

## Stud information 2011

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This information has been updated for 2011

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### General Information

Dukes Veterinary Practice has purpose built stud facilities at Dykehead Farm. We are approved by the British Equine Veterinary Association for inseminating with chilled and frozen semen.

We also stand a 15hh Thoroughbred Stallion, Noble Shot (Ire)

We offer several different ways of breeding from your mare:

- AI with either fresh, chilled or frozen semen
- Use of our resident thoroughbred stallion Noble Shot (Ire)
- Embryo transfer

We have excellent facilities for boarding mares here during their treatment including on site veterinary practice, stud groom, foaling box with CCTV and well managed turnout facilities. The mares are kept in small groups and managed according to their weight. To ensure that vitamin and mineral levels are maintained to maximise conception rates all the mares will be fed a feed balancer daily inclusive in the livery cost. Mares with foal at foot are usually kept in separate groups with foals of broadly similar ages allowing them to socialise safely.

“Dedicated to farm animal and equine care”

## **New foal handling service**

We usually keep foal handling to a minimum but we now offer a service working with your foal to teach leading, basic handling and trailer loading if required. Please ask for this when booking your mare in.

## **What to expect from AI**

AI is a good way of breeding from your mare allowing you to choose a suitable stallion without having to travel long distances to stud.

## **Health and fertility of the mare**

To maximise the chances of your mare getting pregnant the mare should be in good condition – not too fat or too thin – free of worms or other parasites and also sound and healthy. Chronic lameness or any other diseases your mare is suffering from may significantly reduce her chances of getting pregnant. In general terms mares are more fertile when they are young – between 3 and 12 years of age - older maiden mares in particular can be difficult to get in foal. This doesn't mean you shouldn't try but you should be realistic in your expectations.

## **Difficult or sub-fertile mares**

If you have had problems getting your mare in foal in previous seasons then ring Jim first to discuss the options before booking the mare in. We will happily take difficult mares and have reasonable pregnancy success rates with them. If we are aware in advance we will ensure that a vet can meet you and perform a pre-breeding exam on arrival at Dykehead, go over her previous breeding history and discuss what the realistic chances of getting your mare in foal are with you.

## **Infectious diseases**

EVA and CEM are pathogens causing subfertility and abortion. Any mare which has been to another stud the last time it was mated or is imported into the UK or whose breeding history is unknown will be tested for CEM. We will only test maiden mares or mares that have been here previously if we consider them at risk.

All mares will need a strangles blood test prior to arrival. The strangles blood test is not 100% sensitive but will reduce our risk.

EVA is not present in the UK but prevalent in continental Europe. We no longer require this routinely for all mares but ask for it for any mare imported into the UK within the last 12 months or that has been resident on any other stud in the UK or abroad within the last 6 months.

## **Pre breeding testing requirements:-**

**Maiden mares that have never been to stud and resident in UK for at least 12 months and mares that have visited Dykehead previously and have not been to another stud or abroad since**

**Strangles blood test only**

## All other mares

CEM clitoral swab, EVA and strangles

*Please note we do not require and would prefer mares not to have any endometrial swabs before arrival at stud.*

## Pre breeding check

All mares will have a routine pre breeding check on arrival at Dykehead. We may recommend an endometrial biopsy for any mare with an abnormal pre breeding check. This is carried out at the start of oestrus and the mare is not routinely bred on this cycle.

## Stallion fertility and other semen factors

There are three types of semen available – fresh, chilled and frozen. They have their pros and cons and we use all three. If the semen is of good quality then we would expect conception rates in excess of 50% per cycle with chilled or frozen semen and 60% per cycle with fresh.

It is very important to check that the stud supplying the semen has done some checks on it first. A few basic questions to ask, particularly with chilled semen, include

- Does the stallion have good fertility?
- Has the stallion been tested this year to ensure the semen can be stored and shipped successfully?
- Is the stallion standing at stud where he can be collected from easily?
- Are there any dates when the stallion is likely to be competing and when semen will not be available?
- Has he been tested free of CEM and EVA?
- What is the stud's policy if the AI is not successful?

