



Zimzala K9 Training

Zimzala Canine Estate
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Weekly Pregnancy Progression

Week 1

OVULATION

Ovulation is when a mature egg is released from the ovary. The egg then moves down the fallopian tube where it can be fertilised. If sperm are in the fallopian tube when the egg is released, there is a good chance that the egg will be fertilised, creating an embryo, which can grow into a baby.



Gestation begins when the female's ova are fertilised by the male spermatozoa. This fertilisation gives rise to a fertilised egg of which half of the genetic heritage stems from the father's chromosomes and half from the mother's chromosomes. This egg is the first component of a new living being, first of all an embryo until the 35th day of gestation and then a foetus and future puppy in the final third of gestation. The length of gestation, and therefore the expected date of whelping is determined by the actual date of OVULATION.

The general rule of thumb is that delivery occurs 63 days after breeding. During natural, and/or multiple mating's this date can vary and can be anything from 56 to 70 days, if you do not know the exact day of ovulation and thus fertilization. With Artificial Insemination, using frozen semen, the due date is calculated for 60 days after insemination.

Regardless of the type of procedure used, natural, artificial insemination with fresh or frozen semen, the best way to determine the actual due date is to do progesterone tests prior to breeding and thus determine the actual date of ovulation.

Towards the end of the first week following fertilisation, the embryos, which are formed very high up in the uterus, will migrate towards the uterine horns. They then float and move around within the uterine liquid.