President’s Message

Hello to everyone on this late fall day in November:

So much has happened in our world since the last time I sat down to write this letter, sometimes it feels like it’s a little hard to take it all in.

The elections are finally over and history has been made with the election of our first African-American president. I know the country’s current economic situation is also on everyone’s mind these days, it’s hard to go through the day without being reminded of it if business is down compared to last year or if you feel the masochistic desire to check the current value of your 401K...if you’re like me, you know the news ain’t good so it’s probably best to try putting your energy elsewhere for now. It’s crazy how suddenly life all around you can change so dramatically and yet this bubble of excess we’ve lived in for so long was bound to come to a screeching halt sooner or later, in one way or another. Just the other day I was reflecting on how different a lot of conversations these days sound from just a year or two ago. My Suburban has 172,000 miles on it and if I knew that it would last me another 172,000 I might just be the happiest girl on the planet.....funny how a few short years ago that possibility wouldn’t have excited me quite as much as it does today.

I’m a “glass half full” girl myself though, and I choose to look for the opportunities that these difficult times may provide all of us with. Maybe this is a chance to focus on what really matters in life or the people we’re actually doing life with rather than the money we could be making. It kind of reminds me of growing up in Argentina with my high school friends oh so many years ago....none of us had any money back then so we got really good at living life without lots of useless distractions and temptations, and friendships and life in general were so much deeper as a result. We will come out of this mess on the other side and hopefully a new appreciation for simplicity and awareness of truth will be its legacy.

Things in our practice have slowed down somewhat, partly because of the time of year but also due to the economic crisis we find ourselves in as a country. We are trying to plan for the months ahead, not knowing exactly what lies ahead for all of us which can make projections for the future difficult. At the same time we are thankful for the emphasis our practice has in the area of canine reproduction as it provides an additional avenue for generating revenue that is helpful when things start getting a little tight. This is actually a great selling point for encouraging other practitioners to become more involved in the SFT and to support their membership - there’s no better place for continuing education, networking and just picking up some great tips via the listserves that the SFT offers.

Work has continued on the Clinical Theriogenology journal project and communication with different publishing houses has yielded some exciting opportunities that the publications committee feels may be just what we’ve been looking for to provide the quality and the professionalism that we desire in this journal. Launching this project is a great opportunity that is quickly moving towards a reality and we hope to have it be the vehicle for the proceedings of the 2009 conference in Albuquerque. We plan to firm up some of these decisions in the weeks to come as well as the upcoming board meeting in January.

Continued on page 2
Florida Veterinarian and ACT Diplomate Receives Iowa State’s Top Alumni Recognition

Dr. Maarten Drost, Gainesville, Fla., was named the 2008 recipient of the Stange Award for Meritorious Service. The award is the highest honor given to alumni of Iowa State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine. The award was presented during special ceremonies held by the university and the college on Oct. 24.

The Stange Award for Meritorious Service in Veterinary Medicine is named in memory of a long-time alumnus and former dean of the college in recognition of outstanding professional achievements in veterinary education, research, government service, or private practice.

Dr. Maarten Drost is an internationally recognized leader in the field of theriogenology. A professor emeritus at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Drost is an expert in ruminant reproduction, including embryo transfer technology and a Diplomate of the American College of Theriogenologists.

He was a pioneer in the area of fetal surgery, and demonstrated the role of the fetus in the initiation of parturition in sheep by performing bilateral fetal adrenalectomies in 1968. He was also the first in the world to produce a water buffalo calf by embryo transfer (in the US) in 1983, and the first five water buffalo calves in Europe (Bulgaria) in 1985.

His Web atlas, The Drost Project, is a visual guide to veterinary reproduction for students, and specialists in the field of animal reproduction. In 2000, Drost wanted to preserve his and the collections of teaching images of others. His unique Web atlas (drostproject.vetmed.ufl.edu) currently averages 7,500 hits per day.

Dr. Drost was born in Holland and immigrated to the United States when he decided to study veterinary medicine. After receiving his veterinary degree from Iowa State University in 1962, he was in private practice in California and spent two years in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of Florida in 1977, he was on the faculty at the University of California, Davis for 11 years, and one year each at Cornell University, and the State University at Utrecht in The Netherlands.

