

News

Researchers from University of Zaragoza Report New Studies and Findings in the Area of Animal Breeding (Freeze-dried spermatozoa: A future tool?)

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By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Veterinary Week -- A new study on Animal Science - Animal Breeding is now available. According to news reporting out of Zaragoza, Spain, by VerticalNews editors, research stated, "Cryopreservation has been routinely used to preserve sperm of human and different animal species. However, frozen sperm storage for a long time brings many inconveniences because of liquid nitrogen."

Financial supporters for this research include Government of Aragon Research Groups (Fondo Social Europeo, DGA), IA2.

Our news journalists obtained a quote from the research from the *University of Zaragoza*, "Many attempts have been made to overcome the disadvantages of the current cryopreservation method. Freeze-drying has been proposed as alternative method for sperm preservation to achieve the ability to store sperm doses indefinitely at ambient temperature or in ordinary refrigerators. At present, it has been reported successfully sperm freeze-drying on many animal species including canine and feline. It is well known that during freeze-drying process, sperm DNA could be damaged, but if suitable protection is provided, the sperm nucleus could preserve the ability to activate the oocyte and embryos could be generated by intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI). Many factors influence the freeze-drying efficacy, so current researches have been conducted to find strategies to control these factors to maintain the sperm DNA integrity. This review describes the latest method of sperm freeze-drying for practical application in preserving and transporting genetic resources. In addition, the approaches to improve the efficiency of the technique were studied. We demonstrated that the DNA integrity of freeze-dried dog sperm is affected by the composition of the freeze-drying solution as well as the temperature and period of storage."

According to the news editors, the research concluded: "Further studies are necessary to refine freeze-drying protocol in order to protect the DNA and maintain the sperm functionality and obtain offspring from freeze-dried sperm."

For more information on this research see: Freeze-dried spermatozoa: A future tool? *Reproduction In Domestic Animals = Zuchthygiene*, 2016;52 Suppl 2():248-254.

Our news journalists report that additional information may be obtained by contacting *M. Olaciregui*, Obstetric and Reproduction Area, Universidad de Zaragoza, Zaragoza, Spain.

Keywords for this news article include: Spain, Europe, Zaragoza, Animal Science, Animal Breeding.

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