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## Most asked Questions about freezing Stallion Semen.

### Q: Are all stallions good candidates for frozen semen processing

A: Not all stallions can be successfully frozen. Based on studies conducted in Europe and at Colorado State University, approximately 70% of all stallions produce sperm that are able to withstand the stresses of freezing and thawing.

### Q: What is the age range of stallions that can be successfully frozen?

A: Although 2 year old stallions are producing sperm and can be collected, we generally recommend that stallions not be collected and frozen until the spring of their 3-year-old year. Aged stallions can be frozen as long as they are producing viable sperm and are physically able to be collected. Once sexually mature at 5 or 6 years, semen quality reaches its peak and can only go downhill with advancing age. The best time to freeze semen from a stallion is when he is producing the maximum number of viable sperm. All too often owners wait until a stallion is in his late teens or older before they decide to freeze semen. For an unproven, young stallion, building a small bank of frozen semen is good insurance against declining semen quality due to advancing age or illness.

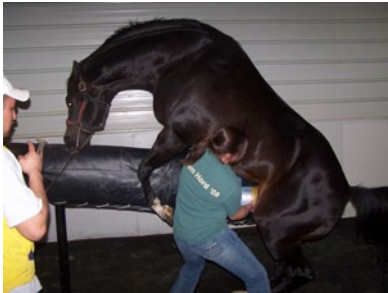


### Q: How many doses of semen will my stallion produce from each collection?

A: On average, most stallions provide enough sperm on an every-other-day collection schedule to produce 6-12 doses of frozen semen. Typically, 2 doses are used per estrous cycle; therefore, each collection produces enough frozen semen to inseminate through 3-6 cycles.

### Q: How long can the semen be stored and still be viable?

A: If the semen is stored properly, it can maintain its viability for many years. Based on studies it is estimated that frozen semen will last 50,000 years if maintained properly in a nitrogen tank.



### Q: How long will my stallion need to be at Richland Ranch?

A: It depends on the number of factors. If your stallion has not been collected or bred recently we will have to perform 'clean-out collections' to deplete the old sperm that are stored in the stallion's reproductive tract. That may take anywhere from 2-5 collections, typically performed over a 3 day period. We will then collect and freeze your stallion 3 times a week. The rest depends on the number of doses you want to store and how well your stallion's sperm survives the freezing process. If you determine how many mares you want to be able to service with frozen semen we can estimate the number of collections typically required.

### Q: How much does it cost to freeze semen?

A: At Richland Ranch the cost of a clean out collection is \$25 with a signed freezing contract. A test freeze collection is \$450. the fee for freezing is \$350 a collection frozen (this includes collection, evaluation, and freezing). Storage is then provided while the stallion is in freezing sessions.

### Q: Can you store the semen for me and ship it out to my clients?

A: Absolutely! We store the semen in special cryogenic liquid nitrogen containers, which maintain semen and embryos at -196°C. Once the stallion/semen owner authorizes a shipment, the laboratory staff takes care of the rest. Each shipment includes detailed instructions for thawing and handling the frozen semen. Our technical staff is available for consultation with receiving veterinarians.