He has been a guest lecturer and speaker at veterinary conferences and symposia worldwide. Dr. Drost has authored numerous book chapters and books, and published more than 100 refereed papers. He is also known for his annual Bovine Embryo Transfer Workshops for Veterinarians for 25 years, and numerous hands-on workshops in bovine obstetrics.

In 2007, Dr. Drost was presented with the Distinguished Service Award at the University of Florida. He was the 2004 recipient of the prestigious David E. Bartlett Lecture Award by the Society for Theriogenology.

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President’s Message  Continued from page 1

One last point along the subject of finances, I also want to point out that the Society has made big strides in the years since 9/11 towards solidifying our cash reserves. The crisis following 9/11 caused us to cancel the Vancouver conference which resulted in heavy losses for us financially. This prompted the board to take specific actions to help grow our assets in order to have significant cash reserves available in the event that we might face another catastrophic event which might have the potential to bankrupt us as an organization. Following prudent financial advice from the team at Franz Management and a strong commitment from your board of directors, we are now in a significantly stronger position than we have ever been in the past and in uncertain times such as these this is a great relief and something to be thankful for. Associations need to have at least one year of operating expenses in reserve and I am happy to report that we have met that goal.

In closing I’d like to wish you all safe travels for those of you visiting family over the holidays and peace in the coming year as well as health and happiness for you and your loved ones.

Ana
Survey shows—Veterinarians really like their jobs and are a pretty happy bunch

Story courtesy of the AVMA

There is no way of knowing how many little boys and girls dream of growing up to be veterinarians … but it’s a whole lot. A recent survey of the profession shows that kids have got it right, veterinarians love their jobs.

The 2007 Member Needs Assessment, conducted by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), surveyed members regarding job satisfaction and happiness. That data was then compared to existing job satisfaction data taken from a study published by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago in 2007. That comparison revealed that veterinarians have a very high level of job satisfaction (3.55), just behind Clergy (3.79), teachers (3.61) and psychologists (3.59), but above physicians (3.47) and lawyers (3.33). The average rating in the NORC study for all jobs was 3.30, which makes veterinarians well above average.

“To state it as simply as possible, I’d say that veterinarians just like their jobs,” explained Dr. Robert A. Dietl, chair of the AVMA Membership Services Committee. “Veterinary medicine is very diversified, so there are many opportunities to find your niche. If I got out of veterinary school and tried large animal medicine out in the country and I didn’t like it, I could try small animal veterinary medicine, or research, academia or I could go into corporate medicine. There are a lot of opportunities in veterinary medicine, so you don’t get pigeonholed in a career you don’t enjoy.”

“There is a great deal of innate integrity in the profession,” explains Dr. Charles M. Hendrix, former AVMA vice president and former chair of the AVMA Wellness Committee. “Studies have shown that veterinarians are highly respected by the communities they serve. People like us a lot, and that can make you happy.”

Another interesting detail to come out of the AVMA study is that the veterinarians with the highest job satisfaction are food animal veterinarians (3.69). In fact, when compared with the rankings in the NORC study, farm veterinarians ranked third in job satisfaction, just below the clergy and physical therapists, while companion animal veterinarians scored a 3.52 job satisfaction rating. This high level of satisfaction is interesting because there is a growing shortage of food animal veterinarians, in spite of efforts to recruit more students in that practice area.

“I’ve always thought that the best way to attract young veterinarians into the field of food animal veterinary medicine is to simply expose them to the joys and satisfaction of this type of work,” explained Dr. James Cook, AVMA president, who works on farm animals in his practice. “I know that it’s incredibly rewarding and that’s why the job satisfaction numbers are so high.”

The AVMA survey also revealed that veterinarians are also a fairly happy group, although their ranking dropped slightly when compared to the NORC study. The profession’s happiness score of 2.30 was below that of lawyers (2.37) and physicians (2.39). Average happiness for all jobs on the NORC study was 2.23, meaning that, at 2.30 veterinarians were happier than most people.

Dr. Dietl explains that one of the reasons veterinarians may report that they are less happy than they are satisfied with their jobs may be their income. Veterinarians are not as highly paid as physicians or lawyers.

“I think economics are a major factor. With the economy as it is today, I think veterinarians would probably report they weren’t as happy today as they were last year,” Dr. Dietl explains. “The rising cost of education makes it even more of a struggle for young veterinarians. I graduated in 1966 with little to no debt, but today students graduate on average $120,000 in debt. So if we want veterinarians to be happier, we need to do something to improve the economic viability of the profession.”

