Forage and pasture management results from Western Canadian Cow-Calf Survey 2014

Kathy Larson¹ and Paul Jefferson² Soils and Crops Workshop 3:45 pm March 6 2018 ¹ Western Beef Development Centre <u>klarson.wbdc@pami.ca</u>

² PaulJeffersonSask@gmail.com





Background

- Mail or online survey
- 58 questions 2014 calf crop from breeding to weaning
- 411 responses; 68% by on line
- Alberta 49%, Saskatchewan 24%, Manitoba 18% and British Columbia 8%
- Soil zone, age, experience, province as factors

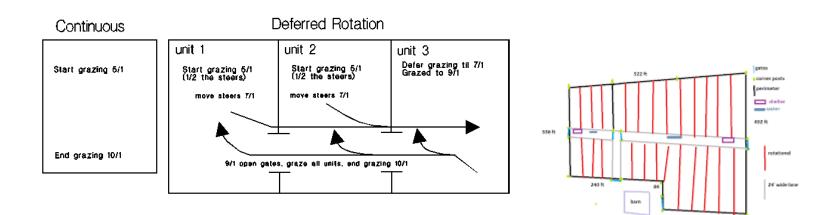




46. What type of grazing management do you typically use on your operation? Check only one per pasture type. Intensive refers to small paddocks grazed for short durations.

Native Pasture Continuous Rotational Intensive

Tame Pasture Continuous Rotational Intensive







47. In general, how often are your tame pastures reseeded or rejuvenated? Check only one.

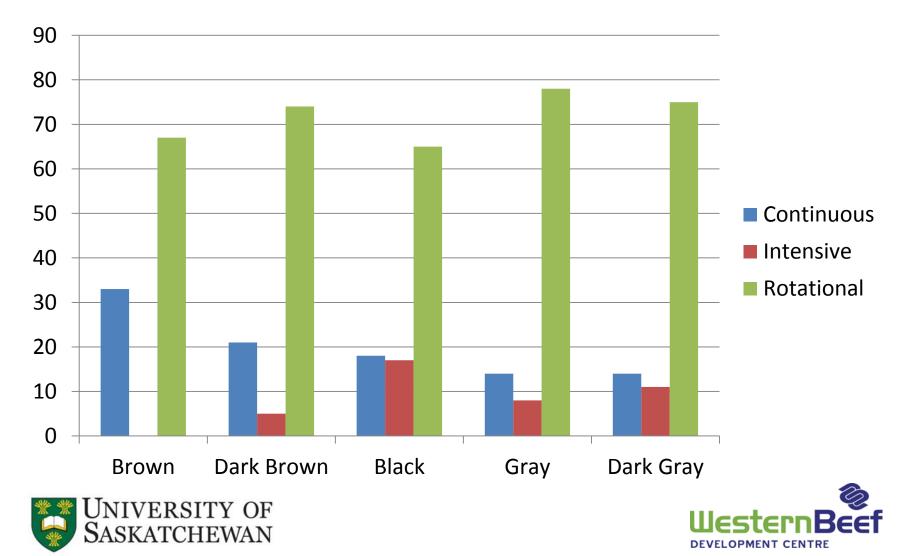
Every 1-5 years Every 6-10 years Every +11 years Never



