

# FERTILIZING ABILITY OF OXFORD-DOWN RAM-SIRES DEEP-FROZEN SEMEN DEPENDING ON THEIR MODE OF USE AND SEASONAL ACTIVITY

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The article presents the results of experimental studies on the fertilizing ability of the thawed semen of the rams-breeders obtained and deeply frozen in the breeding and non-breeding periods, under different modes of using the breeders, such as: 4 ejaculates per week (2 doublet selection, 2 times a week); 6 ejaculate per week (2 doublet selection, 3 times a week); 8 ejaculate per week (2 doublet selection, 4 times a week). It was established, that under the mode of using the ram-sires to receive 4 ejaculates per week, compared to 6 and 8 ejaculates, the fertility of sheep breeds from the first insemination during the non-breeding period was higher by 3.0 and 6.7%, in the breeding period, by 2.1 and 4.5 percent, respectively. While the fertility from all inseminations was almost the same at 88.2-90.5 %, the fertility at separation of lambs under the mode of 4 ejaculates per week was higher by 2.8 and 6.2 % compared to that received under the mode of 6 and 8 ejaculates.

In the breeding period, the fertility of the deconserved sperm from the first insemination under the mode of receiving 4 ejaculates per week, made up 81.0 %, which is by 2.1 and 4.5 % higher than the sperm obtained under the mode of 6 and 8 ejaculates. The fertilizing ability of the sperm obtained under the studied modes of using ram-sires from all inseminations was practically the same ranging from 95.2 to 94.1 %.

However, the fertility at lamb birth, under the mode of 4 ejaculates per week, was higher by 5.6 i 6.3 % respectively than that under other modes. The fertility at separation slightly differed under the studied modes and accounted for 138.1, 131.6 and 129.4 percent respectively.

An estimation of the fertility ability of the thawed semen obtained during different periods of seasonal activity has been experimentally confirmed by its higher fertilizing ability from the first insemination, in breeding period compared with non-breeding on the investigated modes of using, respectively, by 9.6; 10.5 and 11.8 percent.

**Keywords:** RAM-SIRES, EWES, MODES OF USE, PERIODS OF SEASONAL ACTIVITY, THAWED SPERM, FERTILIZING ABILITY, LAMBS.