Oocytes are collected by a process called Trans-vaginal follicular aspiration, also called oocyte pick-up (OPU). By using ultrasound guidance, a needle is inserted directly into the ovary from inside the vaginal canal. A vacuum pump is then used to aspirate the fluid in the follicle, bringing the oocyte with it. The oocytes are shipped in an incubator overnight to the lab where they are fertilized and cultured. The resulting embryos are shipped back in an incubator overnight for transfer in one week.

*There is very little risk to the donor animal. Theoretical risks include: bleeding, scarring and infection.
On Farm IVF provides convenience for commercial producers who wish to capitalize on superior genetics in a cost effective manner. Virgin heifers that have been identified as genetically superior through genomic testing or proven cows can have OPU performed on farm. Collected oocytes are shipped to Boviteq in Madison, WI overnight. The resulting embryos are implanted 1 week later into inferior animals or frozen thus improving the genetics of the herd.

**IS IVF Right for me?**
- Do you have genetically superior cows or heifers?
- Do you have excess heifers?
- Do you want to remain competitive in today’s dairy economy?
- Do you have a passion for herd improvement and profitability?

Dr. Bill Croushore, DVM is a partner at White Oak Vet Clinic, PC in Berlin, PA. He is certified by the American Embryo Transfer Association and offers complete fertility services, including ultrasound, conventional flushing and oocyte collection for IVF.