

Staff Update

In 2012 we have taken on several new members of staff and would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome them to the team!! Stud Secretary **Faye Durrant BA (Hons)** and Stud Grooms **Nikoletta Gouzopolou BSc (Hons)**, **Clare Sellwood BSc (Hons)** and **Camille Best**

// STAFF PROFILE

Faye Durrant BA (Hons) Stud Secretary



In 2007, Faye completed her BA Hons degree in Classical Studies at The University of Manchester with a 2:1 and had a gap year as a Working Pupil with dressage trainer Gareth Hughes. After her gap year, Faye started work in a medical insurance broker advising customers on International Insurance packages however, her passion for horses and dressage led her to take up a job as a groom and rider for a private dressage yard in Cheshire. In the year prior to starting here at Stallion AI Services, Faye obtained her AI Technician qualification and completed the Foaling The Mare course at Twemlows Stud Farm.

Faye became a member of the Stallion AI team in May 2012 taking care of the invoicing and endeavours to answer any queries you may have. In her spare time she rides and competes her dressage horse, Viva Verdi at Advanced Medium and is aiming for top hat and tails, hopefully in the not so distant future!

2013 OPEN DAY

Stallion AI Services & Twemlows Hall AI & ET

Come along to see the stallion show, look around the stud, demonstrations, trade stands, expert advice and much more!!

Sunday 21st April 2013

[CONTACT]

For more information contact
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Tel: **01948 666 295**

6th International Symposium on Stallion Reproduction

Tullis Matson and Kate Ashmore from Stallion AI Services attended this years 6th International Symposium on Stallion Reproduction held at the University of Veterinary Sciences in Vienna, Austria from 5th to 7th September 2012

This Symposium is held every 4 years in different countries around the world and brings together some of the world's leading stallion reproduction veterinarians to discuss the latest advances in stallion reproduction.

This years key topics focussed on improving stallions semen quality by the removal of seminal plasma through centrifugation and also improving semen sample quality through centrifugation through a variety of density gradients and semen filters. The Symposium also looked at the recent advances in the cryopreservation of epididymal sperm (semen harvested post castration), a procedure which at Stallion AI Services we have carried out more than ever in 2012



Kate Ashmore with Dr. Dickson Varner DVM

and positive pregnancy results are now being achieved.

The symposium came to a close with a fantastic trip to the Spanish Riding School of Vienna on the Saturday before returning home.

[WHAT'S NEW]

Epididymal Sperm Salvaging - Your Questions Answered

When should this technique be used?

Equine epididymal sperm extraction can be used as a terminal procedure in stallions with irreparable conditions, such as when fractures or colic have occurred or where the testes have suffered a severe trauma or testicular torsion. In addition, epididymal semen may also be collected and cryopreserved following elective castration.

How?

The stallion has one or both testes removed which are then chilled and couriered to the centre in Shropshire. The testes are dissected and the sperm cells are harvested from the epididymis using a combination of techniques including aspiration, flushing and flotation.

Does it work?

Although there is not an abundance of data on the fertility of semen harvested and frozen in this manner, using a variety of specialised processing techniques we are now seeing post thaw results of up to

50% Progressive Linear Motility (PLM) and positive pregnancy results have been achieved.

How many doses will be harvested?

The number of doses collected will vary from stallion to stallion depending on testicle size and the density of the semen collected. On average the final number of doses varies from between 10-40 based on harvesting from both testes.

Does the stallion need health testing?

All stallions must be tested for EVA, EIA and CEM. This can be done at the point of castration.

Stallion AI Services Recommendations

We would always recommend that this should be used as a last resort and not as a replacement for traditional methods. Although pregnancy results are being achieved, fertility is likely to be much lower than that of semen collected and frozen in the traditional manner.

Equine Reproduction Supplies Update

ERS has had another great season selling AI equipment in 2012. For a price list or product information contact Ellie on 08001412550. In 2013 ERS will be launching a brand new website making it much easier for you to purchase all your AI equipment online. www.erssales.com



Equine Reproduction Supplies Ltd

www.stallionai.com


TWEMLOWS
STUD FARM
2012/2013
Winter Newsletter



2012 HIGHLIGHTS

We held our first **Open Day** for many years in the Spring. It was a great success with a fantastic stallion show, lectures & demonstrations, and trade stands. We look forward to seeing you at the next one on 21st April 2013.

Both **Sports Horse GB** and the **Oldenburg Society** came to Twemlows this year to grade and inspect mares and foals. These will become annual events.

Twemlows Stud supported its first live online lecture on 20th September, hosted by **WebLeC**. The lecture, given by Dr Jonathan Pycok, was on the second half of the mare's pregnancy and attracted many viewers. We look forward to supporting more lectures on equine breeding in the future.

This year we had our first **Suffolk Punch** foal born at Twemlows. **Twemlows Diamond** (below), owned by Mrs Richard Matson, is out of her mare **Samford Amethyst**. Twemlows Diamond will help continue to secure the future of the Suffolk Horse breed.



www.twemlows.co.uk

Review of the 2012 Stud Season

We have had a busy year with embryo transfer (ET) continuing late in the breeding season for competition mares who have been busy over the summer months.