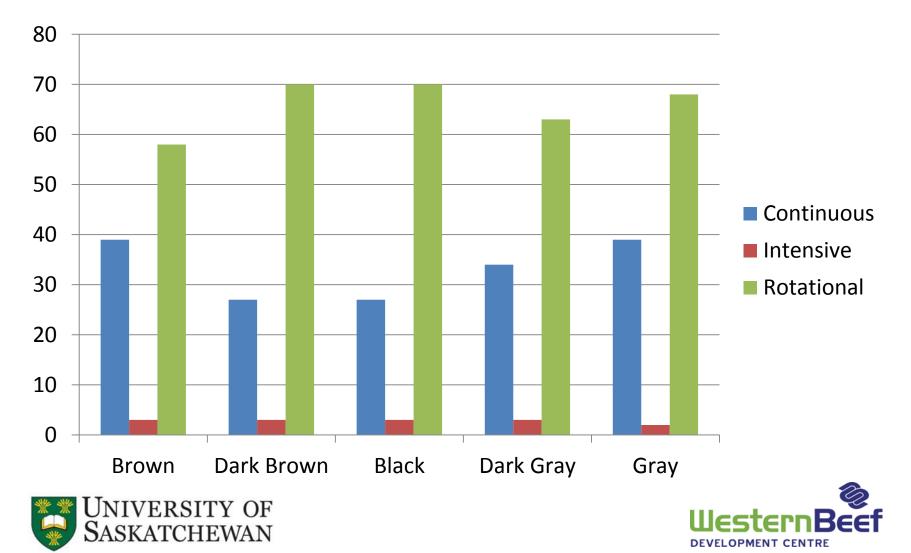




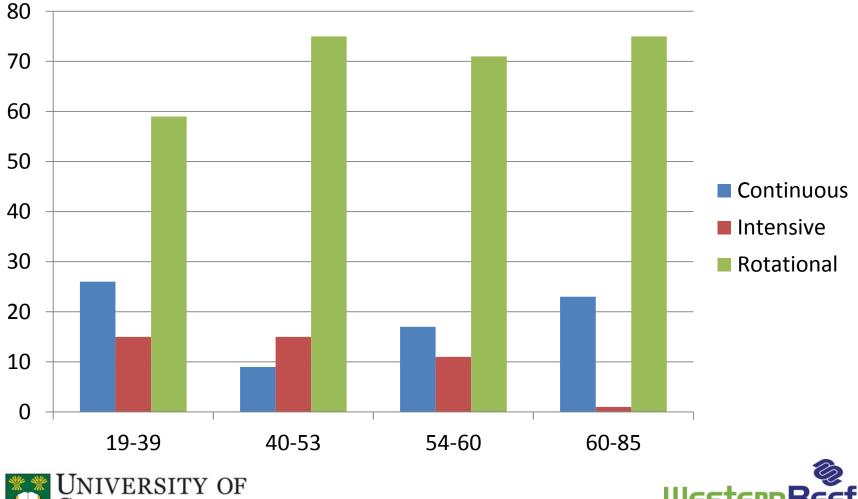
Tame pasture management system frequency (%) by soil zone



Native pasture management system frequency (%) by soil zone



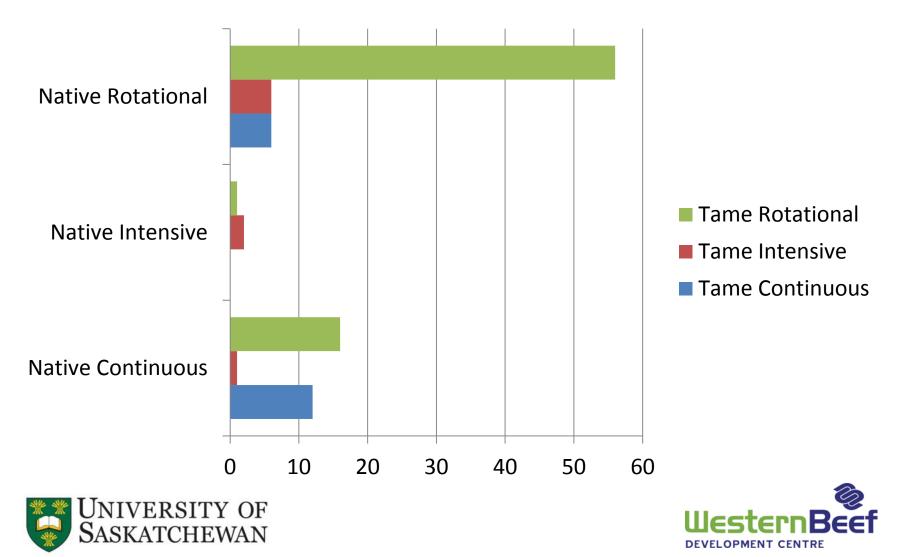
Native pasture management system (%) by age group



