

Answer Key

Conception

- Union of the male sperm and female **ovum**.

Crossbreeding

- The mating of different **breeds** of animals

Dam

- **Female** parent

Embryo

- An animal in the early stages of growth **prior** to birth

Embryo Transfer

- A procedure used in animal breeding in which an embryo is implanted into a **surrogate** mother

EPD

- Expected **Progeny** Difference
- Used to predict the performance of future offspring from an individual animal

Estrus

- Period of heat in an female animal

Estrus Cycle

- The **reproductive** cycle of the female

Genotype

- The genetic makeup of an animal

Gestation

- The period of development in the uterus
- Length of **pregnancy**.

Lactation

- The production of **milk**.

Linebreeding

- Mating of individuals within a particular line or with a shared ancestry.

Oxytocin

- A hormone that is important in milk letdown and **contractions**.
- Will also **stimulate** uterine contractions.

Parturition

- The act of giving birth

Pedigree

- A **certificate** that indicates two generations of background genetics.

Phenotype

- The **physical** make-up of an animal.

Purebred

- An animal that meets a breed's **standards** and is registered in that breed's herd books.

Semen

- Fluid substance that a male produces in there **reproductive** system.

Sire

- The **male** parent.

Weaning

- The manner in which pigs are removed from the sow and are not longer allowed to depend on the mothers milk for food.