# Supplementing Fat to the Reproducing Beef Female

**Bret W. Hess** 





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#### Positive Responses to Supplemental Lipids

Enhanced ovarian follicular growth and function

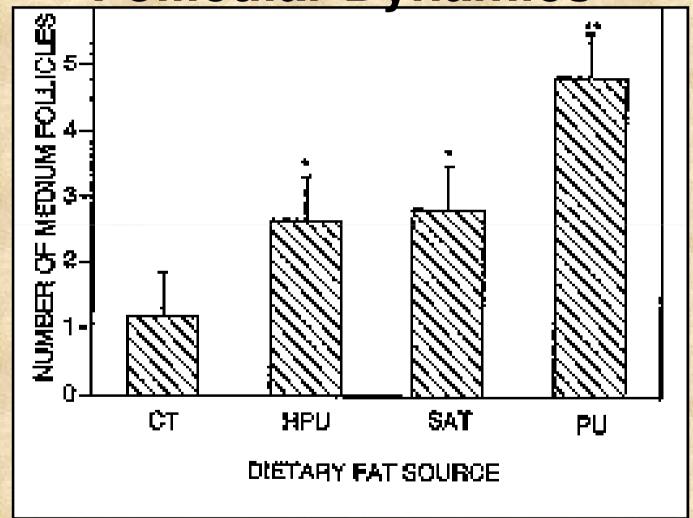
Increased life span of the corpus luteum







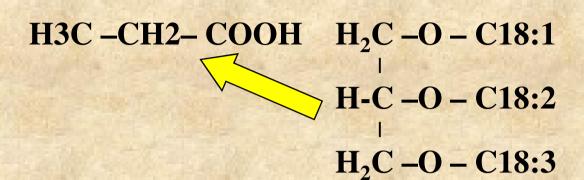
Source of Dietary Fat Affects
Follicular Dynamics

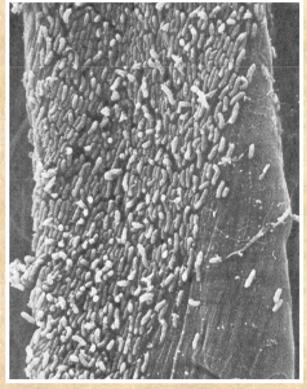


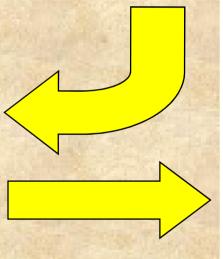


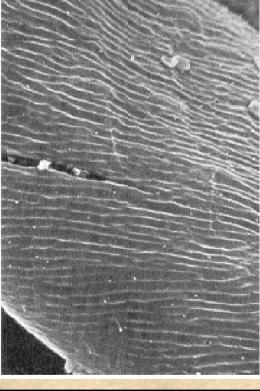


#### **Ruminal Metabolism of Fat**





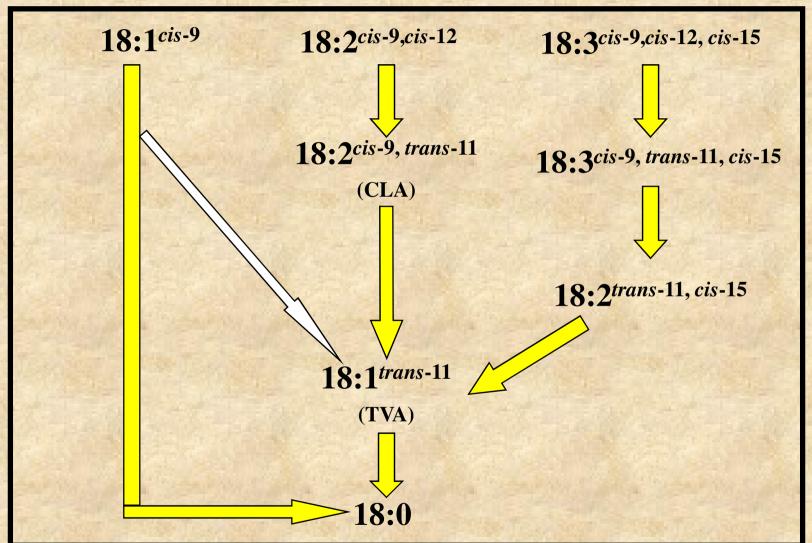






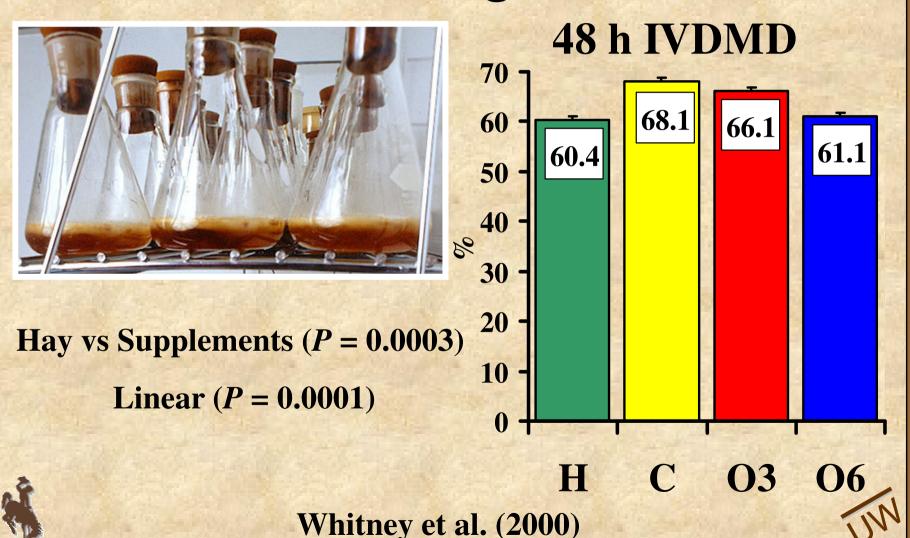


#### **Ruminal Biohydrogenation**





### Level of Supplemental Fat Affects In Vitro Digestion

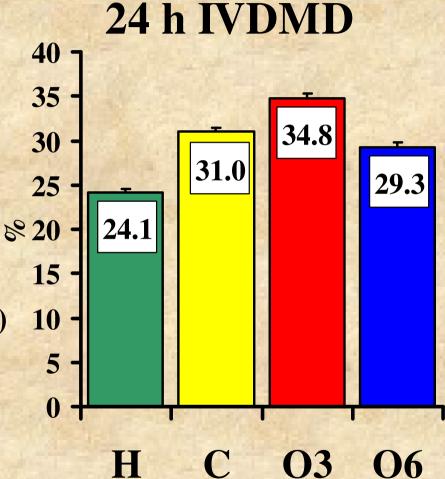


### Level of Supplemental Fat Affects In Vitro Digestion



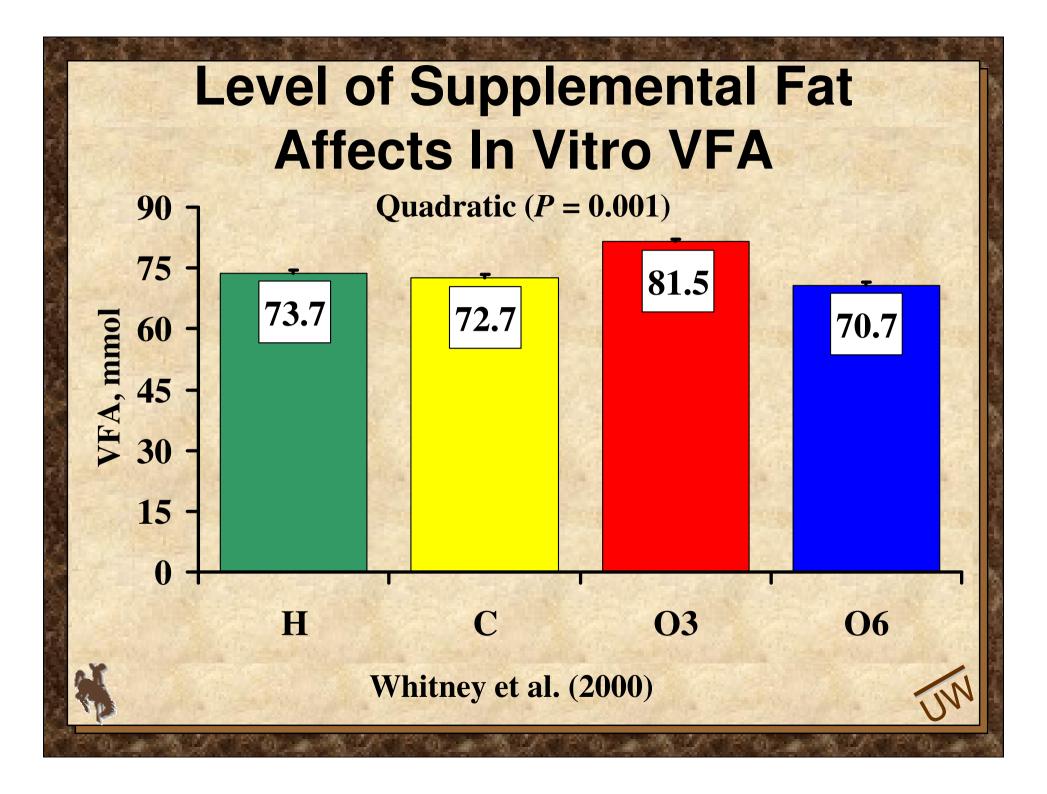
Hay vs Supplements (P = 0.001)

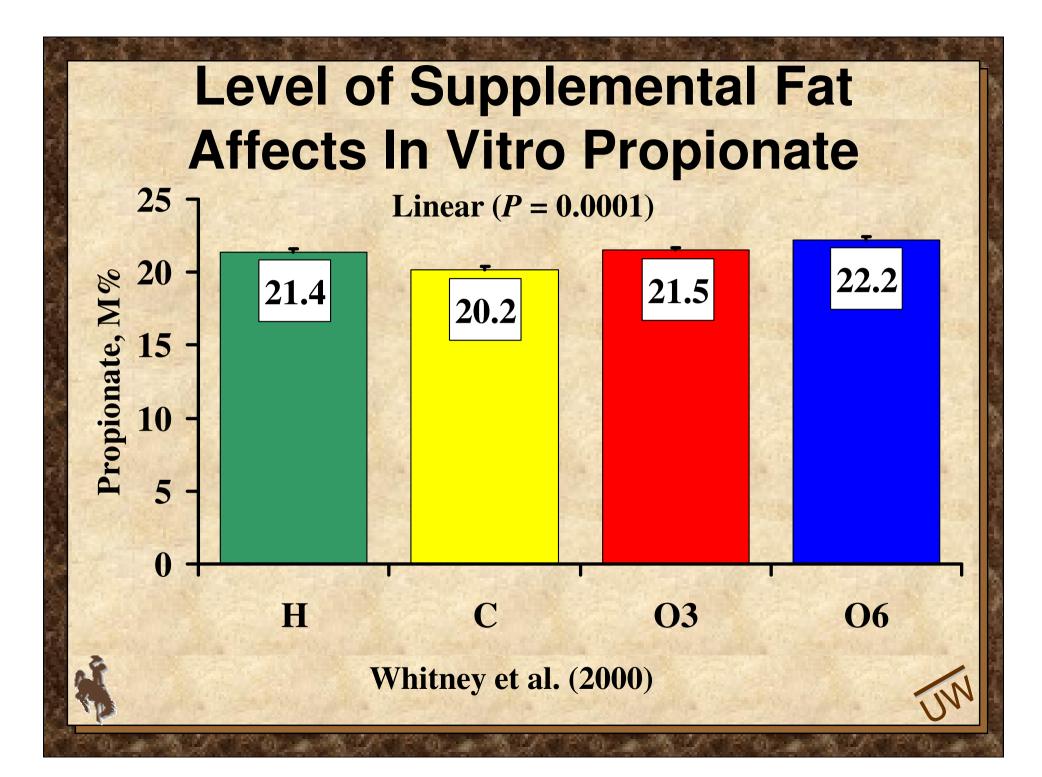
Quadratic (P = 0.001)

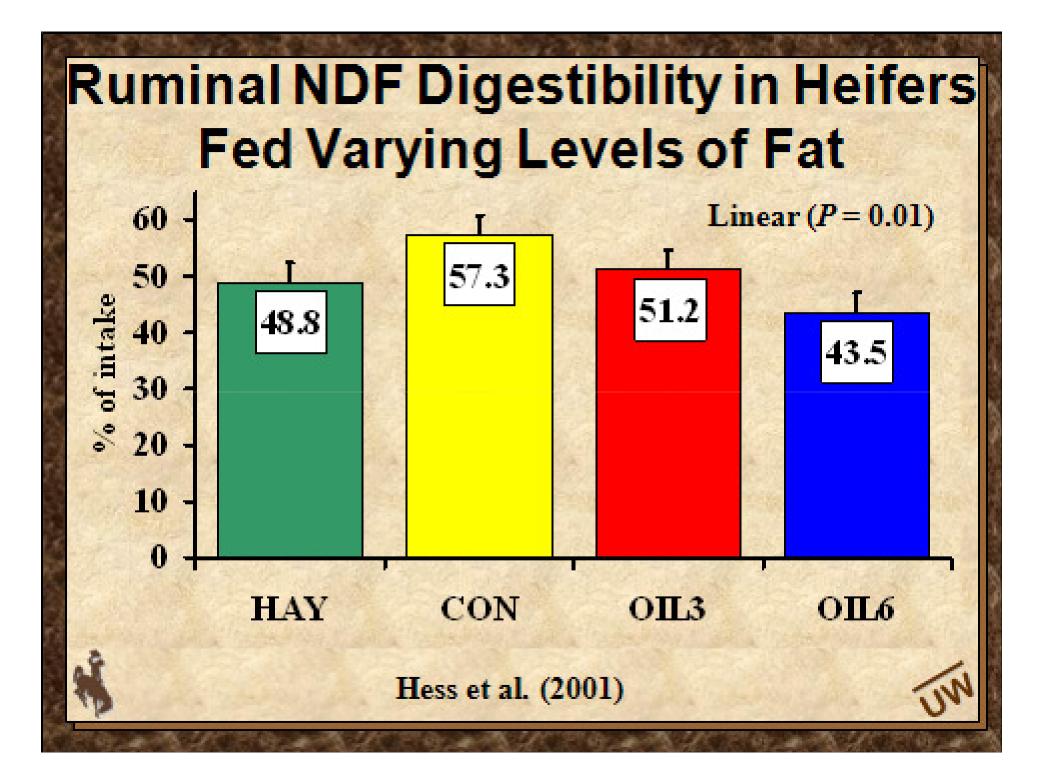




Whitney et al. (2000)







