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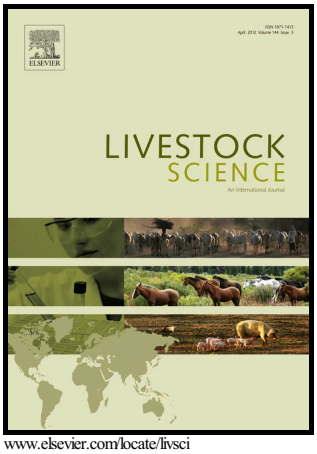

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Liquid storage of ram semen for 96 hours: effects on kinematic parameters, membranes and DNA integrity, and ROS production

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ABSTRACT

A complete assessment of morphological and functional characteristics of ram semen during refrigeration is necessary to optimize the process of semen manipulation and storage. The aim of this study was to describe changes in main predictive parameters of ram semen diluted in a commercial soy lecithin-based extender (OVIXcell), during long term liquid storage at 4°C. Ejaculates of 5 Sarda rams were collected, pooled and diluted in OVIXcell. Samples were cooled at 4°C and stored at this temperature until 96h. At 0-24-48-72-96h semen samples were analysed for the following parameters: motility [computer assisted sperm analysis (CASA)]; integrity of