



(C) DIY Inseminator Checklist

Name of operator.....HerdID.....

Ask each person to do what they would normally do

Handling straws		Circle		Comments
1.1	Inventory list was consulted before lifting canister (specs used if needed)	Y	N	
1.2	Canister was lifted to the frost line of tank when picking straws	Y	N	
1.3	Straws were transferred to the thawing flask within 2 secs	Y	N	
1.4	Tweezers or forceps were used to select straws	Y	N	
1.5	Straws were selected within 45 secs from a goblet full of liquid nitrogen	Y	N	
Thawing straws and loading				
2.1	Straws were thawed in warm water between 32-38°C (Sexed semen straws 35-37°C)	Y	N	
2.2	Mini-straws were thawed for at least 30 secs & kept there until ready for use (Maxis OR Sexed semen straws for at least 45 secs)	Y	N	
2.3	Thermometer was checked against another thermometer and was working at start of season	Y	N	
2.4	There was a back up thermometer	Y	N	
2.5	The water temperature was monitored during the program	Y	N	
2.6	Water covers all but the top 1 cm of the straws	Y	N	
2.7	Straws were dried gently with a paper towel	Y	N	
2.8	Straws were not flicked (Circle 'No' if flicked)	Y	N	
2.9	Straws were handled only at their ends	Y	N	
2.10	On cold days, the gun was rubbed briskly to warm it up before loading the straw	Y	N	
2.11	After the straw was loaded, the end was cut off at a right angle using sharp, clean scissors	Y	N	
2.11	The straw was then covered with a sheath	Y	N	
2.13	Straws were ' bubbled ' to check the plunger was working & semen is at end (ie straw not split)	Y	N	
2.14	Only enough straws that could be used in 10 mins were thawed out	Y	N	
Hygiene				
3.1	The kit box is clean and organised	Y	N	
3.2	The loaded gun(s) were kept warm and free of contamination before use	Y	N	
3.3	The lips of the vulva were wiped clean using a clean paper towel	Y	N	
3.4	The lips of the vulva were parted so a clean entry occurs	Y	N	
Technique				
4.1	The gun was directed upwards at 45° to avoid entry into the bladder	Y	N	
4.2	The inseminator could pass a gun through the cervix efficiently	Y	N	
4.3	The end of the gun was placed just past the end of the cervix into the body of the uterus	Y	N	
4.4	All semen was deposited slowly	Y	N	
Cow handling				
5.1	Companion cows were left when there was only one cow to inseminate	Y	N	
5.2	Cows were handled with care to minimize stress	Y	N	
5.3	The operator kept their patience before and during the insemination process	Y	N	

Comments:



(D) Farm Procedures Checklist

Herd ID.....Date

Person doing this session.....

People on-farm in this discussion (name & role)

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	Tank	Circle		Comments
6.1	The tank is stored off concrete	Y	N	
6.2a	The tank is in a place with adequate lighting (to read lists, thermometers, see nitrogen levels)	Y	N	
6.2b	The tank is stored out of direct sunlight	Y	N	
6.3	The tank is topped up on a regular basis	Y	N	
6.4	The tank is checked twice weekly to ensure at least 12 cm of liquid nitrogen is at the bottom	Y	N	
6.5	There is a system to identify straws in tank, eg coloured markers, inventory list	Y	N	
6.6	If an automated thawing flask is used, it has been checked at the start of the season	Y	N	Not used
6.7	If an automated thawing flask is used, it has been checked at least monthly	Y	N	Not used
Split straws				
7.1	A whole straw is always used for every cow	Y	N	
Timing of AI				
8.1	Cows are inseminated within 24 hours of being identified as being on heat	Y	N	
8.2	All inseminators are confident the cows they are inseminating are truly on heat	Y	N	
Facilities				
9.1	There is adequate safety for the cow and operator	Y	N	
9.2	The cows are adequately restrained	Y	N	
9.3	The facilities are under cover	Y	N	
Records				
10.1	Cow are readily identified by all operators (eg freeze-brands clipped, readers on hand for EID)	Y	N	
10.2	A record of all inseminations is kept, at a minimum the Date Cow ID, Bull used, Operator	Y	N	

This appraisal was based on:

- Cows on heat
- Empty cows
- Own tank
- If not own tank, please describe...