



**BEFORE BRINGING YOUR RAM/BUCK TO RSG OR AN RSG COLLECTION SITE, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO YOUR SUCCESS TO FOLLOW CERTAIN GUIDELINES TO PREPARE THEM FOR A QUALITY COLLECTION. WE HAVE PUT TOGETHER THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES TO HELP YOU BE SUCCESSFUL.**

## TRAINING

- **Socialize your ram/buck:** get them used to being around people, especially in close quarters. Touch their side or belly and get them used to people.
- **Hand Mating:** Let the ram/buck jump a ewe or doe while a person holds the ewe/doe.
- It is helpful to stand beside the ram/buck and have human interaction.
- It is important to remember that the ram/buck may not have a problem jumping a ewe or doe, but in a small space next to a person it can take a few times for them to become comfortable with the process.

## CLEAN OUT

*It is important to "clean out" your ram/buck before coming to RSG.*

- Cleaning them out requires the male to ejaculate multiple times in the days before the collection for semen freezing.
- This will increase your odds of quickly producing a high-quality product which will reduce the overall cost for freezing.
- Cleaning out begins removal of the stale and or abnormal sperm cells from the system.
- Try to clean out the ram/buck at least 3 to 4 ejaculates (hand mating helps) before they arrive at RSG.
- 72 hours prior to bringing your ram/buck to RSG, stop collecting and let him rest.

## SEMEN STANDARDS

*Minimum Frozen Thawed Standards: Semen meeting these standards or greater is acceptable for use in LAI or ET programs. Semen below these standards will be discarded at the time of collection.*

- **Concentration:** The minimum number of progressively motile sperm cells per breeding dose is 30 million. RSG frozen semen straws will be packaged at a minimum of 60 million total sperm cells per straw.
- **Percentage Motile:** The number of motile cells in relation to the total number of sperm cells in the straw or sample being evaluated. Based on a 60 million concentration, then 50% PMS would be the cut off.
- **Forward Progression And Speed:** Sperm cell moving in a forward linear direction at a minimum velocity of at least two cell lengths per second.
- **Morphology:** Defined as the form of the living organism. In general terms the sperm cell is made up of the Head, Midpiece and Tail. RSG Standards will pass if less than 15% of the sperm cells are abnormal, however, we strive to have less than 10%.

