

Sheep Artificial Insemination Fact Sheet 9: Cooling and Warming Fresh Sheep Semen

If semen is intended to be used within 2-3 hours:

- Extend the semen when both semen and extender is at about 95 F (35 C)
- Allow to cool to around 68-77 F (20-25 C) in container while in transit or waiting.

If storing for more than a few hours, cool extended semen to 40 F (4 C) over a period of 1.5 hours:

- Place freshly extended semen in container of 95 F (35 C) water
- Place container in 40F (4 C) cold room or refrigerator
- After 45 Minutes remove extended semen from water and leave in refrigerators to cool further



Using cooled semen:

- Rewarm slowly, immediately prior to use
- Place in a warm container of water
- Swirl semen at one minute intervals to ensure even warming
- Rewarming extended semen to 95-99 F (35-37 C)

There is more specific extender information in the SARE grant report for FNC13-901

http://mysare.sare.org/sare_project/fnc13-901/