AVMA research also shows that very few veterinarians choose to leave the profession. The AVMA, which represents 85 percent of all U.S. veterinarians, conducts exit surveys for members who decide not to continue as part of the Association. For the veterinarians who tell the association why they’re leaving, the most common reason cited is retirement—22.6 percent in 2008. The least common reason, “No longer employed in a field of veterinary medicine,” which indicates they might have chosen to leave the profession, drew only 6.1 percent of the comments.

For more information, please visit www.avma.org.
Data Base Referral Service Available to Increase Your Business!

As part of the Society for Theriogenology’s renewed mandate to position itself as the leader in veterinary reproductive care and education, we are continuously working to increase the visibility of the Society and its members in the eyes of both the veterinary community and the public.

Through marketing and advertising, the Society is striving to make the consumer more aware of the services our members provide.

A public website database (referral service) is available to assist breeders and veterinarians in locating a Society member veterinarian who provides the services being sought.

If you have not updated your profile on the Therio website, do so soon to take advantage of any referrals which may come your way. It’s simple to do. Just log on with your user name and password and click on “Update Profile” to either add or change the information related to the services you offer.

This is just one of many benefits available to the membership, at no charge!

Questions should be submitted to: Tammy Wallace, Society for Theriogenology, PO Box 3007, Montgomery AL, 36109; (334) 395-4666 office / (334) 270-3399 fax; tammy@franzmgmt.com.

Bartlett Award Nominations Sought

Nominations are now being sought for the 2009 Dr. David E. Bartlett Award, presented annually to a distinguished individual who has made important contributions to the field of theriogenology.

The award—intended to cement the efforts of the Society and College toward common goals in animal reproduction, to reward and inspire excellence, improve the visibility of theriogenology, and to annually recognize the efforts of the founders—particularly honors Dr. David E. Bartlett, first president of the College. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Bartlett was responsible for deriving the terms “Theriogenology” and “Theriogenologists,” and was instrumental in gaining hard-won AVMA recognition for the American College of Theriogenologists in 1971.

The 2009 David E. Bartlett Award will be presented during the Annual Conference in Albuquerque, NM August 25-29. The recipient will be notified in advance, allowing family and friends to be on hand. The honoree will address those in attendance and will have the option of submitting a contribution to the conference proceedings. The honoree will receive $1,000 cash, an engraved statue of Nandi, and complimentary registration, hotel accommodations and transportation to the 2009 conference.

Please submit the accompanying Preliminary Entry Form on page 5 and nominate an individual to add to the list of preeminent recipients. Entry forms must be received no later than January 16, 2009.

Thanks

The Iowa State University Theriogenology Club would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Society for Theriogenology and ViaGen and their generous contributions in the form of sponsorship for Dr. Dirk Vanderwall’s lecture on October 24th 2008. The lecture had an impressive attendance and was well enjoyed by students and faculty alike. At the end of the lecture a drawing was held where ViaGen’s paraphernalia were distributed. Later that evening, several students had the opportunity to have dinner with Dr. Vanderwall which they thoroughly enjoyed. The event was an overall success and it would not have been possible without the support of SFT and ViaGen.

Thank you once again!
ISU Theriogenology Club

Members of the Iowa State University Therio Club enjoy dinner with Dr. Dirk Vanderwall following his lecture presentation on October 24th, 2008.
2009 Dr. David E. Bartlett Award
Preliminary Entry Form

Sponsored by the Society for Theriogenology & American College of Theriogenologists

Nominee: __________________________________________________________

Full Address: __________________________________________________________

Current Employment and Position: __________________________________________

Home Phone: __________________________________________________________

Business Phone: _________________________________________________________

Fax: __________________________________________________________________

Email: __________________________________________________________________

Provide a short description of nominee’s qualifications for this award. Use a separate sheet of paper containing a maximum 350 word narrative bio, highlighting nominees key accomplishments.

