



## **BULLCHECK™: Professional Reproductive Examination**

A Professional Reproductive Examination for bulls, or BULLCHECK™, provides breeders, vendors and buyers with assurance that bulls have a high probability of being fertile at the point of sale.

Performed by accredited cattle vets, who have demonstrated their ability to their peers and passed a high level assessment, a BULLCHECK™ is a relatively quick and economical examination that identifies risk factors for a bull's potential to be fertile in the future. Individual opinions may vary, but accredited vets use a transparent, consistent and agreed set of standards developed by Australian Cattle Vets (ACV), and the exam is carried out in a consistent and highly professional manner in accordance with these standards.

In addition to information on identification and history, a BULLCHECK™ may include the following five components:

- 1** Scrotal circumference measurement
- 2** General physical evaluation and examination of the reproductive tract
- 3** Serving ability assessment
- 4** Crush side semen assessment
- 5** Sperm morphology

Added to these can be other information on vaccination history, and when needed, diagnostic tests for diseases or genetic abnormalities.



Predicting the future is always difficult, but the BULLCHECK™ is the most scientific way to predict a level of 'fertility' and is based on many years of research and experience. Rather than simply assess the likelihood of good fertility at the time of examination, it is far more prudent to describe the level of 'risk' associated with using a particular bull for a particular purpose into the future. For this reason it is critical to have an accredited cattle vet perform a BULLCHECK™ Professional Reproductive Examination.

All information is assessed and input into the Bull Reporter software that enables the production of business-linked reports and allows for electronic storage of data. The report indicates the risk of reduced fertility at the time of testing the bull, and helps predict whether a bull is likely:

- to be able to seek out oestrus females,
- mate them repeatedly
- impregnate them with good quality semen

These standards for evaluating and reporting bull breeding soundness have been developed using feedback on the needs from veterinarians, bull breeders, vendors and buyers. BULLCHECK™ is an affordable examination that provides an accurate reporting system with an easy to read format that is the same across the nation.

Each element assessed receives a 'risk rating' in the following form:



**Tick** - All attributes for this component measured were consistent with the ACV standards. No risk factors for reduced fertility were identified during for this part of the BULLCHECK™ examination.



Some attributes for this component measured were not consistent with ACV standards. This bull has a significant risk of reduced fertility in the short term at least. Because some conditions may be temporary, the client should seek advice from their cattle veterinarian.



**Qualified** - Not all attributes for this component were consistent with ACV standards but these abnormalities may not necessarily preclude the bull's use. A further comment will be provided. The client should seek advice from their cattle veterinarian as to the suitability of this bull for a particular purpose. Retesting may be recommended.



This BULLCHECK™ component was not evaluated or not fully evaluated either at the owners request or as indicated.

In consultation with an accredited cattle vet, producers can consider all aspects of bull fertility when requesting a BULLCHECK™ and may choose whichever procedures will best minimise the risk of bull failure, or which are necessary to meet specific transaction requirements.

Don't leave anything to chance, safeguard your livelihood and demand a BULLCHECK™. It's specifically prescribed assessments rate the five fertility components for a sound and reliable breeding outcome.

**A BULLCHECK™ delivers confidence.**

There is only one way to have certified assurance for peace of mind and only one check looks at a bull's overall fertility rating including its health, history and overall mating ability in a scientifically based consistent manner and that is the BULLCHECK™ from an accredited vet.

**Demand TRANSPARENCY Demand SPECIFICS Demand a BULLCHECK™**

## Australian Cattle Veterinarians

A special interest group of Australian Veterinary Association

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