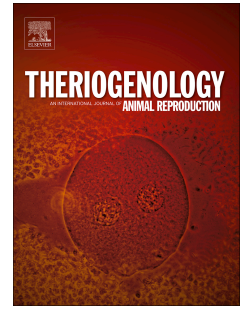


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Impact of a timed-release FSH treatment from 2 to 6 months of age in bulls I:
Endocrine and testicular development of beef bulls

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1 **Impact of a timed-release FSH treatment from 2 to 6 months of age in bulls I: endocrine**
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13

14 **Abstract**

15 In prepubertal males, FSH facilitates Sertoli cell proliferation and testis maturation. The study
16 aimed to determine the effect of an exogenous FSH treatment on hormone secretion and testis
17 development in Angus bulls. Bulls (n = 22) weaned at 53 ± 3.8 days of age were randomized into
18 two treatment groups based on age and pedigree. Beginning at Day 59, bulls were injected im
19 every 3.5 days with either 30 mg FSH (Folltropin-V; NIH-FSH-P1 units) in a 2% hyaluronan
20 solution (FSH-HA, n = 11) or saline (control, n = 11) until Day 167.5. Blood samples to assess
21 FSH, activin A, and testosterone were collected prior to each treatment. To determine how FSH
22 profiles surrounding treatment were affected, three intensive blood sampling periods, each
23 encompassing two treatment administrations, began at Day 66, 108, and 157, and blood was

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