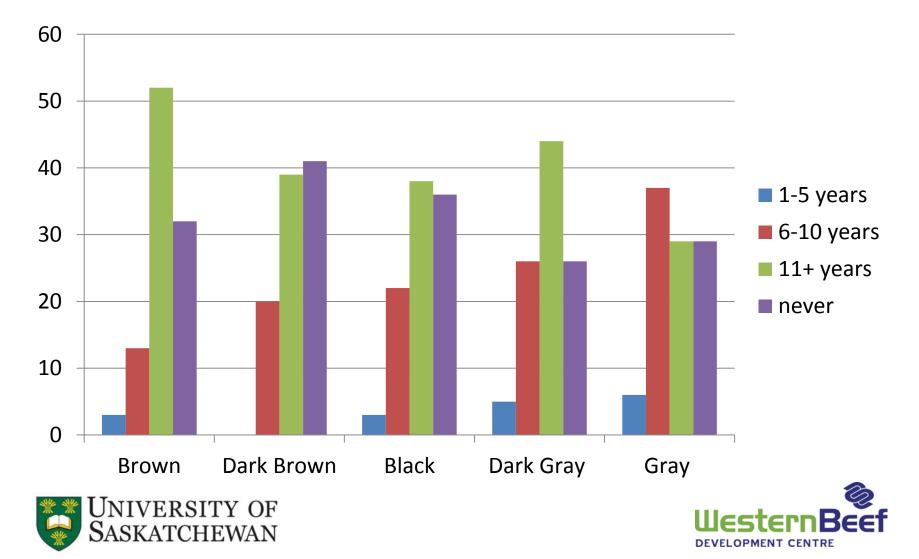




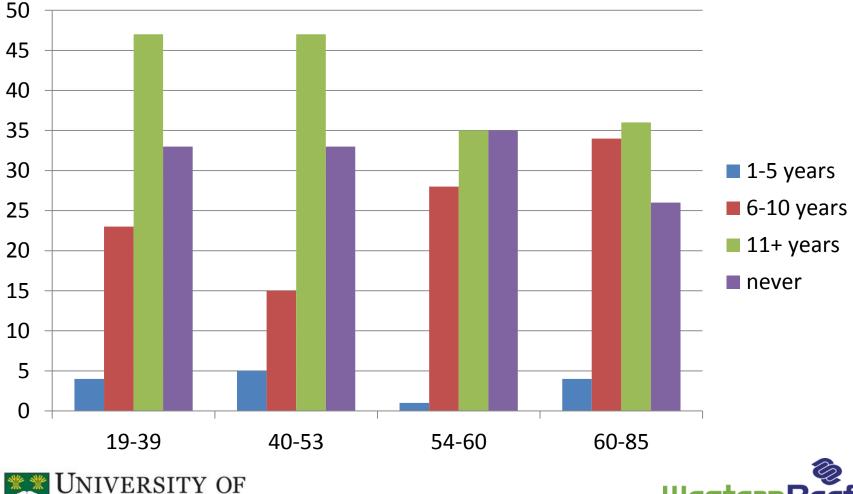
Utilization (%) of native and tame grazing system combinations



Pasture rejuvenation frequency (%) by soil zone



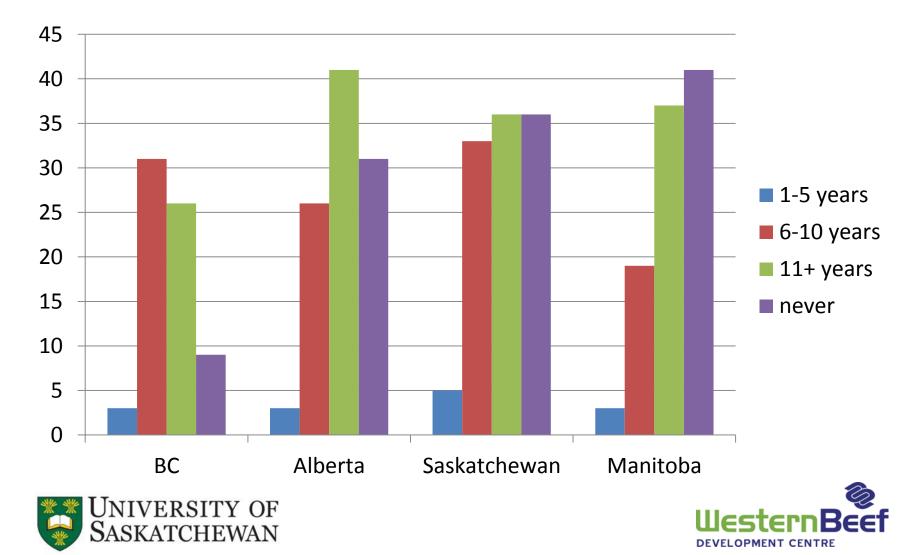
Pasture rejuvenation frequency (%) by age group



