

OVUCHECK<sup>®</sup>

# *Premate*

**An essential canine  
reproduction diagnostic tool**



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# Premate

## Determining the Best Time to Breed

A dog breeder can only prosper if mating is successful. Incorrectly identifying the mating period is the main cause of infertility in the bitch.

Traditional subjective indicators used (appearance of vaginal discharge, number of days after the beginning of vaginal bleeding, acceptance of the male) are not always reliable. Moreover, at least a third of bitches will have an irregular cycle during the estrus, that is the fertile period which may vary from heat to heat.

Monitoring progesterone levels allows you to accurately pinpoint optimal fertility in the female. Quick and easy to use, PREMATE® helps you determine the ideal time for breeding through semi-quantitative measurements.

**Breeding at the right time also means better fertility and increased prolificacy rate.**

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## Procedure

### 1 Collecting Samples

#### **Serum:**

Collect a blood sample using a dry tube (1 mL of blood is sufficient). Allow it to clot (for approximately 30 minutes at room temperature) and use the supernatant to test.

#### **Plasma :**

Collect a blood sample in a heparinized tube and separate the plasma from the red blood cells using a centrifuge. Use the plasma for the test.

### 3 Carrying out the Test

- Remove a strip of wells from its plastic packaging. Remove and cut the required number of wells:  $2 + n$  (n being the number of samples to test).
- Mark the first well used.

### 2 Preparing Reagents

Bring all components to room temperature approximately **30 minutes** before using.

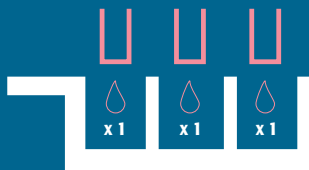
Assemble Bottle D before initial use:

- **Carefully remove screw top from Bottle D** and then remove and throw away the polyethylene cork.
- **Drop the tablet in Bottle D without touching it** by putting pressure on the metallic sheet.
- **Put the nozzle into Bottle D.** Put the cap and screw on tightly to force the nozzle down into the neck of the bottle.
- **Shake it vigorously** several times and then wait until the **tablet has completely dissolved** (a few minutes).

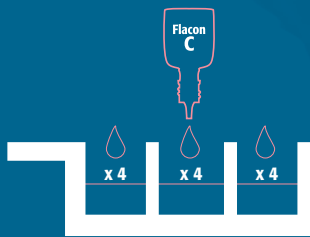
**Liquid D must be YELLOW in colour**

#### **STORING BOTTLE D AFTER ASSEMBLING:**

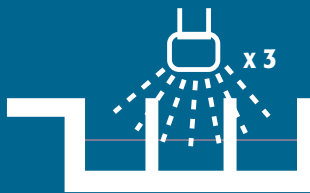
- 3 months at 2-8°C
- Until the kit's expiration date at 0°C. You can divide substrate D between insulin syringes (0.6 ml per syringe). To carry out an analysis, take only one syringe from the freezer in order to prevent phases of freezing/thawing.

**A**

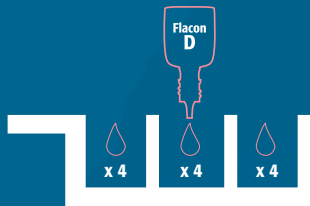
- Pipettes are for single-use only. Use a **new pipette** for each well.
- Hold each pipette vertically and add:
  - One (1) drop from Control A into the first well
  - One (1) drop from Control B into the second well
  - One (1) drop from the sample to be tested into the third well

**B**

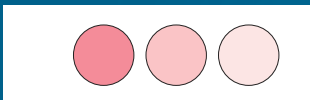
- Hold Bottle C vertically and add **four (4) drops of reagent C** to each well.
- Cover the wells and let them stand for at least **15 minutes (30 minutes maximum)**.

**C**

- Empty the contents of the well into the sink.
- **Vigorously rinse** the wells **three times** using lukewarm tap water.
- Dry by tapping onto absorbent paper.

**D**

- Hold Bottle D vertically and add to each well **four drops**.
- Cover the wells to keep light out and let them stand for 15 minutes. **Important: Make sure you leave them for the full 15 minutes.**

**E**

- Shake the wells gently.
- Look at the wells on a white background and compare the results.

# Interpreting Results

A : reagent A - B : reagent B - S : sample

				
<b>Interpretation</b>	Progesterone levels lower than 3 ng/ml	Progesterone levels between 3 and 10 ng/ml	Progesterone above 10 ng/ml	Progesterone equal to 10 ng/ml
<b>Monitoring Heats</b>	The bitch is not ovulating. <b>Repeat test two or three days later.</b>	Ovulation is imminent. <b>Repeat test one day later.</b>	The bitch has probably ovulated. <b>Immediately breed or inseminate.</b>	The bitch has ovulated. <b>Breed or inseminate one to two days later.</b>
<b>Diagnosing an Inadequate Luteal Phase. Monitoring Gestation<sup>1</sup>.</b>			The concentration of progesterone is adequate to maintain the dog's pregnancy.	
<b>Detecting the Term</b>	The bitch is ready to give birth. <b>She will whelp within 24 to 48 hours.</b>	The bitch is still not ready to whelp. <b>Repeat test one day later.</b>	In principle, she should not whelp before at least 48 hours. At this level, it is impossible to pinpoint when she is ready to give birth; all that can be said is that she is not ready yet. <b>Repeat test two days later.</b>	
<b>Prolonged Anoestrus</b>	The bitch is not releasing progesterone. She has not ovulated or she has not had heats in the past two months. <b>A heat can be artificially initiated.</b>	The bitch is releasing progesterone. Heats have probably already occurred unnoticed (silent heat) or the bitch suffers from ovarian pathology.		

<sup>1</sup> This information is valid for the first two-thirds of the gestation period.

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## WHY USE PROGESTERONE?

- Because, even though vaginal smears are quite simple to do, they do not always give an accurate picture of the estrus cycle.
- Because progesterone dosing is a recognized reliable indicator of the mating season.

## THE ONLY METHOD THAT IS OVER 90% RELIABLE

Three different studies were carried out to test the reliability of PREMATE<sup>®</sup>.

These studies show that the fertility rate increases considerably if the mating season is monitored by PREMATE<sup>®</sup>. This rate exceeds 90% versus only 50% to 60% (depending on the breeds) using another method.

## WHY USE PREMATE<sup>®</sup>

- To increase breeding success.
- To increase the prolificacy rate of litters.
- To more accurately determine the whelping due date.
- To reduce needless travel in the case of unsuccessful breeding.

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