## Intake and DE of Straw-Based Diets Supplemented with Fat

Item		Percent added animal fat		]	
	0	2	4	8	SE
Intake/day Dry matter, g/kg body wt <sup>.78</sup> Digestible energy, Mcal	70.9 11.5 <sup>c</sup>	78.0 13.4 <sup>cd</sup>	86.8 16.1 <sup>d</sup>	68.5 11.8 <sup>c</sup>	4.97 .88

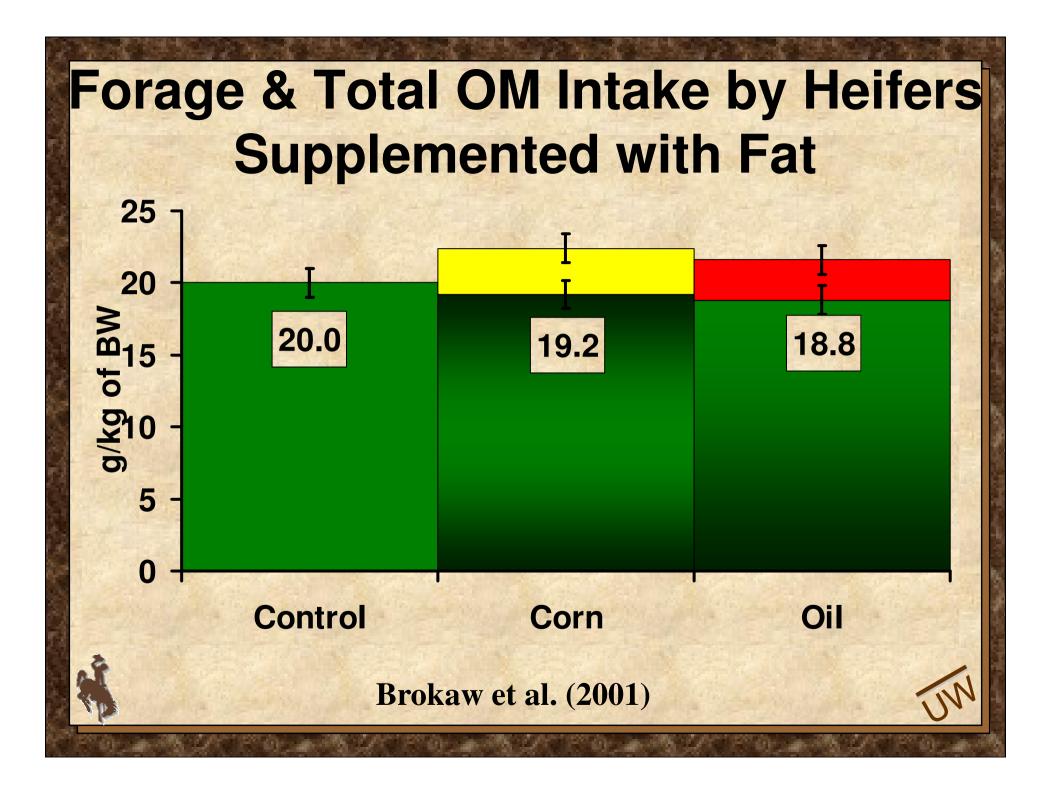
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>Each value is the mean of three steers.



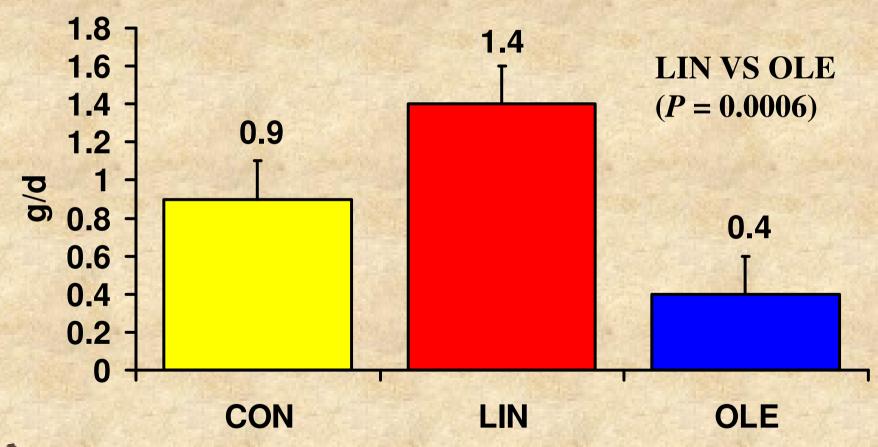


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>Standard error of the mean.

c,d,e,f Means within a row with superscripts that do not have a common letter differ (P<.05).



### Flow of CLA to the Duodenum of Cows Fed Fat





Scholljegerdes et al. (2004)

### Flow of TVA to the Duodenum of Cows Fed Fat

CON VS LIN & OLE (P < 0.0001) LIN VS OLE (P < 0.0001)72.4 80 70 60 50 37.0 40 30 12.7 20 10 CON LIN OLE Scholljegerdes et al. (2004)



# Supplemental Fat Throughout The Beef Female's Lifecycle

- Replacement Heifers
- Prepartum Cows
- Postpartum Cows





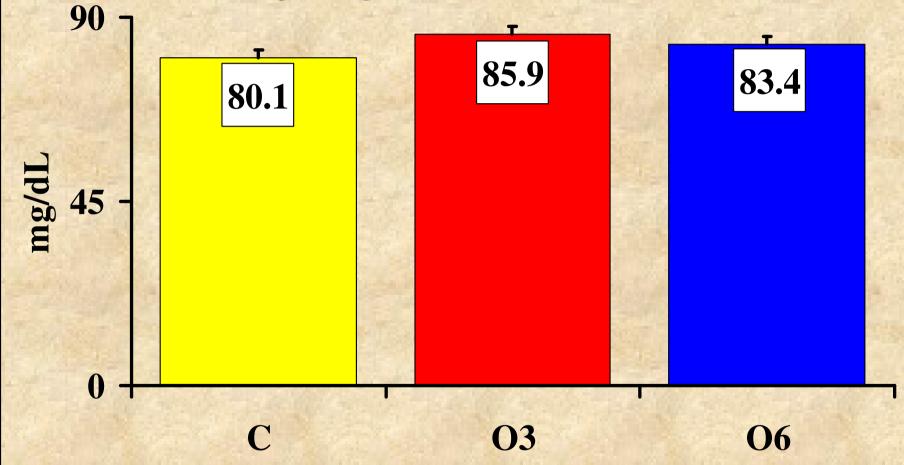
# Supplemental Lipids for Replacement Heifers





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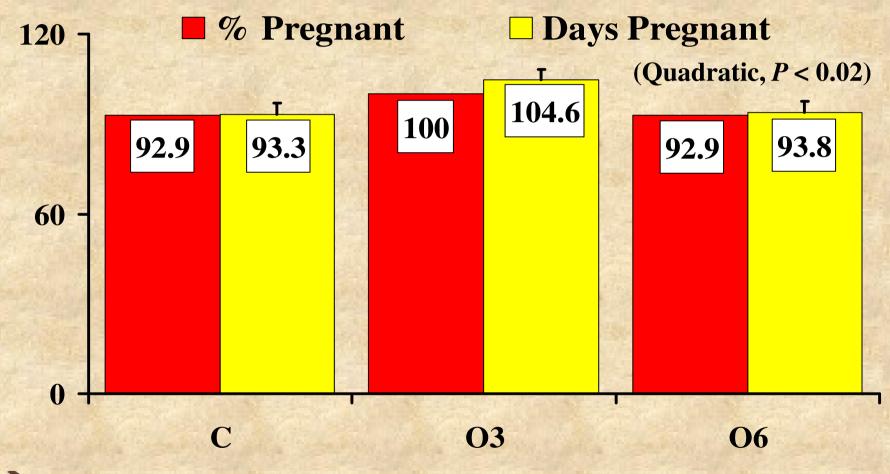




Quadratic (P = 0.02); Whitney et al. (2000)



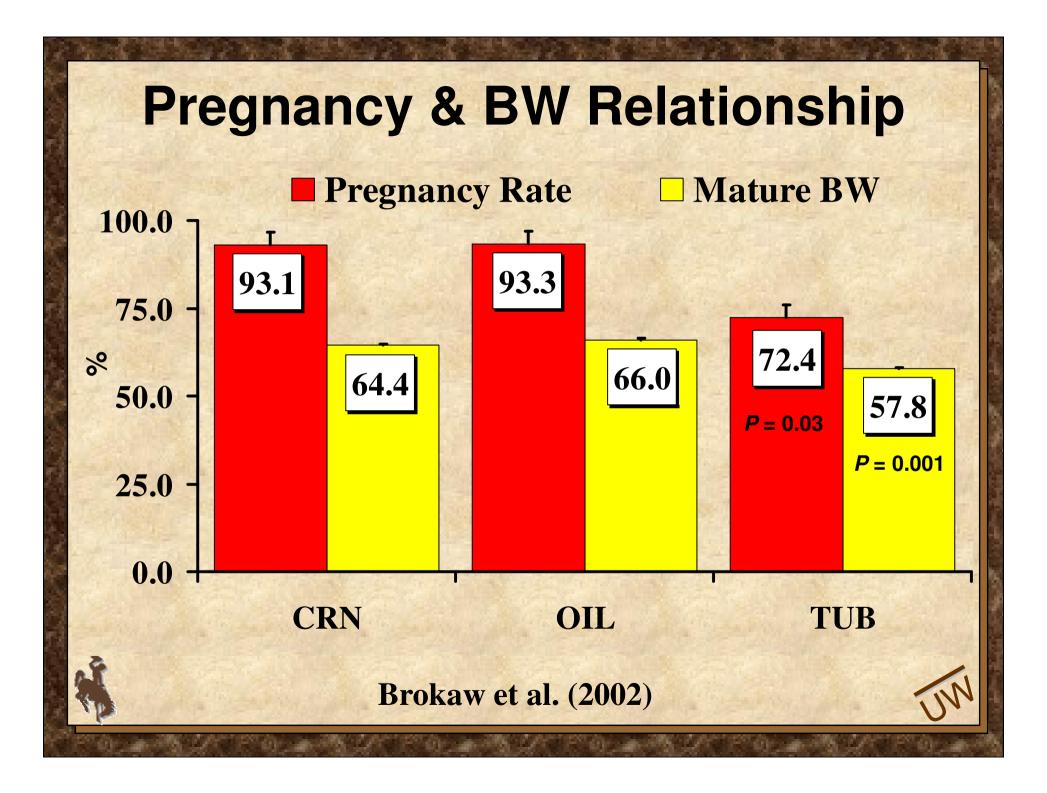




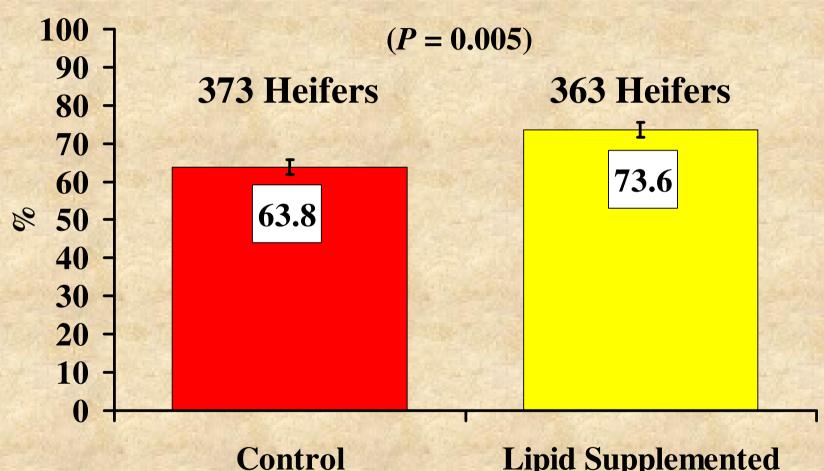


Whitney et al. (2000)





