

Chapter #4: Glossary of Terms and Information: General Semen Information

Horseman & breeders learn something new every day. The amount of information that is being thrown at you can be, for the most part, overwhelming. For this very reason, a simple outline has been drafted that will hopefully change the way you view and/or interrupt your stallion's semen motility.

Total Volume: The *total volume* is considered to be: The total volume of semen collected from a particular ejaculate measured in milliliters. (remember a cc is equal to an mL)

Total Gel-Free Volume: The *total volume of semen, post-filtration and removal of the gel fraction.*

Most stallions normally do not produce gel unless an obvious distraction and/or a major procedural error occurs prior to and/or during the collection process.

Concentration/mL: The *total number of sperm per milliliter(mL) from a particular ejaculate.*

The **Next Generation[®] Quick Check[™]** easily determines concentration by way of an infrared 4-beam, radiometric turbidity analysis technique using raw semen. Scattered light systems will count dirt particles.

Total Sperm: The *total number of sperm present in a particular ejaculate: aka total concentration.*

Multiply the Total Gel-Free Volume (mL) x Concentration/ml = the *Total Sperm* in an ejaculate.

Percent Progressive Motility: The percentage of sperm cells that is *progressively moving forward.*

Total Motility: This is a combined assessment of *slightly motile + progressive motile = total motility*

For example, a rating of: *80/70* would indicate that a particular ejaculate would have 80% total motility and 70% progressive motility. ***Progressively Motile Sperm + Slightly Motile Sperm = Total Motility***

Total Usable Sperm per Milliliter: Considered to be the *sperm that has the greatest fertilizing impact.*

This procedure is accomplished by the following:

Total Sperm Concentration X Percent Progressive Motility = Total *Usable Sperm per Milliliter.*

