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## **Performance of Spermvital Technology on Pregnancy Rate in Repeat Breeder Dairy Cows**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

The SpermVital (SV) technology is a new technology developed for semen cryopreservation. This technology using a encapsulation, as sperm cells are embedded in an alginate gel, which will gradually dissolve and release sperm cells over an extended period of time. In this way, the time of insemination is claimed to be less critical. In this study, conventional semen was compared with sperm immobilization technology developed by SpermVital AS in a blind field trial.

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

In the field study, 79 Holstein repeat breeders were randomly allocated to timed artificial insemination (TAI) using either conventional Holstein semen or SV semen from Norwegian Red (NRF) bulls. Cows were divided two groups and each group received two injections of PGF2 $\alpha$  11 d apart. GnRH was injected 48 h after the second PGF2 $\alpha$  injection and cows were inseminated 24 h following GnRH. Outcomes of the inseminations were measured as 60-day non-return rate (NRR).

Table 1. The Experimental groups and rates of pregnancy.

Groups	Pregnancy Rate
Conventional Sperm (Group I, n: 28)	10 (35%)
SpermVital (Group II, n: 51)	24 (47%)

## RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

The overall pregnancy rate was 35% (10/28) for Holstein semen vs. 47% (24/51) for SV semen. In conclusion, this study has showed that SV processed semen provide higher fertility results as conventional semen when TAI is performed in a blinded field trial.

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