#### **Pregnancy Rates by Heifers Fed** Supplemental Lipid Prepuberal

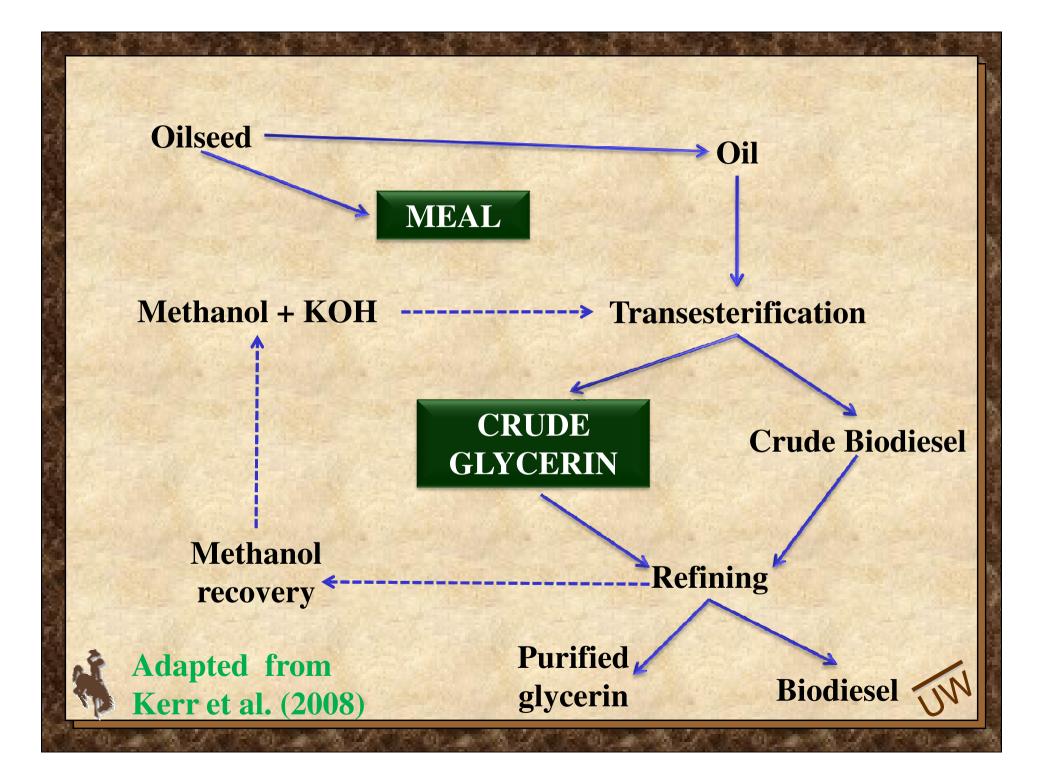


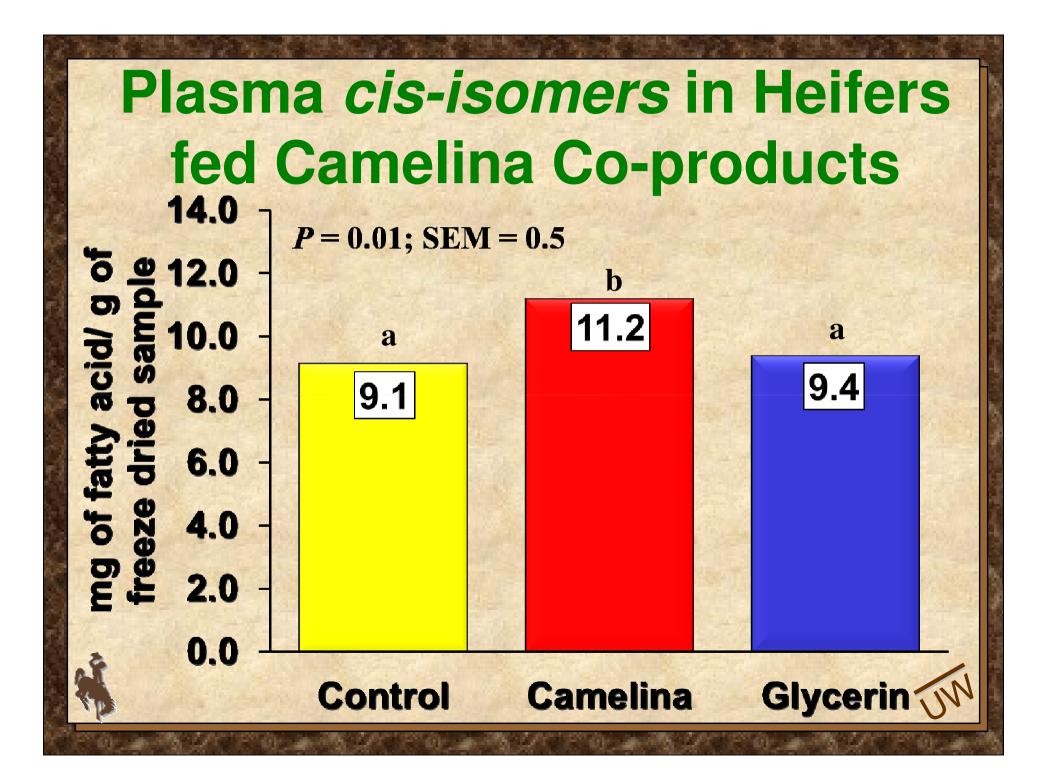


**Lipid Supplemented** 

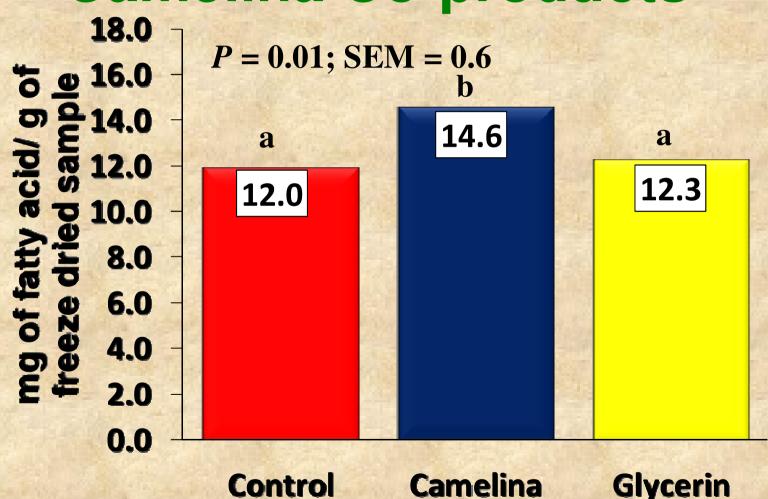
Hess et al. (2002)



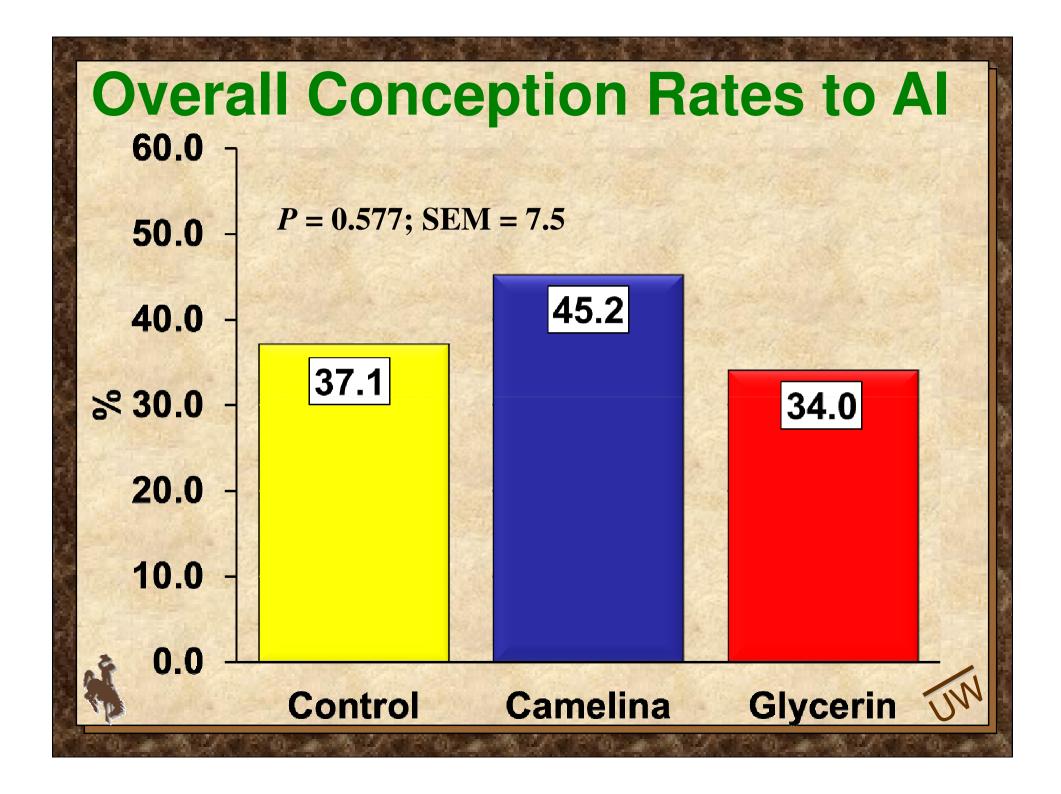




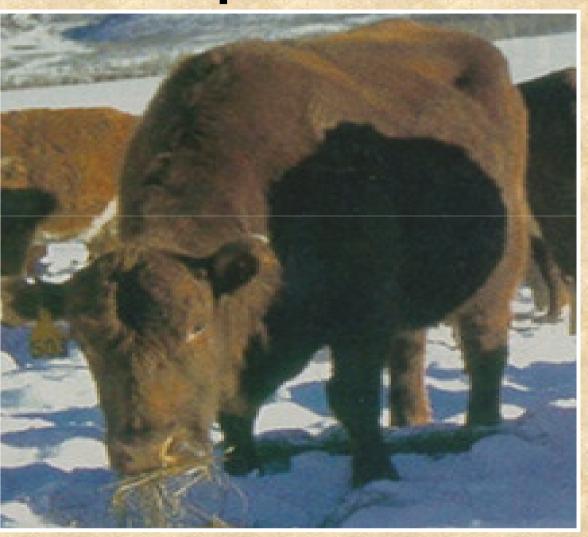
### Plasma UFA in Heifers fed Camelina Co-products





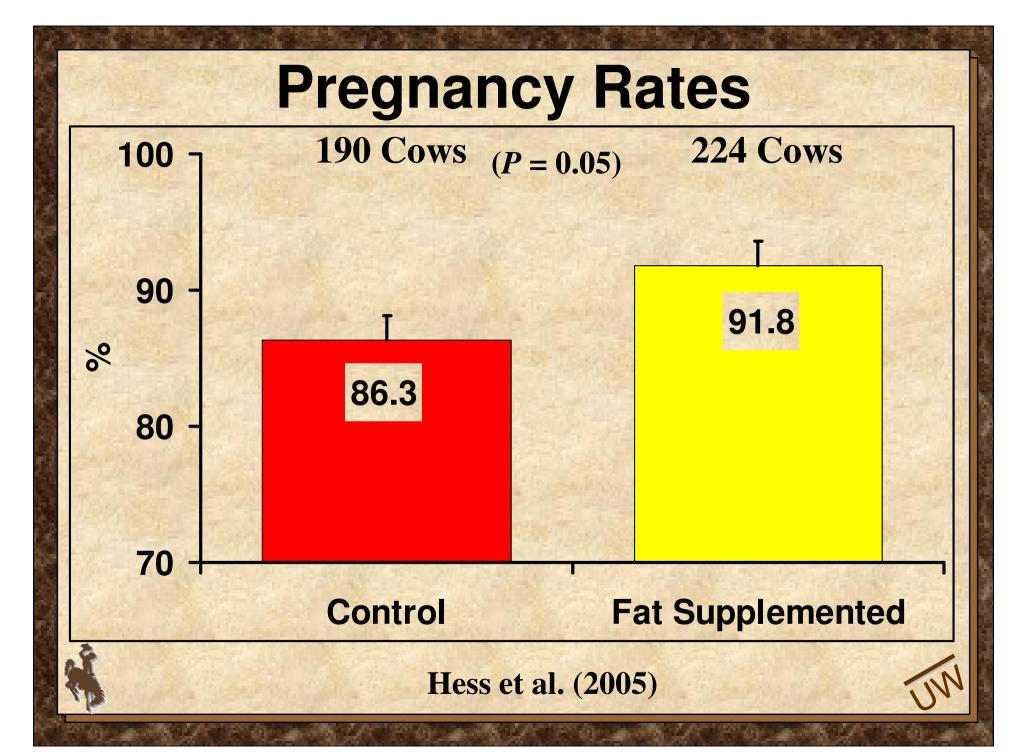


# Supplemental Fat for the Prepartum Cow





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"Does increased intake of fat, aside from its obvious contribution to caloric density of the diet, contribute to postpartum recovery?" (Williams and Stanko, 2000)



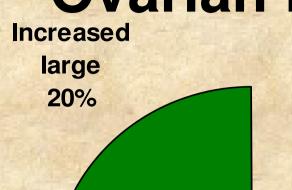


## Supplemental Fat for the Cylcing Cow

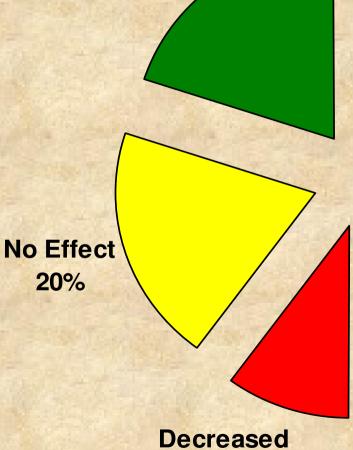




#### **Ovarian Follicles**

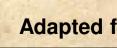


**Summarization of 14** dietary fat comparisons.



10%

Increased medium 50%

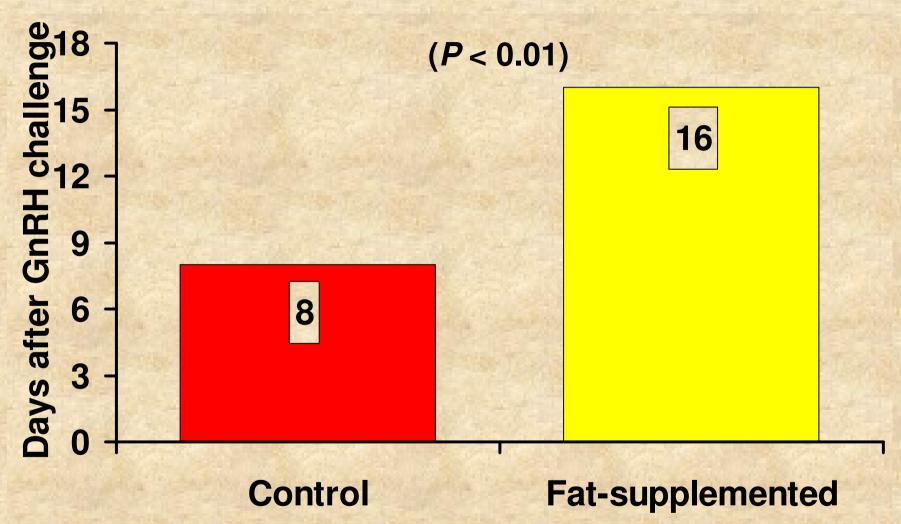


Adapted from Hess et al. (2002)











