



Mystical Shilohs

P.O. Box 441
Frankford, ON
(613) 398-0007

www.mysticalshilohs.com

PREMATE

Answers to the most commonly asked questions:

Q. How long has this kit been in use?

A. Several years in Europe, and almost fifteen years in Canada

Q. Is this kit similar to others on the market?

A. No. Camelot Farms in Texas tried every kit on the market, and knows other breeders who also have used others with equally poor results. If these other kits had worked, Camelot Farms would have been happy to use them. Since they did not, Camelot Farms kept looking. They found PREMATE in England. It is much easier to use, and gives consistent results every time. At Camelot Farms, they have a better than 93% conception rate using fresh, chilled and frozen semen to prove its worth, and so can you.

Q. Are there directions provided with the kit?

A. Yes, each kit comes with detailed instructions, which explains why the kit is needed, what it does, and how to use it.

Q. Can I use the kit myself?

A. Yes, many breeders and veterinarians use PREMATE. You do need to know how to draw blood from the bitch. You can have your veterinarian do the test for you however; breeders usually get better results doing it themselves. The nice thing about PREMATE is that it is easy and inexpensive to use, and gives you the results in a short time. If you can't draw blood yourself, usually your Vet will do this for you at a nominal cost and you then take the blood home to do the test.

Q. What supplies and equipment do I need other than the kit?

A. A 5-ml. syringe with a # 22 needle to draw the blood, and some plain tubes to put the blood in, a type of tourniquet, cotton balls and some alcohol to wipe the dog's skin.
The blood will settle on the shelf in about an hour or so, and you will see the clear or pink-tinged fluid (plasma) on the top. You will need only one drop of this fluid for the test. If you have a centrifuge, follow the directions in the pamphlet enclosed with the kit, and on page 2 of this booklet.

Q. How many tests do I get with one kit?

A. 10 to 30, depending on the number of bitches you test at one time.



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Q. What is the shelf life of the kit?

A. Kept refrigerated after opening, it has a long shelf life. Each kit has an expiry date on it. The date is written using the British system - meaning that it shows the day/month/year rather than our system of month/day year. Thus 6/2/94 on the kit would mean Feb.6/94 - not June 2/94. While the kit must be kept refrigerated, **Control D must be kept frozen** between uses, or it will expire 90 days after mixing it when you first open the kit.

Q. How much does it cost?

A. If you test one bitch at a time, you will use three wells for each test. There are 32 wells in each kit, thus each test will cost you approximately \$17.99. If you test two females at the same time, you will use 4 test wells, and thus you can do eight tests on each female, or total of 16 tests at a cost of \$11.25 cents for each test. As you can see, the more bitches tested at one time, the lower the cost of each test. This is because, why you must make a standard sample A and a standard sample B for each test, they can be used for all the wells containing the plasma from as many bitches as you are testing at the same time. It is not, however, in your best interest as a breeder, to delay the testing of one bitch, while waiting for a second bitch to become ready for testing to save \$17.99 and thus possibly "miss" on the first bitch. **The cost of \$179.99 for the kit does not include G.S.T. or shipping. *Shipping cost will be calculated at the time of your order.** Only you can determine the value of a full litter of puppies when mating.

Q. Do I need a centrifuge?

A. No, you do not. See page 1. If you do have a centrifuge, the test results will be obtained faster, since it takes only 7 to 8 minutes to spin the blood in a heparin zed blood tube, rather than waiting an hour while it separates by itself. The results will be the same.

Q. How often do I test?

A. Do one test when she first comes into season. Some bitches have been actually in heat for several days with no blood show. This initial test will give you an idea where she is in her cycle. Your sample results will be:

1. As dark or darker pink than A- this means she has not begun to ovulate. Repeat the test in 48 hours.
2. Lighter than pink A, but darker than B - this means that the progesterone is rising and ovulation is probably going to occur. Begin testing daily.
3. As light as B or lighter. This means that ovulation has occurred and she should be mated without delay.

Q. What if she gets to status 2 (above) but never gets to B or lighter than B after 30 days.

A. That does happen occasionally and this is another great feature of the Premate test. She is having a "False Cycle" and this is a natural process that sometimes happens. Watch her closely, she will probably come into season again in 4 to 8 weeks and then it will be "for real".

Q. What if she gets close to B and then goes back closer to A the next day?

A. This is another great thing with Premate. The test is telling you she is having a "split cycle" and probably will get to status 3 (above) in the day or so, although I have seen some bitches take almost a week to get back to B. Without the guidance of Premate, you would probably have bred her too soon, and missed the conception period.



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Q. I do vaginal cytology. If there seems to be a conflict, which do I believe?

A. The PREMATE test every time. When you have had more experience using PREMATE, you will not question it, because it will prove itself to you as it has done for so many others on many occasions. Vaginal cytology is an indicator only, but one of history, as it is known to be as many as 48 hours behind time. PREMATE is measuring the progesterone level in the blood at the time it is drawn from the bitch. Vaginal cytology is helpful in determining when the bitch is 'going out' as new cells can be seen, but it can be confusing when the cells appear to be the same for several days. Usually then the bitch is flagging, the vulva swollen and without the availability of PREMATE, you would breed at the wrong time because she "looks and acts ready".

The PREMATE kit may show you that she has not reached status 3 and thus has not ovulated. This has been seen many times at Camelot Farms, and then finally as late as Day 20 or later, PREMATE will tell you that she is now at status 3, is ovulating and is (finally) ready for mating. If you bred earlier, you may have missed her. This is extremely important when using chilled or frozen semen or an older stud dog.

Q. When the Premate test shows that she is light as B or lighter, when do I breed?

A. Canines are multiple ovulators, meaning that they ovulate over a period of time. Sometimes this can be a matter of hours or several days depending on the bitch, her age and this particular cycle. No two bitches are the same, nor is every cycle of a bitch the same each time. A Premate user owned a bitch that ovulated on Day 6 and had puppies and the next year she ovulated on Day 14 and had puppies. Both pregnancies were successful because of the PREMATE test.

The eggs are fertilizable 48 hours after ovulation occurs, so there is a "window" when conception will take place. Breeding too early or too late will result in a "miss".

Test with Premate daily at about the same time once she has moved to status 2. Breed her when she is the same or slightly lighter than B and repeat the mating in 36 to 48 hours if possible.

Camelot Farms has had excellent results, and using only artificial inseminations of fresh, chilled or frozen semen, including semen from Australia frozen by their own semen preservation system.