respect the WP  |                   |
| 8.3.1. Heat detection   |                   |
| 8.3.2. Targeted breeding program (Ovsynch)                                      |                   |
| 8.4. Action   |                   |
| <b>9. Detect infertile inseminations early<br/>(AMVPQ)</b>                      | <b>30 minutes</b> |
| 9.1. Return following a breeding  |                   |
| 9.2. Interbreeding interval (workshop: portrait of your herd)                   |                   |
| 9.3. Early non-pregnancy diagnostic   |                   |
| 9.4. Between the beginning and the end...                                       |                   |
| 9.5. Action   |                   |
| <b>10. Performance Analysis<br/>(AMVPQ)</b>                                     | <b>1 minute</b>   |
| <b>11. The role of genetics<br/>(CIAQ)</b>                                      | <b>45 minutes</b> |
| 11.1. Genetics and management   |                   |
| 11.2. Genetics trends   |                   |
| 11.3. Daughter fertility  |                   |
| 11.4. Action  |                   |
| 11.5. Semen fertility   |                   |
| 11.6. Action  |                   |
| 11.7. The national health project   |                   |
| <b>12. Questions to your experts</b>  | <b>25 minutes</b> |
| Your experts are available to answer questions<br>not covered during the course |                   |
| <b>13. Conclusions</b>  | <b>5 minutes</b>  |
| Importance of the action plan for your farm                                     |                   |

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The participant will work with his own herd data