**We will only accept semen that is from a stallion certified tested free for CEM and EVA when the semen was collected. Please advise the stud that we must have all paperwork sent with the semen or we will send it back and you will still have to pay for an AI cycle even if the mare is not inseminated!!!**

We have had some disappointed owners because the stud either could not supply the semen when it was required or the semen has been of such poor quality on arrival that poor conception rates were inevitable. We are sometimes successful with poor quality semen; however the success rate drops from well above 50% to less than 10% per cycle when semen quality falls below a certain critical level. However with all the costs involved and the large variety of stallions to choose from make sure you add fertility to your criteria when selecting the stallion!

**We would ask you to send the stud our stallion information form to confirm details about the stallion, semen quality and shipping.** We will not accept any responsibility for problems with semen supply if this is not completed. Please note if we feel that any semen we check is of insufficient quality we will not inseminate the mare and will return the semen to the stud. You will be responsible for these costs.

## **Embryo transfer**

There are many reasons for using embryo transfer.

- You can breed from a mare and still compete her in the current season
- If you are lucky you can have several foals from one mare in the same season
- You could flush a mare for embryo transfer and still breed from her in the same season
- You could produce foals from 2 or more stallions in the same season from one mare
- The method can be used to breed from valuable mares that have fertility problems

For embryo transfer the donor mare is mated exactly the same as for a normal pregnancy, then the embryo is harvested at between 7 and 8 days gestation and placed in to a recipient mare. We are aiming for a 60% successful transfer rate. This means that if you have a 60% chance of pregnancy following AI with chilled semen then there will be roughly a 40% chance of a successful pregnancy following embryo transfer for each oestrus cycle.

Although horses can technically be competed during the embryo transfer process this can be tricky to coordinate. Ideally we would like donor mares to be here full time during the ET process, a minimum of three weeks. In a two month period we could carry out up to four flush and transfer cycles in a mare.

We are building up a herd of recipient mares for client use. The fee for embryo transfer includes a charge for leasing the recipient mare. We expect all recipient mares to be well looked after and returned to us in good condition. There is a recipient mare lease contract. If the recipient mare is not returned to us for any reason there is a charge of £1000 for the mare. You may supply your own recipient mares for use. The charge is the same regardless of whether we use your mare or ours. We will endeavour to use your mare where possible but if another recipient is going to give a better chance of a successful transfer and pregnancy we will use our own mare instead.

## CHECKLIST

### What you need to do before bringing your mare to stud

- 1 Choose a suitable stallion and check that the stud can meet the requirements above.
- 2 Book your mare in with us. We will take mares from mid March to beginning of August but mares arriving late may not have enough time to get in foal. We do not usually inseminate mares after the end of August. If you are hoping to breed your mare before the end of April the mare should undergo some daylight lengthening regime to ensure she is cycling. You can read more information in our January 2011 Stud newsletter or on our website.
- 3 If your mare is coming here to foal or with a foal at foot we may not be able to take her at very short notice. Please book in advance.
- 4 If we require a CEM swab from your mare this can either be done within 28 days of bringing the mare to stud, so long as the mare is not in contact with a stallion or we can do this on arrival. High risk mares from large breeding establishments may need to be re-tested here. ***Please note we do not require and would prefer mares not to have any endometrial swabs before arrival at stud.***
- 5 Strangles (blood test - send to Animal Health Trust) ideally in the week before coming to stud.
- 6 EVA (blood test) if required
- 7 Ensure your mare's flu and tetanus vaccinations are up to date. Bring a record of her worming history and her passport with you when coming to stud. Mares with inadequate worming histories will be wormed for roundworms and tapeworms on arrival at the stud.
- 8 **IMPORTANT If there is or has been a recent outbreak of respiratory disease or any other infectious disease or problem in the yard your mare is coming from, ring us before you bring her, even if she has shown no symptoms.**
- 9 Inform us of any allergies or specific requirements your horse has before she arrives at stud.

## **Limited veterinary fees scheme**

This is an optional scheme where the mare owner pays a fixed fee to cover the costs of veterinary work necessary to help get your mare in foal and monitoring the development of the early pregnancy (details of the procedures excluded follow). The fee is in two parts. Part one for the insemination and part two payable when the mare is confirmed pregnant. This reduces your cost if we are unsuccessful.

The advantages for you, as a mare owner, are controlled costs with discount for prompt payment. Many mares need considerable monitoring and treatment before and after insemination. The costs of this can soon mount up, but if you are in our limited fee scheme all these procedures are included enabling you to control your outlay on veterinary fees for that breeding season.

