



### ***(too) many inseminations? Less is more!***

*In the animal kingdom it is simple, the stallion is assisted by his beloved mare, who indicates when she is optimally fertile. For people, this is often guesswork and they can be wrong, which is not always without consequences. An experienced breeder and horseman keeps an eye on his mare. Unfortunately not everyone has such a horseman's eye and this carries some risk. There are breeders who order sperm on Monday and at the same time also for Wednesday and even Friday. This breeder may believe that the more sperm inseminated, the higher the chances of gestation. Wrong! This is a totally antiquated and hazardous line of thinking. A womb is indeed capable of receiving 'alien material', but, and anyone can understand this, the more alien material, the higher the chances that it will be rejected. Too much is too much, that is the natural defence mechanism of every mare. And often a surplus of alien materials (in this case: sperm) will cause a fungal and/or bacterial infection that takes a toll on the mare's ability to gestate.*

*Unfortunately there are breeders who inseminate their mare too often per cycle, sometimes even three times. Not only is this inefficient, it is also not without risk. And it certainly does not increase the chances of gestation. Everyone has to carry his/her own responsibility and it is the vet who has to provide for the required and necessary procreation. With his know how and expertise he has to determine the timing of insemination on the basis of the ovulation predicted by him. After that accurate monitoring is necessary and a second insemination can take place, when needed. But it all begins with correct timing and the predicted ovulation. Reversely, random insemination can have a baleful influence on gestation. Or, in plastic terms, better hit in one go than taking wild shots with the danger of 'collateral damage'. Too much sperm causes too many risks and does not offer a better guarantee for success. So, breeder, avail yourself of the services of a specialised vet, who can predict the precise moment of ovulation of your mare and monitors her closely. That is your best chance for success.*

Source: Animal clinic Bosdreef