Nominated by: __________________________________________________________

Full Address: __________________________________________________________

Home Phone: __________________________________________________________

Business Phone: _________________________________________________________

Fax: __________________________________________________________________

Email: __________________________________________________________________

Nominations MUST be received by January 16, 2009
Send to:

Society for Theriogenology
Bartlett Award
P.O. Box 3007
Montgomery, Alabama 36109
Call for Abstracts - 2009

The Society for Theriogenology (SFT) and American College of Theriogenologists (ACT) issue a call for research abstracts to be presented at the Annual Conference August 25-29, 2009 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Abstracts will be considered in two categories:

1. **Competitive Category**: Abstracts submitted for this category must have a graduate student or resident as the first author (only one submission per first author will be accepted in this category). These abstracts will be judged on the basis of scientific merit (written). The 8 abstracts with the highest written scores will be selected for presentation during the abstract competition. Graduate students and residents chosen to present in the abstract competition will receive one complimentary registration for the meeting. The abstracts will be presented during a plenary session and judged for presentation quality (oral). Financial awards will be given to the four presenters with the highest total score (written plus oral). Forms used for scoring written abstracts and oral presentations may be viewed at the ACT website (www.theriogenology.org).

The first author (graduate student or resident) will be required to present the abstract during the abstract competition at the SFT Annual Conference. Oral presentations will be 10 minutes in length; an additional 2 to 3 minutes will be allowed for questions only. Time limits will be strictly enforced for the abstract competition; exceeding the 10-minute time limit will result in disqualification from the competition.

Other high scoring abstracts not selected for the abstract competition will be chosen for presentation during a noncompetitive session, and one of the authors will be required to present the abstract at the SFT Annual Conference during a general session or educational session. Presenters of these abstracts will not receive complimentary registration for the meeting.

2. **Non-Competitive Category**: All individuals, including practitioners, faculty, graduate students, residents, and veterinary students, are encouraged to submit abstracts to be considered for presentation during a general session or an educational session (there may be more than 1 submission per first author in this category). Presenters in this category will not receive a complimentary registration to the conference. Oral presentations will be 10 minutes in length; an additional 2 to 3 minutes will be allowed for questions only. If the number of accepted non-competitive abstracts is sufficient, abstracts that are not accepted for oral presentation can be presented in poster format.

**General**: Presenters of research abstracts will not be reimbursed for travel or other expenses incurred in presenting an abstract, nor will they receive an honorarium. Submission of an abstract for consideration in either the competitive or noncompetitive sessions is considered a commitment that, should the abstract be accepted in either category, the appropriate author (as detailed above) will be present at the SFT annual meeting to present the abstract in a formal oral session. Accepted abstracts will be printed in the Annual Conference Proceedings.

**DEADLINE**: Abstracts must be received no later than Thursday, February 12, 2009 for consideration.

Those submitting abstracts for consideration will be notified by March 27, 2009 if their abstract(s) were accepted or declined.

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**Submission Form**

Send Abstracts by Thursday, February 12, 2009 to:

SFT Headquarters
Attn: Charles Franz, DVM, P.O. Box 3007, Montgomery, AL 36109
charles@franzmgmt.com

**Please type the following information:**

Yes, I am submitting an abstract to be considered for presentation at the 2009 Annual Conference and if chosen will present it in the session designated by the Abstract Committee.

**Competitive Category**. The first/presenting author must be a graduate student or resident or must have completed such a program since February 12, 2008. Veterinary students not enrolled in a concurrent graduate degree programs (e.g., PhD or Masters degree) are not eligible. Abstracts not accepted in this category may still be accepted and required to present in the non-competitive category.

**Non-competitive Category**. Open to all individuals.

☐ Competitive Category ☐ Non-competitive Category

(Check one)

In the event that my abstract is NOT accepted for oral presentation, I would be willing to present my abstract in poster format:

☐ YES  ☐ NO  (Check one)

Name and Degree(s): __________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

Business or Institution: ______________________

Address: ___________________________________________________

City/State/Zip/Country: _______________________________________

Telephone: ________________________

Fax: ____________________________

E-mail: _________________________

Title of Submission(s): _______________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

If there are any questions, contact:
Dr. Mushtaq Memon
Phone: 509/335-0711
E-mail: memon@vetmed.wsu.edu
Call for Abstracts - 2009

GUIDELINES: WHAT TO SEND AND HOW TO SEND IT

Electronically: Submit via e-mail (address on top of Submission Form) or on a 3.5” disk or CD (compatible with Word)

General: Detailed instructions for submission and presentation of abstracts can be found on the SFT website (www.therio.org) under “2009 Abstract Guideline for Submission”. All authors are strongly advised to read these instructions and the Guide for Authors for the journal Theriogenology to be familiar with appropriate submission guidelines as well as penalties for abstract withdrawal.