All mares are checked on admission to the centre. If following this initial scan or depending on the mare's breeding history we decide she is not suitable to breed from we will advise you accordingly. You can still have the mare inseminated but you should understand the risk of the mare failing to conceive is greater. In some cases we may suggest a uterine biopsy or swab at this point before deciding what to do.

If for any reason following the initial breeding exam or subsequently it is decided not to breed from the mare she will be excluded from the scheme and you will just be charged for procedures carried out up to that point based on our standard fees.

The limited fee scheme is only for work done by our practice whilst the mares are resident at Dykehead. It does not cover for any treatment or examinations by third parties or for examinations when the mare is not at Dykehead, even if these would normally be included in the scheme.

The scheme is based on a fixed fee per oestrus cycle the mare is mated either by natural, chilled or frozen semen. If you use the fixed fee scheme and the mare is not pregnant after two cycles then we will not charge an insemination fee for a third insemination cycle for that mare in the same breeding season. If the mare is pregnant we will charge a confirmed pregnancy fee. We may do additional tests which may be chargeable if not included in standard scheme.

The fee does not include livery.

## **Limited fee scheme - Veterinary Fees included: -**

Routine veterinary work to inseminate the mare carried out by our practice including:-

Ultrasound scans

Insemination

Uterine lavage up to twice per cycle

Uterine swab and smear

Hormone injections

Caslick's operation

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# Dukes Vet Practice

Pregnancy Diagnosis at approx 14 and 28 days (and 42 and 60 days for ET recipients)  
Crushing of one pregnancy in sets of twins

## **Fees outwith Limited fees scheme and if applicable will be charged in addition to above: -**

All external laboratory fees  
Uterine biopsy  
Intensive parenteral antibiotic treatments for repeat breeder mares  
Course of Regumate  
Second opinions and any other third party treatments  
Blood tests including EVA and Progesterone Assays  
Insurance, import or export examinations or tests  
ID certificates  
Treatment for injury, illness or lameness  
Attention during foaling  
Care of sick foal  
Surgical procedures including repair or reconstruction of vaginal defects  
Routine vaccinations  
Pregnancy test after 28 days (60 days for embryo transfer)  
Any examinations when mare is not at Dykehead  
Courier costs associated with shipping of semen / Return of equitainer  
Livery charges  
Any other third party fees not already listed

## **Prompt payment bonus**

We would appreciate it if all accounts are settled promptly.

You will be invoiced monthly beginning when your mare first arrives at stud. Provided your account is paid in full within 15 days of the end of the month then you will receive a prompt payment bonus equivalent to 10% of the invoice off your next bill. I.e. if first bill is £ 200 including VAT and is paid within 15 days of the end of the month you will get a credit of £20 including VAT off the next month's bill.

If accounts are not paid within one month of invoice we reserve the right to discontinue the program until the account is settled.

**All fees must be paid before the mare leaves the stud. If the mare leaves before a 14 day pregnancy scan, a confirmed pregnancy fee will be charged as well. The confirmed pregnancy fee will be refunded on receipt of a veterinary certificate stating mare is not in foal at 14-16 days post ovulation.**



## Equine studwork pricelist 2011

### Limited fee scheme per oestrus cycle mated or inseminated

	Price	After 10% DISCOUNT
	£	£
Frozen, chilled or fresh semen per cycle	250	225
Additional fee if pregnancy confirmed at 15 - 16 day scan	250	225

The confirmed pregnancy fee will only be charged once for each mare each season. If the pregnancy subsequently fails before day 35 (after 35 days mares often don't cycle even if the pregnancy fails) and there is still time to mate her again a second confirmed pregnancy fee will not be charged if she is subsequently pregnant. If you decide to take the mare home before her 15 - 16 day scan then the confirmed pregnancy fee will be charged. This will only be refunded following receipt of a vets certificate that the mare was scanned at between 14 -16 days post insemination and found not to be pregnant.

### Embryo transfer

We are charging an all inclusive fee (AI, flushing, donor mare lease) per pregnancy obtained.