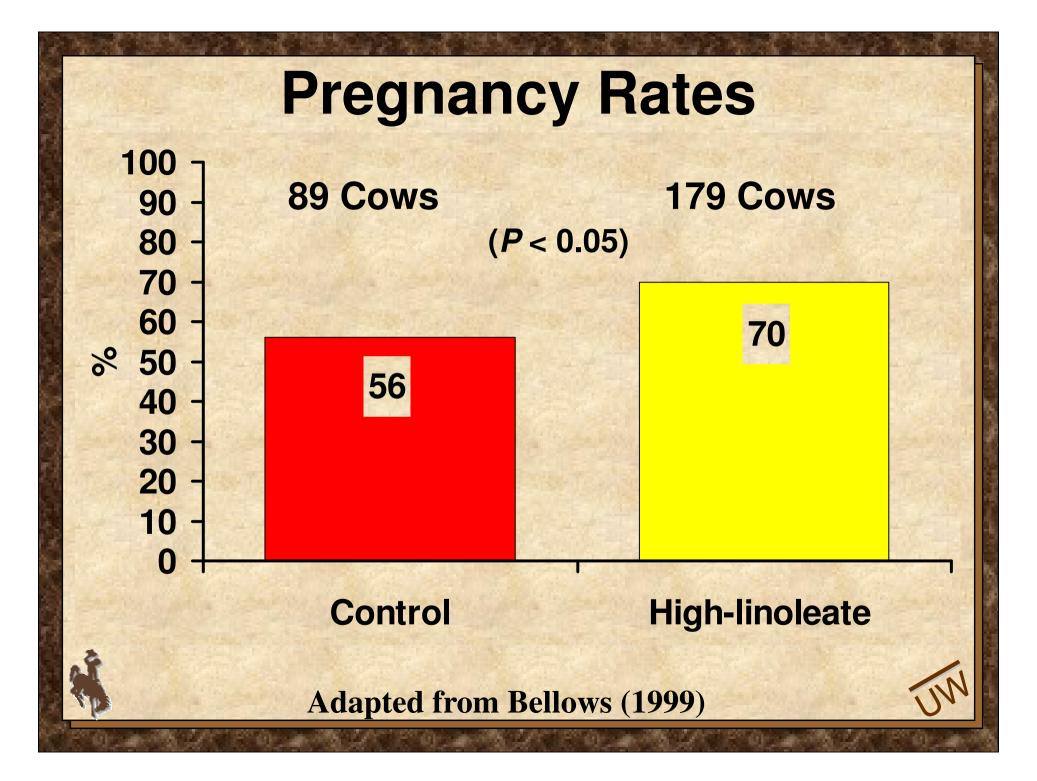
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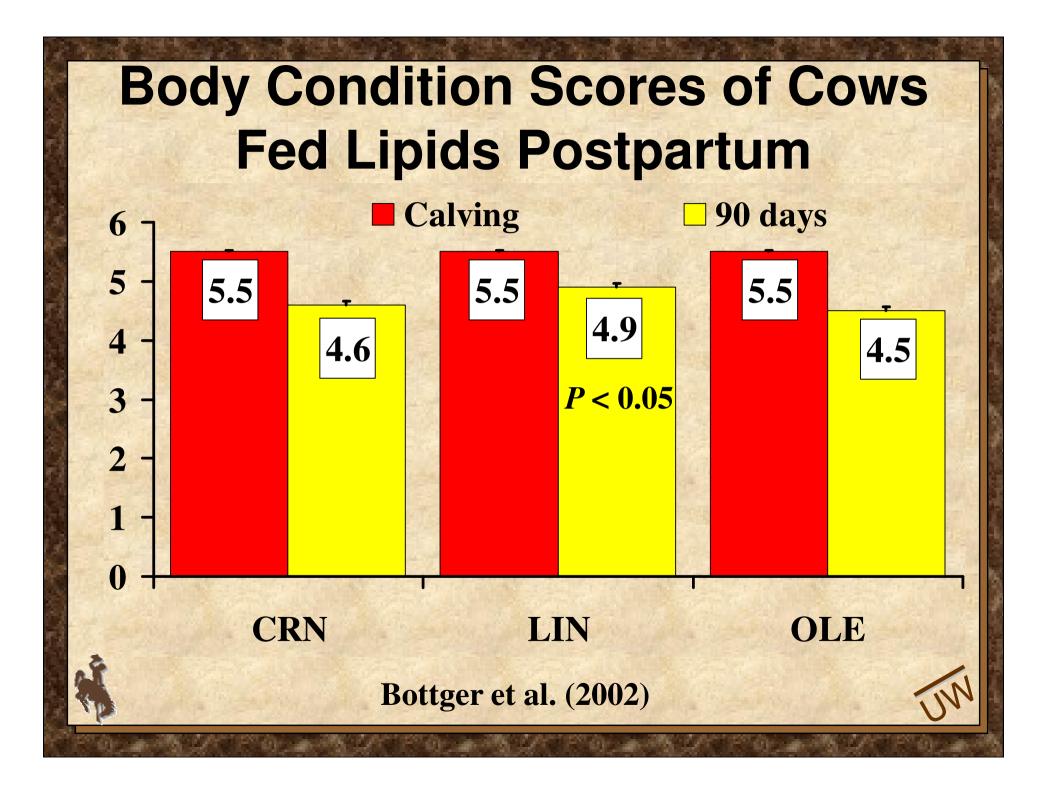
"Linoleic acid and eicosapentaenoic acid (found in fish meal) are proven inhibitors of cyclooxygenase in endometrial tissue of dairy cows. As a result, endometrial secretion of PGF<sub>2a</sub> can be suppressed, thus potentially preventing early embryonic death. This process may be aided by the effect fat has in suppressing estradiol- 17ß secretion, thus reducing uterine PGF2a secretion and decreasing the sensitivity of the corpus luteum to PGF<sub>2a</sub>."



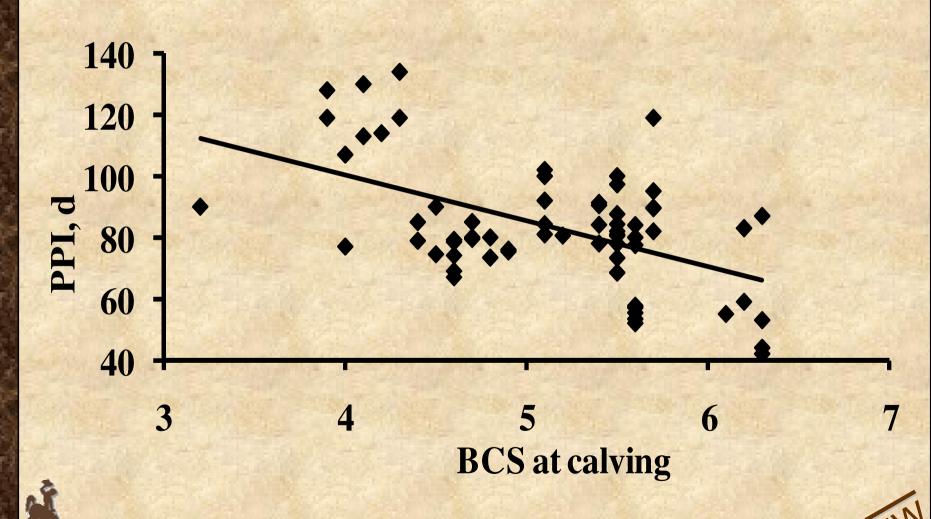
(Staples et al., 1998)

