

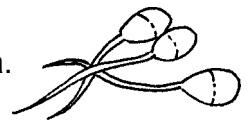
Livestock improvement terminology

Explaining some technical terms in the Animal Improvement Act, 1998 (Act No 62 of 1998)

Reproductive cells

Male cells (spermatozoa)

- A cattle semen straw will contain a minimum of 7 million spermatozoa.

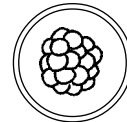


Female cell (ovum)

- The unfertilised cell is also referred to as an egg cell.

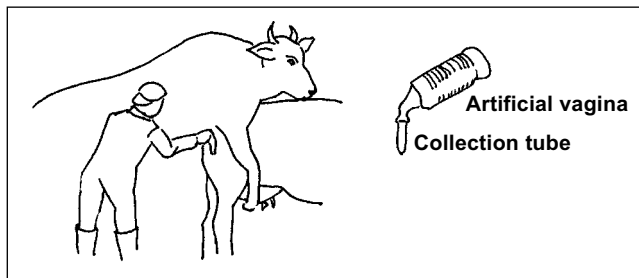


Male cell + female cell = embryo (fertilised ovum)

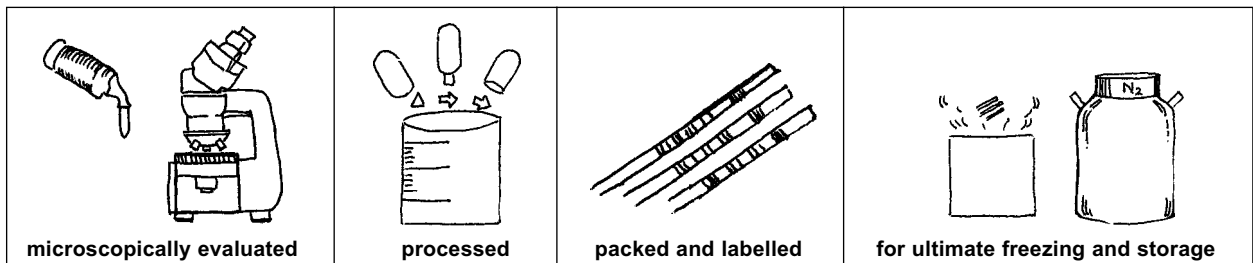


Collecting semen

Semen is collected from a donor animal.

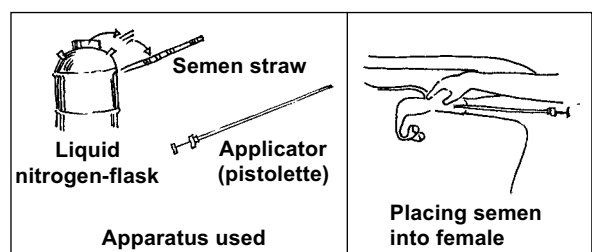


It is then:



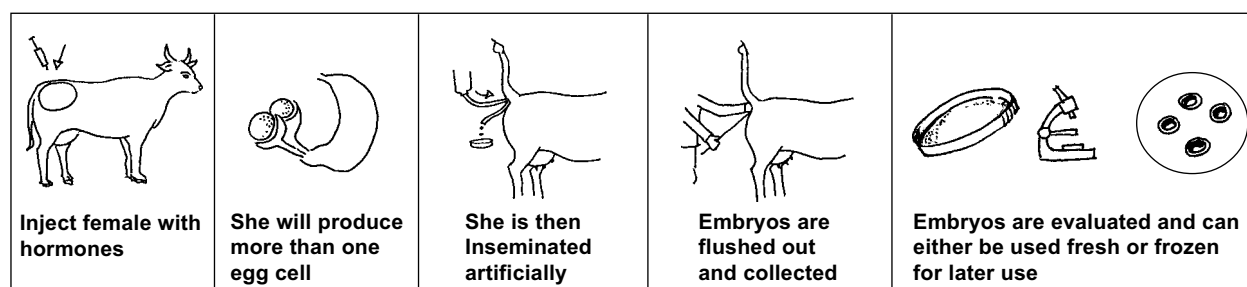
Artificial insemination

- Artificial impregnation of a female animal:
 - frozen or fresh semen is placed mechanically into the female
 - normal fertilisation can now take place.



Collecting embryos

- Preparing the donor:

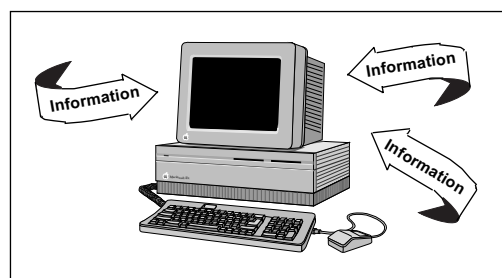


AI centres

- Artificial insemination (AI) centres are registered in terms of Section 9 of the Act.
- These centres undertake the collection, evaluation, processing, packaging and labelling of semen.
- Centres where embryos and ova are collected, evaluated and processed can also be registered.

INTERGIS

- The integrated registration and genetic information system (INTERGIS) is a central computer system developed and maintained by the South African Stud Book and Livestock Improvement Association.
- Registration data and pedigrees of beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and horses are stored on the INTERGIS.
- Data of animals participating in performance testing can be integrated with registration data. This creates a totally integrated database according to which genetic evaluations can be done.
- The INTERGIS is an open system which can be utilised by various users and countries simultaneously.



For further information, contact the
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*This publication is also available on the website of the National Department of Agriculture at:
www.nda.agric.za/publications*

2000

Compiled by Directorate Communication, National Department of Agriculture
in cooperation with the Subdirector Animal Genetic Resources

Printed and published by the National Department of Agriculture
and obtainable from Resource Centre, Directorate Communication
Private Bag X144, Pretoria, 0001 South Africa

