# Heat detection & Artificial insemination in the dog

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# Canine Reproduction

- The bitch is monoestrus
- Luteal phase that ends in a prolonged period of anestrus
- Release of FSH, LH
- Follicular growth with production of oestrogens
- Clinical proestrus with bleeding and oedema in the vulva

Proestrus: 9 days (3-20)

Fresh bloody discharge, swollen firm vulva, playful behaviour

Oestrus: 9 days (1-10)

Lighter discharge, softening of

the vulva

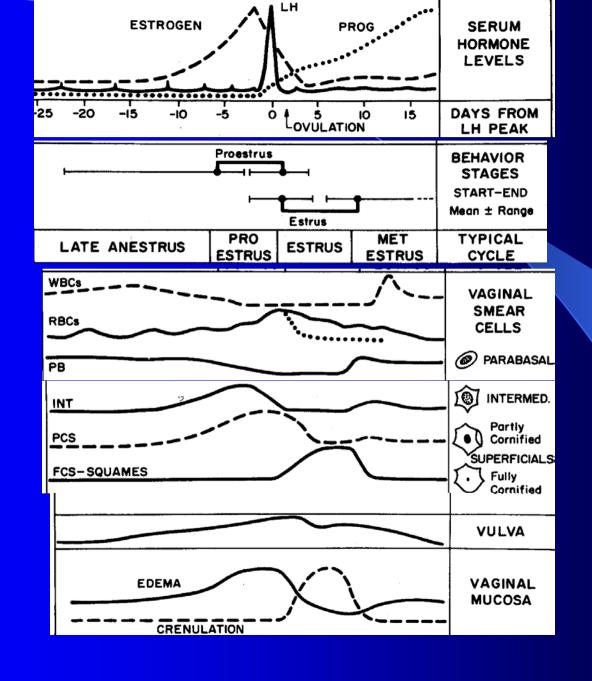
Metoestrus: 2-4 days

Characteristic smell, darker

discharge, less oedema in the

vulva

- Ovulation 2 days after the LH-peek
- Primary oozytes
- Maturation for 2-3 days
- Fertilizing of ovum 4-5 days after LH-peek
  Oozytes may be fertile for another 1-2 days



Practical approach

Evaluation of the vaginal discharge, oedema of vulva & tail flagging

• Anamnestic investigation: For how long has the owner seen vaginal discharge? Appearan of the discharge? Experience from earlier heat periods, -

