

Preservation of fresh boar semen. Fertility trials with two extenders

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Two extenders have been tested for preservation of boar semen. Immediately after semen collection and examination, split ejaculates were diluted with BL 1 or I.V.T. without CO₂, 3.10⁹ spz/dose of 35 ml, and maintained at + 15°C in sealed glass-ampoules. The number of motile sperm decreased more rapidly with I.V.T. than with B.L. 1. The 54-day-non return of the sows and gilts was the same for both diluents when inseminations were done on the day of semen collection. The day after, the NR decrease with I.V.T. and two doses of semen/I.A. were necessary to maintain fertility. After this period, the results were not satisfactory. With B.L. 1 extender, fertility was maintained on the day after semen collection ; it began to decrease on the third day, but could be maintained with two doses of semen.

B.L. 1 extender preserved boar semen longer than I.V.T. did. This would be useful for practical use with groups of sows programmed for A.I.

Comparison of three methods for hormonal synchronisation of heats in gilts during late fattening. Use of P.M.S. and H.C.G.

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Early mating of sows, at least one month before the normal date of slaughter is difficult to practise in a pig fattening house. As this technique may primarily interest pig feeders, it is consequently logic to apply to artificial insemination.

Thus, any technique allowing synchronisation of heats in prepuberal gilts is interesting. As our first trial on early induction of puberty by « natural » methods (mixing of animals, transport,