

SOP No:	ATT 061
SUBJECT:	Semen Collection in Pigs
POLICY:	This procedure may only be carried out by operators competent in the technique. Overalls, steel-capped boots, gloves
PRECAUTIONS:	The dummy sow must be set at the right height. It must be stable, comfortable, have no sharp projections and stand on a dry, slip-free floor. The area should be shady and draught free. Exposure to UV light, sudden temperature changes or water contamination will lower sperm viability. Clip the long hairs around the prepuce to avoid injury Ensure that the collection flask is warm and dry and free of detergent Operator must wear gloves
EQUIPMENT:	Dummy sow Plastic insulated flask (500mL) Surgical gauze Graduated measuring cylinder Commercial diluents
PROCEDURE:	

SEMEN COLLECTION

- Place surgical gauze over mouth of flask before commencing
- Mount the boar on the dummy sow
- Grasp the spiral end of the penis with the hand
- Allow the boar to thrust through the clenched hand a few times before applying pressure
- ‘Lock’ the penis in the hand to begin ejaculation
- Discard the clear, pre-sperm fraction
- Collect the creamy-white sperm-rich fraction (approx. 50mL) into the insulated flask
- Continue to collect the next fraction (approx 80mL and greyish in colour) together with the final clear gel fraction (approx 500mL). The gel is filtered out of the collection by using several layers of gauze over the mouth of the flask.
- A second ejaculation can be stimulated with brief, firm, pulsating hand pressure applied to the penis.

SEMEN DILUTION and STORAGE

- Dilute 20mL of the sperm-rich fraction in 80mL of warm (30°C) diluent.
- Add the diluent to the semen and not the semen to the diluent.
- Gently agitate the diluted semen and pour into an insemination bottle.
- Allow semen to cool slowly for one hour to around 20°C.
- Over the next hour, cool semen to between 15-20°C and store at this temperature.
- Gently swirl semen twice daily to prevent sedimentation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

To ensure high sperm cell concentration and semen volume do not collect more than three times per week. Collect twice per day or on two successive days to re-inseminate females bred 8 – 12 hours before.

Only the creamy-white fraction and the grey fraction are collected if the semen is to be diluted for storage.

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REVISED:

REFERENCES

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/livestock/animal-welfare/general/other/livestock/sop/pigs/collection-of-semen>