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OMB Approved
0579-XXXX
EXP: XX/20XX

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION
SERVICE
VETERINARY SERVICES
NATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH MONITORING SYSTEM
2150 CENTRE AVE, BLDG B
FORT COLLINS, CO 80526**

NAHMS Sheep 2024 Study – Blood & Swab Sample Collection Record

Sample Collection Overview

The blood samples collected in the tiger top SST tubes and purple top EDTA tubes will be stored and used for research that will benefit the sheep industry. Ewes that have blood samples collected can also have interdigital swab samples collected. These swabs will be tested with PCR to detect the presence of bacteria that cause foot rot. Swab results will be sent to all participants.

Samples can be collected any day of the week, but samples can only be shipped Sunday-Wednesday. Keep samples cool in a refrigerator until the next shipping day. If possible, blood samples in the tiger top tubes should be spun down once clotted.

Kit Contents

This kit contains supplies for blood collection and interdigital swab samples. Please remove any extra or unused supplies before shipping samples. In this kit you will find:

- 25, 8.5-ml tiger top SST blood tubes
- 15, 10 ml purple top EDTA blood tubes
- 1 tube divider box
- 35, 18-gauge, 1" vacutainer needles
- 3 vacutainer holders
- 25 interdigital swabs
- 25 tongue depressors
- 2 liner bags, gallon sized Ziploc® bags, 2 ice packs, 2 absorbent sheets
- Ballpoint pen for filling out the Collection Records
- Sarstedt marker for labeling tubes
- 1 large insulated cooler box and shipping box
- Paperwork including instructions, submission form, labels, and 1 FedEx airbills addressed to NVSL

Blood Collection Instructions

Tiger Top SST Blood Tubes

Collect from ewes that are at least 15 months of age. Ewes can be pregnant if the Producer is comfortable with the sampling. **Sample a maximum of 25 ewes. Include ewes that have suspected lameness or footrot if you will be collecting interdigital swabs:**

Number of Ewes on an Operation	Sample Number
1 to 19 ewes	Sample all ewes
20 to 49 ewes	Sample 20 ewes
50 or more ewes	Sample 25 ewes

Fill 1 tiger top tube per ewe using the provided needles and vacutainer holder. If you prefer syringes or different length needle, you will need to provide your own. (Collect purple top tops at this time. See instructions below).

Use the preprinted red labels numbered 1a through 25a to label the red-top tube samples. Using the Sarstedt marker, write the NAHMS ID and the sheep name/ID on the label. Make sure the labels are secure on the tubes.

The lab will appreciate it if you can let the samples in the red-top tubes clot and then spin them down. Please place tubes in the tube divider boxes in numeric order.

Purple top EDTA Blood tubes

Collect from up to 15 ewes that had blood collected using the Tiger top SST tubes.

Use the preprinted purple labels numbered 1b through 25b to label the red-top tube samples. Note, you will only use 15 of the 25 provided labels. Be sure to use the correct sample label for each blood tube. Using the Sarstedt marker, write the NAHMS ID and the sheep name/ID on the label. Make sure the labels are secure on the tubes

Interdigital Swab Instructions

Use one swab sample for each ewe that had blood collected in a tiger top blood tube. The sample numbers and sheep IDs need to match the samples from the tiger top blood tubes.

Remove any mud and debris from the interdigital space with a tongue depressor. Use a clean tongue depressor for each sheep. Swab the interdigital skin of at least 2 feet per ewe. Vigorously rub the cotton swab back and forth in the interdigital space. If lameness or footrot is suspected, be sure to swab suspected foot. If lameness or footrot is suspected, take a photograph of the suspected foot.

Insert the swab into the plastic tube, breaking off the stick inside the tube. Close the plastic tube.

Use the preprinted blue swab labels numbered 1c through 25c to label plastic swab tube. Using the **Sarstedt marker, write NAHMS ID and the Sheep name/ID on each the label.** Make sure the labels are secure on the tubes.

Place the swab samples in the gallon sized Ziploc®.

Collection Record for all Samples

Fill out the pink submission form and the digital collection record. Use the QR code or the URL below to access the Blood Swab Collection Record.

Blood and Swab Collection Record	https://usdaanimalhealth.gov1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0xQ0CwOvQlI5y74	
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Shipping

Keep samples cool in a refrigerator until the next shipping day. **Ship only Sunday-Wednesday.**

Place the blood box filled with blood samples, two absorbent sheets, and two ice packs inside a liner bag. Add the Ziploc® of swab samples. Remove excess air from the liner bag and tie shut. Place this liner bag with the blood and swab samples inside the cooler box. Close the cooler lid.

Place the filled out pink submission form on top of the cooler lid and seal the cardboard box. Secure the shipping box and attach the **airbill addressed to NVSL** onto the shipping box. **Ship only Monday-Wednesday.**

13											
14											
15											
16											
17											
18											
19											
20											
	Continue collection if there are 50 or more ewes on the operation.										
21											
22											
23											
24											
25											

How many people in each category helped with the collection of the blood and swab samples?

_____ Fed VMO rvm0 _____ State government rst
 _____ Fed AHT raht _____ Producer rprod
 _____ Other (specify: _____) roth

Total sample time: _____ hours rhr

Primary collector name and phone: _____ rname/rph

NAHMS Sheep 2024 Blood and Swab Submission Sheet

NAHMS ID:
6 digits

Date:
mm/dd/yy

Kit #:
Printed on labels

1. Number of **Tiger Top SST Tubes** submitted? _____
0-25
2. Number of **Purple Top EDTA Tubes** submitted? _____
0-15
3. Number of **Cotton Swabs** submitted? _____
0-25