mating etc

- Vaginal smear
- Blood sample for promeasurements



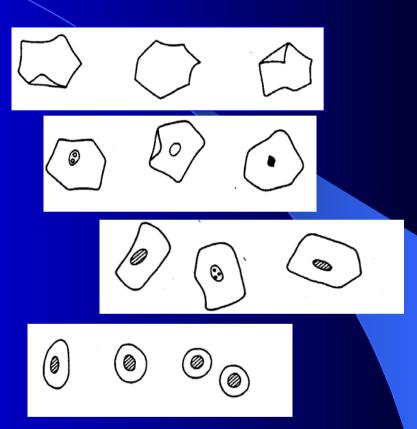
Vagina

## Vaginal smear - celletyps

- Fully cornified
- Superficials
- Intermediates

Parabasale



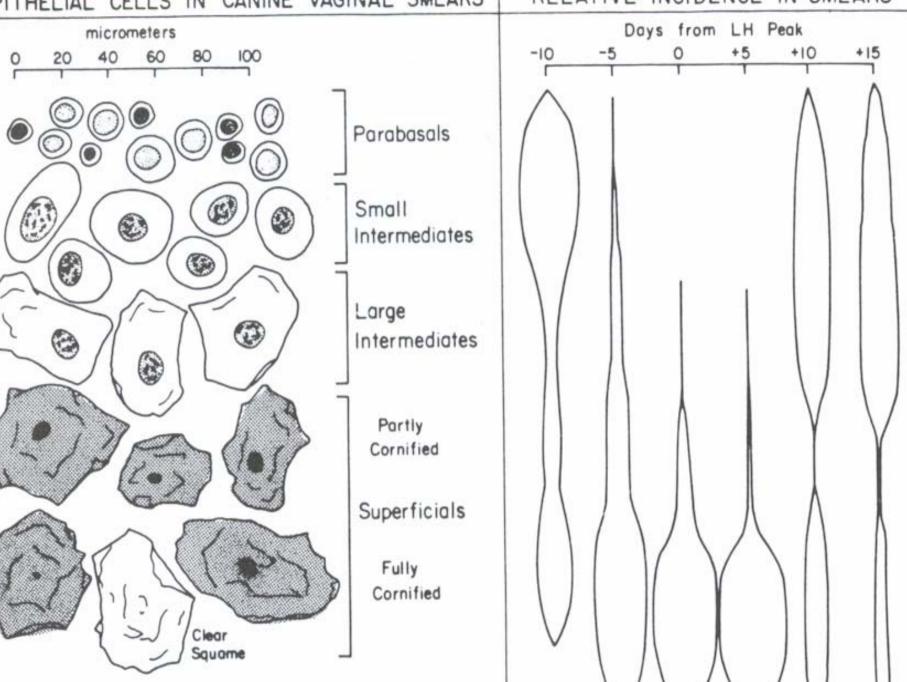


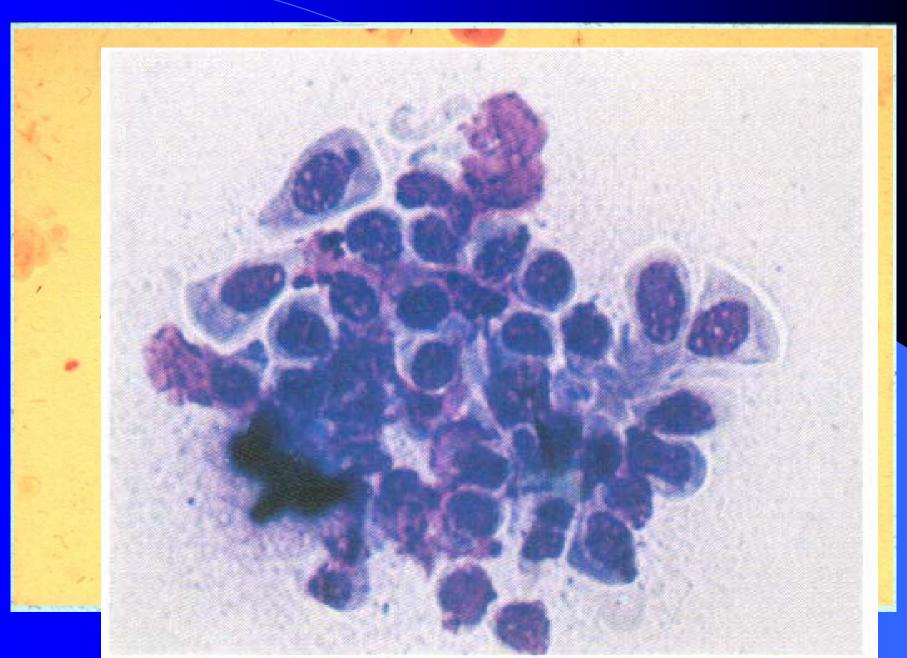


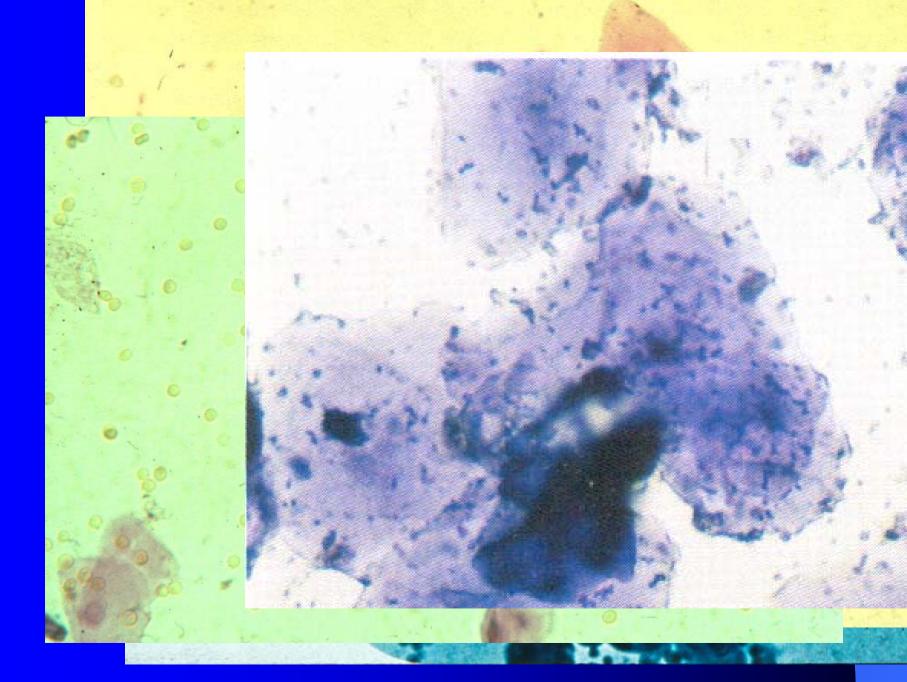


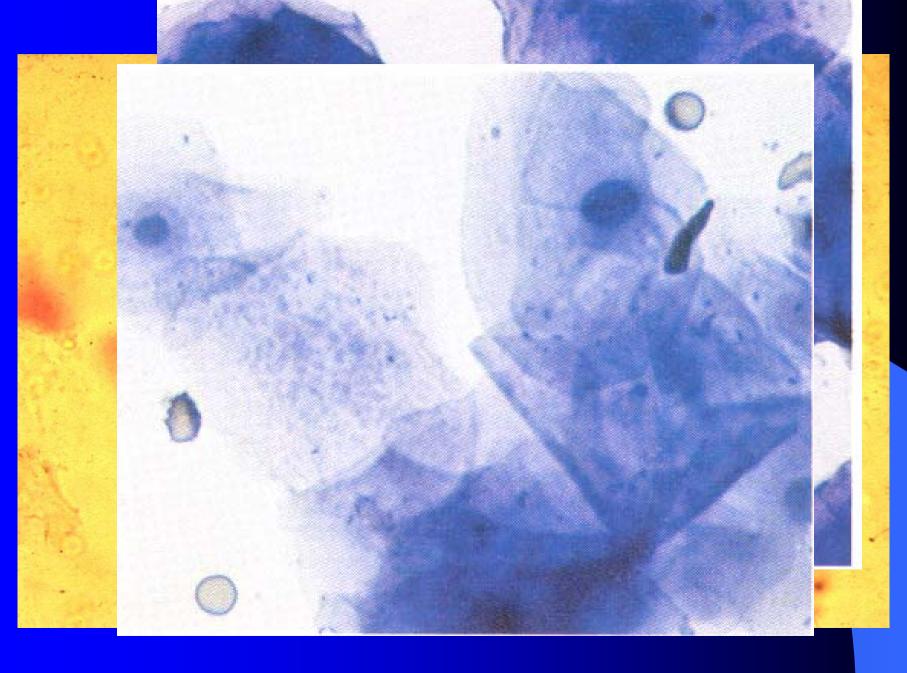


