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PROCEDURE FOR EMBRYO TRANSFER

Embryo Transfer is a precise procedure, and to achieve satisfactory results, great care has to be taken with each aspect of the program.

It has become increasingly apparent that the BEST RESULTS are achieved by:-

1. **SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING** the donor ewes from the time CIDRs are inserted until the time of Insemination - lupins are preferential ie 200 gm / head / day + a good quality hay. **Once insemination has been performed just feed oaten hay.**

The recipients should also be fed lupins up until CIDR removal and then remain on good paddock feed &/or oat / lupin mix.

DO NOT SUPPLEMENTARY FEED DONORS AND/OR RECIPIENTS THE DAY PRIOR TO AI AND ET

- 2. It is **ESSENTIAL** to keep the **ewes isolated from the smell and sight of rams** until the CIDRs are removed and the teasers are released with the ewes.
- 3. **Quiet, gentle handling** of the ewes at all times. Dogs **MUST** be kept to an absolute minimum.
- 4. It is **ESSENTIAL** to perform any sheep husbandry procedures prior to CIDR insertion, eg drenching, tooth grinding.
- 5. It is **PREFERABLE** for all ewes to be shorn (or have less than 3 months wool growth) prior to CIDR insertion.

We will supply the necessary drugs for synchronisation of the ewes. You will be required to insert and remove the CIDRs and inject the necessary drugs.

We will inseminate the ewes on the date allocated. It is essential to keep the ewes off feed and water for 12 hours prior to insemination. This is generally carried out at GENSTOCK.

Two people will be required in the shed at the time of insemination & embryo transfer to load and unload the ewes into the cradles. SEC power, a sturdy table and water (preferably rain water) must be available.

The drugs supplied MUST be kept refrigerated.

If you have any queries or run into any problems please contact a member of our staff on the above numbers.

CIDR INSERTION

- Wash hands prior to CIDR insertion
- Place one device into the applicator so that the short legs are folded together with only the tips protruding from the applicator.
- Insert the loaded applicator, sloping slightly UPWARDS, through the vulva and then forwards, without forcing, into the forward portion of the vagina
- Release the device by depressing the applicator plunger leaving the cord protruding from the vulva. It is not uncommon for the CIDR to be partially removed from the vagina when removing the applicator. To avoid this, place a finger against the cord so the CIDR stays in place during withdrawal of the applicator. No part of the thickened white core should be visible post applicator removal. If inserted incorrectly, remove the CIDR and reinsert.
- After each insertion, the applicator should be wiped clean
- Wash hands immediately after insertion and removal
- The CIDRs are replaced on day 9 FOR DONORS only.

INSTRUCTION FOR MIXING DRUGS

Folltropin - Donors ONLY

- Mix Folltropin at the time it is required ie by using the 20ml syringe & 18g (pink) needle provided. Withdraw only 20mls of diluent from the bottle and place it into the freeze-dried powder bottle.
- Shake it gently until all the powder is dissolved.
- There will be some pressure build up in the bottle being reconstituted. Make sure the excess air is removed prior to withdrawing the needle out of the bottle.
- Using the 10ml syringe and yellow needle, withdraw the correct dose from the bottle into the syringe. Remove the needle from the syringe leaving the draw needle in the bottle, and attach the 21g (green) needle for injecting.

Pregnecol (PMSG) – Donors and Recipients

Mix the PMS at the time it is required.

- It is convenient to mix the P.M.S. the evening prior to injection of recipients, and REPLACE IN THE FRIDGE OVERNIGHT. Please calculate how many packets you will need to mix to **avoid** wastage, (dose rate x number of ewes divide by 100mls). The PMSG can be mixed and refrigerated for use for the donors that evening.
- Using the syringe and needles provided withdraw 2 3 ml of water from the bladder pack.
- Inject into the small vial of freeze dried Pregnecol and mix thoroughly to ensure the entire hormone is dissolved. Be careful not to waste any.
- Return solution from the vial back to the bladder pack.
- FOR RECIPIENTS: Attach the bottle to your auto-vaccinator and set required dose 2.0 mls.
- FOR DONORS: Use the yellow needle to withdraw the hormone from the bladder pack into a 10ml syringe. Remove the needle from the syringe leaving the draw needle in the pack, and attach the 21g (green) needle for injecting.
- It is preferable to have 2 people available so one person can draw up the syringe whilst the other person injects.

UNUSED packets of PMSG or FOLLTROPIN can be kept refrigerated & <u>returned</u> to Genstock on day of ET.

It is ESSENTIAL that all injections are given as deep intramuscular injections. This is achieved by using the 21 g (green) needles supplied.