

SMART RANCHES
33175 TEMECULA PKWY, A438, TEMECULA, CALIFORNIA 92592
OFFICE 951-658-2800 FAX 951-742-4688

2010 SHIPPED SEMEN FAQ'S

1. When is the Breeding Season?

Traditionally in the Northern Hemisphere the equine breeding season runs from February 1 to June 30. There are breed differences and each stallion owner may set their own dates. Stallions managed by Dr. William E. Swyers will be available for breeding during the traditional breeding season. In individual cases stallions may be available for breeding from July through December.

2. Have your stallions been tested and vaccinated for (EVA) *Equine Viral Arteritis*?

All Stallions managed by Dr. William E. Swyers will be tested for EVA. All managed stallions with initial negative titers will be vaccinated. All Dr. Swyers managed stallions with an initial positive titer will be determined to be a non-viral shedder by a minimum of two semen ejaculates being tested for evidence of the EVA virus by viral culture or PCR antigen testing. All semen shipments by Dr. Swyers will be accompanied by documentation of the EVA status of the stallion.

3. Should I vaccinate my mare(s) for (EVA) *Equine Viral Arteritis*?

The recent increase of EVA cases across the country has raised the question. There is a safe protective modified live viral vaccine. Mares should be vaccinated a minimum of 3 weeks prior to being bred and then a booster should be given annually. Owners and breeding managers of outside mares bred to stallions managed by Dr. William E. Swyers should consult with their primary care veterinarian before proceeding.

4. Have the stallions your mares(s) are being bred to, been tested for (CEM) *Contagious Equine Metritis (Taylorella equigenitalis)*?

All cooled or frozen semen from outside stallions to be used in the breeding management of mares under the reproductive care of Dr. William E. Swyers must have documentation as having been tested negative for CEM. All semen shipments must be accompanied by documentation of the CEM status of the stallion.

All Dr. Swyers managed stallions will be cultured negative for *Taylorella equigenitalis* with at least one set of cultures from the prepuce, urethra, urethral fossa, and semen. *Taylorella equigenitalis* is a difficult and fastidious organism to culture. All semen shipments by Dr. Swyers will be accompanied by documentation of the CEM culture status of the stallion.

5. What are the semen collection days?

Many factors go into establishing semen collection days. Some farms may collect semen every other day alternating odd and even days each month. Others collect semen Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

Dr. William E. Swyers manages stallions using both programs. The every other day schedule avails the use of **Federal Express** and **UPS** on a routine basis during the routine work week and Airline services on Saturday and Sunday. In 2010 February and March will be ODD days; April and May will be EVEN days; June and July will be ODD days.

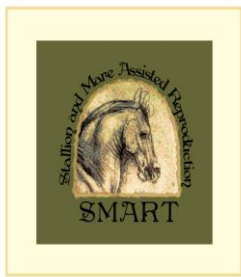
The Monday, Wednesday, Friday schedule allows for Federal Express Shipments during the week and fits nearly all breeding situations. Please contact SMART for questions about your stallion's breeding schedule.

Weekend shipments are often fraught with difficulties: unavailable deliveries by **UPS** and **Federal Express**, limited flight schedules, limited staffs, and on and on. Carefully managing mares easily avoid these problems. Short-cycling mares or having mares come off hormonal therapy mid week will in most cases result in mid-week inseminations.

6. Who should I contact to order semen?

When your mare, or your owner's mare is ready to be bred with cooled semen from a stallion Dr. Swyers is managing, please contact Dr. Swyers' or his staff to order semen.

Dr. William E. Swyers' office hours are from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday. The contact telephone # is **951-658-2800**. This number is available 24 hours a day. If you feel you need to talk to someone after hours Dr. Swyers cell phone is **951-316-5524**. You may also fax requests for semen at **951-742-4688**



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7. Where are the semen collection and breeding centers?

The primary SMART RANCHES location, and Dr. Swyers is located at *Tanya Jenkins Performance Horses*. The facility is located at 36835 De Portola Rd, in Temecula California. This southern California facility has the capability to house and care for mares and stallions managed by SMART and Dr. Swyers. The facility is well designed to take care of your specific breeding needs. Please contact Dr. William E. Swyers for further information.