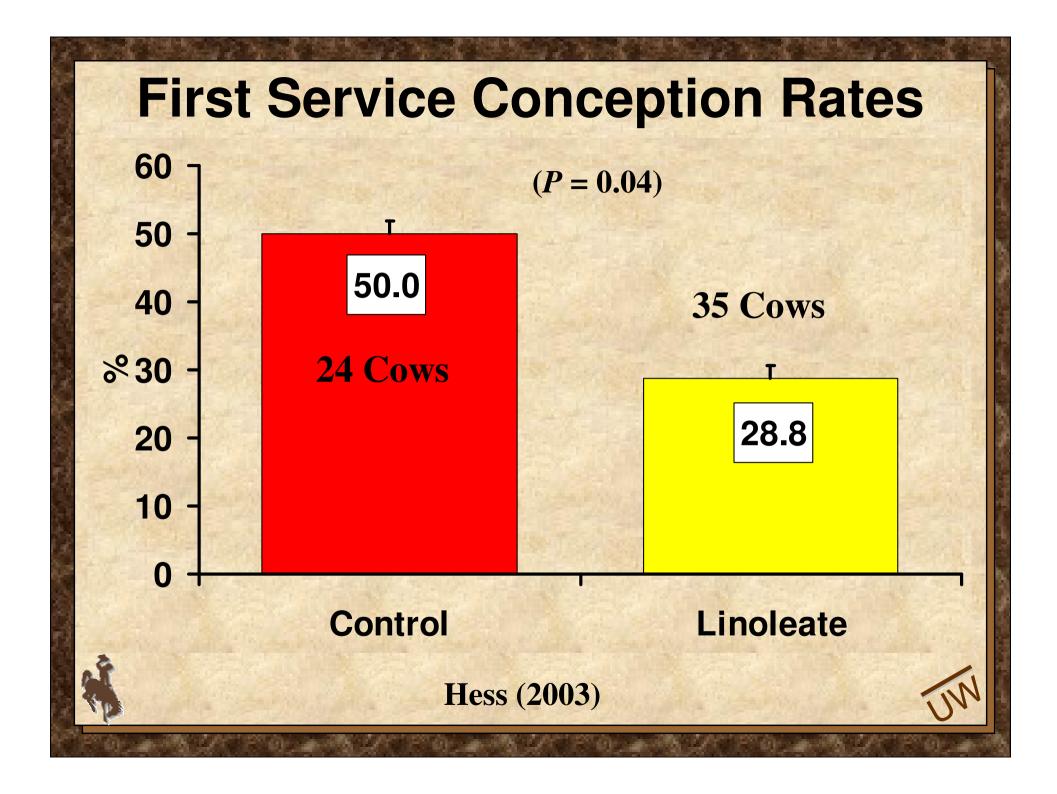




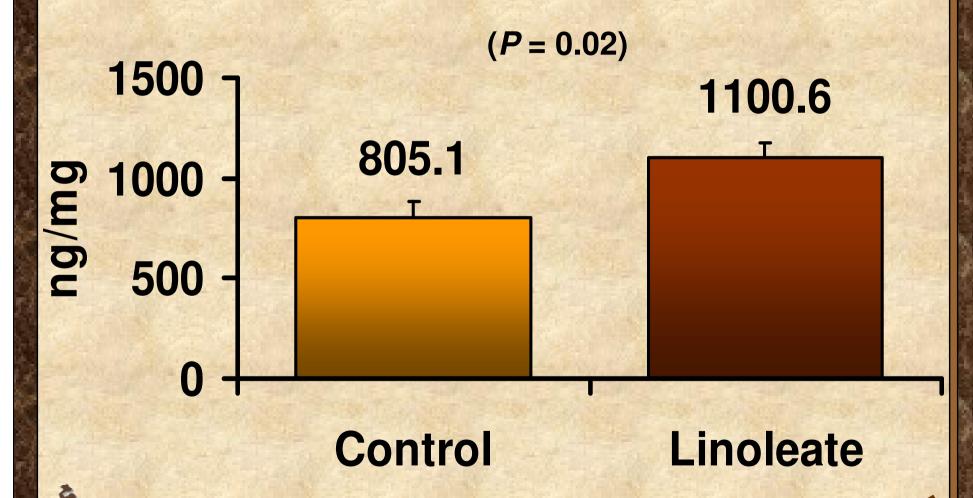


### **Body Condition Score at Calving Affects Return to Estrus**

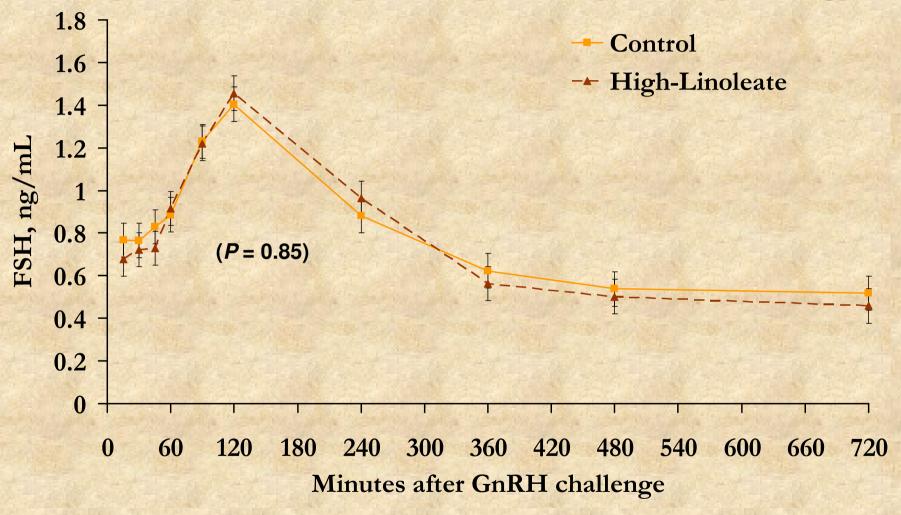








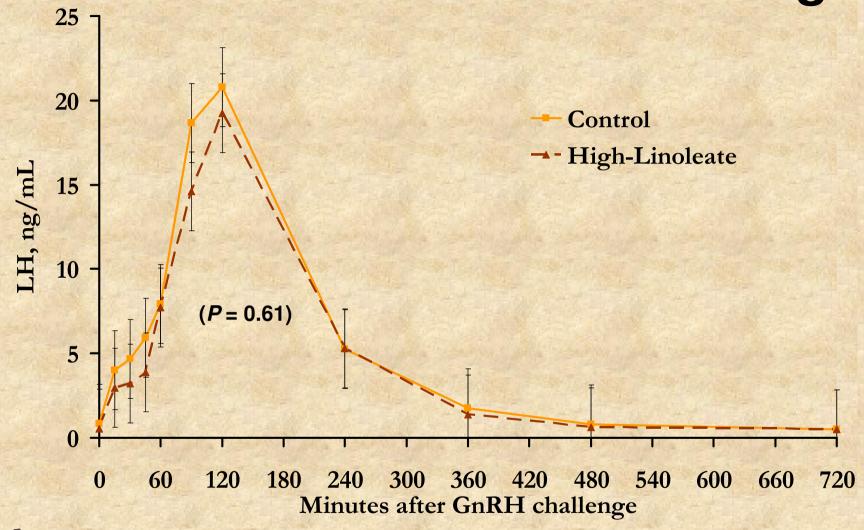
## Serum FSH After GnRH Challenge







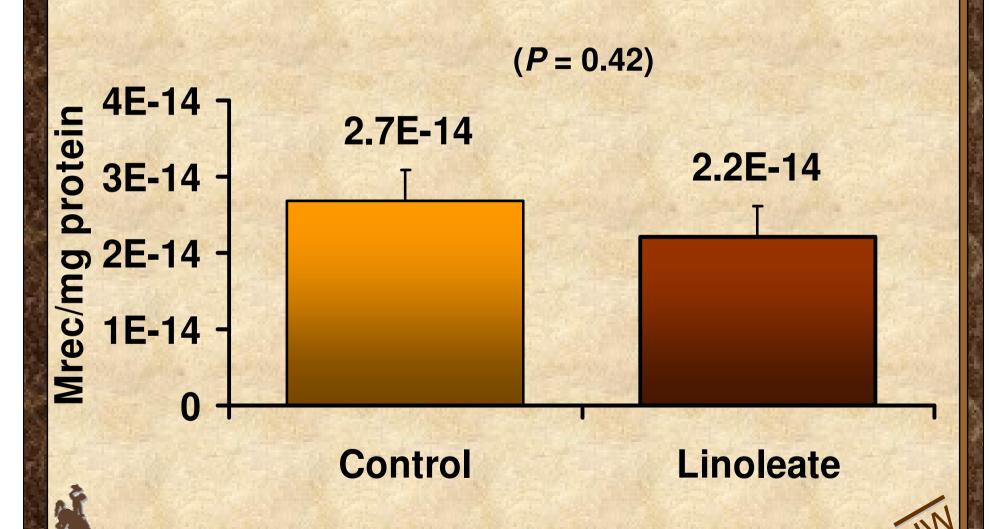
## Serum LH After GnRH Challenge

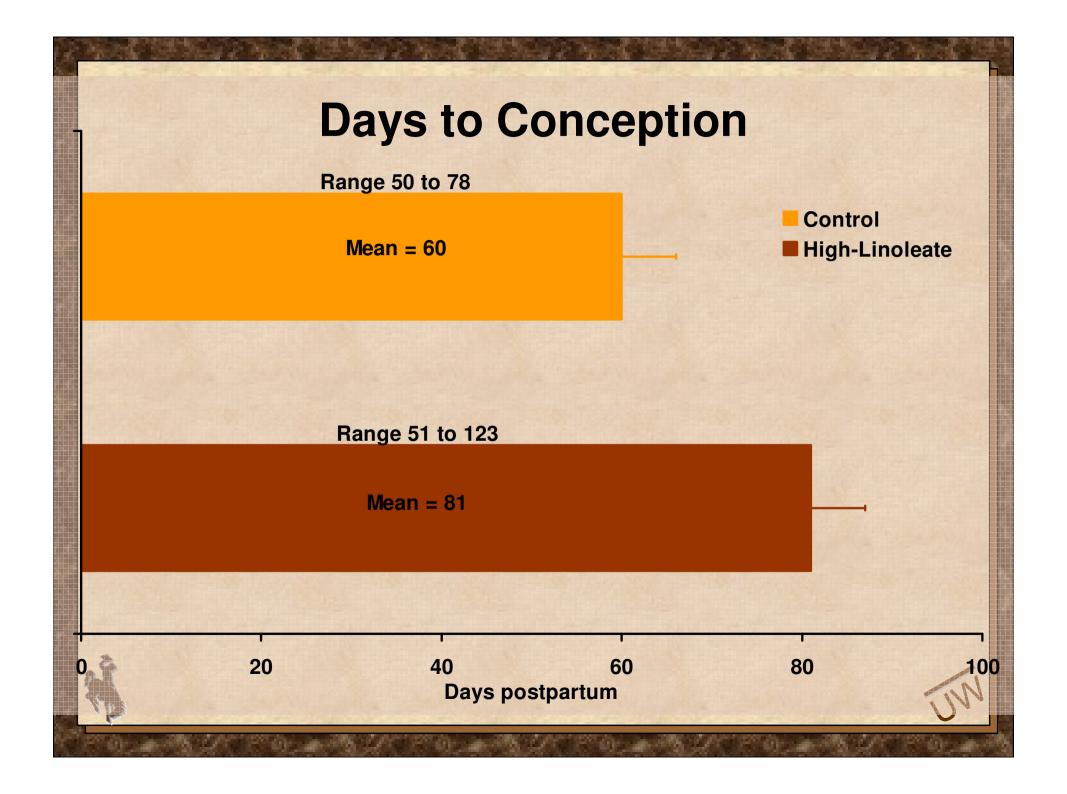




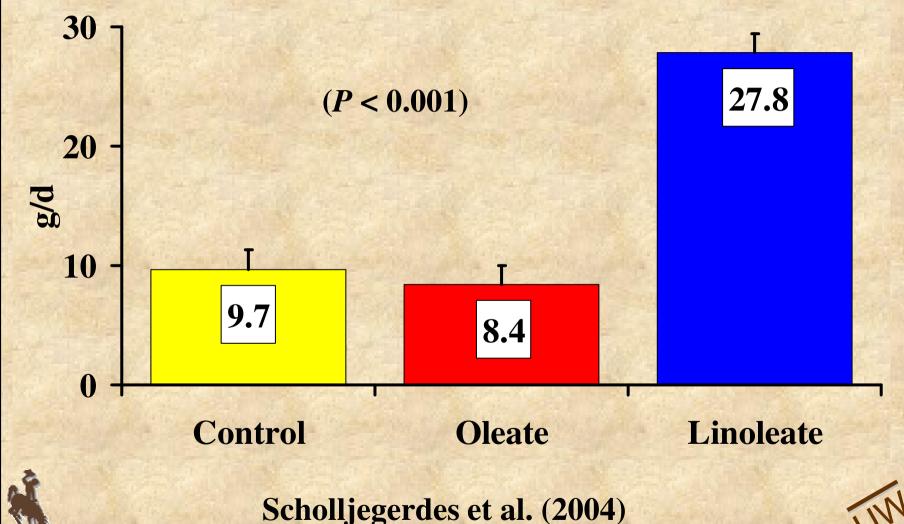


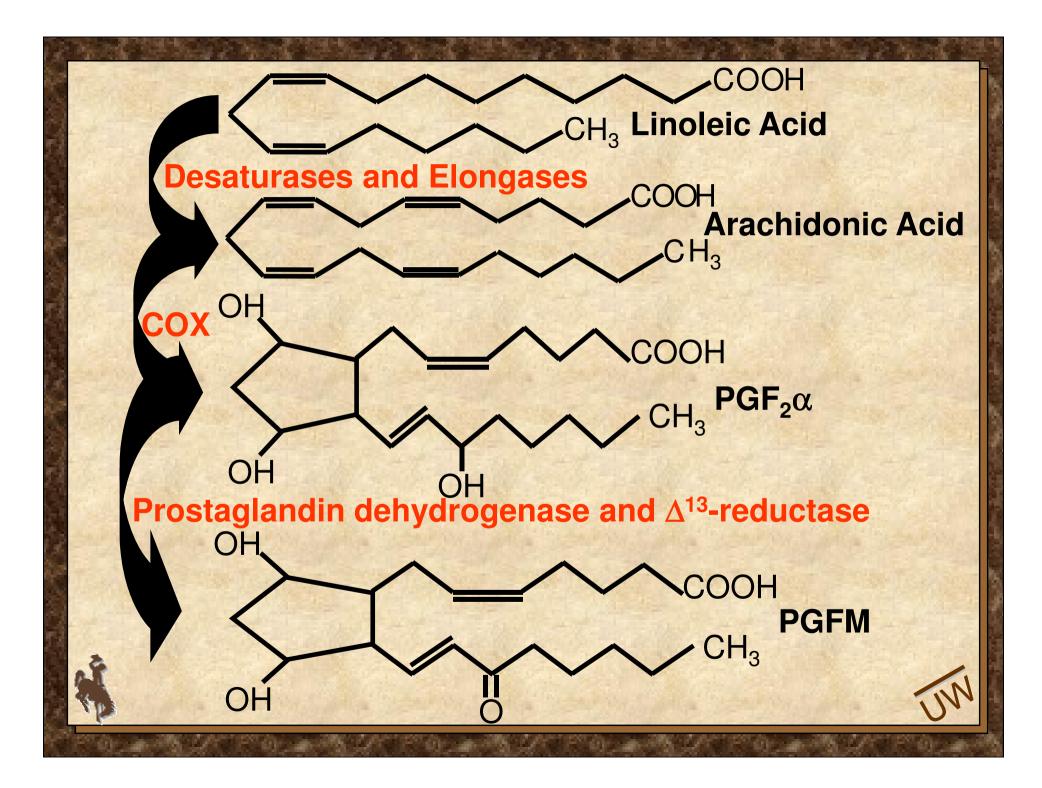
## **Anterior Pituitary GnRH Receptors**



