



Semen & Embryo Export Overview

As popularity in the Valais Blacknose breed continues to rapidly increase so does the demand for UK genetics throughout the EU and the rest of the world. The movement of livestock genetics mostly occurs in the form of frozen semen or embryos therefore breeders' partner with specialised breeding centres who offer export services.

Export rules and regulations are complex, and the process involves quarantine restrictions, health requirements and various blood tests, the overall collection process can take 2 – 9 months. Each export market is also governed by different health requirements which ultimately dictates the length of the process, and most new markets also require a pre – entry quarantine. Therefore, forward planning and special consideration is required prior to the agreement of any export deal.

Below you will see an overview of the country requirements currently in place for both semen and embryo export. Please note that the rules and regulations often change, therefore it is advisable to contact your selected breeding centre directly for up-to-date information.

COUNTRY REQUIREMENTS

EUROPE (Inclusive of The Republic of Ireland & Northern Ireland) - Semen & Embryo Export Permitted

- Semen donors must be in the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme, unless rams are ARR/ARR (Group 1)
- Semen used on EU embryo donors must be from an ARR/ARR ram or a ram in a Scrapie Monitoring Scheme
- Semen and Embryo donors must originate from flocks free from CLA, Johnne's, MV, Jaagsiekte for specified time periods
- Scandinavian countries – extra requirements
- Veterinary pre-certification required
- Pre & post screening blood test apply and need to be taken by a Vet and sent to APHA Weybridge
- Quarantine period: 30 days prior and post collection for both semen and embryos

CANADA - Semen Export Only

- Semen donors must be in the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme, unless rams are ARR/ARR (Group 1)
- Donors must be Schmallenberg and Johnne's disease test negative
- Donors must originate from flocks free from CLA, Johnne's, MV, Jaagsiekte for specified time periods.
- Veterinary pre-certification required
- Pre & post screening blood test apply and need to be taken by a Vet and sent to APHA Weybridge
- Quarantine period: 30 days at the semen collection centre

USA - Semen Export Only

- Semen donors must be in the Scrapie Monitoring Scheme, unless rams are ARR/ARR (Group 1)
- Donors must be Schmallenberg tested negative
- Veterinary pre-certification required
- Pre & post screening blood test apply and need to be taken by a Vet and sent to APHA Weybridge
- Quarantine period: 120 days prior to semen collection and 30 days post collection

NEW ZEALAND - Semen & Embryo Export Permitted

- Semen donors must be genotyped and be ARR/ARR, ARR/AHQ (Group 1), ARR/ARH or ARR/ARQ (Group 2)
- All genotyping for export must have been carried out by a veterinary surgeon and sent to the SAC or Weybridge APHA. If this is not the case, donors will need to be tested again.
- Semen donor flock must be free from Jaagsiekte for five years
- Semen and embryo donors must come from flocks where no EAE (Chlamydia abortion) diagnosed in past two years
- Veterinary pre-certification required
- Pre & post screening blood test apply and need to be taken by a Vet and sent to SAC
- Quarantine period: 30 days pre and post collection for both semen and embryos

Thank you to AB Europe for partnering with VBS in the development of this article:

<https://www.abreeds.co.uk/>



*Please note that this information was correct at point of publishing.