



7713 State Road 64 East
Zolfo Springs, FL 33890
863-452-0808

Visit: www.Steele-Equine.com

2024 Reproductive Information

General Information

Thank you for your interest in Steele Equine. Our team strives to accomplish pregnancy in a streamlined and stress less process for both you and your mare.

Breeding season runs from February 1st to June 30th.

The most fertile months of the year in our experience are March and April.

Our Veterinarian recommends scheduling a breeding soundness evaluation and a uterine culture (\$115.00 Exam + \$135.00 Culture) prior to beginning the breeding process. This evaluation ensures your mare is healthy and ready to begin this process and allows you and our Veterinarian the opportunity to discuss and prepare a breeding plan.

NEW for the 2024 Breeding Season:

We are excited to offer in house Progesterone testing this season. Progesterone is the hormone responsible for maintaining pregnancy and is produced by the ovaries and uterus. It is impossible to know whether or not your mare is producing enough progesterone without the progesterone blood test. Mares that do not produce enough progesterone will ultrasound pregnant at 16 days but will then lose the pregnancy shortly after. Our simple blood test will give us the much needed answer to this question within 20 minutes and it's included in our AI package estimates below.

Artificial Insemination Process

Below is a list of the chain of events in a typical cycle of breeding through artificial insemination:

1. You (the owner) choose a stallion, fill out the breeding contract, pay the stallion fee to the stallion owner and then email Steele Equine a copy of the breeding contract. The breeding contract has important information for the Vet, including collection days and contact information.
 - Some common information asked in the breeding contract about our Veterinarian:
 - Weekday Delivery Address:
Steele Equine Veterinary Services, 7713 State Road 64 E, Zolfo Springs FL 33890
 - Saturday Delivery Address: Glissons Animal Supply 4525 US-27, Sebring, FL 33870
 - Closest Airport: MCO (Orlando International Airport)



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2. Bring your mare to Steele Equine at the first “sign” of showing heat. These signs include winking of the vulva, excessive tail lifting, excessive urinating, and interest from other horses. If your mare does not show signs of heat, you will need to bring her in for an ultrasound every three to five days so that we can determine where she is in her cycle and possibly “short cycle” her.
3. Steele Equine will keep your mare for 4-10 days while inseminating her. We will follow her cycle with daily ultrasound, communicate with the stallion owner for shipment, and then inseminate her at the most appropriate time for conception.
4. After she ovulates, she can be picked up. She will then have an appointment with us 16 days later to determine pregnancy. In the event she is not in foal at 16 days, she will be starting to come in heat, and we will keep her to rebreed.
5. The price for a fresh semen insemination package ranges from \$895 to \$1,630 depending on your mare’s breeding needs, length of her stay and board type. This includes all her ultrasound cycle checks, Progesterone test, 2 ultrasound pregnancy exams at 16 days and 30 days, insemination, any ovulatory drugs used during the procedure, shipping the semen container back to the stallion owner and daily board for up to 10 days. (See below for pricing and info on frozen semen insemination)
 - Board is \$53/day for a non-lactating mare (feed and hay provided by Steele Equine) and \$59/day if she has a foal by her side. Our board includes an oversized stall with a mattress system, individual turn out daily, daily grooming, and 24 hour monitoring by our on staff Veterinarian. If you provide your own feed and hay our board rates are reduced to \$47/day for a non-lactating mare and \$53/day if she has a foal by her side.
 - Note in the event your mare does not settle (establish a pregnancy) she will need to be kept for another cycle. You will be responsible for paying a second set of breeding management fees similar to the first cycle. Normally the price is reduced due to familiarity with her cycle lessening the length of her stay.
 - Depending on your mare’s specific needs, our Veterinarian may recommend a uterine culture and sensitivity (to determine her uterine status with bacterial contamination) or a series of uterine lavages post breeding if she is having trouble clearing the semen and inflammatory cells (usually older mares). These services are invoiced separately and will be an additional charge.
 - When your mare is determined to be in foal, you will be provided with a customized care packet loaded with information and “important dates” to recognize during the pregnancy.

Frozen Semen Artificial Insemination



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Some stallions offer frozen semen as a replacement for or in addition to fresh semen options. There are benefits and restrictions to utilizing this option that must be discussed with our veterinarian during the initial breeding soundness evaluation.

Frozen semen insemination is very similar to fresh semen insemination. Below you will find a list of the differences with frozen semen insemination:

1. Frozen semen requires shipment to our facility PRIOR to the arrival of your mare. We will store your frozen semen in our liquid nitrogen tanks. Semen is shipped in a special container called a "dry shipper". The cost of returning this container to the stallion station is NOT included in the breeding packages and must be paid by you the breeder. The typical return shipping fee is usually around \$200.
2. Frozen semen requires very specific timing of placement (6 hour window) as opposed to the broader window of 24 hours with fresh cooled semen. Your mare will have to be ultra-sounded every 6 hours by our veterinarian as she nears ovulation (yes, this includes 2:00AM). As a result of this more intense management, the price for inseminating a mare via frozen semen is more expensive. The price for a frozen semen insemination package ranges from \$1,160 to \$1,965 depending on your mare's breeding needs, length of her stay and board type. This includes all her ultrasound cycle checks, Progesterone test, 2 ultrasound pregnancy exams at 16 days and 30 days, insemination, any ovulatory drugs used during the procedure and daily board for up to 10 days. Board is calculated in the same way as described above.

Embryo Transfer

Embryo Transfer is the process of extracting a fertilized embryo from a donor mare and transferring it into a suitable recipient (surrogate) mare. We are pleased to offer this service.

1. Your donor mare is inseminated via fresh or frozen semen as described above.
2. Your donor mare is synchronized with either a recipient mare that you provide or a recipient mare you can lease until she weans your foal.
3. At exactly day 7 of pregnancy your donor mare is scheduled for her embryo transfer procedure here at Steele Equine.
4. If an embryo is recovered it is then transferred directly into the recipient mare or it is immediately transported to the recipient mare facility and transferred within 4 hours of recovery.
5. Estimated pricing for this procedure is multifactorial and ranges from \$3000-\$6,500.



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We look forward to participating in this breeding process with you and your mare and would love to be a part of such a special time. Please let us know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,
Dr. Liz Steele and the Steele Equine Team