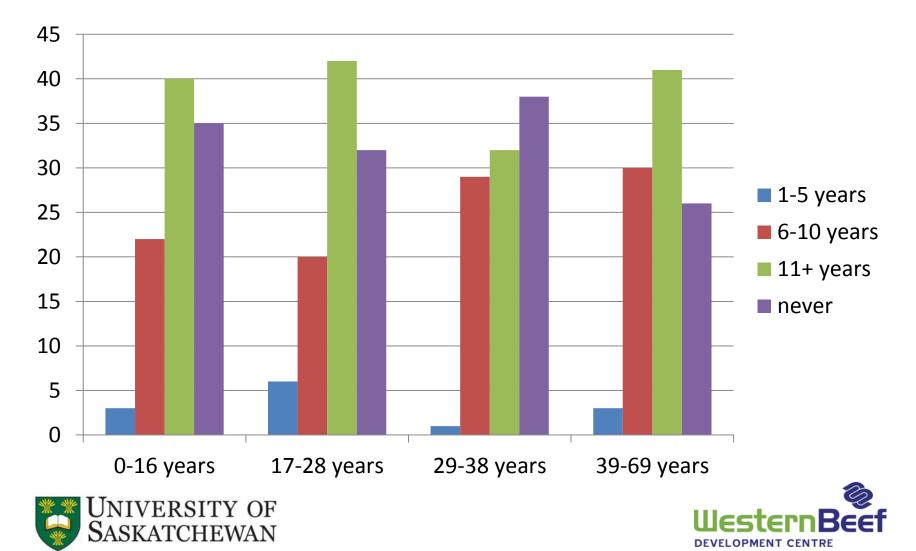




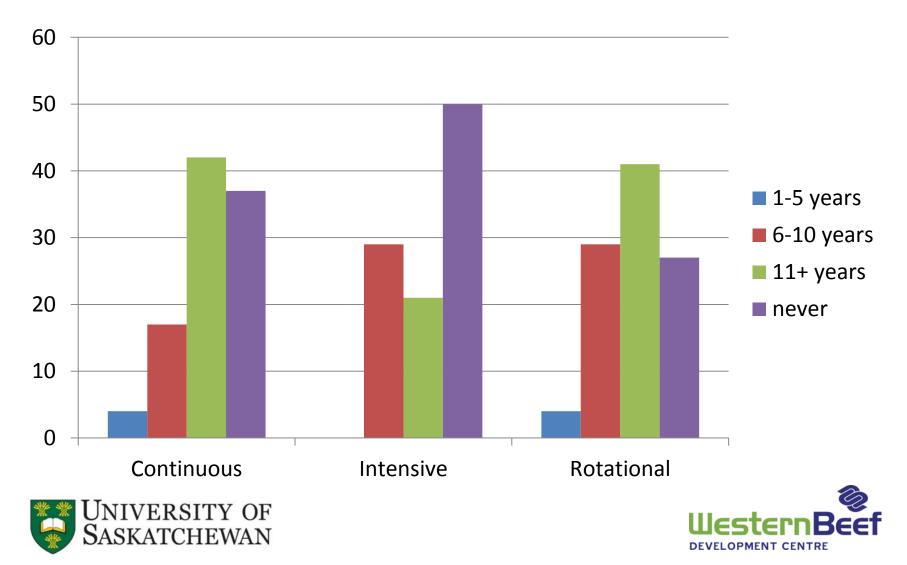
Pasture rejuvenation frequency (%) by province



Pasture rejuvenation frequency (%) by experience class



Pasture Rejuvenation frequency (%) by tame pasture management



Conclusions

- The majority of beef cow calf producers are not rejuvenating pastures
- The majority of beef cow calf producers are using rotational grazing management and less continuous grazing





Acknowledgements

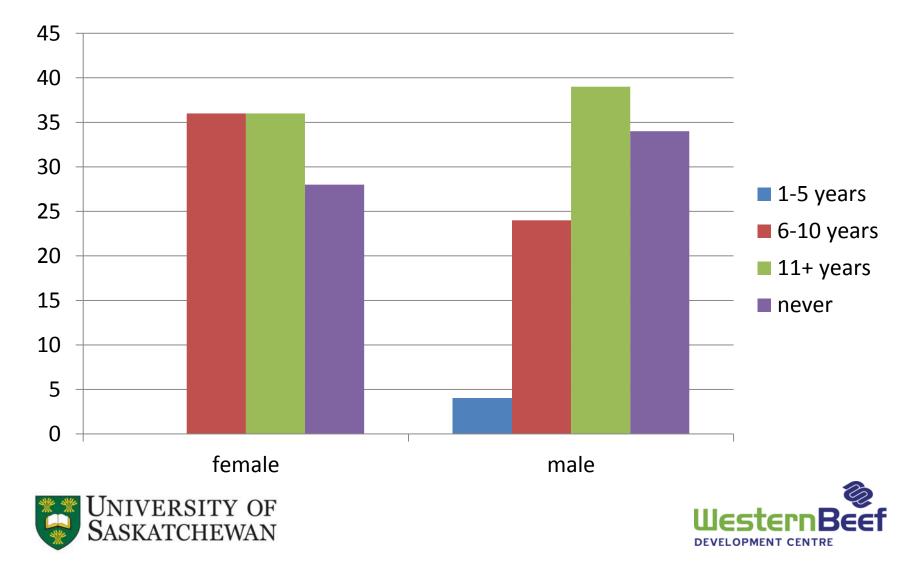
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture & Agricultural Development Fund (ADF) & Canada-Saskatchewan Growing Forward
- Beef Cattle Research Council
- Provincial beef producer associations
- Provincial ministries of agriculture
- Dr. Cheryl Waldner WCVM





Questions?

Pasture rejuvenation frequency (%) by gender



Grazing management is better but lots of room for improvement.

