

## Increasing event data entry speed with the ditto key (\*) in DC305

The time required for manual entry of event data can be greatly decreased for events with multiple prompts (e.g., BRED) when the prompted information for a second cow is identical to the previous cow.

The first animal's information is entered in the usual manner. If the next animal's prompted information is identical to the first animal's data, an asterisk (\*) following the next animal's ID will serve as a ditto key and complete the animal's entry with no further prompts.

### Example using the ditto key with the BRED event entry command

Suppose there were these 5 animals requiring a BRED event entry:  
169 177 210 2112 2210

The 5 events have identical:

Dates	(example 08/01/10)
Service Sire	(example 11H1234)
Technician	(example 1 Sam)
Breeding Code	(example S Standing Heat)

There will be 5 prompts for cow 169:

```
ID    169 <enter>
Date  08/01/10<enter>
Sire  11H1234<enter>
Tech  1 <enter>
Code  S<enter>
```

When the prompt for ID appears for the second cow's ID, instead of typing **177<enter>**, type **177\*** to complete the entry for 177 with no further prompts.

Likewise, entering the sequence below is all that is required to complete the entries, saving many keystrokes and potentially decreasing mistakes.

```
210*
2112*
2210*
```