



## **STALLION SERVICES, Inc. breeding management**

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***We Reproduce Success !!***

### **TRANSPORTED and FROZEN SEMEN GENERAL COST ESTIMATE**

Thank you very much for your call about our equine reproductive services. This is a general letter that shows estimated costs for various services and health requirements for bringing a mare or stallion.

**MARE MANAGEMENT – breeding your mare.** Our goal is to provide services in the most cost effective and timely manner possible. We feel that your mare is always better at home but while she is here we will treat her as though she belongs to us. Mares are turned out daily, weather permitting, and brought back into the barn in the evening. Mares are kept groomed and clipped and otherwise made to feel as comfortable as possible. Mares with foals and show mares are kept separate from other mares.

Open mares must have current vaccinations including EWT, Rabies and West Nile Virus plus a negative Coggins. **Strangles is strongly suggested.** Deworming should be within 30 days prior to arrival. Please bring us a written statement, invoice or health paper from your vet to verify. **Please make sure that your mare's feet and teeth are in good order.** We maintain a teasing stallion and teasing is conducted daily. When your mare shows heat she will be palpated on her second day of estrus and every other day throughout her cycle. When an appropriate sized follicle is detected we will order semen and give an ovulatory agent to hasten ovulation.

\*Quotes do not estimate board and are an approximation if your mares have **NORMAL** cycles. Be advised that this total is subject to change as mare's cycles can be unpredictable, especially in the spring. For instance, there is the possibility we would have to order semen more than once to breed your mare. We do our best to keep costs within reason. Note about farm calls: Our veterinarian charges a \$66.62 farm call. Generally we split this call between clients. Mares in the frozen semen program need to be palpated daily once they have an appropriate sized follicle. Therefore, some farm calls will not be split. Additionally, early in the season if there are not enough mares to split the call, your farm call may be higher. See pricing below.

#### **APPROXIMATE COSTS PER CYCLE/ FROZEN SEMEN\*:**

Veterinary palpations (about 6 @ \$41.41 ea)	\$ 248.46
Farm calls – (min split \$15.37 each; 2 way split 33.31 each; Non split 66.62)	\$ 299.79
Uterine culture	\$ 87.99
Mare management per cycle (includes inseminations)	\$ 310.00
Oxytocin to expel fluid pre & post breeding– one time charge per cycle	\$ 25.00
Post breeding lavages (flush) – each if necessary – antibiotics are additional	\$ 95.00
Prostaglandin injection ( if necessary, brings mare into season)	\$ 25.00
Deslorelin injection (forces ovulation - given once per cycle)	\$ 55.00
Approximate total	\$ 1146.24

**APPROXIMATE COSTS PER CYCLE/ INCOMING TRANSPORTED SEMEN\***

Veterinary palpations (about 6 @ \$41.41 ea)	\$ 248.46
Farm calls – (min split \$15.37 each/ 2 way split 33.31 each; non split 66.62)	\$ 199.86
Uterine culture	\$ 87.99
Mare management per cycle (includes inseminations)	\$ 310.00
Oxytocin to expel fluid post breeding if necessary– one time charge	\$ 25.00
Post breeding lavage (flush) – each if necessary – antibiotics are additional	\$ 85.00
Prostaglandin injection ( if necessary, brings mare into season)	\$ 25.00
Deslorelin injection (forces ovulation - given once per cycle)	\$ 55.00
Return equitainer – minimum (varies as to distance)	\$ 35.00
Approximate total	\$1071.31

**MANAGING OLDER MARES:** Aged mares or mares termed “old maidens” generally require more management than young mares. An old maiden is a mare approximately 8 years or older who has never carried a foal to term. These mares are generally our toughest candidates to get to conceive. This translates into additional dollars out of your pocket. The following topics discuss the areas we pay close attention to while managing all mares but especially aged mares.

**UTERINE CULTURES:** Depending on your mare’s history we may decide to do a uterine cytology as well as a uterine culture before we get started. A culture with cytology is \$175.00.

**FRESH SEMEN** : It is absolutely imperative that you have good fresh semen, especially for an old maiden. Semen transport is an opera of numbers of spermatozoa available to the embryo for conception. Therefore, we will not use frozen semen on first-time old maiden mares. Our goal is to get your mare to conceive. We examine all incoming semen for progressive motility, cleanliness and packaging.

**PROGESTERONE:** Aged mares often do not produce enough progesterone to keep themselves in foal. We test progesterone levels on all mares 10 and over because low progesterone levels are most common in this age group. Depending upon a mare’s age and previous history sometimes we automatically place a mare on progesterone post ovulation without testing. Progesterone testing is done on the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> day post ovulation. A second option is to begin Regu-Mate on the 5<sup>th</sup> day post ovulation and have your mare’s progesterone level checked at 14 days if she is pregnant. Regu-Mate is synthetic and will not affect the assay. A determination can then be made whether or not to continue the therapy. Progesterone assays are \$45.00.

**FLUID ACCUMULATION IN THE UTERUS:** An older mare’s uterus loses its ability to contract as the mare ages, whether or not she has had a foal. These contractions help move the semen up into the fallopian tubes and also help expel excess fluids accumulated during estrus or post breeding. The treatment for this is simple but effective. It involves giving hormone injections surrounding breeding or manually "flushing" the fluid out of the uterus. We check for fluid accumulation during and post breeding with the ultrasound. Oxytocin injections to help expel fluid are \$25.00 per cycle. Flushes are \$85.00 if necessary.

**THYROID HORMONE:** Thyroid hormone deficiencies will cause reproductive problems, especially in older mares. If a mare has low thyroid levels there is a powdered supplement which is inexpensive and can be added to the feed. These mares have a tendency not to shed their hair coat and are generally “easy keepers” or have a “cresty” neck. This test is \$45.00.

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:** Caslicks and post breeding flushes are performed if appropriate when necessary. Embryo transfer mares are subject to more intensive management and with some mares a permanent Caslicks can be difficult to work with. For such an occasion, we use a temporary Caslicks

by means of stapling the vulva closed. There is no cutting or sewing and the staples are easily removed or replaced as necessary.

Veterinary and management fees are due and payable prior to the departure of your mare or stallion. For extended stays, we bill at the end of every month. Should any extraordinary procedures be necessary for your mare or stallion, we will contact you about the procedures and costs.

Thank you for visiting our website.

Neil and Robin DeRue