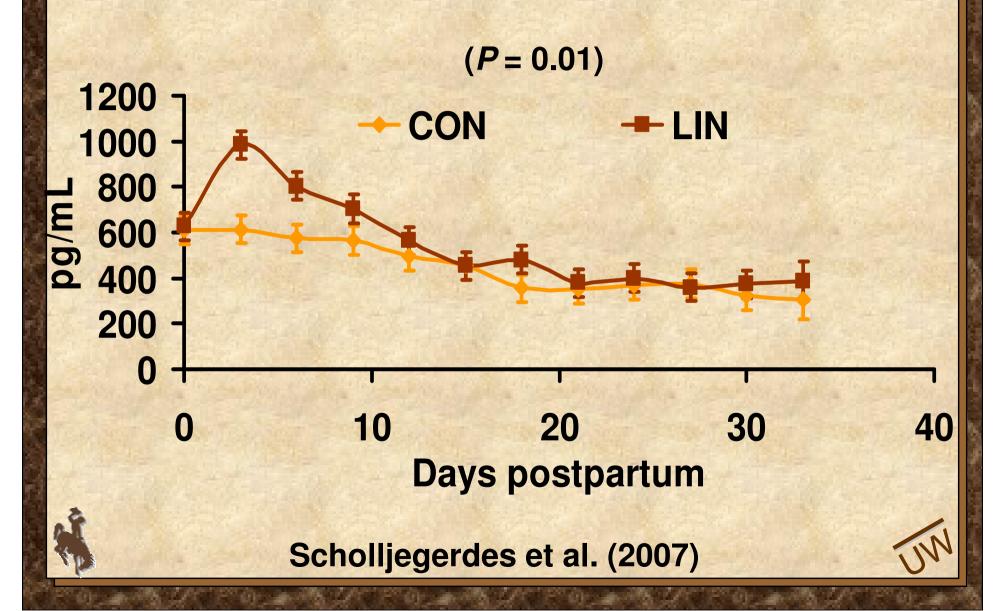




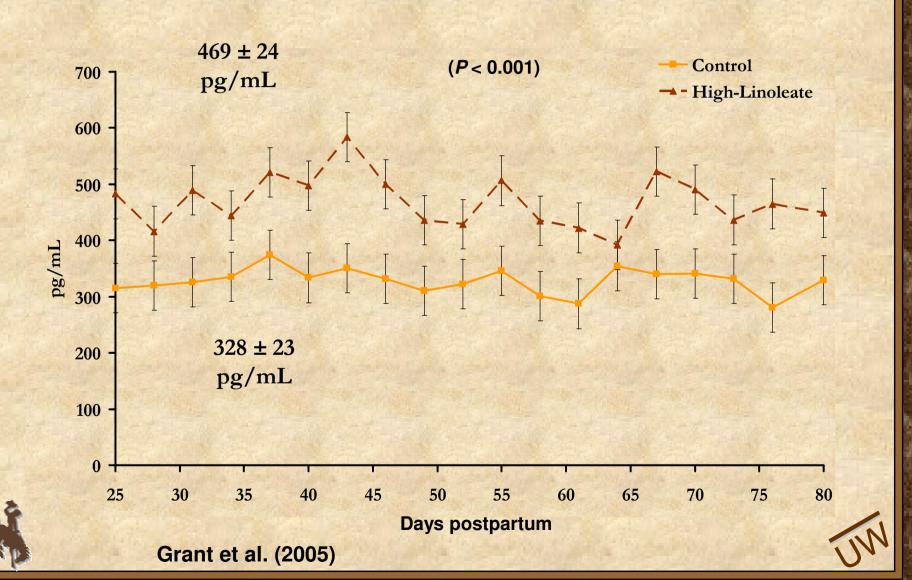


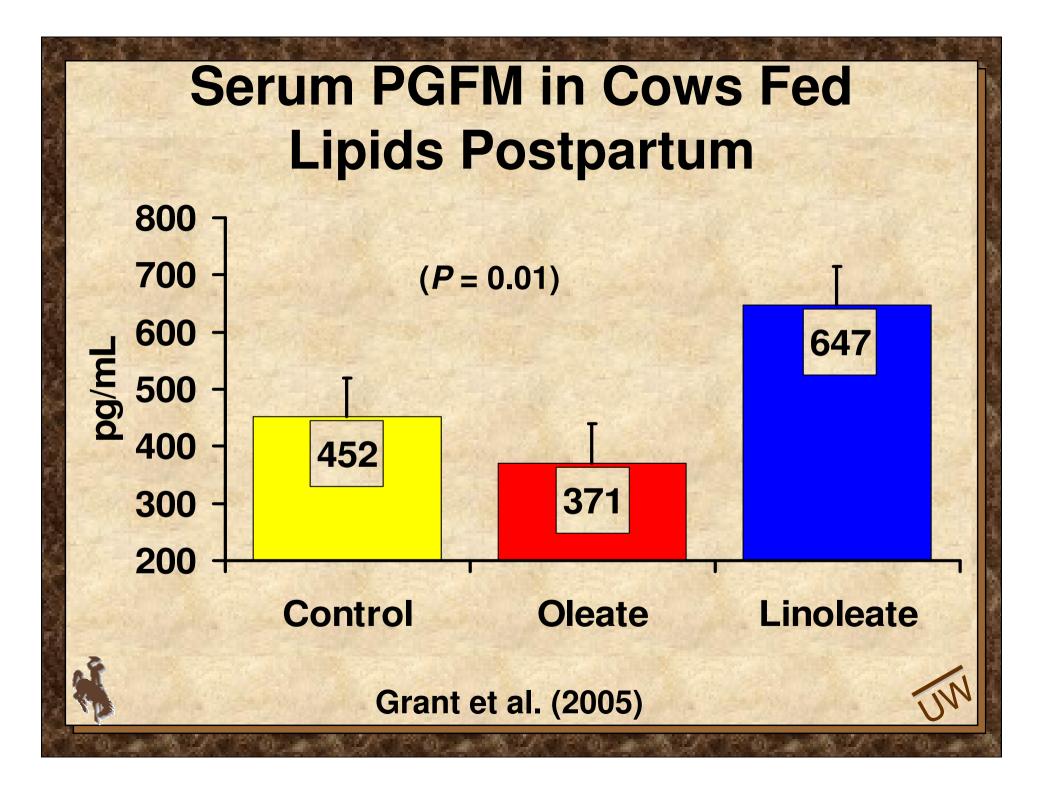


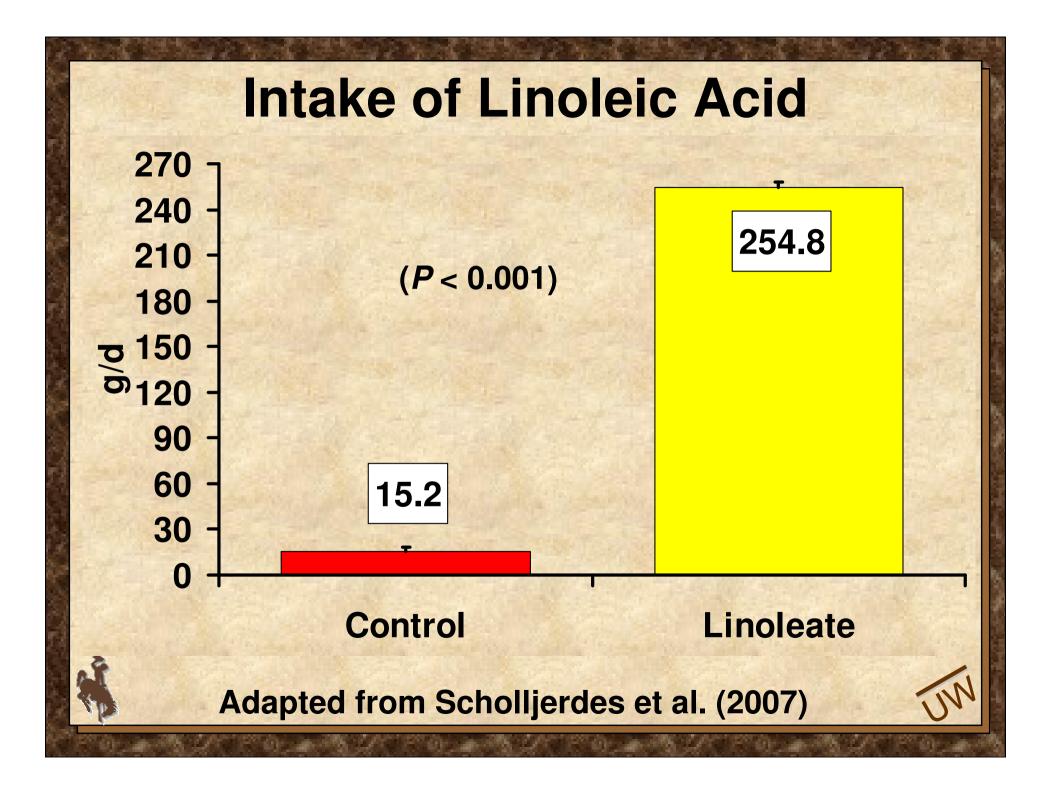
#### **Serum Concentrations of PGFM**

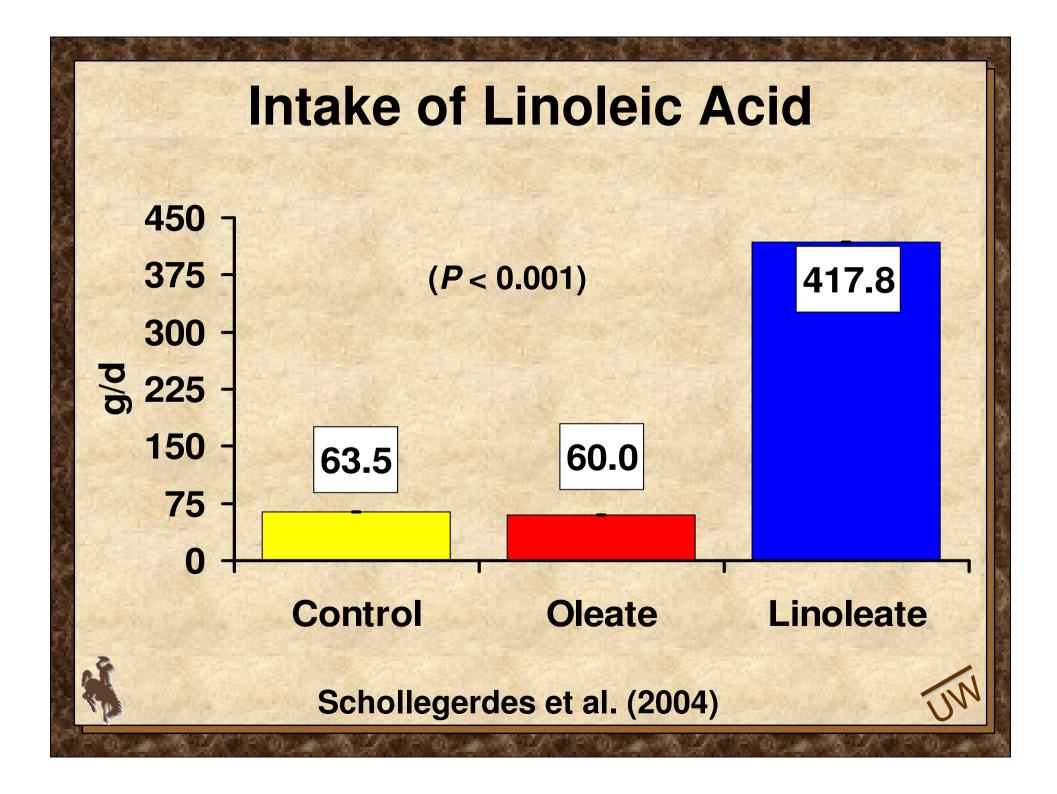


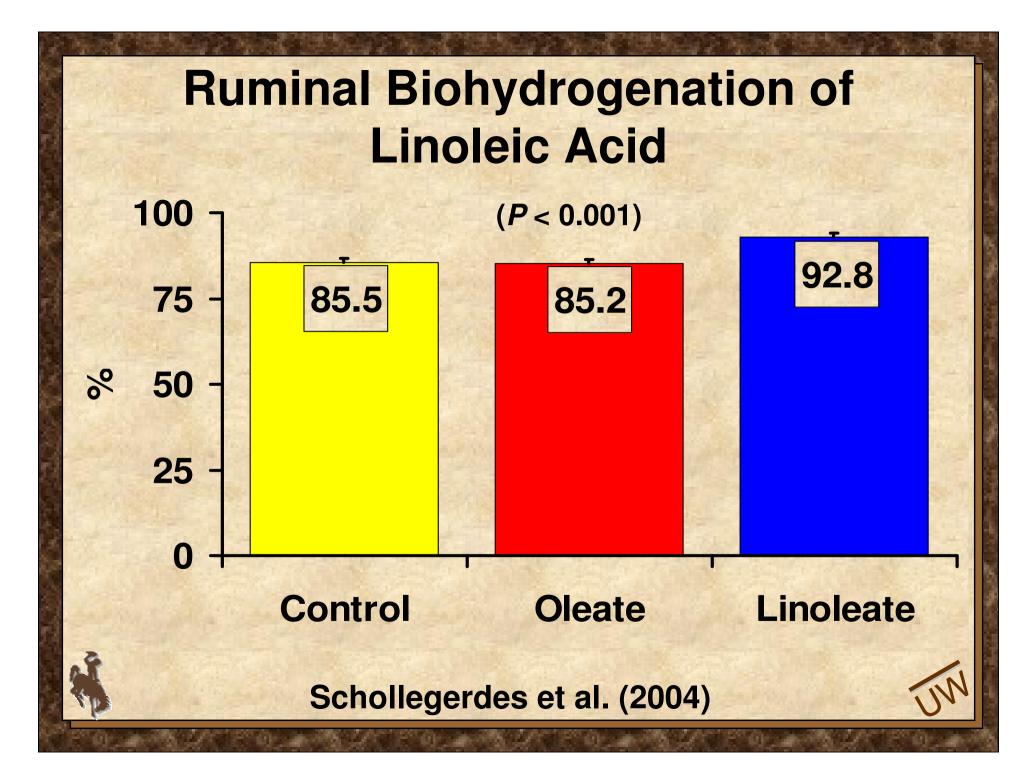
#### **Serum Concentrations of PGFM**

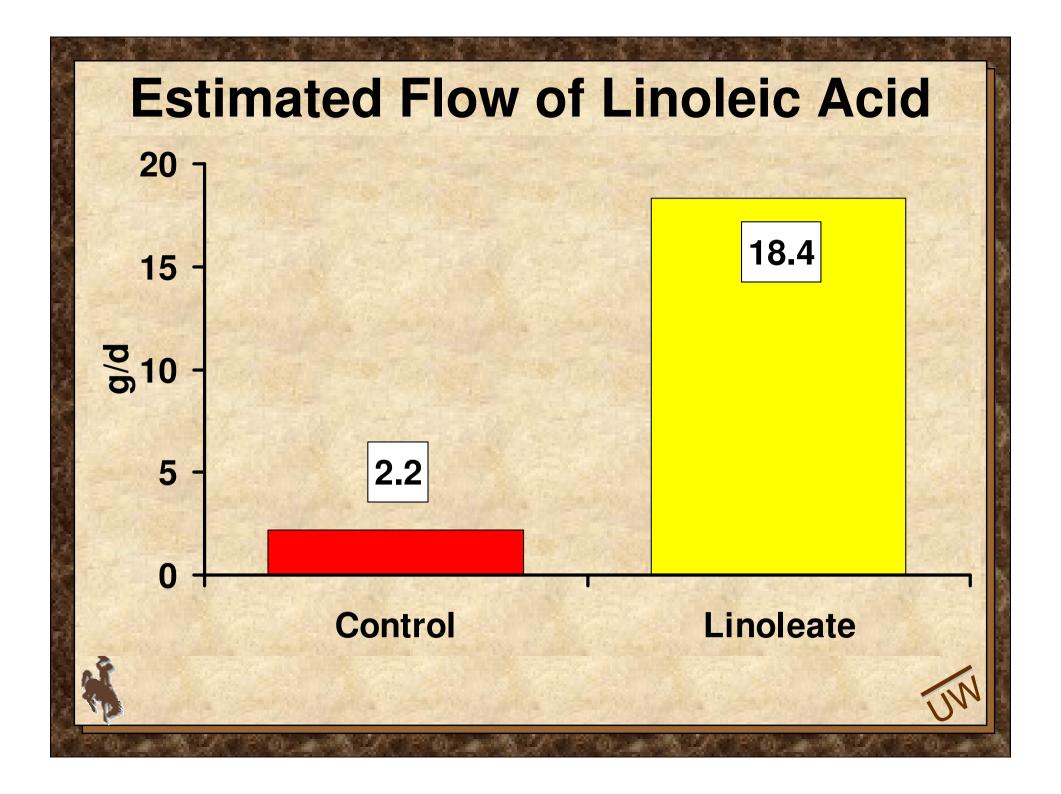


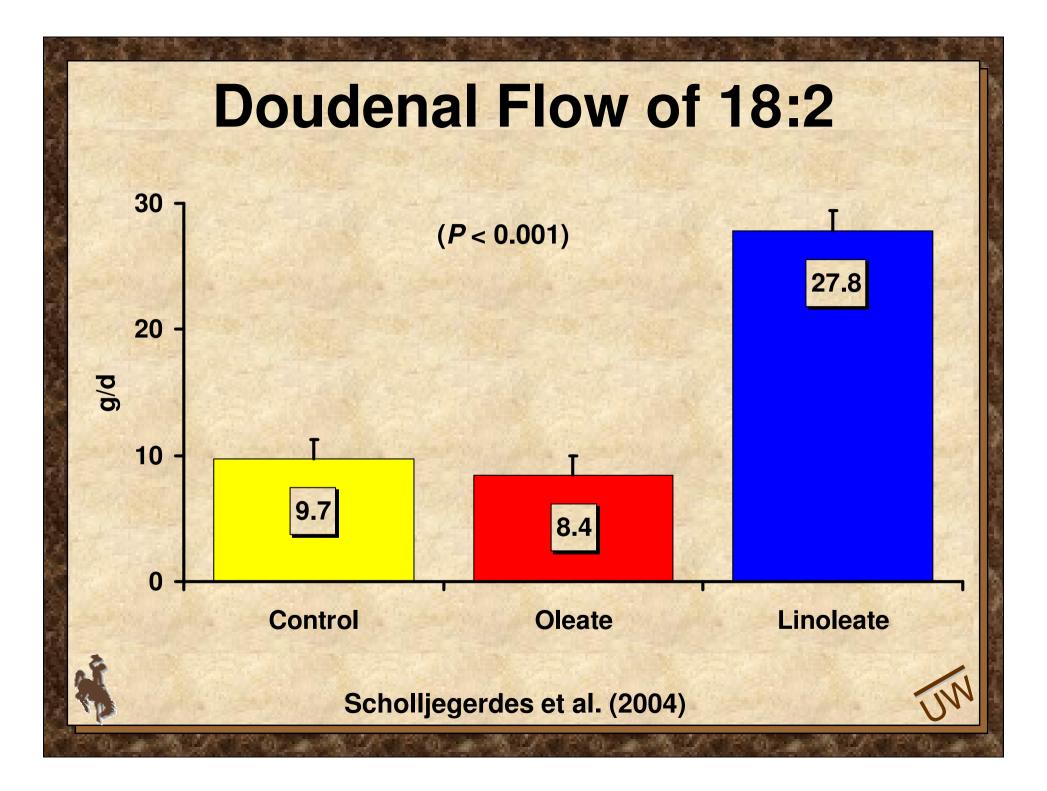




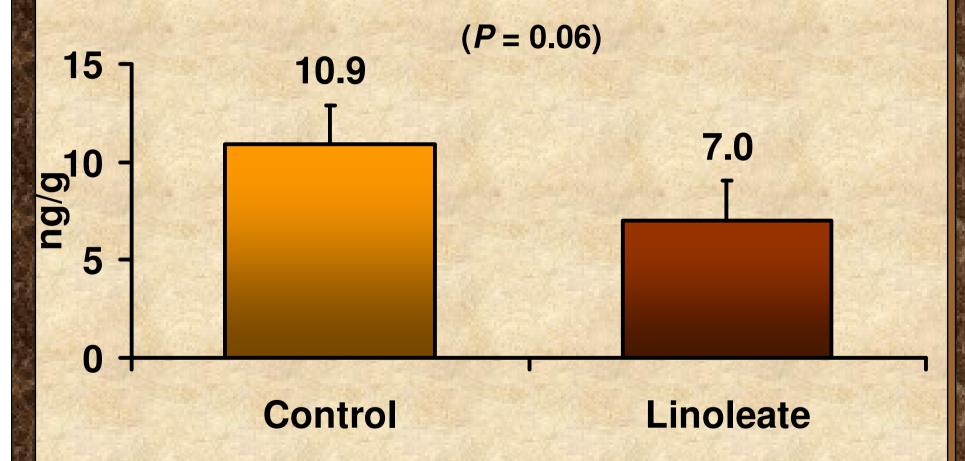








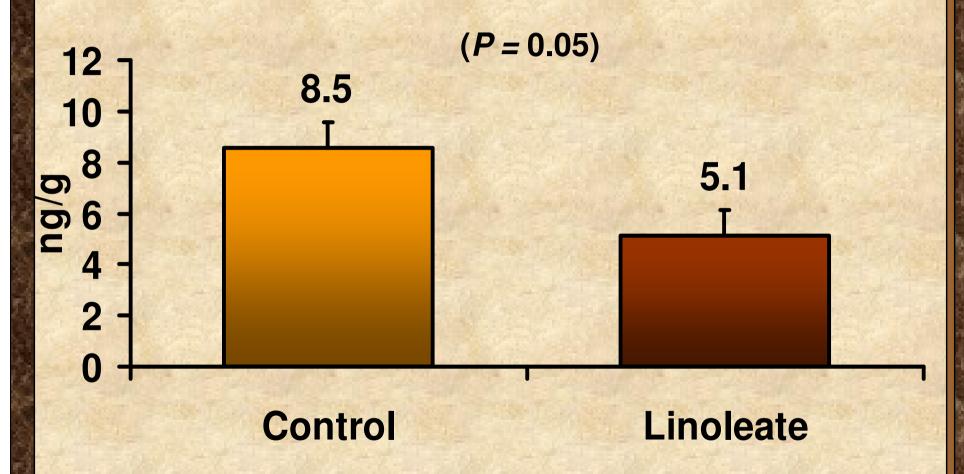