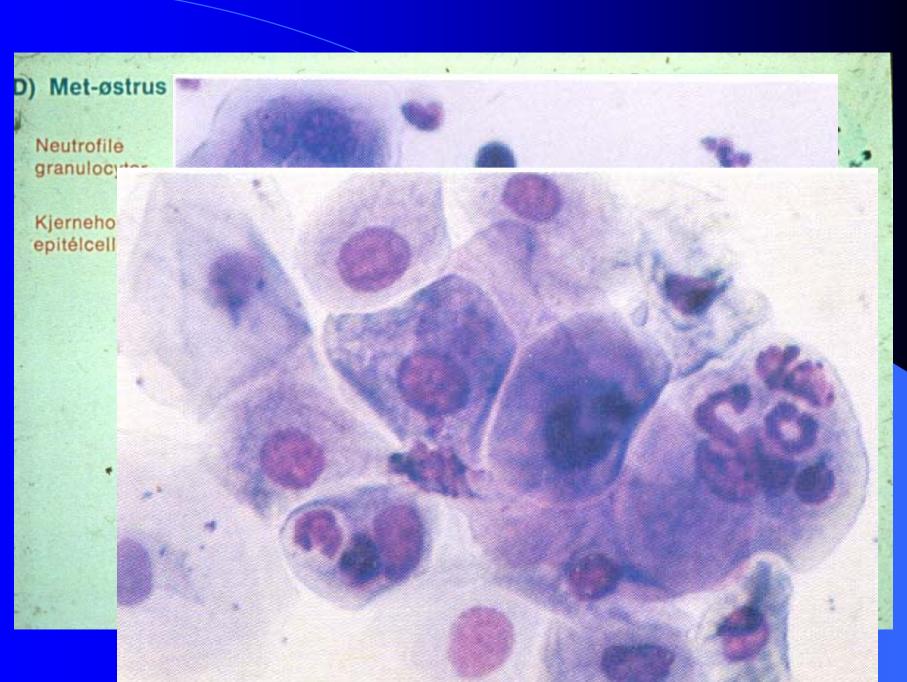


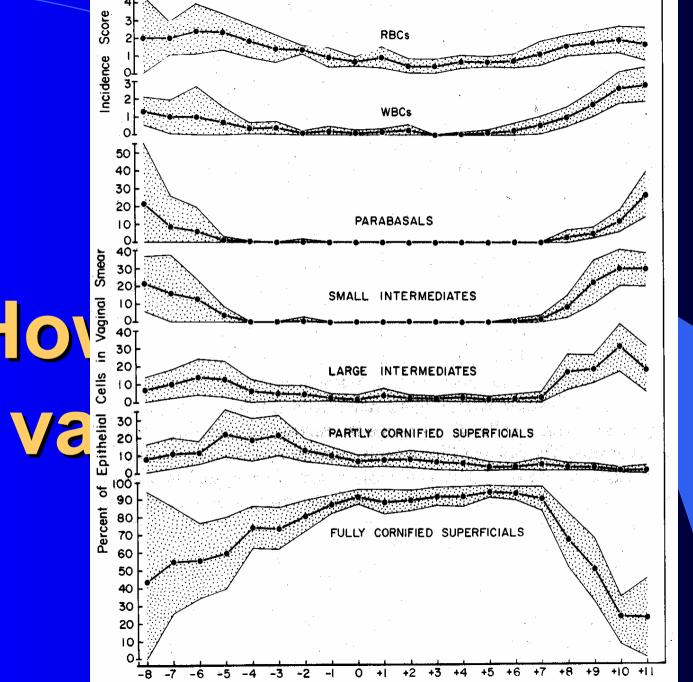




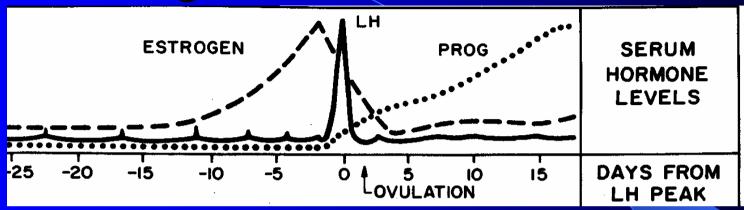








### Progesterone in serum



- Detectable low levels in prooestrus (<3 nmol/l)</li>
- Elevation prior to ovulation
- 6-12 nmol/l at LH-peek
- 15-20 nmol/l at ovulation
- Continued elevation till day 15