Any author who is concerned about journal rules affecting future publication may submit a long (one page) abstract for scoring and a short (< 250 word), edited version of the same abstract for publication in the Annual Conference Proceedings.

Font: 12 point Times New Roman

Length: No longer than one page (long abstract) and < 250 word limit (short abstract, if submitted)

Paper: 8.5” x 11”

Margins: 1.5” top and bottom – 1” left and right

Header: The title, authors, and their affiliations must be centered at the top of the page.

Content: Abstracts should state clearly the aims of the project, describe the methods used, and summarize the findings. Keywords (up to 5) should be listed at the bottom of the page.

Abstracts not adhering to these guidelines will not be considered for presentation.

Visit the THERIO E-STORE for LOGO’d APPAREL

If you attended the 2008 Annual Conference & Symposia, you may have noticed the shirts with the Therio logo worn by members of the conference staff. You too can have the very same type of shirts by logging onto the THERIO E-STORE!

In December 2007 The Society for Theriogenology announced the opening of its THERIO E-STORE in conjunction with the American Veterinary Medical Association and the world renowned Lands’ End Business Outfitters. If you have not already visited the THERIO E-STORE you are missing out on a great opportunity to acknowledge your expertise in the field of theriogenology while proudly displaying the Therio logo on such things as team jackets, lab coats, sweaters, tote bags, shirts, blouses and other wearing apparel and incidentals. Therio members receive a 10% discount on all Lands’ End Merchandise and a 10% discount on logo application fees. And, there is no minimum production fee!

This is a great member opportunity to purchase quality logo’d apparel with extraordinary customer service.

To access the THERIO E-STORE go online to ces.landsend.com/theriogenology and choose from nearly 150 items.

It is Lands’ End privilege to be outfitting members of the Society for Theriogenology, and it is the Society’s privilege to offer this benefit to its membership. We hope you will enjoy shopping the THERIO E-STORE!
Testosterone profiles and their correlation with sexual libido in male camels


The study was conducted on 4 male Jaisalmeri camels (Camelus dromedarius) on their circulating testosterone (T) profiles and correlation with sexual libido. The average T concentration was low during hot months of April to September, started increasing in the months of October and November, continued to increase steadily in the months of December, January, and February followed by a decline in the ensuing months. Individual variations in onset and cessation of T surge were observed. Sexual libido as indicated by copulation time (CT) and volume of semen ejaculated (V) was high during January to April and declined slowly over May followed by a complete cessation in the later half of June. Sexual libido was almost negligible during July to November. The sexual libido was also low during December. Like circulating T profiles, individual variations were also observed in sexual libido. Data indicated that onset as well as cessation of T surge preceded the onset and cessation of sexual libido in all the animals. A positive correlation was found among circulating T (concentration), CT, and V of semen. It is concluded that seasonal changes in circulating testosterone governs sexual libido in male camels.

Comparison between ultrasonographic and caliper measurements of testicular volume in the dog


The aim of this study was to compare the accuracy of two methods used to clinically estimate testicular volume in the dog. Caliper and ultrasonographic measurements of testicular dimensions (length, width, and height) of both testes were performed on 21 adult Beagles. Either measurement was taken in vivo over the scrotal skin and again in vitro after castration, excluding or including, when possible, the epididymis. In a subsample of 7 randomly selected dogs, the testicular volume was calculated by the formula of an ellipsoid: length (l) X width (w) X height (h) X 0.5236, and the empiric formula of Lambert: (l) X (w) X (h) X 0.71. The calculated volumes were then compared to the actual ones, which were estimated by water displacement. For each measurement method, the formula that estimated more accurately the true testicular volume was, subsequently, applied to the calculation of the testicular volume of the remaining testes. The formula of ellipsoid estimated testicular volume more accurately when in vivo and in vitro caliper measurements and in vitro ultrasound measurements were performed. The formula of Lambert estimated testicular volume more accurately when in vivo ultrasound measurements were performed. The volumes calculated from the measurements of calipers over the scrotal skin overestimated true volumes, on average, by 69 ± 27% (concordance correlation coefficient $r_{cc} = 0.49$). By contrast, those calculated from the ultrasonography measurements were more accurate, overestimating the true volumes by 17 ± 24% ($r_{cc} = 0.81$). Therefore, ultrasonography when the formula of Lambert is used is more accurate than caliper methods for the estimation of testicular volume in clinical practice and should be the method of choice.

