

PIEPER RANCH, INC.

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Subject: Embryo Transfer Information / Embryo Donor Mares

Dear Mare Owner,

Thank you for booking your mare to Playgun for the 2008 breeding season. The contract and pre-arrival information that you provided indicate that your mare will be an embryo donor for the 2008 season. If you have been involved with this procedure previously, you are aware of the additional requirements in paperwork, management etc. for embryo donors. We want to remind mare owners of the AQHA enrollment requirements for embryo donor mares. If you have not already enrolled your mare for the year of breeding, you will need to complete that paperwork prior to the mare's flush. AQHA requires that all embryo donors be genetically tested. If your mare has never been tested, you can request a DNA kit with the Embryo Transfer Enrollment form. The AQHA rule book outlines their embryo/oocyte transfer requirements.

Due to the ongoing popularity of multiple embryo transfer, there will be an increased demand for contracts at most embryo transfer facilities again this season, so be advised to make your arrangements early. We want to receive your mare as early as possible during the breeding season and preferably have her for the first flush of the year. Dr. Hartman is adamant about maintaining the long term reproductive health of you mare. We will not repeatedly flush a mare if it becomes detrimental to her best interest.

Dr. Hartman provides a full service embryo transfer program at his clinic, Performance Equine Associates, approximately 45 miles from us, in Whitesboro, Texas. He has been one of the most successful and experienced reproductive veterinarians specializing in non surgical embryo transfer techniques for many years. He offers contracts for our clients using recipient mares managed at his facility. Dr. Hartman is able to take semen directly to your mare at his clinic following collection on breeding days. This allows the donor mare to be at the same facility as the recipient mares, therefore reducing transportation stress to the donor mare or the embryo. You also have the option of your mare residing and being bred and flushed here at Pieper Ranch and transporting the embryo to Dr. Hartman's facility.

We also work with Royal Vista in Fort Collins, Colorado and Royal Vista South in Purcell, Oklahoma. They have an excellent success rate, extremely experienced staff and a substantial number of recipient mares at both locations. Dr. Bailey handles the embryo transfer program at Royal Vista South's division. Our close proximity to Purcell (70 miles) allows us to package and transport embryos to Dr. Bailey for transfer within two hours of the donor mare's flush. For clients that live closer to the Colorado facility we can ship recovered embryos via airline to Royal Vista in Fort Collins. Von Cook and Jill Thayer D.V.M. manage the program there. Both facilities have attained a high percentage of successful transfers with embryos received from mares managed and flushed by our veterinarian Dr. David Hartman.

In addition to these options, there are several very competent embryo transfer facilities in this area that we have dealt with in the past. We would be happy to discuss our previous experiences with you.

If you do not have a facility that you currently use and would like us to contact Performance Equine or Royal Vista South on your behalf please let us know. If you have any questions regarding embryo transfer, you can reach Dr. Hartman at 903-564-7443 or Royal Vista South at 580-527-0767. They will send a contract to be completed by the mare owner prior to starting work on your mare.

Once we start working on your mare during her heat cycle, we will communicate on a daily basis with the transfer facility you have chosen to use. Communication between the breeding farm and the embryo transfer facility is crucial in order to arrange the most suitable recipient to match the donor mare's cycle. We need all contact information for the ET facility you have selected so that we are able to work with them in preparing and managing their recipient candidates.

If your mare is being prepared for breeding at another breeding facility or is a "haul in" on breeding days, we **must** be given the mare's complete history on arrival. This will give us the best opportunity to make breeding decisions that result in a viable pregnancy as quickly as possible. This is especially important if super ovulation drugs are being used. Due to the increased use of fertility hormones in recent years, we have been compelled to change the terms of our contract regarding multiple embryos recovered from a single flush. We will be happy to discuss this with you on an individual basis.

Please contact us if you would like our input or have any questions regarding embryo transfer.

Sincerely,

Brenda Pieper