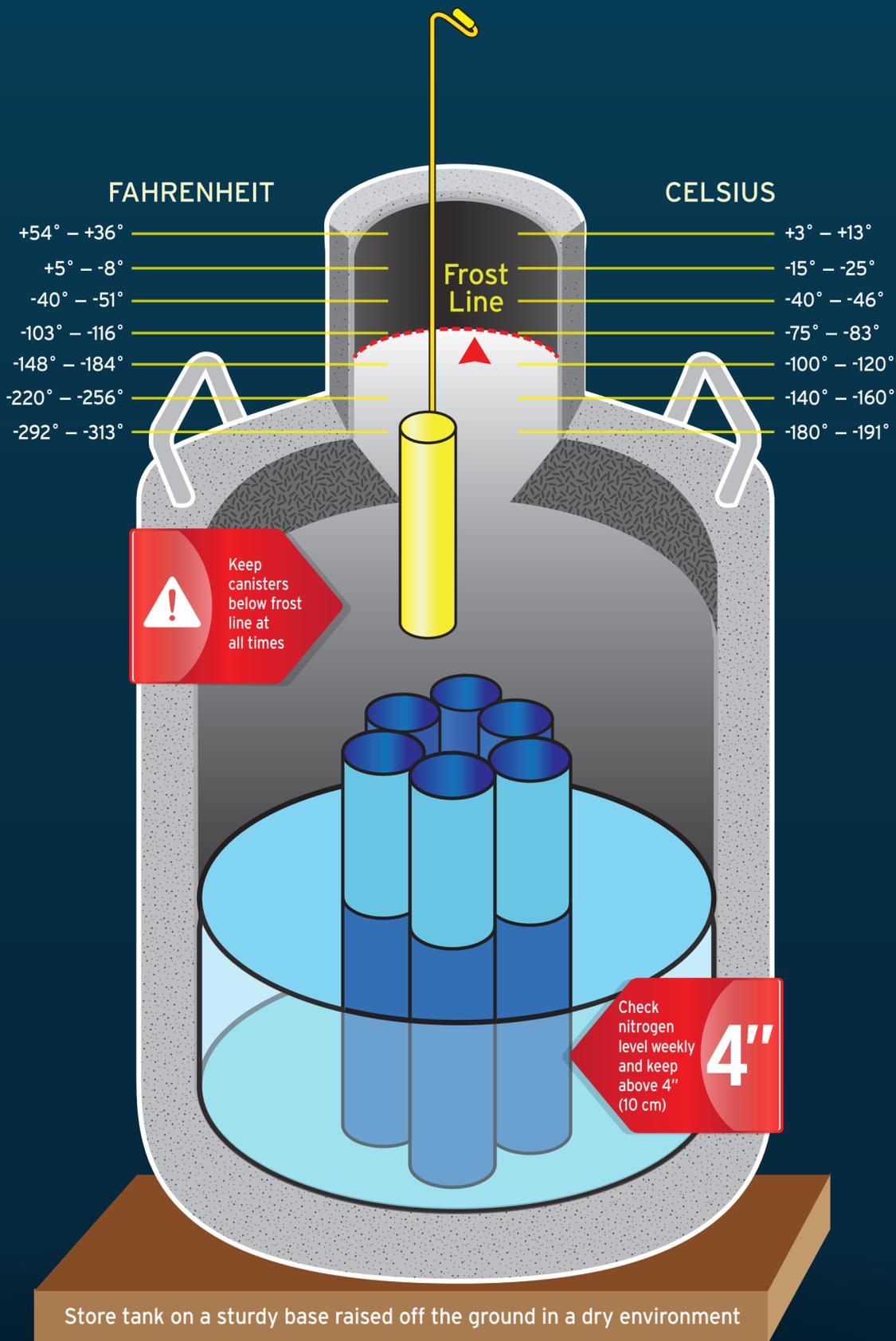


GUIDELINES FOR SEMEN STORAGE AND HANDLING



10 Critical Steps for Thawing & Insemination

1  Remove canister from its storage position and work below the frost line. Canisters should be in neck of tank for no longer than 10 seconds.

2 Use precooled tweezers to transfer straw to thaw bath in 5 seconds or less

3  Thaw semen in temperature controlled thaw bath

35°C (95°F) for 45-60 seconds

- a. If multiple straws are being thawed, ensure they are not in contact with one another
- b. Only thaw enough semen that can be used within 5 minutes for sexed semen or 10 minutes for conventional

4  Pre-warm gun to prevent cold shock

5 Remove straw from thaw bath, dry straw with clean towel; do not touch straw with bare hands

6 Load straw in gun, plug end first

7 Cut straw at a right angle at semen level; wipe scissors clean after cutting

8 Place sheath over cut end of straw; lock sheath into gun. Prime gun to remove air bubbles and place protective sheath over gun

9 Wrap inseminating rod with a clean dry paper towel to protect against dirt, moisture and temperature fluctuations

10 After insemination, make sure animal is properly identified and insemination is recorded with:

DATE:

COW:

BULL:

TECHNICIAN:



Inventory should be updated every time semen enters or exits the tank

Always ensure hands, gun and all equipment are kept clean and thermometer is working properly.

