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Prostaglandin Administration Timing's Effect on Fertility

Another group of researchers from Spain and South America aimed to determine the effect of the interval from prostaglandin administration to subsequent ovulation on a mare's fertility. They used data from two breeding farms: an embryo transfer facility in South America that reported embryo recovery rates following insemination with fresh semen, and a Standardbred farm in Europe that reported pregnancy rates following breeding with frozen semen. All mares received prostaglandin prior to artificial insemination. The team broke the data from these farms into three groups—mares that ovulated less than six days, six to eight days, and more than eight days post-prostaglandin administration—as well as controls that did not receive prostaglandin. They determined that pregnancy rate and embryo recovery rate both decreased as the interval to ovulation became shorter following prostaglandin administration, said Blanchard.

Because mares that ovulate quickly after prostaglandin administration are less likely to get pregnant, veterinarians might want to manage these mares accordingly.