In 2012 we have used semen from 130 stallions; 15% of mares were inseminated with fresh semen, 40% with chilled and 45% with frozen.

Top competition mares have arrived throughout the stud season including **Little Lefanie** (rider Geoff Luckett) who arrived to take up two scholarships which she won in two consecutive years at the Bolesworth Showjumping Classics;

Corlato (rider Tim Stockdale) and **Tinka's Serenade** (rider Billy Twomey) who took a break after competing at the Olympics, took up their scholarships for the leading British Showjumping mares in 2010 and 2011 respectively.

Briarlands Matilda (below), ridden by Izzy Taylor, won the 2012 Burghley Scholarship and came to stud for ET in the Autumn.



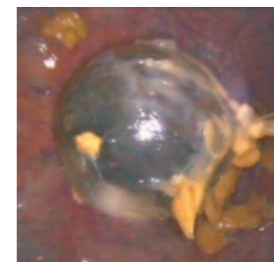
Lost Your Marbles

This year we have been presented with two cases of mares with marbles.

Some mares show attitude changes during oestrus, which can affect their behaviour when in heat. A sterilized glass marble is placed through the cervix of the mare into the uterus at the very end of her season. This in theory simulates a pregnancy, preventing the mare coming into season.

ever becoming pregnant are close to zero.

We had two cases this season; the first mare, having her marble removed, was then covered on the same cycle and scanned in foal. The second mare was not as fortunate due to having the marble in her uterus for many years.



Endoscopic examination of a mare's uterus showing a marble.

It is not a proven method and has very variable and often poor success. If it works, the effect is usually not longer than 90 days and the removal can be difficult. More importantly it is potentially dangerous because the marble can crumble producing many small pieces of glass that become embedded in the uterus. Unfortunately for these mares the chances of

Transported Embryo Service

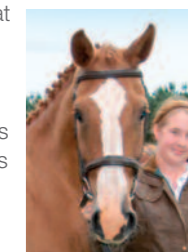
It has again been a popular choice for mare owners in 2012 to use our transported embryo service. It is an ideal choice if you want to breed your mare but would prefer to keep her close to home. Working with Twemlows Stud, your vets at home can keep us informed of your mare's progress so we are able to synchronise suitable recipient mares from our large herd.

We have also seen an increase in 'walk in flushes' from clients wanting to keep their mares at home.

Please contact us for further details.

Gena Prince - Groom

Gena has been working at Twemlows for two years. Working as part of the team she helps with the daily care of visiting mares and foaling down. Gena is also a qualified AI Technician and helps AI mares throughout the busy season. In her spare time Gena enjoys competing in showjumping and working hunter competitions with her own horse.





AI TECHNICIAN TRAINING

- Anatomy of the Mare
- Semen Handling
- Artificial Insemination
- Record Keeping
- Care of the Mare Before & After Insemination
- Semen Production / Collection
- Assessment / Packaging

13th & 14th February • 4th & 5th March



FOALING THE MARE

- Preparation for Safe Foaling
- Normal Foaling
- Inducing the Mare
- Recognising problems early
- Complications
- New-born Foal Examination
- Examination of the Placenta
- The Orphan Foal and Adoption

24th February • 23rd March



FOAL & YEARLING MANAGEMENT

- Worming & Vaccinations
- Common Diseases
- Recognising at an early stage when something is wrong & what to do
- Foal Handling & Foot Care
- Practical Session – Examination of a Foal
- Weaning, Nutrition & OCD

24th March

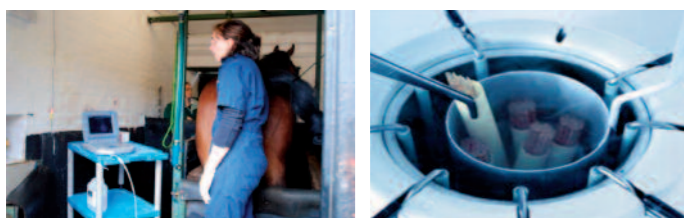


VETERINARY CPD

Practical Equine Gynaecology

A 3 day course designed specifically for veterinary surgeons with an interest in equine reproduction. Interactive workshop style lectures and individual examination of mares and stallions.

29th - 31st January



AI TECHNICIANS REFRESHER COURSE

A one day course for qualified AI technicians, covering AI techniques and refresher topics.

