



**The Breeding Sheds are Open!** The breeding shed opened on January 25th with shipments flying out of here. Our collection procedures are the same with collection days being Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday - same day and next day service available. We have semen ordering forms available on line to make your or your vet's life a little easier.



**Happy Foaling!** The 2010 foals are arriving daily. We have some amazing new foals arriving and being posted to the website. We still have foaling spaces available and encourage all that are interested in our foaling program to contact us for more information. You won't find a more positive experience with great staff and super facility

Welcome Lonesome All Over!



Gumz Farms is excited to add a splash of color to their stallions offering. Lonesome All Over is a stunning 15.2 hand sorrel tobiano stallion. He has his superior in Western Pleasure as well as points in Hunter Under Saddle and Halter. He is a tremendous breeding value at \$650 LCFG.

### Invest N Vital Signs Offers the New X-Extender



The newly-released "X-Extender" product has shown amazing results when used in prevention of the H gene in breeding to N/H horses. This additive kills the sperm cells that possess the H gene associated with HYPP. In the case of an N/H stallion, only the negative (N) sperm cells would be viable to fertilize the egg and result in an N/N foal. Although it is too early to say if it works 100%, the results have been amazing. Research and development of this product has been done by Dr. Clay Dean of Texas.

To continue the support of their stallion, Invest N Vital Signs, the Glover Family will purchase one dose of X-Extender additive and provide it to each full price breeding. For Breeders who have purchased the breeding through a futurity program, have received a discounted breeding price or are using a rebreed

option, the Mare Owner will be able to purchase the X-Extender from Gumz Farms at the cost of \$175 per dose. The X-Extender may be shipped with cooled semen orders or used in on-farm breeding at Gumz Farms.

### International Frozen semen Updates:

To all of our European breeders - Certain Potential semen was shipped 2/1 and should be ready for distribution. For more information contact the office at Gumz Farms.

Iron Age has frozen semen approved for export to the European communities and Australia.

Invest N Vital Signs & Absolute Asset has frozen semen approved for export to the European Communities

We anticipate frozen semen availability to the European communities and Australia this season for Absolute Investment, VS Code Red and No Doubt Im Lazy.



### TO ALL THOSE DOING BUSINESS WITH KENTUCKY QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

In the fall of 2009 our address changed. Some of you who had printed off Breeders' Incentive Fund forms earlier in the year have been using our old address. This has caused returned mail and questions as to the new address. In some cases, we have confirmed that mail has been lost. This is despite our filing with the appropriate post office an address change and request to forward mail to our new PO Box.

When corresponding with the KyQHA please use the correct address:

KyQHA  
P.O. Box 23917  
Lexington, KY 40523-3917

Note all forms currently on the web site have the correct address indicated. So if you are sending to us 2010 related information, always print off the current form - not a form that you printed off months or a year ago and made photocopies.

Our toll-free telephone number and fax number remain the same:

888-367-5742 (phone)  
888-641-3944 (fax)



**Prospects available-** We have exceptional prospects available for your consideration. We are working on videos as time permits but have a great selection of KyBIP yearlings, broodmares as well as all the new 2010 foals. We are also working on new program called Designer Foals. This allows you to purchase an embryo from "those famous mares" and coupled with your choice of stallion, design your dream foal. We have a one rate, no hassle program that takes all the guess work out of purchasing embryos and embryo transfer. See them listed on our site or send

us a quick email for what is available.

## Placentitis Research Could Help Prevent Late-Term Abortions

by: University of Kentucky College of Agriculture  
December 18 2009, Article # 15499

Placentitis, which often is caused by an ascending infection that enters the mare's uterus through the cervix, is the single most important cause of premature delivery of a foal. Placentitis accounts for nearly one-third of late-term abortions and fetal mortality in the first day of life. During the past six years, the University of Kentucky (UK) Livestock Disease Diagnostic Center has diagnosed 1,429 cases of placentitis.

Mats Troedsson, DVM, Dipl. ACT, is the chair of UK's Department of Veterinary Science and director of the Gluck Equine Research Center. Troedsson served as professor and service chief in theriogenology and director of equine research programs at the University of Florida's College of Veterinary Medicine before coming to the Gluck Equine Research Center in 2008.

In the early 1990s, Troedsson began using ultrasound to examine placentas in clinical cases. That led to a study establishing normal values for transrectal ultrasound examination of the combined thickness of the uterus and placenta. During the last 10 years, Troedsson's research has had a different focus, and his contribution has been

limited to evaluating the efficacy of different treatment regimens for placentitis and case reports of clinical cases in collaboration with Margo Macpherson, DVM, MS, Dipl. ACT, associate professor of theriogenology in Large Animal Clinical Sciences at the University of Florida. .

Because there are still many unanswered questions about accurate diagnostics, prognostics, monitoring of fetal well-being, and treatment in high-risk pregnancies, Troedsson plans to revisit this research topic with the reproduction group at the Gluck Center.

Efficient diagnosis relies upon cautious monitoring of mares in late stages of pregnancy. However, available treatment approaches are far from perfect and treatment outcome is hard to predict. Early intervention in treatment of placental infections is likely the key to treatment success.

In some chronic cases of placentitis accelerated fetal maturation will commence. Mares will deliver these foals prematurely, but the foal will not be mature enough to survive outside the uterus after birth. Delaying premature labor long enough to allow accelerated fetal maturation to proceed full development may improve the chance of foal survival.

The most common clinical signs of placentitis in mares are premature udder development and vulvar discharge. Ultrasonography is an excellent tool for monitoring fetal and placental changes in mares affected by placentitis. But since serial ultrasonographic evaluations are not commonly employed in late-gestation mares, a veterinarian can miss diagnosis in subclinically affected mares. Subclinical disease might also result in subtle ultrasonographic changes that are not easily distinguished from normal findings. However, in spite of these hurdles, transrectal ultrasonography remains one of the best tools available for diagnosing equine placental infections.

Another type of ultrasonography, transabdominal, can be a useful tool for placental evaluation in mares with suspected placentitis. Using transabdominal ultrasonography, the clinician cannot image the caudal portion of the allantochorion (the part of the placenta that is attached to the back of the uterus close to the cervix), which prevents diagnosis of ascending placentitis in its early stages. However, placental thickening and partial separation of the placenta from the uterus using transabdominal ultrasonography in mares with placentitis originating from a hematogenous infection (infection spread to the uterus via the mare's blood).

Treatment strategies for mares with ascending placentitis are currently vague. Many treatment regimens have been extrapolated from research in other species, such as humans. Treatment efforts are directed at several targets including combating infection, reducing inflammation, and controlling uterine contractions.

According to Troedsson, the outcome of any treatment was previously found to be poor.

"We found that treatment of subclinical cases diagnosed by ultrasonography resulted in quite acceptable and much improved outcome of affected pregnancies," he said.

Common treatment for placentitis is broad-spectrum antibiotics, Regu-Mate (double dose) and pentoxifylline for the remainder of the pregnancy, and a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent. This treatment, however, is not 100% effective and often results in the birth of an underdeveloped and compromised foal.

"But while success is hard to achieve when treating placentitis in mares, having a live foal that has been delivered successfully and is healthy is a great reward," Troedsson said.

Alexandra Harper is a UK equine intern and undergraduate majoring in communications.

This article is property of Univerisyt of Kentucky College of Agrculture and [www.thehorse.com](http://www.thehorse.com)



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