

THE EQUINE CLINIC AT OAKENCROFT

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Reproductive Services

The Equine Clinic at OakenCroft is a full service breeding facility. **Carlin Jones** we offer reproductive management for live cover and cooled shipped semen at local farms and at our facility for mares outside of our practice area. This includes palpations, ultrasounds and inseminations as well as cultures, cytologies and biopsies. We offer breeding with frozen semen at our facility, as well as embryo recovery and shipping. Whether you are breeding one mare or many we can help you realize your breeding goals. For stallions we are equipped to collect and ship cooled semen and to train stallions for collection. We will perform a semen evaluation and test cooling to optimize the quality of your shipment. We can help you determine a management strategy that best suits your stallion and expand your breeding business without a major investment in equipment. As always we offer complete foaling care at farms and at our facility. This exciting time to finally see what all the work was for can be as terrifying as it is wonderful, we can help you through it.

Under the direction of **Dr.**



MARES:

Breeding your mare can be an exciting and wonderful process, but can also be a scary one filled with new ideas and lots of new terminology. We can help you navigate your way whether you are breeding one mare or 20. Determining when a mare is in heat, with live cover, fresh cooled or frozen semen, is often the hardest part of starting the process. Even mares who show heat may not show enough in the early stages to allow good timing. We have several options available to bring mares into heat that can help us time ovulation with semen availability. Once we check your mare we can discuss which is most appropriate for your mare. Breeding mares with shipped cooled semen allows us to use semen from stallions all over the country and is a great way to bring new genetics into your breeding program. The hardest part for small breeders, or people breeding only one mare is the frequent checks needed to ensure proper timing. We



have to work around the mare's cycle so she will likely need to be checked during the day on multiple days. If this is a burden on your schedule you may want to consider moving your mare to a farm with full time staff while she is being bred. We have many mares come in to us for the breeding process, from around the corner and all over New England. Once you factor in the cost of farm calls this can even be a more cost effective way to ensure optimal timing. Breeding mares with frozen semen gives us access to genetics from across the globe,

but requires precision timing. For this reason we have these mares come and stay with us for a few days. Frozen semen requires more intensive management and is therefore more expensive, but is often worth it to get high quality foals. We are happy to help you decide which method is

best suited for your circumstances and discuss the process in detail. We have years of experience working with mares in all situations and an absolute passion for quality reproductive medicine. Please call us with any questions you have, we always enjoy talking to our clients!

STALLIONS:

Having the ability to ship semen to mares in other parts of the country allows you to expand your breeding program exponentially. Imagine being able to breed mares in California, Florida, or Montana. The hardest part of a shipped semen program has always been all the equipment the farm needs to purchase, and the time and money put into training farm staff to collect stallions and process semen. Not to mention the hassle of trying to find a mare in heat when you need one! By bringing your stallion to us you eliminate the need to buy any equipment or train your staff. We have the breeding phantom, the collection equipment, a dedicated tease mare and the microscope and densimeter to evaluate the semen. Most importantly we have years of experience in training stallions for collection and maximizing the quality of the shipped semen. Best of all, having your stallion collected away from his home means it is easier to keep his mind on work when at home. Most stallions require 3-5 daily sessions to be trained to collect. This also allows us to evaluate his semen and see how well it handles cooling.

Even stallions who only breed live cover, such as thoroughbreds, can benefit from learning how to be collected. It is the best way to evaluate a stallion's semen quality and estimate how many mares he can breed. Many live cover stallions are collected at the beginning of breeding season to make sure they are ready. And in the unfortunate instance of a suspected fertility problem, a semen evaluation is invaluable. It is best to teach stallions to be collected when they are younger, they learn new tricks faster.

FOALING:

Awaiting the birth of a foal is an exciting time, but the wait is well worth it when you have a happy healthy foal. All foals need to be examined on their first day of life, ideally when they are over 12 hours old. Call us the morning after your baby arrives and we will schedule an appointment for that day. We will give both mare and foal a thorough physical, and do some blood tests on the foal to make sure it got enough antibodies from its mom. If you are less than eager about weeks of sleepless nights awaiting foaling, or nervous about handling the foaling process at home and monitoring those first critical days, there are some options. We offer foaling services on our farm through June, with 24 hour foal watch and a veterinarian present at every delivery. Your mare will stay in a private stall and have private turnout as well. We have more years of experience foaling mares than we would like to admit, but each one is exciting and wonderful. You can sleep peacefully knowing your mare is being watched by our staff, and we are happy to call you when the big moment arrives if you would like. The vast majority of mares foal without a hitch, but if something goes wrong experienced help can make all the difference in the outcome. Please call us with any questions, we are always thrilled to welcome another happy healthy foal into the world.