8th March

OPEN DAY

Twemlows Stud Farm & Stallion AI Services

April 21st 2013

Stallion Show

Lectures & Demonstrations

Trade Stands

Tour Our Facilities

ET Open Day

14th March, 2013

2013 NEWSLETTER

Cryogenetics

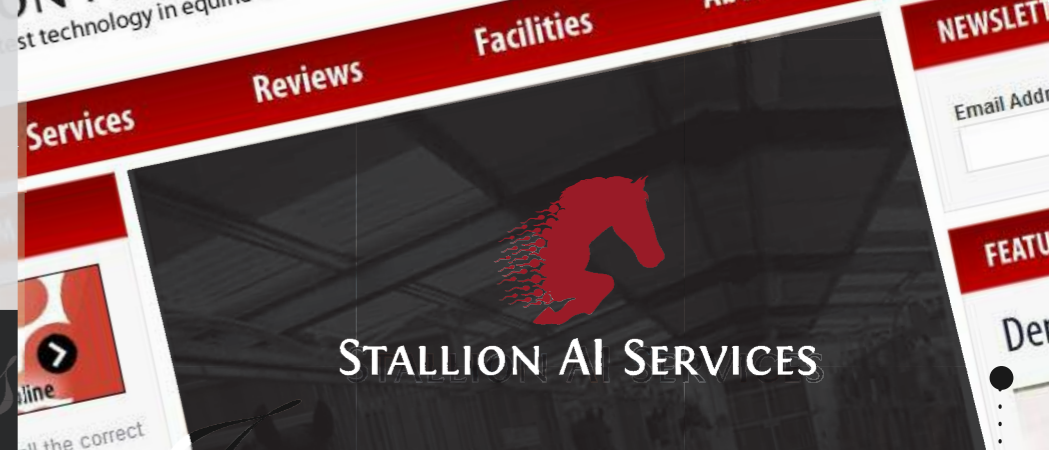
At Stallion AI Services we offer the UK's leading equine frozen semen storage and distribution service

We are a DEFRA approved EU and Worldwide semen storage facility and currently store over 40,000 doses of frozen semen with a fleet of over 50 dry shipping containers. We offer an efficient and hassle free shipping service, whether it be within the UK or to the other side of the world. In the 2012 breeding season alone we sent out over 300 frozen semen consignments within the UK and exported over 1,100 doses to 18 worldwide countries. This increase in exports is largely due to the launch of the new website which is having an extensive worldwide reach.

This has made 2012 a record year for the frozen semen storage and distribution aspect of the business with huge amounts of semen being exported all over the world. Due to the continued and rapid growth of this part of the business, from 1st December 2012 Stallion AI Services will be splitting its business activities in order to facilitate future growth. Stallion AI Services Ltd will continue to offer a fresh, chilled and frozen collection service as well as all laboratory services and Cryogenetics Ltd will take over all frozen semen storage and distribution services including all semen exports.



Cryogenetics Ltd is owned solely by Tullis Matson and will be based at the centre at Stallion AI Services. As our client you will notice no difference in the service you receive other than your future storage and distribution invoices will be sent from Cryogenetics Ltd. All correspondence will continue to come through the Stallion AI Services office and semen distribution will continue to work in the same way.



STALLION AI SERVICES

Changes To Insurance

Important Changes for the Insurance of Stored Frozen Semen at Stallion AI Services

From 1st February Stallion AI Services will no longer provide insurance for frozen semen in storage. After months of discussion it has been decided that to enable us to keep frozen semen storage prices as competitive as possible we will no longer offer any insurance. This will be confirmed in the terms and conditions of the new Storage and Distribution Booking Form which you will have received.

We have been in discussion with the NFU for some time now, developing a policy which frozen semen owners can take out privately based on the semen they have in

storage. This will also enable you to more accurately insure your semen for the value that you feel is appropriate, based on your stallion stud fee etc.



NFU Mutual

For more details on how to insure your semen with the NFU please contact Rebecca Millard, NFU, Market Drayton Agency, Tel: 01630 652994, and quote reference code CRYOGENETICS.

Website Success!!

Since the launch of our new website in 2012 the visiting figures from the UK and around the world have continued to grow. We are now having over 2,500 visitors per week to the site from countries all over the world.

Remember to take this great opportunity to advertise your stallion with us using one of the three packages we offer. All stallions with frozen semen stored are entitled to receive the Bronze package for free. We also offer a FREE classifieds section for the progeny of any stallion we store frozen semen for.

FREE ADVERTISING ON OUR WEBSITE!

| NEW | – Strangles Pre-Entry Blood Test

At Stallion AI Services we continue to strive to improve the centre's biosecurity, therefore from August 2012 Stallion AI Services now require all stallions to have a negative blood test for strangles before entry to the centre

control in a large equine centre such as Stallion AI Services. An outbreak of strangles at the facility would put a complete hold on horses coming and going from the centre and would have major financial implications especially if it occurred within the main breeding season.

Strangles is a disease of the upper respiratory tract, caused by Streptococcus equi and it is endemic within the horse population in the UK.

It is already a pre requisite for any mare visiting Twemlows Hall Stud whom we share our site with and therefore it seems only sensible that Stallion AI Services follows suit to increase the centre's overall biosecurity and the welfare of our stallions.

Transmission of the disease mainly occurs in direct contact between infected horses but can be spread by hands, equipment, staff, therefore making it very difficult to

For more details on Stallion AI Services Pre-Entry Requirements take a look at our Pre-Entry Certificate at www.stallionai.com and visit the Useful Files Section.



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