8. What is the latest I can order semen and still get it to breed my mare?

Communication is critical for successful cooled semen breeding. Dr. Swyers will do everything he can to ensure your mare or your owner's mare has semen available to be bred at the appropriate time. To do this, communicating with us early and often will help enable us to provide you with the best services possible. **Let us know when a mare is to be cycling. Let us know early in her cycle that she is cycling. Let us know as soon as possible when semen will be needed.**

In most cases Dr. Swyers managed stallion books are full, therefore, semen will be shipped on a first come-first serve basis. Usually two insemination doses will be sent but not guaranteed. Mare pressure and semen quality varies with each stallion. **Requests for semen shipments MUST BE made prior to 6:00 PM (PST) the day before shipment.**

8. How should I have the semen shipped?

The carrier used for shipment of cooled semen is often the weak link in a successful breeding. Dr. Swyers routinely uses *Federal Express* for shipping semen. Over the years this carrier has been the most consistent and convenient for handling semen shipments. This is not to say we have not experienced problems on occasion. Most of which are related to destination addresses and weekend shipments. *UPS* can also be used, but we have not experienced *Federal Express*' consistency or reliability. All costs incurred in air cargo shipments are the mare owner's responsibility, regardless." This includes courier services to the airport which is 60 + miles away.

9. Which shipping containers should I use?

The blue *Equitainers* are the gold standard for shipping cooled semen. They provide the most consistent and reliable end product in all environmental conditions. They are expensive, cost more to ship, and must be returned. *EST Disposable* shipping containers are also available for use. Recent studies show that this container will reliably insure good quality semen for 24 hours in most environmental conditions. Other types of disposable containers have been shown to be affected by temperature extremes and may in some cases decrease semen quality. Mare owners have two options available for shipping container use:

- A. Provide their own *Equitainer* (no mare owner disposable shipping containers will be used). Mare Owner *Equitainers* will only be used if specified in the stallion-breeding contract. Mare owner *Equitainers* must be in Dr. Swyers' hands 7 days before shipment of semen is expected. All parts of the *Equitainer* including coolant cans, isothermalizer, plastic cups, must be included, and in good working order.
- B. Utilize an *Equitainer* or *EST Shipper* provided by Dr. Swyers. In most cases stallion owners and Dr. Swyers have prearranged for deposits on *Equitainers* and *Shippers*. In the event this has not been established, a refundable \$300.00 deposit must be made prior to shipping semen. *Equitainers* or *EST Shipper* must be returned within 5 working days. Mare owners will be charged a delinquency fee of \$25.00 per day for *Equitainers* or *EST Shippers* not returned promptly. An *Equitainer* or *EST Shipper* not returned within 12 days will be considered lost or stolen and the mare owner forfeits the refundable deposit or in the case a deposit was not charged will incur a credit card charge of \$300.00 *EST Disposables* will be provided at a cost of \$40.00 and can be used throughout the breeding season as long as they have not become damaged.

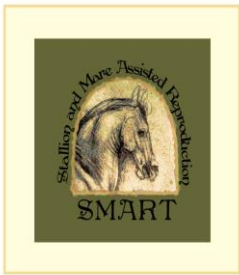
9. What's this going to cost? PLEASE REFER TO YOUR STALLION SERVICE CONTRACT FOR DETAILED COSTS

For Some Dr. Swyers' managed Stallions \$250.00 / shipment + Shipping to and from:

\$100 to 150.00 *Federal Express* or *UPS* shipping expenses to have the semen reach your mare

\$50 to 75.00 *Federal Express* or *UPS* shipping expenses to have an *Equitainer* returned

- o **AIRLINE SHIPMENT COSTS WILL INCLUDE THE SHIPPING FEES, COURIER EXPENSES, PLUS THE APPROPRIATE COSTS FROM ABOVE.**
- o **ALL FEES, DEPOSITS, AND CHARGES WILL BE PAID PRIOR TO EACH SHIPMENT OF SEMEN. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.**
- o **METHODS OF PAYMENT INCLUDE: CERTIFIED CHECK, MONEY ORDER, BANK TRANSFER, MASTER CARD, VISA, DISCOVER, OR AMERICAN EXPRESS.**



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ALL CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS WILL REQUIRE AN AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE ON FILE BEFORE SERVICES ARE