In order to maintain an adequate number of recipient mares you will need to pay a non refundable deposit of £1,000 if you only want one foal or £1,500 if you want two or more foals. The deposit is payable at the time of booking the mare in. The deposit fee will be deducted from the first confirmed ET pregnancy fee when a pregnancy is confirmed.

If we are not successful then there will be no fees other than third party fees to pay. Grass livery for donor mare is included in deposit fee for first 60 days. Stable livery will be charged less 25% discount. The deposit fee covers all costs including vets fees for up to three inseminations and flushes for first pregnancy only. If two or more embryos are obtained from one flush, all embryos will be implanted if suitable recipients are available. Please request at time of booking if only one embryo is to be transferred.

Non refundable deposit		<b>1000.00</b>
Price per confirmed ET pregnancy includes lease of recipient mare until foal weaned.	2,500	<b>2,250</b>

### **Noble Shot (Ire)**

The all inclusive (stud plus insemination fees plus confirmed pregnancy fee) **fee for Noble Shot(Ire) for 2011 is £555 (£500 after 10% prompt payment bonus)** with a 50% refund if mare is not in foal on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2011.





# Dukes Vet Practice

## Costs if not in limited fee scheme

Initial breeding examination and assessment	45.00	<b>40.50</b>
Repeat ultrasound scans for oestrus monitoring	34.56	<b>31.10</b>
Pregnancy scan	34.56	<b>31.10</b>
Crushing twin pregnancy	50.00	<b>45.00</b>
High volume uterine lavage	100.00	<b>90.00</b>
Clitoral swab for CEM	24.96	<b>22.46</b>
Injection to induce oestrus (prostaglandin)	11.29	<b>10.16</b>
Chorulon injection (to induce ovulation)	24.12	<b>21.70</b>
Ovuplant (to induce ovulation)	67.99	<b>61.19</b>
Oxytocin injection (to control uterine fluid)	6.27	<b>5.64</b>
Intrauterine antibiotic infusion excl drugs	30.00	<b>27.00</b>
Uterine swab	39.88	<b>35.89</b>
Casslick's operation	40.00	<b>36.00</b>
Insemination	54.18	<b>48.76</b>

## Costs outwith scheme

Administer 10 day course of regumate to stimulate oestrus	95.00	<b>85.50</b>
Frozen semen storage up to 50 ½ ml straws one stallion per month	12.54	<b>11.29</b>
Uterine biopsy excluding lab fees	45.20	<b>37.43</b>
Foaling price from	169.31	<b>152.38</b>
Frozen semen storage per month per up to 100 straws	12.29	<b>11.06</b>
		<b>Cost plus</b>
External lab fees		<b>12.5%</b>

## Livery fees

Grass livery barren and maiden mares per day	4.44	<b>4.00</b>
Grass livery in foal mare or with foal at foot per day	7.22	<b>6.50</b>
Recipient mare grass livery once confirmed pregnant per day	4.44	<b>4.00</b>
Stable livery per day and or night.	15.53	<b>13.80</b>

Stud and livery fees are inclusive of feeding 1 cup Baileys stud balancer or similar to each mare once every day. Mares due to foal and with foal at foot will be fed approx 3 cups Baileys stud balancer per day. Hay and grass are included but any additional feed will be charged for.

All prices exclude VAT which will be added at the current rate. Livery fees are currently zero rated for VAT. The 10% discount illustrates the effective price you pay if you use the prompt payment bonus scheme.

**Please note fees will be invoiced twice monthly but all fees must be paid before the mare leaves the stud.** Mares will not be permitted to leave until any outstanding account is paid.

## New for 2011 all inclusive no pregnancy no fee option

If you're worried that you could face a big bill and your mare is still not pregnant then consider this option...Pay £1000 including VAT up front and then have no further charges for up to three inseminations and grass livery fees for up to three months. If your mare is not pregnant we will refund the whole fee and you pay nothing! However if the mare is pregnant we keep the fee regardless of whether the mare is pregnant after one, two or three inseminations. If the mare is pregnant we will charge livery after her 28 day positive pregnancy scan.

There are some terms and conditions attached.

