

# Accelerating Onset of Breeding

*Great Lakes Equine recommends two methods:*

## **Expose to 16 hours of light per day:**

- Use 100-200 watt incandescent light bulb after sunset in a 12' x 12' stall to extend the photo period.
- Minimum of 60 days of exposure prior to the onset of breeding. Start by December 1.
- Intensity of light (not the type) is the important factor; 10-15 footcandles (>107 lux). You should be able to read a newspaper.
- Ensure the additional time is applied only in the evening—artificial light of similar duration is ineffective when applied prior to the time of sunrise.

## **“Pulse Lighting” – Night interruption:**

- This is the more energy efficient, cost-effective way
- Use timers on the lights
- Expose the mares to 1 hour of light, 9.5-10.5 hours after sunset
- Ex. 5:00 pm sunset, 2:30am begin light exposure
- Minimum of 60 days of exposure prior to the onset of breeding
- Use 100-200 watt incandescent light bulb for a 12' x 12' stall
- Intensity of light same as above
- Similar results as other method
- By the end of February 85-90% of mares start to cycle

BREEDING

*If you have any questions regarding accelerating the onset of breeding, call Great Lakes Equine at 920-779-4444.*

