

How can A.I service be accessed?

- contacting all RADA offices island wide
- Contacting all VSD offices island wide
- VSD Head Office
- Contact A.I Officers directly

Parish	Contact Number
St. Catherine	441-8054/368-6469 577-4264/420-8344
St. Catherine, St. Ann, St. Mary	441-0561/424-1840
Clarendon	441-2010/773-0043
Manchester, St. Elizabeth Westmoreland, Trelawny	441-0638/568-7140
St. James, Trelawny	446-6372
St. Mary, St. Ann, Portland St. Thomas	441-7532/471-1685

Veterinary Services Division
MANDATE

- Keeping exotic diseases out of Jamaica
- Safeguarding the Livestock Industry
- Facilitating Trade
- Improving Public Health
- Enhancing Food Safety
- Promoting Animal Welfare

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US AT:

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, COMMERCE
AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES
VETERINARY SERVICES DIVISION
193 Old Hope Road
Hope Gardens
Kingston 6, Jamaica

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Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries
and Mining

VETERINARY SERVICES DIVISION

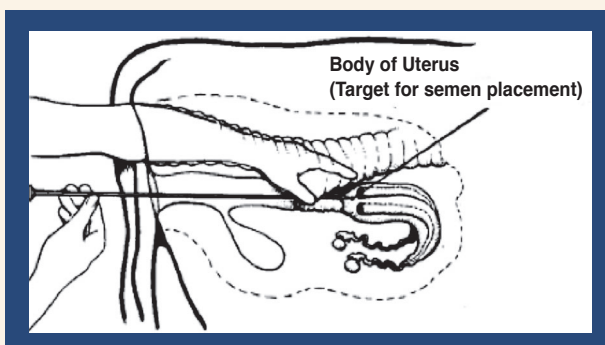
Artificial Insemination
(AI) In Livestock



The Veterinary Services Division (VSD) offers artificial insemination services to farmers, and provides educational demonstrations to schools and other stakeholders within Jamaica and CARICOM.

What is Artificial Insemination (AI)?

Is the process by which semen is collected manually from a male animal and is deposited into the reproductive tract of a female animal for purpose of impregnating the female.



What A.I. Services are offered by the VSD?

1. Supply processed cattle semen of the four local breeds:
 - a. Jamaica hope
 - b. Jamaica Black
 - c. Jamaica Red
 - d. Jamaica Brahman
2. Supply Processed Goat semen:
 - a. Boer goat
 - b. Anglo-Nubian
3. Supply Liquid nitrogen for storage of processed semen.
4. Provide insemination services for cattle and goats.
5. Provide advice and training for individuals and groups on artificial insemination in cattle goats and pigs.

SIGNS OF ANIMALS ON HEAT AND WHEN TO INSEMINATE/SERVICE

Signs of Animals on Heat	Animals are serviced using the a.m. - p.m. rule
Clear mucus/slime from vulva	Animals are serviced within 12 hours of them being seen on heat.
Temporary off feed and drop in milk production	Cows – 12 hrs. after observed in standing heat (a.m.-p.m. rule)
Restlessness	Goats –12 hrs. after observed in standing heat (am-pm rule)
Stand for mounting by another animal	Heifers and first time goats – 12 hrs. after first seen in estrus
Bellowing	

Benefits of using A.I over natural mating (adopted from FAO)

1. *Increased efficiency of bull usage:*
 - a. Semen can be diluted and extended to create hundreds of doses from a single ejaculate.
 - b. Semen can be easily transported; allowing multiple females in different geographical locations to be inseminated simultaneously
 - c. Semen can be stored for long periods of time; therefore quality males can produce offspring long after their natural reproductive lives end.
2. *Increased potential for genetic selection:*
 - a. Artificial insemination allows males to produce more offspring, fewer males are needed. Therefore, only the few best males will be used as parents
3. *Decreased management costs:*
 - a. Male animals often grow to be larger than females and can consume relatively larger amounts of feed. require special housing and handling equipment.
4. *Increased safety for animals and farmers:*
 - a. Male animals can become large and aggressive therefore maintaining a bull on a farm

may be dangerous to handlers. This may cause injury to either the cow or the bull than is artificial insemination.

5. Reduced disease transmission:

- a. Natural mating allows for the transfer of venereal diseases between males and females. Some pathogens can be transmitted in semen through artificial insemination, but the collection process allows for the screening of disease agents and checked for quality, which can help avoid problems associated with male infertility.

Disadvantages of A.I

- Estrus detection must be good
- Proper handling and care of semen
- Good Record Keeping
- Time involved – restraining and inseminating animals
- Cost of AI equipment
- Increased labor for estrus detection and insemination
- Requires healthy and well fed animals

Cost of A.I service

In keeping with the governments' mandate to promote superior livestock, in terms of adaptability, productivity, viability and affordability, the following fees are charged

Cattle A.I service

- First 20km = \$500 per service
- Mileage 40km = \$1000 per service
- Mileage beyond 50 km = \$1500 per service
- An additional \$250 per service will be charged for each additional animal on same farm
- Sheep and Goat \$1500 per service and each additional is \$1000