# Preoptic Area IGF-I







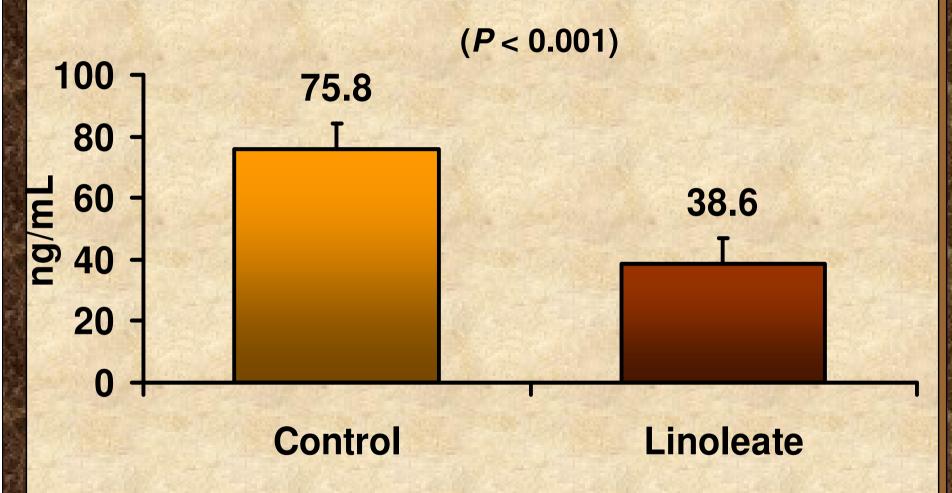
# Medial Basal Hypothalamus IGF-I









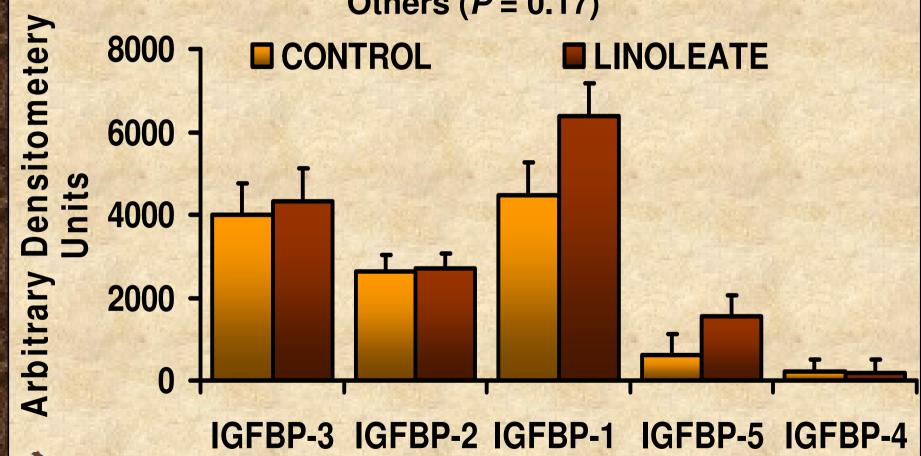




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#### Pooled Follicular IGFBP

IGFBP-1 (P = 0.09) Others (P = 0.17)





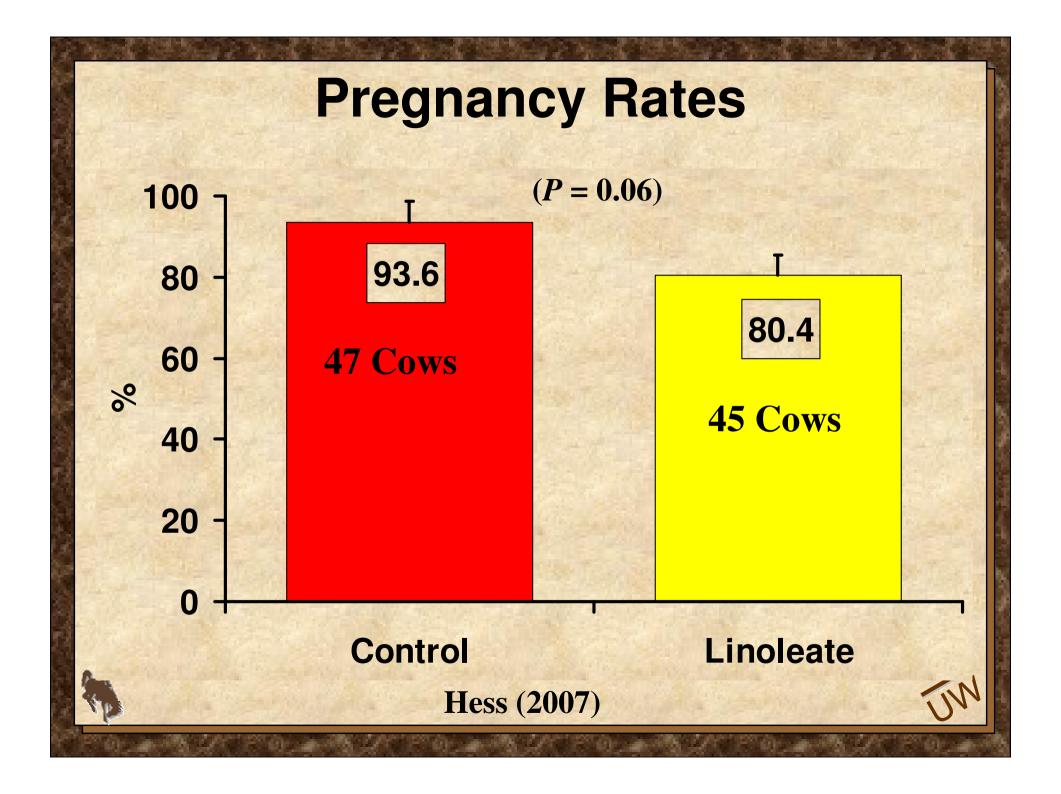


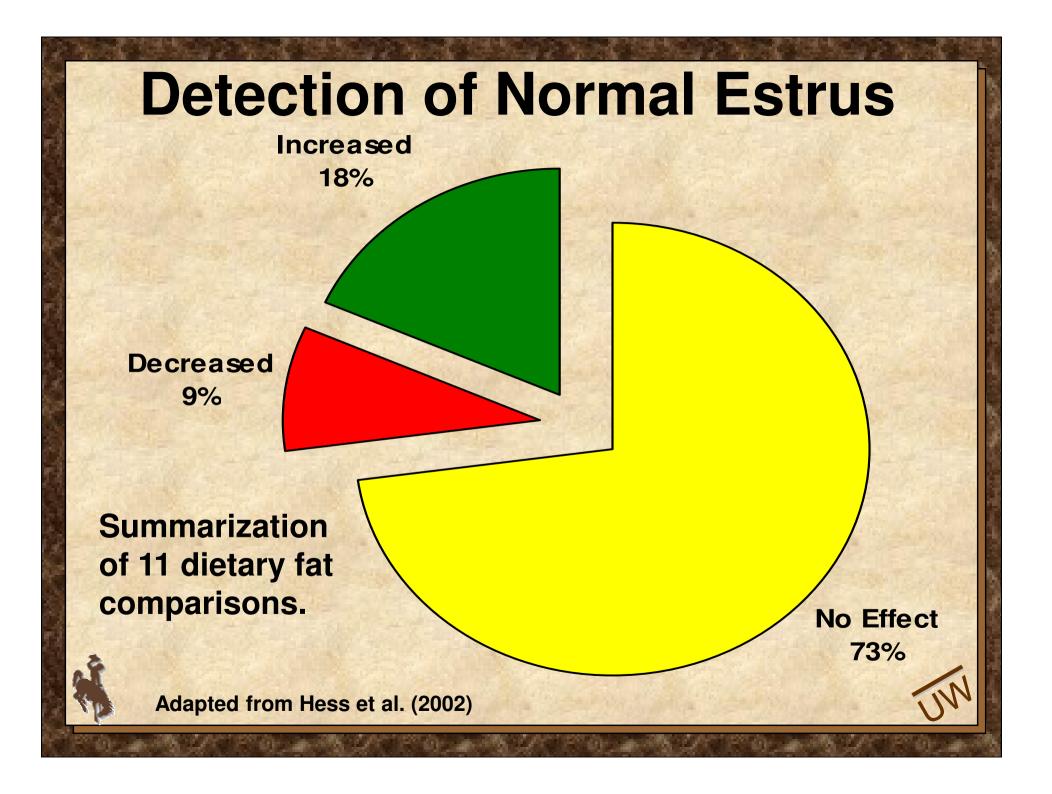
"Perturbations of the IGF-I system as a result of supplemental linoleic acid may reduce reproductive function in beef cows."