#### When to mate the bitch?

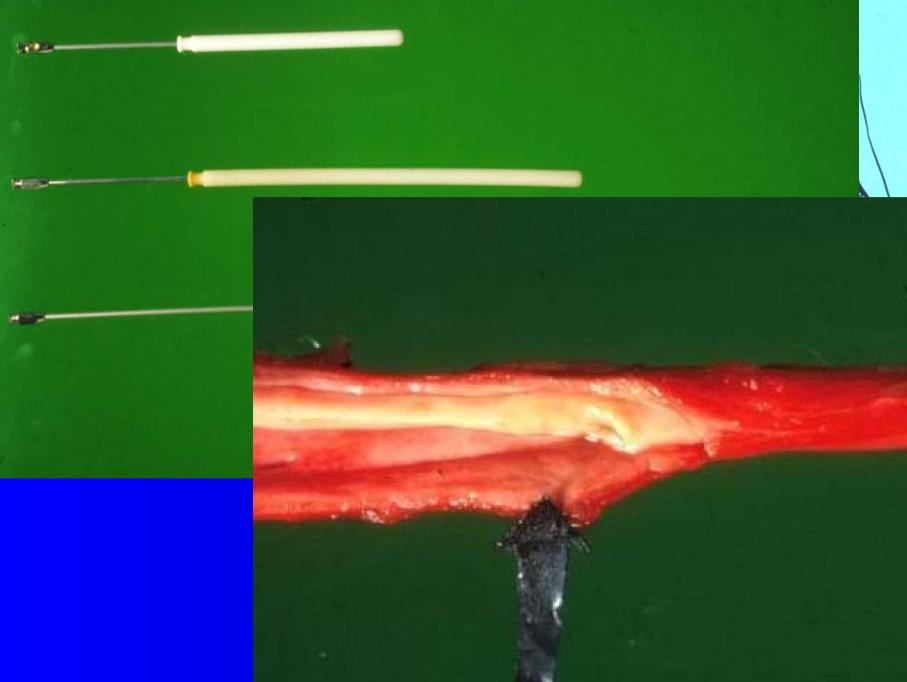
- 12th and 14th day of heat period?
- Aim: fertile sperm cells in the oviducts when the oozytes are mature and ready to be fertilised
  - 2-3 d after ovulation
    - 4-5 d after LH-peek
- Mate the third day the bitch will stand for the male
- best days of mating: 1. og 2. day after ovulation

