**In Utero**

**First Base (The First Trimester)**

- Monitoring for twins and triplets is important to avoid a lost breeding season. The early transrectal ultrasound pregnancy test can detect twins and triplets.

- Embryo testing is performed by the Veterinary Genetics Laboratory. Scientists can test biopsies of embryos for genetic traits.

**Middle Trimester**

- Twin reduction can prevent pregnancy loss and can be performed by an experienced veterinarian.

- Ultrasound is used to examine the mare and foal, helping to detect problems that might affect the future health of the foal.

**Third Base (The Third Trimester)**

- Transrectal fetal sexing is not particularly difficult if performed by an experienced veterinarian, with accuracy rates reaching 100% in routine stud practice.

- Genetic material from the foal can be used to determine sex through a simple blood test. The mare's early transrectal ultrasound pregnancy test can detect twins and triplets.

**Batter Up: Getting the Foal**

- Measuring the mare's hormone levels, such as progestins and estrogen, is crucial.

- Examining the clarity of the fetal fluids is also important.

- Other ways veterinarians can identify mares with ascending placentitis include: normal thickness at 10 months of gestation, a sample of the mammary secretion with an indicator dye until the color changes (e.g., from pink to brown), or kits that change color depending on calcium levels.

- A sample of the fetal fluids and amniotic fluid can also be obtained until the color changes. Other indicators include the presence of the "male gene" (sex determining region Y gene). Researchers from the University of Sao Paulo have determined that 13.1% of all pregnancies are lost between Days 299 and 341 of gestation.

**Medicine**

- Various studies have shown that the fertilization rates in mares are remarkably high, with about 12% of established pregnancies lost after Day 40. The conceptuses are usually lost within the first two weeks of gestation.

- Under experimental conditions, ultrasound can detect pregnancy as early as 10 days after insemination. The incidence of twins and triplets delivered from the body of the same mare is considered at risk for pregnancy loss. Transrectal ultrasound allows veterinarians to examine the area.