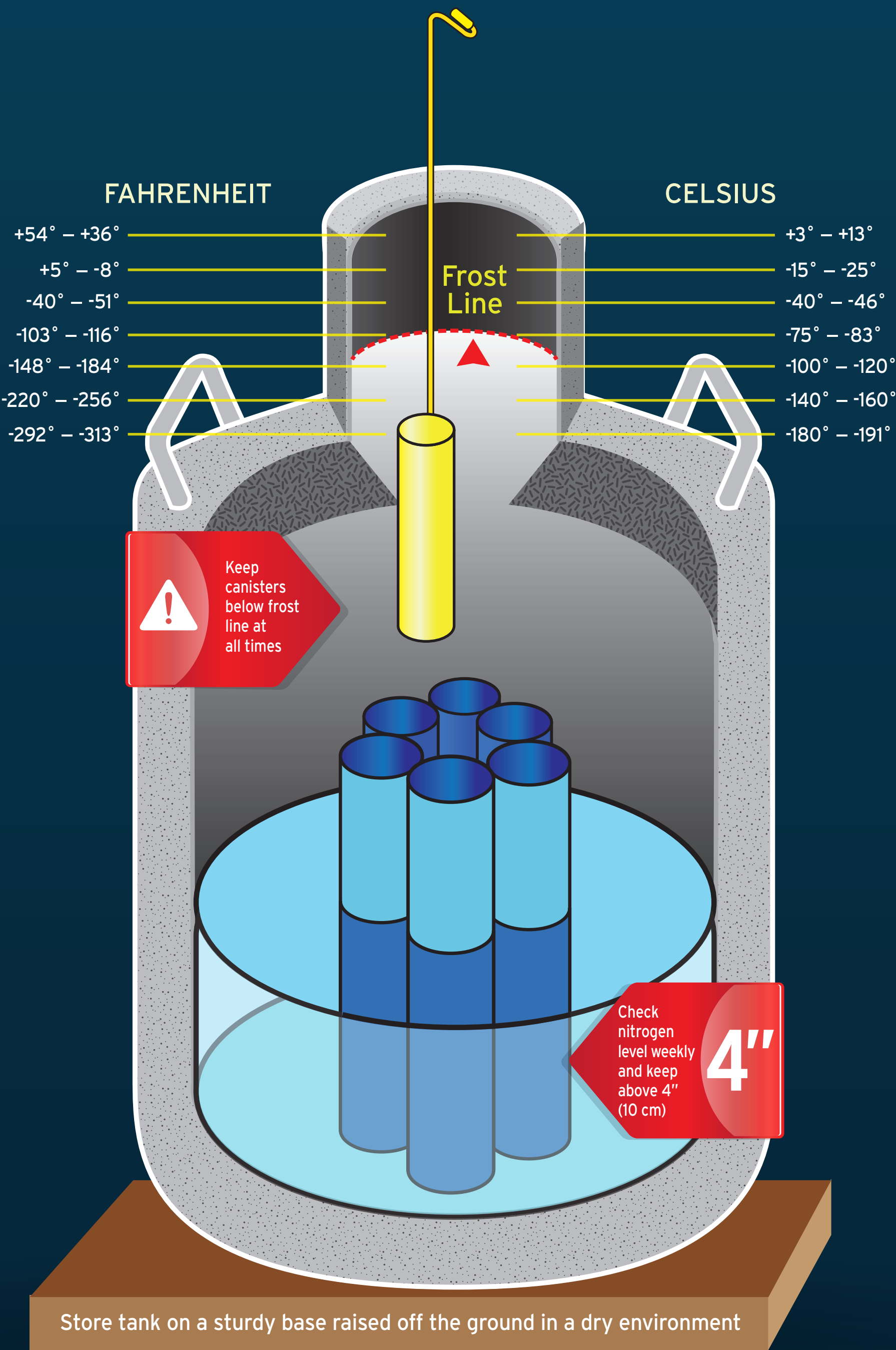



# GUIDELINES FOR SEMEN STORAGE AND HANDLING



## 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.

