Embryo transfers

(Continued from Page 22)

the case nearly two decades ago when frozen semen became available on a wide scale, the frozen embryo concept is opening many doors and promising tremendous potential.

Embryo transplanting is in essence a simple technique, but because of the delicate life involved it is not always successful. Simply stated, the transplanting technique involves the taking of fertilized eggs (or

ova) from the cow and Via Pax technicians recently surgically inserting them into other cows or heifers. These recipient animals thereby become mothers of the calves that are to be born. But they themselves offered none of the genetic material. Phrased another way, the recipient cows or heifers are "incubators" for the developing embryo.

Astonishing progress has been made with this new concept in breed improvement. For example,

flew to Wisconsın, flushed four cows of their embryos, isolated them, packaged them, flew back to Baltimore, drove to Rheems, and began surgical implantation all in the same day. The four cows they had flushed yielded 26 embryos within a four hour period. Flying and driving time took up much of the day. They were back at their Rheems headquarters at 9:30 p.m. and began the surgery on 26

recipient animals By 3 a.m. the entire operation was completed.

Shipping embryos overseas in saline solutions is already commonplace. While demanding of both time, money, and expertise, the shipping of embryos is economical. One reason is that the freight charges for overseas shipments of heifers, cows, and bulls can be quite high.

This is just the beginning, say experts in the field.

With the advent of embryo freezing, non-surgical transfer of embryos, and possible sexing, this service has a lot of potential," says

Lancaster Farming, Saturday, June 10, 1978–23

M. Robert Young, director of marketing for Via Pax, U.S.A. "Futuristically U.S.A. speaking, it's very possible that we'll be able to store embryos like semen within the next couple of years," Young commented.

Embryo transplanting isn't for everyone. Young and his associates recommend that any cow being

considered for such an operation should have at least the following qualifications: She should be from a family out of which bulls could be sold to A.I. studs, or, if heifers are born, they should be worth at least \$2500 at birth.

Via Pax is presently restructuring its prices in (Turn to Page 27)



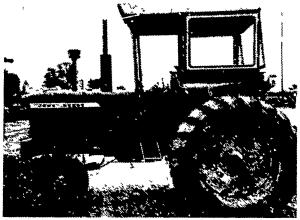
Linda Kauffman, secretary for Via Pax, U.S.A., Rheems, and well-known for her accomplishments in the show ring with registered Holsteins, is at the halter of Via Pax C C Jubilee ET (3198287), a daughter of Romandale Count Crystan. The 7month old calf is the product of an embryo transfer operation.



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