Did you Vaccinate for Bovine Viral Disease?  
What will happen to a herd of 300 cows?

**Yes**

That cost you **$4.03/head**, if you include your labour and the vaccine shot.

- **Best Case Scenario:** You don’t have an outbreak.
  - None of your cows abort due to BVD.
  - You haven’t lost anything.
  - Your cost is only $1,209 or $4.03/head.

**No**

You’ve saved some money and time here because you haven’t vaccinated. But then you get a BVD outbreak.

- **Worst Case Scenario:** 59% (177 head) abort.
  - Big loss: $189,832.50 or $633/head.
- **Average case:** 20% (60 head) of your cows abort calves.
  - Your loss increases: $64,350 or $215/head.
  - Your loss increases: $64,350 or $215/head.
  - You lose $9,000 or $30/head.
  - You’ve now lost $26,550 or $89/head.
  - Total loss: $216,383 or $721/head.

*One aborted calf, weighing 550 lbs and sold at $1.95, creates a loss of $1072.50.*

*So you sell your open cows for $1350/head. You need replacement heifers. They cost $1500.*

- **None of your cows abort due to BVD**
  - That’s a $2,700 loss, or $9/head.
  - Total loss: $23,214 or $77/head.
  - Total loss: $73,350 or $245/head.
- **You’ve got a loss of $19,305, or $64/head.**
  - Your loss increases: $64,350 or $215/head.
  - You lose $9,000 or $30/head.
  - You’ve now lost $26,550 or $89/head.
  - Total loss: $216,383 or $721/head.

The BVD Vaccine may not be 100% effective. Researchers funded partially through the SCA and the BCRC are working to develop better and more easily delivered vaccines.

If you think you have BVD on your farm, contact the SCA office or your Livestock Specialist to learn about the BVD Screening and Control Program.