



# Do's and Don'ts for using sexed semen





# Please follow the following while using sexed semen

## Do's

## Don'ts

<b>Target Animals</b> <b>(Sexed semen should not be used in all animals )</b>	<p>Best suited animal for use of sexed semen are Heifers followed by pupiparous animals in 1<sup>st</sup> lactation followed by 2<sup>nd</sup> lactation in the same order of preference.</p> <p>Selected animals should be reproductively clean</p>	<p>Not for every animal.</p> <p>Not to be used in aged, beyond 3<sup>rd</sup> lactation and repeat breeders.</p> <p>Don't use in animals with reproductive pathology (issues) – history of dystocia, cervicitis, metritis, pyometra or retained placenta etc.</p>
<b>Minimum Body weight in Heifers</b>	<p>Heifer should be bred by weight and not by age. Heifer should be of minimum 300 Kg body weight for use of sexed semen</p> <p>Heifer should have exhibited at least two natural estrus cycles before AI</p>	<p>Don't use in under weight heifers</p> <p>First few cycles in heifers are short non ovulatory cycles</p>
<b>Heat</b>	<p>In standing heat, preferably morning or evening <b>Fig 1.</b></p> <p>Best results using sexed semen can be achieved in breeding season of <b>September to April</b> in most parts of India due to comparatively low temperature and availability of fodder</p> <p>Cervical mucus should be clear, transparent and ropy <b>Fig 2.</b></p>	<p>Don't use in animals reporting heat stress score of 2 and above. Don't use in hot and humid months. Heifers /cows panting due to high heat or high humidity undergo pathophysiological changes that prevents conception.</p> <p>High ambient temperature and high humidity is a deadly combination which compromise the ability to impregnate cows.</p>
<b>Packaging</b>	<p>Each goblet is packed with 10 straws. For sub-distribution, transfer the entire goblet. Avoid multiple handling of straws.</p>	<p>Don't give loose straws while distributing to smaller dispensaries. This leads to multiple exposure to straws and impact quality and conception</p>
<b>Identification of Straws</b>	<p>Identify bull with a canister tag or the marker strip. Each vasotube/Goblet is identified by a marker strip of yellow color having the bull name <b>Fig 5.</b></p> <p>After removal of the desired straw, canister should be replaced at its original position as early as possible</p>	<p>Don't lift the straw/ goblet above the frost line to identify the bull <b>Fig 3.</b></p>

Fig : 1  
Standing Heat



Fig : 2  
Cervical discharge



Fig : 3 Don't lift the canister above the frost line.

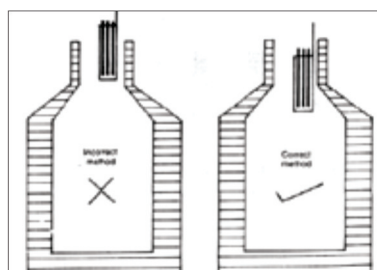


Fig : 4 Placement of semen in the Uterine Body.



<b>Semen Transfer</b>	All semen transfers between nitrogen tanks or retrieval of semen from a nitrogen tank should be done as quickly as possible	Don't let the straws be exposed to higher temperature. Multiple counts and loose straw distribution may expose/thaw semen, reducing quality
<b>Semen Straw Handling</b>	Semen Straw to be handled essentially by tweezers.	Don't use hand while transferring a straw for thawing.
<b>Thawing</b>	<p>At 37 degrees for 30-60 seconds, Use thaw monitor for checking temperature of water <b>Fig 6</b>. Thaw only One straw at a time even if animals are synchronized.</p> <p>Give a gentle jerk to the straw immediately after removal. During thawing, entire straw should be immersed in water</p> <p>Shake the straw to move the air bubble towards the crimped end of the straw before cutting.</p>	<p>Don't thaw multiple straws at a time</p> <p>Don't judge the temperature with fingers. Use of thaw monitor is must</p>
<b>Insemination</b>	<p>Prepare the animal, AI gun, sheath and gloves etc before thawing so that AI is done immediately after thawing</p> <p>Push the plunger slowly to allow semen to be deposited in drops in the body of the uterus <b>Fig 4</b>.</p> <p>As the average conception rate is around 40% hence be prepared for 2-3 consecutive inseminations using sexed semen to achieve desired results</p>	<p>Don't thaw and then prepare the animal or AI equipment.</p> <p>Avoid placing semen in cervix or uterine horn</p> <p>Don't push semen like a jet</p> <p>Avoid palpating the ovaries /follicle</p>
<b>Nutrition</b>	<p>Please make sure that animals are in positive energy balance.</p> <p>It is recommended to check whether the animal is dewormed at a regular interval and fed with good quality mineral mix for at least 2 months period before insemination</p>	Don't select the animals which are in negative energy balance. The chances of conception even with unsexed semen is generally low in under fed animals <b>Fig 7</b> .
<b>QC Testing (Post Thaw Motility0</b>	Sexed Semen Post thaw motility should be performed on IVOS II (CASA) <b>Fig 8</b> .	Sexed Semen post thaw motility test should not be perform on regular Phase contrast Microscope

**Fig : 5 Goblet and Marker strip for straw identification.**



**Fig : 6 Thaw Monitor**



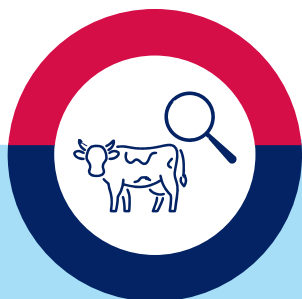
**Fig : 7 NEB**



**Fig : 8 Casa IVOS II**



# Let's Get Benefit With Sexcel!



## ANIMAL SELECTION

### Heifer

- Exhibited at least two natural heat cycles before AI
- Min 250– 300 kg or 60–70% of matured body weight
- Breed by body weight & not by age

### Cow / Buffalo

- Cow or buffalo in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> lactation are best suited for use of sex semen.
- Cow must have adequate body condition & should be cycling regularly.
- Don't use animal with previous history of dystocia, cervicitis, metritis, pyometra or retained placenta etc.
- Don't perform AI in animals who are panting due to high heat & high humidity.
- Don't use sexed semen in repeat breeders.
- Don't use sexed semen in animals having negative energy balance.



## ANIMAL PREPARATION

### Identification

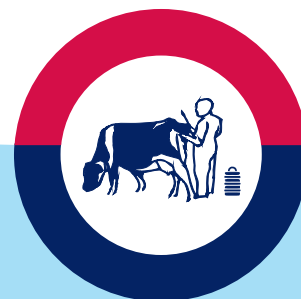
- Ensure animal is identified using 12-digit INAPH code.

### Deworming

- Make sure that animal is dewormed at regular interval.

### Nutrient Management

- Feed quality mineral & vitamin mix for minimum period of 30 days before insemination process.
- It is recommended to synchronize the herd using double ovo-sync protocol for achieving max conception. (Synchronization is only recommended in cows.)
- Consult with local veterinarian for more information.



## INSEMINATION PROCESS

### Heat Detection

- Identify signs of heat. (i. e. Standing Heat, Mucus Discharge, Restlessness, Sniffing of Genitalia etc.)
- Best time of insemination – Morning or Late Evening

### Insemination

- Identify semen straw by a yellow color marker strip in goblet with the bull name. Don't lift the straw above frost line.
- Use thaw monitor to check water temperature 37° C.
- Thaw only one straw at a time. A straw should be immersed in water completely for 30–60 sec.
- Inseminate as soon as possible after thawing.
- Always deposit the semen in uterine body & avoid placing semen in cervix or uterine horn & palpating the ovaries / follicle.
- Record breeding information.