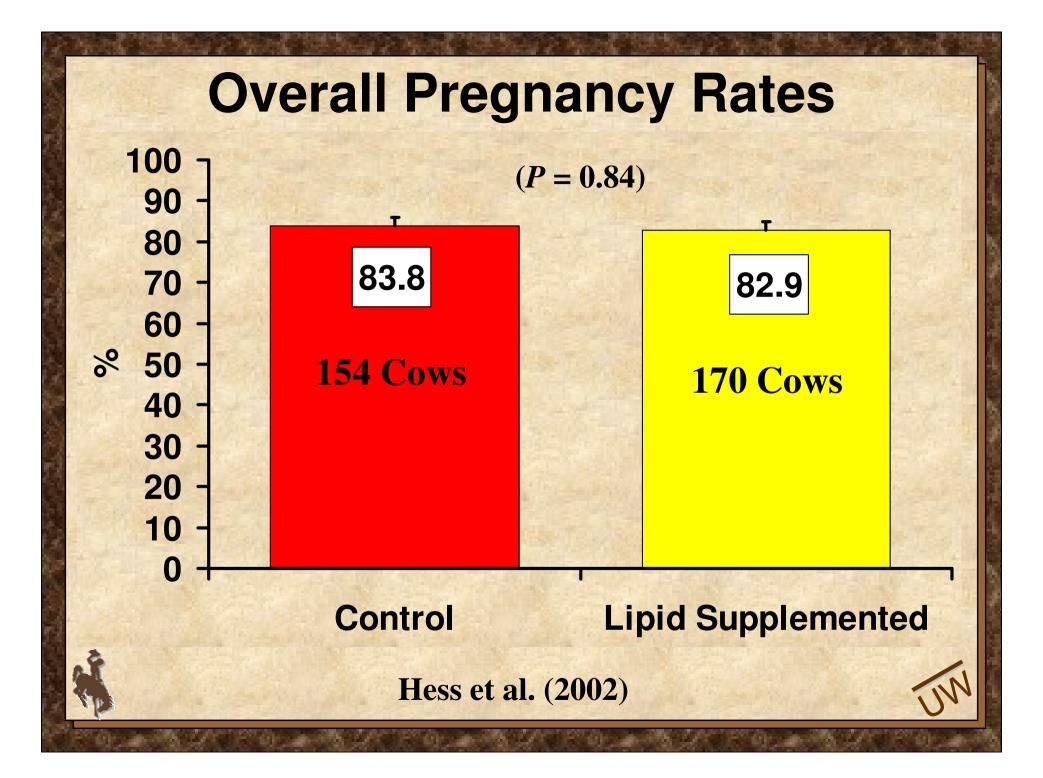
(Scholljegerdes et al., 2003)



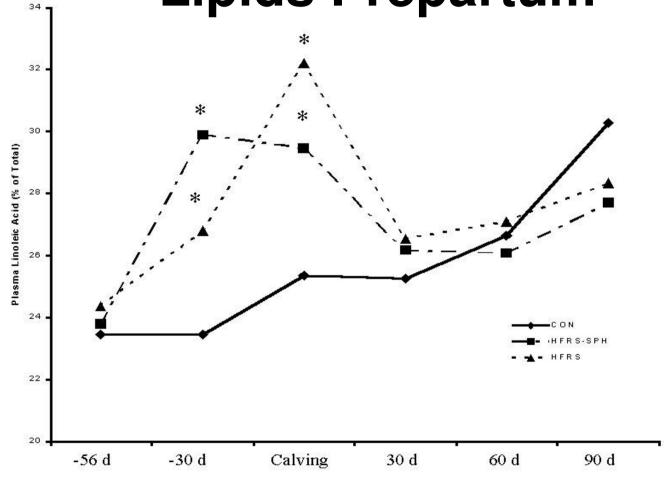






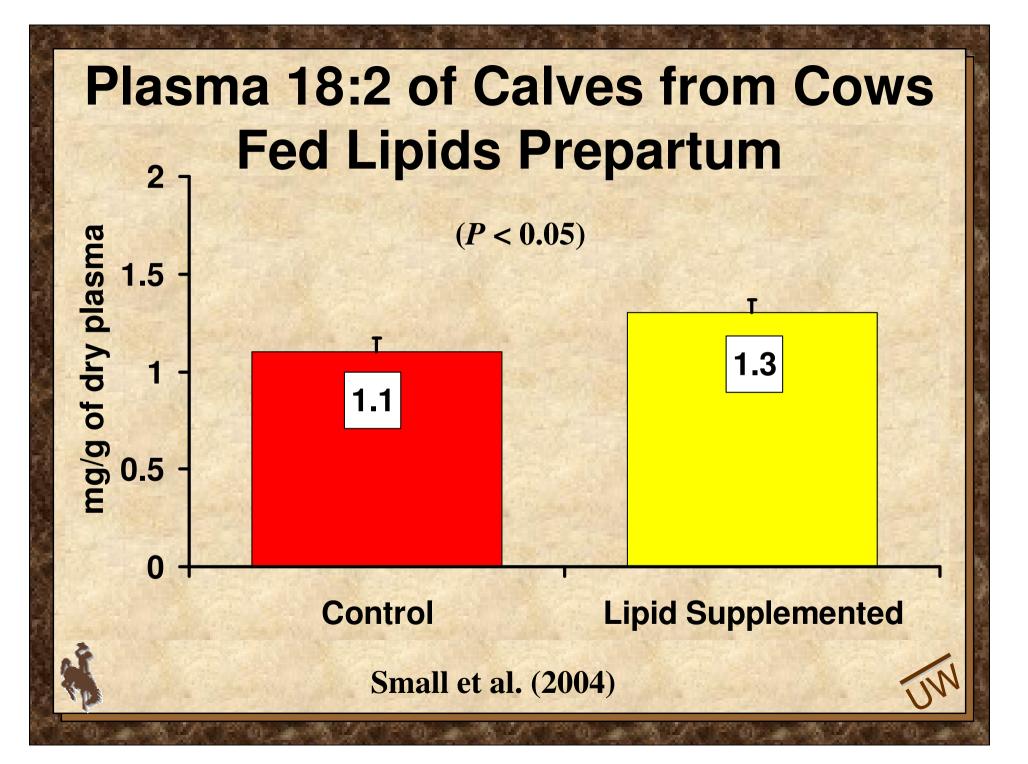


# Plasma 18:2 of Cows Fed Lipids Prepartum

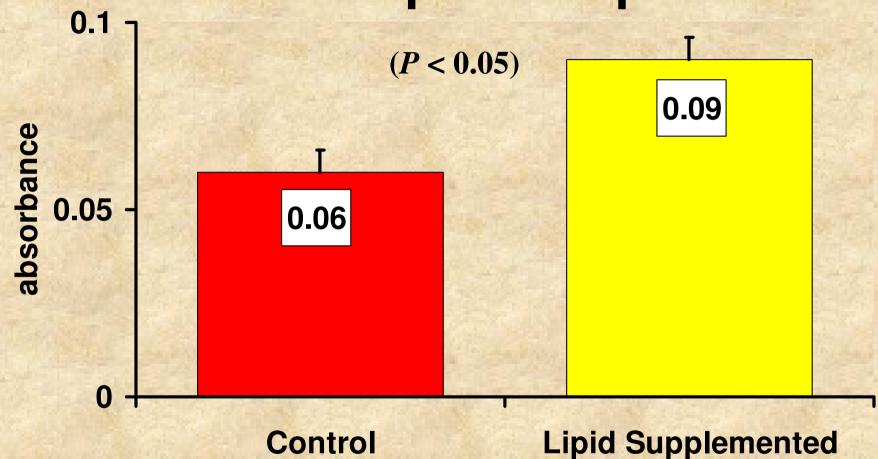




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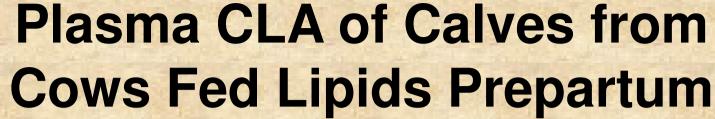
# Immune Response of Calves from Cows Fed Lipids Prepartum

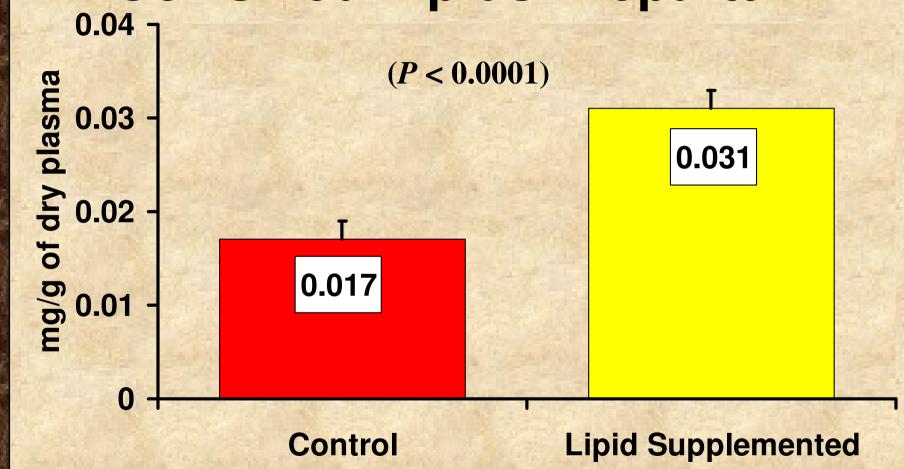




Small et al. (2004)









Small et al. 2004

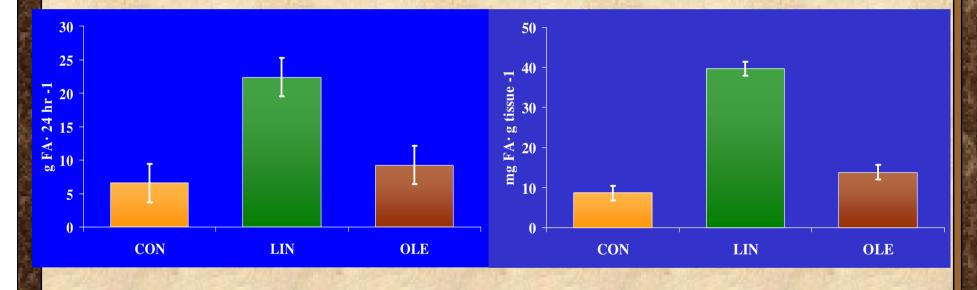




# Relationship Between Milk TVA and Calf Adipose TVA

P = 0.001

P < 0.0001



Milk

Calf





### Pathways of CLA Biosynthesis

Rumen (exogenous)

Tissues (endogenous)

18:2<sup>cis-9,cis-12</sup> (linoleic acid)



18:2<sup>cis-9,trans-11</sup>
(CLA)



18:1<sup>trans-11</sup>

18:2<sup>cis-9</sup>,trans-11

Δ<sup>9</sup> desaturase

18:1*trans-11* (TVA)



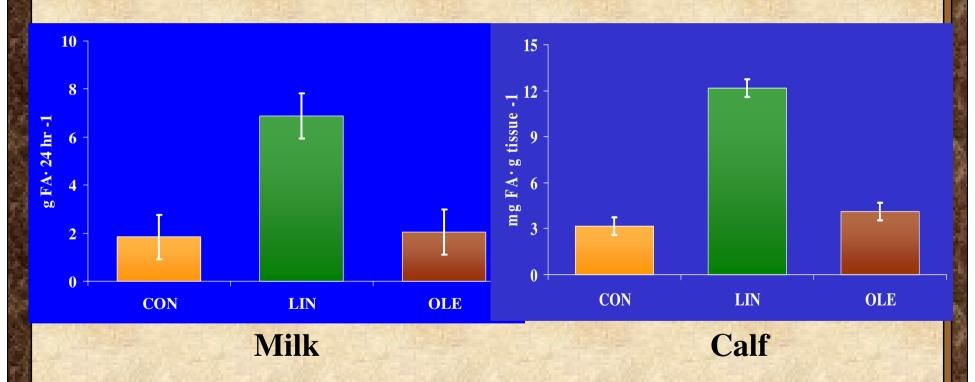
Adapted from Griinari and Bauman (1999)



# Relationship Between Milk TVA and Calf Adipose CLA

P = 0.001

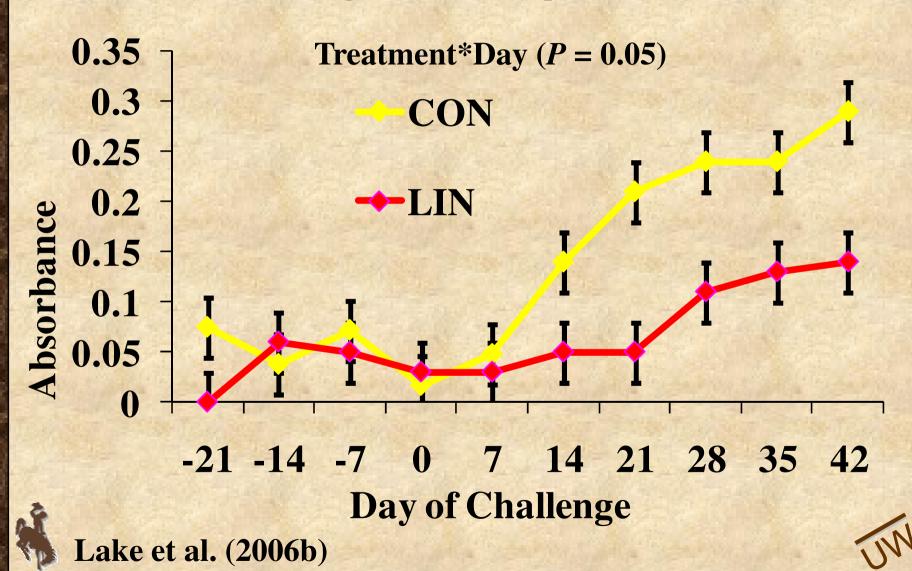
P < 0.0001







### **Antigen Response**



# Summary

Supplementing fat can be an effective strategy to increase energy density of the diet, but not in excess of 4% of DM intake.

Limiting supplemental fat to 2% of dietary DM will help prevent negative associative effects.

Extensive ruminal biohydrogenation of dietary C18 unsaturated fatty acids does not preclude the ability to alter unsaturated fatty acid status, including biohydrogenation intermediates.



## Summary

Positive effects on reproductive processes in beef cattle fed fat have been attributed to changes in unsaturated fatty acid status.

Developing replacement heifers should be fed supplemental fat for 60 to 90 d before the breeding season.

Although feeding fat prepartum seems beneficial, provision postpartum results in an equivocal response on pregnancy rate

- not 16 to 18 g/d of 18:2.