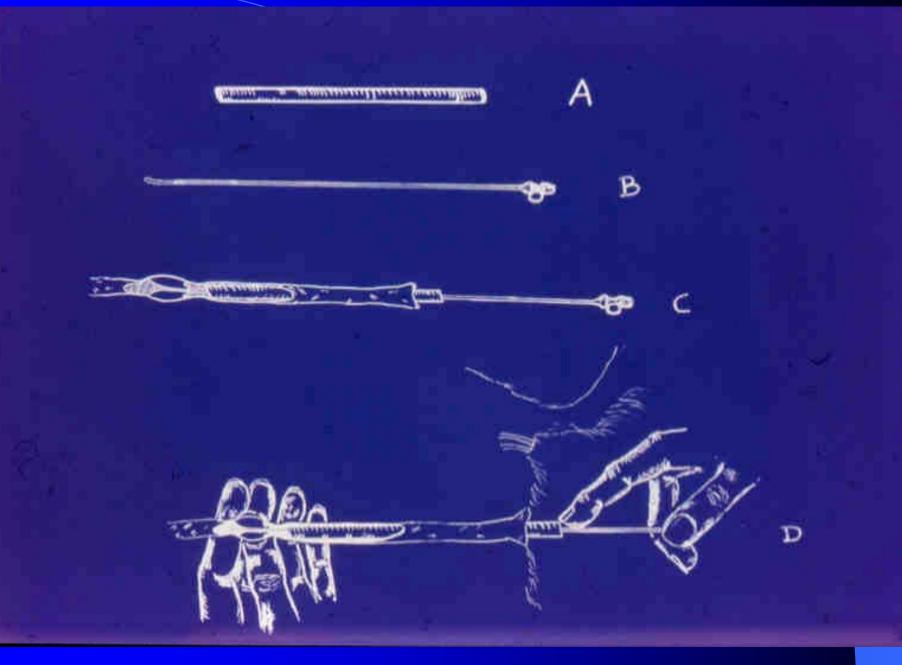
### Progesterone measurements

- Double of value in 2 days
- Low value f.ex 3 nmol/l → at least 4 days till ovulation (>6 d till too late)
- Renewed sample after 4 days: f.ex 10 nmol/l
  1-2 days to ovulation
  - → mating in 2-3 days

# Indications for artificial insemination (AI)

- Long distance between male and female
- Injury on the male (or female)
- Not willing or unable to succeed in mating











### Results

- Vaginal deposition:
- Intrauterine deposition: (as natural mating)

50-60% > 90%

## MATERIAL

- 312 BITCHES
- 70 BREEDS
- DOMESTIC SEMEN (129)
- IMPORTED SEMEN (183)

#### TIMING OF INSEMINATION

- CLINICAL EVALUATION
- VAGINAL SMEAR
- SERUM PROGESTERONE
  - 15-25 NMOL/L → AI 2 DAYS LATER
  - 25-35 NMOL/L → AI 1 & 2 DAYS LATER
  - 35-60 NMOL/L → AI SAME DAY & ONE DAY LATER
  - > 60 NMOL/L → AI SAME DAY ONLY

## **RESULTS AFTER AI**

SIZE

	N	WHELPING RATE (%)	MEAN LITTER
UTERINE	305	71	5.3
VAGINAL	7	29	6.0
TOTAL	312	70	5.3

# RESULTS AFTER OPTIMAL CONDITIONS

WHELPING RATE 82% (120 OF 147)

• MEAN LITTER SIZE  $5.6 \pm 0.3$  SEM

#### Results 1998-2004

- 79% whelping rate and a mean litter size of  $6.0 \pm 0.19$  (SEM)
- One AI yielded the same whelping rate as 2 AI (78%), but a smaller mean litter size,  $5.4 \pm 0.3$  versus  $6.4 \pm 0.2$



