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## Liquid Nitrogen/Frozen Semen Safety Handling Instructions

To ensure maximum success with this semen and to avoid damaging the frozen semen or injury to the handler these guidelines should be followed carefully.

### 1. CONTAINER TYPE

- Vapor** A vapor shipper absorbs nitrogen into a special insulating material that surround the canister and maintains the straws of frozen semen at  $-197^{\circ}\text{C}$  for up to 10 days. A vapor container has only nitrogen vapor - there will be no liquid in the tank.
- Liquid** A cryogenic liquid nitrogen container has been designed to hold the straws of frozen semen at  $-197^{\circ}\text{C}$  by immersion in liquid nitrogen.

### 2. HANDLING OF THE CONTAINER

- Handling:** Always keep this nitrogen container upright. Tipping will cause loss of liquid nitrogen or nitrogen vapor and will greatly reduce the holding time of the container.
- Spills:** If a liquid nitrogen spill occurs, return the container to its upright position as quickly as possible and contact Select Breeders Services at 877-658-3328. (The spilled liquid nitrogen will evaporate within a matter of seconds.)
- Protection:** Always wear gloves & eye protection when handling a liquid nitrogen container.

### 3. HAZARDS & FIRST AID MEASURES

- Skin & Eye:** Avoid contact with skin & eyes. Contact with liquid nitrogen or objects frozen by nitrogen may cause cold burns/frostbite. Severe frostbite is possible with prolonged contact.
- Skin contact:** In case of contact immediately flush the skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing and shoes. Do not rub frozen parts as tissue damage may result. Cover wound with sterile dressing. As soon as practical, place the affected area in a warm water bath which has a temperature not to exceed  $40^{\circ}\text{C}$  ( $105^{\circ}\text{F}$ ).
- Eye contact:** In the case of contact with eyes, rinse immediately with plenty of water and seek medical advice. Keep eye wide open while rinsing.

### 4. SEMEN HANDLING

- Transfer:** Transferring of straws to another liquid storage container should only be performed by a technician experienced in the handling of frozen semen. Exposure of the straws to room temperature for even more than a couple of seconds will initiate thawing and cause permanent damage to the semen.
- Thawing:** See the enclosed **'INSTRUCTIONS FOR HANDLING & THAWING FROZEN SEMEN'**