Exposure to endotoxin during estrus alters the timing of ovulation and hormonal concentrations in cows

Lavon, Y; Leitner, G; Goshen, T; Braw-Tal, R; Jacoby, S; Wolfenson, D (2008) Theriogenology. 70, 956-967.

The effect of intramammary (IMM) or intravenous (IV) administration of Escherichia coli endotoxin (LPS), at the onset of estrus, on the time of ovulation was examined. Steroid and gonadotropin concentrations around ovulation were also determined. Lactating Holstein cows (n = 33) were assigned to saline-controls (n = 12) and treated with LPS-IV (0.5 lg/kg; n = 13) or LPS-IMM (10 lg; n = 8). Synchronized cows were observed continuously for estrus. LPS (or saline) was injected within 30 minutes from the onset of standing estrus, at peak estradiol concentrations. The typical rise of body temperature, somatic cell count, cortisol, and NAGase activity was noted. One-third of both LPS-IV- and LPS-IMM–treated cows were manifested by an extended estrus to ovulation (E–O) interval of approximately 75 hours or did not ovulate, compared with approximately 30 hours in the other two-thirds of LPS cows and all controls. Estradiol concentrations 24 hours before and after LPS did not differ between groups. However, LPS-IV cows with extended intervals exhibited another estrus and an additional rise of estradiol followed by delayed ovulation. LPS-treated cows with a delayed E–O interval had a low or delayed LH surge; two LPS-treated cows did not exhibit an LH surge and did not ovulate. All control cows exhibited normal hormone levels. Delayed ovulation was associated with a delayed rise of luteal progesterone. The results indicated that exposing cows to endotoxin during estrus induced a decreased and delayed LH surge in one-third of the cows. This was associated with delayed ovulation, which reduces the chances of successful fertilization.
Ovarian follicular development and hormone concentrations in inseminated dairy cows with resynchronized estrous cycles

Cavalieri, J; Smart, VM; Hepworth, G; Ryan, M; Macmillan, KL (2008) Theriogenology. 70, 946-955.

The objective was to investigate ovarian follicular development and hormone concentrations in previously inseminated cows with estrous cycles resynchronized with various resynchronization treatments. Lactating dairy cows were treated with a previously used intravaginal progesterone releasing device (IVD) for 7 days (EB + IVD 7 + EB, n = 15) or 8 days (EB + IVD 8 + EB, n = 16), starting 13 days (day 13) after a first estrus (day 0) and artificial insemination (AI). Estradiol benzoate (EB; 1 mg I.M.) was given at device insertion and 24 hours after removal. Other cows were given the same treatment as the EB + IVD 8 + EB cows, but were not treated with EB at IVD insertion (IVD 8 + EB, n = 11). There were no differences (P > 0.05) between EB + IVD 7 + EB and EB + IVD 8 + EB treatments for follicle dynamics and plasma progesterone concentrations during treatment. Based on a comparison between the IVD 8 + EB treated cows and the pooled results of the EB + IVD 7 + EB and EB + IVD 8 + EB treated cows, EB at device insertion increased the number of follicular waves between days 13 and 20 (mean ± S.E.M.; 2.3 ± 0.14 vs 2.7 ± 0.10, P = 0.033), delayed emergence of follicles that were dominant or emerging on day 20 (17.2 ± 0.36 vs 14.1 ± 0.65 days, P < 0.001), reduced diameters of dominant or emerging follicles on day 20 (9.0 ± 0.58 mm vs 12.7 ± 0.59 mm, P < 0.001), and reduced plasma progesterone concentrations by 0.85 ± 0.44 ng/mL (P = 0.059) during treatment. Furthermore, comparison of the IVD 8 + EB to the EB + IVD 8 + EB treated cows demonstrated that treatment with EB at device insertion also reduced the diameter of ovulatory follicles (14.2 ± 0.58 mm vs 19.0 ± 0.71 mm, P = 0.001), delayed emergence of ovulatory follicles (17.0 ± 0.32 days vs 13.5 ± 1.26 days, P = 0.020), and reduced the interval from emergence to ovulation (7.0 ± 0.32 days vs 10.5 ± 1.26 days, P = 0.020). We concluded that administration of EB altered ovarian follicular dynamics and tended to reduce plasma progesterone concentrations during treatment with an IVD that was used to resynchronize estrous cycles. However, use of a 7-day compared to an 8-day treatment with an IVD did not significantly affect follicle dynamics nor plasma progesterone concentrations during treatment.

