

Chapter 8

The Story Behind Frozen Semen in the Jack Sire Industry



Wayne Lackey was determined to be the first to claim success in establishing frozen jack semen in breeding exceptional performance bred saddle mules. Wayne Lackey of Miller County, Arkansas raised exceptionally good mules on his place when Laura Styron CEO of JL Equine Enterprises approached Wayne with the offer to use four of his best colts, to be supplied to the first American Mule Trainer's Challenge event taking place in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. The AMTC event is pretty much where our story takes off about Olan. As Wayne puts it, "Without Laura Styron – we would be just another hillbilly jack behind a barbed wire fence."

Four of the best trainers in the industry were invited to gentle and train these colts to be working under saddle in just three days.

Ty Evans from the state of Utah was awarded the Championship at the 2015 American Mule Trainers Challenge. "At that point, after this challenge, I gave the grand prize away to Ty Evans; that mule's name is Riata. Ty Evans still proudly owns that mule filly to this day. Since then Ty has also purchased another Olan colt for his family. That tells me a lot about Olan's qualities. I am also proud that Shawn Petersen took one of Olan's colts home with him to finish that mule under saddle. That particular mule, went to the Jake Clark Mule Sale in 2018 and sold for \$22,000!"

"Shawn Petersen has another one of Olan's colts going to the Jack Clark Mule Sale. [In my opinion,] many people are seeking after Olan's colts. A beautiful mule, exceptional conformation and awesome beauty in a mule is what everyone loves to see – there is one thing about an Olan colt – the mind – the brains – they are simply willing to learn from day one."

"Docile and brains is what Olan is known for, he makes beautiful mule babies, conformation is a plus, [to go with those] smart-minded babies. As time went on, I pretty much saw what I could do with Olan, it was time to make a decision."

"Anthony McCallister (Illinois) had an idea [to develop for the jack sire industry] that he had been working on for years. Myself and others collaborated for several months, [we] gathered our funds and produced the first frozen semen mule from Olan. [And] donkey semen is one of the hardest to freeze in the equine