

Reproductive Physiology of Animals (I700042)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 4.0 **Study time 120 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 2)	Dutch	Gent	excursion
			seminar
			lecture

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Van Hecke, Thomas	LA22	lecturer-in-charge
Fievez, Veerle	LA22	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Science in Bioscience Engineering Technology	4	A
Linking Course Master of Science in Bioscience Engineering Technology: Agriculture and Horticulture (main subject Plant and Animal Production)	4	A
Preparatory Course Master of Science in Bioscience Engineering Technology: Agriculture and Horticulture (main subject Plant and Animal Production)	4	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Zootechnics, reproductive physiology in animals, livestock

Position of the course

Acquire a profound physiological knowledge of live-processes of the animal so that the student will be able to develop problem solving and scientifically well-founded production technics, which are economically and ecologically justified and in accordance with the consumer's demands.

Contents

Anatomy and physiology of the reproduction; zootechnical, practical and economical consequences; factors affecting milk production and milk composition. Production characteristics in pig production, measures to improve the fertility of the sow (oestrus and ovulation, gestations and conception, parturition and litter size). Production characteristics in cattle, measures to improve the fertility of the cow (including embryo transfer).

Initial competences

Competences acquired for 'general zoology', 'construction and physiology of the animal' and 'biochemistry'.

Final competences

- 1 Being capable to develop problem solving and scientifically based production technics, which are economically and ecologically justified and in accordance with the consumer's demands.
- 2 Being able to deal in a scientifically responsible way with the hormonal processes which regulate the growth and reproduction of animals.

- 3 Having knowledge and understanding of both the anatomical and physiological

processes that directly or indirectly regulate reproduction in farm animals.

4 Be able to advise preventive actions to reduce or prevent disorders of the reproductive system or the physiology of it

5 **General Competence:** To be able to evaluate scientific issues related to key physiological processes within an organism.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Excursion, Lecture

Study material

None

References

Journals available in library.

Course content-related study coaching

Permanent opportunity to ask questions

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is not possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Theory: Oral examination with written preparation

Exercises and excursions: reports

Calculation of the examination mark

Theory: 80 %

Exercises: 20 %

Students need to participate to all exams/assignments to succeed; for the aspects of permanent as well as non-permanent evaluation. The end assessment is a weighted average of the of the two subscores: 80% oral exam, 20% personal work (exercises).

If a subscore is less than 8/20 (not rounded-off), it is not possible to pass this course. In this case, if the weighted score is 10 or more, the final score will be 9/20.