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# STALLION AI SERVICES LTD



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**Stallion:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of doses supplied:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Colour of straws:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of straws per dose:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Please use all the specified straws for one insemination. Do not split doses.)

## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR HANDLING AND THAWING FROZEN SEMEN** **Packaged in 0.5ml Straws**

### **The Nitrogen Shipper – Please read before opening the container**

Frozen semen should only be handled by a veterinarian or technician experienced in handling liquid nitrogen and frozen semen. The container must not be tipped or laid on its side. There is a possibility this may have occurred during shipping so the frozen semen should be moved into a holding tank as soon as possible. This container is only a shipping tank not a storage tank. Do not open the container until you are ready to transfer the straws into the storage tank. Exposing the straws to room temperature for more than 2 seconds will initiate thawing and cause irreversible damage to the spermatozoa.

### **Thawing the semen**

#### **Materials needed for semen thawing**

- Gloves and protective eye-wear for handling the nitrogen container and frozen straws
- 37°C constant temperature water bath
- Tweezers
- Paper towel
- Scissors
- Straw probe (if available)
- Sterile, pre-warmed insemination equipment

#### **Procedure for semen thawing**

1. Prepare the mare aseptically prior to opening the container. Soaps and disinfectants are spermicidal and should not be used.
2. Using the tweezers remove the straws one at a time from the nitrogen container and place them in the water bath. The straws should not be exposed to room temperature for longer than 2 seconds.
3. Leave the straws in the water bath for 30 seconds.
4. Remove the straws from the water bath one at a time and dry them thoroughly with paper towel. Any excess water will be spermicidal.
5. Holding the straws vertically (the end with the crimp or the sealing ball at the top) and cut off the crimped or sealed end.
6. Unless using an AI gun invert the straws into a sterile, pre-warmed test tube and either push the semen through using a straw probe or cut off the plugged end of the straw and let the semen run into the tube. Ensure all the semen is emptied from the straw.
7. Do not extend or dilute the semen as the freezing extender may react with your extender and kill the spermatozoa.
8. Attach the catheter to the syringe. Draw 5ml of air into the syringe and then gently draw the semen from the bottom of the test tube into the catheter not the syringe.
9. You are now ready to inseminate the mare.

**If you have any queries regarding handling the container or the straws  
please do not hesitate to contact us on one of the numbers above.**

**PLEASE RETURN THE FLASK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AFTER 7 WORKING  
DAYS WE WILL CHARGE A DAILY RENT OF £15 PER DAY.**