- 1 You must supply or arrange for supply of sufficient semen when we request to inseminate the mare on at least three cycles to give us a reasonable chance of getting the mare pregnant. If you decide to stop before the mare has been inseminated three times then the fee will not be refunded.
- 2 This fee is subject to a full pre-breeding exam and previous history of the mare. We reserve the right to quote a revised fee at the initial exam if we suspect the mare may be very difficult to get in foal
- 3 The fee includes any work we may have to do to get the mare pregnant including biopsies, surgery etc but excludes any third party lab or other fees which you must pay regardless of whether the mare is pregnant or not.
- 4 The fee includes livery charges until three inseminations or the mare is pregnant. If we are unable to get the mare pregnant we will contact you to arrange collection of the mare. If the mare is not collected within 7 days then livery will be charged from when we contact you until the mare is collected.
- 5 If the mare has to be stabled for any reason stable livery will be charged at standard rate less 25%. Also any general keep charges such as foot trimming, worming or treatment for non AI related problems will be charged at our standard rates.
- 6 The fee is payable if we have a confirmed 28 day ultrasound pregnancy, whether or not the foal is not carried to term. If you decide to take the mare home before she is scanned we will only refund the fee on receipt of a veterinary certificate stating the mare is not pregnant 28 days post ovulation.

# Dukes Vet Practice

## Booking and consent form

### MARES FOR INSEMINATION WITH FRESH, CHILLED OR FROZEN SEMEN 2011

Name of Mare:.....

Fresh, Chilled or Frozen

Stallion:..... semen:.....

Contact Details of stallion owner: -

Telephone number:.....

Mobile No:.....

Name & Address of Owner:

Invoicing Address if Different :

Telephone number:.....

Telephone No:.....

Mobile:.....

I wish to book my mare in to Dykehead Farm Stud for the 2011 season to be artificially inseminated with semen from the stallion named above. I confirm I have read and understand exactly what procedures are and are not covered by the fixed fee scheme. I acknowledge that I will pay all other fees for livery and care of the horse whilst at Dykehead Farm Stud, and other costs relating to the purchase, transport and storage of semen. **I am aware that all outstanding fees must be paid before the mare leaves the stud.**

I acknowledge that breeding horses involves an element of risk for the mare and I am prepared to take that risk. I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure the mare is adequately insured to cover all risks whilst she is at Dykehead. Should the mare need referral to a specialist centre for any reason I do/do not authorise this in an emergency if I cannot be contacted and I will pay all fees related to this.

I confirm that I wish Dukes Veterinary Practice Limited to have responsibility for the veterinary care of my horse during the period that the horse is at Dykehead Farm, and that should the horse need any treatment for any other illness, injury or routine healthcare during her stay at Dykehead Farm I confirm that I authorise Dukes Veterinary Practice Limited to carry this out as appropriate.

Whilst every care will be taken with semen stored by Dukes Veterinary Practice Limited, I understand that all semen stored by Dukes Veterinary Practice Limited is at my own risk. I must take out my own insurance for the semen during storage if I require it.

**I do/do not\* wish to use the Limited fixed fee scheme paying a per cycle inclusive fee, livery and a confirmed pregnancy fee if successful .**

**Or \*I wish to use the no pregnancy no fee scheme and will pay £1000 when booking the mare in**

**Or \* I will pay for each procedure carried out during the AI process including all examinations, drugs and treatment plus livery as applicable.**

\*Delete as appropriate

Signed.....Date.....

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**To the stud or stallion owner**, please complete and post, email or fax this form to Dukes Vet Practice.

## Stallion information form

Stallion Name		Mare Name	
Owner /Agent details		Owner /Agent Details	
Address		Address	
Stud Contact numbers Please indicate preferred contact and whether to leave message and response time			
<b>Stud please supply the following information for above stallion</b>			
Semen supplied chilled or frozen?			
How much notice do you require for delivery to Dukes Vet Practice			
Latest time in day to order?			
What days can you send semen here on?			
Is stallion tested for CEM and EVA in line with current HBLB codes?			
Is stallion vaccinated for EVA?			
Has or will stallion been used for natural coverings since above tests and before semen is collected? If so are all mares covered tested free of CEM and EVA?			
We are looking for approximately 400million progressively motile sperm chilled and 300million pms frozen per insemination dose. Please confirm if you can supply this and if not approximately what quality/ quantity we can expect. If semen is significantly below this value on receipt we will not inseminate the mare with it unless already discussed.			
Are there any days or dates when semen is not likely to be available? If so please specify.			
Signed stud owner or agent			
Date			