

10.4 Artificial Insemination - Ovine

This module describes requirements for export eligible ovine semen for domestic use and owner's use only, as well as the sire reference program entry requirements.

Ovine

Export Eligible Semen

Requirements for rams intended for entry into a semen collection centre to produce semen for export:

1. The flock of origin must not be subject to any quarantine and confirmed free from scrapie, pulmonary adenomatosis, bluetongue, and other communicable diseases. To the best of the veterinarian's knowledge and belief:
 - a) during the previous three years, pulmonary adenomatosis must not have been diagnosed in the flock of origin;
 - b) during the previous five years, scrapie must not have been diagnosed in the flock of origin or in the flock in which the donor ram was born (if different from the flock of origin); and,
 - c) the donor ram must not be the progeny of a sire or dam affected by scrapie.
2. The animals must be subject to the following tests with negative results, unless otherwise specified, within the 60 days before their entry into the isolation section of the centre:
 - i. **Brucellosis** - (serum) *B. melitensis*, BPAT and CF (negative 1/5)
- (serum) *B. ovis*, CF
 - ii. **Leptospirosis** - (serum) MAT - Serotypes *L. pomona*, and *L. sejroe* - Rams with a test result of 1:100 or 1:200 must be retested after a minimum interval of 14 days and obtain a stable titre to be considered negative and eligible for entry into the isolation facility of the centre.
 - iii. **Johne's disease** - (serum) AGID
 - iv. **Bluetongue** - (serum) ELISA
 - v. **Maedi Visna** - (serum) ELISA

3. A *CFIA/ACIA 1634 Certificate of Health for Entry into a Semen Production Centre* certificate must accompany the animal to the isolation facility of the centre. (Refer to paragraph 11 of [10.1 Artificial Insemination - General Information](#) for distribution details.)

Domestic Use Semen

Requirements for rams intended for entry into a semen collection Centre to produce semen for distribution in Canada:

- Note:** If there is a request to collect sheep and goat semen for “Owner’s use only,” the procedure described in paragraphs 6 to 11 of [10.2 Artificial Insemination - Bovine](#) should be followed.
4. The flock of origin must not be subject to any quarantine and confirmed free from scrapie, pulmonary adenomatosis, bluetongue, and other communicable diseases. To the best of the veterinarian’s knowledge and belief:
 - a) during the previous three years, pulmonary adenomatosis must not have been diagnosed in the flock of origin;
 - b) during the previous five years, scrapie must not have been diagnosed in the flock of origin or in the flock in which the donor ram was born (if different from the flock of origin); and,
 - c) the donor ram must not be the progeny of a sire or dam affected by scrapie.
 5. The animals must be subject to the following tests with negative results within the 60 days before their entry into the isolation section of the centre:
 - i. **Brucellosis** - (serum) *B. ovis*, CF
 - ii. **Johne’s disease** - (serum) ELISA
 - iii. **Maedi visna** - (serum) ELISA
 6. A *CFIA/ACIA 1634* certificate must accompany the animal to the isolation facility of the centre. (Refer to paragraph 11 of [Module 10.1](#) for distribution.)

Sire Reference Programs

The sire reference program must be approved and sanctioned by the sheep breed association or producer group under whose auspices the semen is collected and distributed. The health conditions under which the semen is collected must be fully communicated to all producers who receive semen for the purpose of sire evaluation.

7. All rams presented for entry in the approved isolation facility must receive an injection of dihydrostreptomycin (25 mg per kg of body weight) or an alternate antibiotic at the dosage recommended by the manufacturer, as a preventive measure against leptospirosis.
8. The donor animals or teasers should be placed in an isolation facility approved by the district veterinarian and must not be exposed to any infection to which they are susceptible from the date of pre-collection health testing until the collection program is completed.
9. After 30 days of isolation, the rams must be subject to the following tests with negative results:
 - i. **Brucellosis** - (serum) *B. ovis*, CF
 - ii. **Maedi Visna** - (serum) ELISA
10. A "Permit to collect semen" issued by the CFIA area office must be issued before the semen is collected and distributed. A list of the producers participating in the "Sire Reference Program" should be presented to the district veterinarian.
11. Semen collection and distribution may commence immediately after the test results are available and complete records of the producers receiving the semen must be maintained.