

# Dr. Eduardo Ribeiro

Professor Eduardo Ribeiro's research program focused primarily on reproduction and health of dairy cattle. While initially investigating fertility, Ribeiro noted that the cow's health prior to the breeding period is extremely important. For this reason, the Ribeiro's lab has been focusing on the transition period and its implications for future fertility and productivity of cows. Their goal is to identify the best management practices during this critical time period.

When a cow experiences a difficult transition period, she is at a higher risk of developing inflammatory diseases such as metritis. In a previous study, the Ribeiro lab investigated whether adding an anti-inflammatory drug to the standard treatment for metritis could help mitigate its negative effects. It was noted that cows receiving both the anti-inflammatory drug and the antimicrobial treatment had higher milk production and reproductive performance than cows treated with an antimicrobial alone. Ribeiro explains that these results complement his many years of fundamental research, which have shown the lasting effects of inflammation on reproduction of lactating cows.

In the future, Ribeiro hopes to continue exploring dairy cow reproduction by combining mechanistic research with applied field studies. Some of his current questions include: how can the uterus become more receptive to pregnancy, and how can an embryo become stronger and more likely to survive to term? He hopes to continue working with industry professionals and producers to optimize these research questions and the translation of his research into practice.

Aside from collaborating with industry partners, the Ribeiro lab is very active on knowledge dissemination. Whether at large international conferences or small producer-focused meetings, Ribeiro believes that information is passed along most effectively



when presented in person, or when face-to-face conversations can occur. The lab's consistent participation in scientific and industry events is complemented with publication of peer-reviewed papers, technical articles, and online resources.

Although Ribeiro grew up on a farm with all types of animals, cows have always been his favourite. It's no surprise that his research surrounds dairy cattle, a reflection of his life-long affection. His love for cows is shown through his drive to improve their reproductive health and ensure their well-being.