



Basic Guidelines - Equine Extender Ratios

SHIPPING SEMEN - FOR SHIPPABLE CONCENTRATIONS, YOU SHOULD HAVE A CONCENTRATION OF 30-50 MILLION SPERM CELLS PER ML.

The dilution factor of the semen (how much extender is to be added) will depend on the original concentration of sperm cells in the raw ejaculate (determination can be accomplished by one of the following methods: a manual count using a hemocytometer, a spectrophotometer or a Nucleocounter or similar cell density counting device) to determine the quantity of sperm cells present and subsequently the volume of extender needed to reach the desired concentration.

Minimum dilution rate for equine semen should be no less than 3:1 to ensure there is adequate extender to sustain semen. Ejaculates that have higher concentration of sperm cells may be able to be diluted up to 10:1 (extender : raw semen).

For ejaculates of low sperm cell concentration, it may be necessary to centrifuge the semen first. See our article on centrifuging semen for more information.