

Split embryo equine births expected

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — The country's first twin horses produced from one split embryo—first in the world produced by a practical embryo transfer technique—should be born early next summer, Colorado State University researchers have announced.

Two CSU mares are 7 1/2 weeks pregnant, each carrying one-half of a horse embryo, said Dr. Ed Squires, director of CSU's Animal Reproduction Laboratory equine

reproduction research program. Each half should produce a healthy foal around June 14.

A 6-day-old embryo was collected nonsurgically July 14 from the uterus of a donor mare, split, and its two halves transferred surgically to two recipient mares, Squires said. Ultrasound examinations this week have shown pregnancies progressing normally.

The embryo collection and splitting processes were the same

ones developed by CSU researchers and used to produce identical twin calves last year, Squires said.

"We often modify techniques developed for cattle for use in equine reproduction," he said.

The pregnancies are a result of a study on horse embryo collection, freezing, splitting and transfer techniques, said Neville Slade, equine reproduction graduate student who is doing the study. Slade collected the original embryo and transferred the two half-embryos.

Dr. Timothy Williams, post-doctoral fellow, split the embryo, using a microscope and micro-manipulator equipped with tiny tools developed for cattle embryo splitting.

A few years ago, researchers at

Cambridge University in England produced the first equine twins from split embryos by surgically removing an embryo from a mare's oviduct. The CSU ex-

periment is the first time pregnancies have been produced from equine embryos collected nonsurgically, Squires said.

Feed brochure available

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL — A new 12-page brochure published by A. O. Smith Harvestore Products, Inc., describes how "waste" or "opportunity" feeds can be used in feeding programs for beef and dairy cattle.

Titled "Opportunity Feeds," it discusses a variety of crops, such as corn and milo stover, soybeans, sunflowers, and many others that

can be fed after being processed through oxygen-limiting storage. The brochures also review proper equipment and techniques for harvesting opportunity crops.

A copy of "Opportunity Feeds" may be obtained by writing: Marketing Communications Dept., A. O. Smith Harvestore Products, Inc., 550 W. Algonquin Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005.

Cumberland farm-city dinner



The Eighth Annual Cumberland County Farm-City Dinner was held recently. A roast pig highlighted the dinner served by the Farm-City Committee.

Farm facts were presented by the following, standing left to right, "Genetic Engineering in Dairying", John Cope; "Dairy Facts", Carolyn Myers, Cumberland County Dairy Princess; "This Little Pig Went To Market", Kate Mains; and James Bear who served as Master of Ceremonies. Also shown are some of the Farm-City Committee members - Flora Hartzell, Mabel Stroch, and Blanche McCulloch.

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