



Management of Mares for Frozen Semen Insemination

1. Verify that the mare is a suitable candidate for AI with frozen semen by performing a routine reproductive exam that may include culture, cytology and biopsy when indicated. Data suggests that aged (>15 years) or repeatedly barren mare will have a significantly reduced pregnancy rate and should not be selected for use with frozen semen.
2. Once the mare comes into Estrus, palpate and or scan daily to monitor follicular activity.
3. Upon detection of a large (35-40 mm) pre-ovulatory follicle, administer hCG or Ovuplant.

If More Than One Dose Of Semen Is Available For Insemination On A Given Heat Cycle:

- Continue to examine the mare via ultrasound once daily and inseminate a single dose of frozen semen approximately 24 hours after hCG administration.
- Examine the mare approximately 16 hours after insemination and inseminate a second dose of frozen semen even if the mare has already ovulated.
- Examine the mare the following day to confirm ovulation. Insemination of a third dose may be required if the mare has still not ovulated.

NOTE: A general goal for mares inseminated with frozen semen is to inseminate within 12 hrs prior to or within 6 hrs after ovulation. This protocol insures that viable sperm are in the oviduct during that interval for any mare that ovulates within a period of 18 to 52 hours following administration of hCG or Ovuplant.

If Only One Dose Of Semen Is Available For Insemination:

- Examine the mare via ultrasound at 6-hour intervals starting 12 – 24 hours after hCG or Ovuplant administration.
- Inseminate the single dose of frozen semen as soon as ovulation is detected. **It is extremely important that mares being inseminated post-ovulation are inseminated within 6 hours of ovulation. A significant reduction in fertility will occur if mares are inseminated more than 6 hours post-ovulation.**

** Mares that exhibit a delayed clearance of post-mating induced fluid should be treated with oxytocin (greater than 4 hours after each breeding or after the last breeding) and or uterine lavage to aid in the mechanical expulsion of fluid from the uterus.