
Economic importance for reproductive traits of beef cattle, heifer pregnancy (HP) and stayability (STAY) were evaluated using simulated data for a cow-calf production system by bioeconomic modeling. HP was analyzed considering an increasing on the rate of heifers pregnant at 14 months of age, while STAY was evaluated by decreasing the culling rate of dams. The economic importance was evaluated in absolute terms, analyzed to the basis of the production system. HP was estimated in R$695.97 per percentage of heifers pregnant at 14 months and the economic importance of STAY ranged in relation to replacement market heifer price. The values estimated for STAY were of -R$2,140.00, -R$140.00 and R$2,860.00 to heifer prices of R$500.00, R$700.00 and R$1,000.00, respectively. The negative economic importance of STAY indicates a save value of the culling dam higher than the heifer price for replacement. Economic importance of STAY is more expressive with the increase of the value invested in a heifer for replacement.

Keywords: reproductive trait, bioeconomic model, beef cattle

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1 Exchange rate (jan.2006): US$ 1.00 = R$ 2.30