

## I buy a frozen embryo, what next?

### How is a frozen embryo produced?

The frozen embryos are produced with the most recent technology called Ovum Pick Up (OPU) This technique consists in the collection of oocytes from donor mares, their *in vitro* maturation and fertilization by direct injection of the sperm (intracytoplasmic sperm injection, ICSI) followed by culture of the fertilized oocytes in incubator, until they reach the stage of embryos suitable for transfer in recipient mares. This period takes about 1 week. After this, the embryos are frozen using a special technique and then stored in nitrogen tanks.



ICSI



Frozen embryo in storage tank

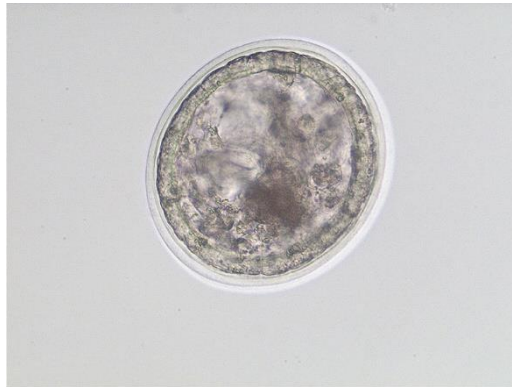
### How is a frozen embryo transported?

The frozen embryos can be transported to a specialized clinic for reproduction of the horse. They are transported in transport containers that are filled with liquid nitrogen. We recommend that you insure the frozen embryo after purchase. For more information about the possibilities and conditions of this insurance you can mail to [auction@zangersheide.com](mailto:auction@zangersheide.com)



When and how is the frozen embryo implanted?

Once the embryo has arrived at the reproductive clinic the clinic will consult with you to see in which period you would like to have the embryo transplanted into a surrogate mare. The vet will select a (rented) mare for this and then closely follow the reproductive cycle of this mare to be able to determine the right moment for the implantation of the embryo. The embryo will then be thawed and transplanted by the veterinarian into the womb of the surrogate mare. This mare is then regularly ultrasound scanned to be able to monitor whether the implantation results in a gestation. As soon as the mare is 45 days pregnant, she can be picked up and you can follow her up at home.



**If everything goes as expected, about 11 months later you will have a healthy foal with a unique pedigree in the meadow!**