Ubiquitination and its influence in boar sperm physiology and cryopreservation


Recent reports document the potential use of the ubiquitin protein as an indicator of mammalian sperm quality or fertility, based on poor morphology, sperm count, and other cellular qualities. However, its influence on cellular physiologic mechanisms and boar sperm cryopreservation are unknown. The objective of this research was to determine the influence of boar sperm ubiquitination (n = 12 boars) on motility (using CASA), and flow cytometry and fluorescent probes (in parentheses) to evaluate mitochondrial activity (JC-1), plasma and acrosomal membrane integrity (PI and FITC-PNA), membrane fluidity (M540), and chromatin stability (TUNEL) for fresh and frozen–thawed samples. The effects of ubiquitination (determined flow cytometrically) on the ability of frozen–thawed boar sperm to capacitate (FLUO-3AM) and acrosome react (FITC-PNA) were also investigated using flow cytometry. Cryopreservation induced a decrease in the percentage of sperm that were ubiquitinated from 29% to 20% (P < 0.0001), but no significant effects of ubiquitin on sperm quality (motility, membrane integrities and organization) were detected. The ability of sperm to capacitate and acrosome react was influenced by ubiquitination. Samples with more ubiquitinated boar sperm were able to maintain plasma membrane integrity (PMI) better and have fewer live acrosome-reacted cells over 120 minutes of induced capacitation (P < 0.05). In conclusion, frozen–thawed ubiquitinated boar sperm were better able to survive the physical stresses of induced capacitation, yet were still capable of capacitating and acrosome reacting, which may enable use of this assay for in the vitro evaluation of the quality of boar sperm.
Special Offer for SFT & ACT Members!

2009 Member Subscription Form for THERIOGENOLOGY
An International Journal of Animal Reproduction

Members of the Society for Theriogenology and the American College of Theriogenologists are entitled to a personal subscription to THERIOGENOLOGY at a special reduced price ($209 in United States; $240 in all other Countries).

As a SFT/ACT Member Subscriber, you will receive 18 issues per year and access to full content online back to 1995. To activate your subscription, complete and return this form to the address below.

THERIOGENOLOGY serves as an international forum for researchers, clinicians, and industry professionals involved in animal reproduction biology.

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- Cryobiology of spermatozoa and embryos
- Transmission of viruses by embryos
- Micromanipulation of embryos


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Mission Committee Volunteers Needed

By Dr. Travis Meredith

As we continue to consider our goals, our mission, and our awareness in the professional community, The ACT Executive Board has approved and is seeking volunteers for the ACT Mission Committee. The committee will consist of 10 Diplomates with representation from all major species groups in both private and academic environments, and will be charged with researching and making recommendations to the board in matters of improving our organization’s awareness, outreach strategy, marketing, and branding. The Mission committee will spend significant time evaluating the previous efforts conducted by the Society for Theriogenology, solicit bids from market research and brand development groups, estimate financial commitments, and present preliminary and final recommendations to the board. We are seeking motivated volunteers from all backgrounds, both new and more “seasoned.” If you’re interested in participating or have more questions, please email Travis Meredith directly at tmeredithdvm@gmail.com.

American College of Theriogenologists
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Mission Committee Volunteers Needed

As we continue to consider our goals, our mission, and our awareness in the professional community, The ACT Executive Board has approved and is seeking volunteers for the ACT Mission Committee. The committee will consist of 10 Diplomates with representation from all major species groups in both private and academic environments, and will be charged with researching and making recommendations to the board in matters of improving our organization’s awareness, outreach strategy, marketing, and branding. The Mission committee will spend significant time evaluating the previous efforts conducted by the Society for Theriogenology, solicit bids from market research and brand development groups, estimate financial commitments, and present preliminary and final recommendations to the board. We are seeking motivated volunteers from all backgrounds, both new and more “seasoned.” If you’re interested in participating or have more questions, please email Travis Meredith directly at tmeredithdvm@gmail.com.
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