

## Animal Science 434

### Reproductive Cycles in the Female

## Terminology

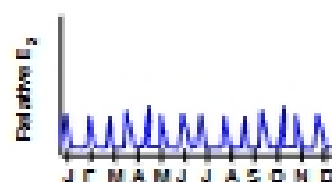
- Estrus is a noun.
  - The cow is displaying estrus.
- Estrous is an adjective.
  - The length of the estrous cycle is 21 days.
- Oestrus and Oestrous
  - British and European spellings
- Estrus and Heat are synonymous

## Terminology (cont.)

- Anestrus
  - When the female is not having repeated estrous cycles.

## Types of Cyclicity

### Polyestrus

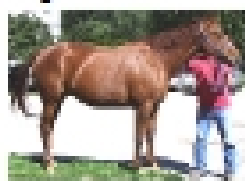


- Queen
- Cow
- Sow

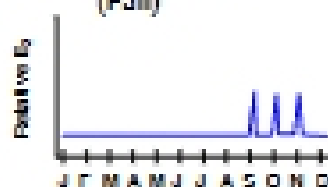
## Types of Cyclicity



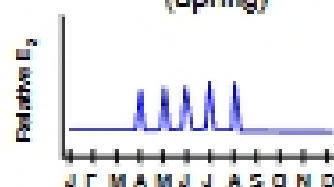
### Seasonally Polyestrus



Short day breeders  
(Fall)



Long day breeders  
(Spring)



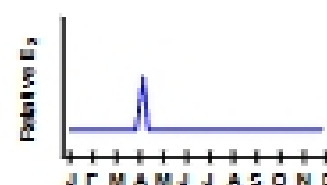
## Type of Cyclicity

### Monoestrus

Dog

Wolf

Bear



### Average Reproductive Cycles

Species	Length of Estrous Cycle	Length of Estrus	Ovulation	Length of Pregnancy
cow	21 days polyestrus	18 hr	11 hr after end estrus	302 days
ewe	17 days seasonal (fall)	28 hr	near end estrus	140 days
swine	21 days polyestrus	48-72 hr	35-45 hr after start estrus	115 days
mare	21 days seasonal (spring) polyestrus	4-8 days	3-6 day of estrus (1-2 days before end of estrus)	335 days

### Average Reproductive Cycles

Species	Length of Estrous Cycle	Length of Estrus	Ovulation	Length of Pregnancy
Dilch	6 months	9 days	4-24 days after start of estrus	63 days
Queen	17 days	9 days	Induced	63 days

### Variation in Cycle Types

Example	Type of Cycle	Follicular Development	Ovulation & CL Formation	CL Function
Cow, ewe, sow, mare	Long	Spontaneous	Spontaneous	Spontaneous
rats, mice, hamsters	Short (1 day)	Spontaneous	Spontaneous	Induced (prolactin)
rabbit, cat, mink, ferret, otter, alpaca	Induced	Spontaneous	Induced (LH surge)	Induced

