Johne's Collection & Submission Guide

Sample	Quantity	Container	Storage	Transport	Turnaround Time
Feces	>5 grams or 1-2 mL	Leak proof, clean, plastic, screw-top container. Clearly label with sample number only (1, 2, 3, etc.)	Refrigerated ≤2 weeks	Ship on cold packs	Busy season: ≤15 days Off-season: timelines posted on website





Containers

Preferred

- 25 mL or 50 mL conical tubes (free standing or U or V bottom)
- 2 oz (~60mLs) wide-mouth jars with screw cap lid (4 oz are fine too)
- Specimen/urine collection containers (Often ~3 or 4 oz)
- Sterile is preferred, but clean and manufacturer capped container is acceptable

Avoid

- Condiment or dipping sauce cups as they are not sturdy enough, nor are they screw cap.
- Milk collection snap-cap tubes because gases build up and cause tubes to open and splatter.
- Screw cap containers less than 10mLs, often used for cosmetics
- Sleeves or exam gloves, Whirl-paks, sandwich bags, grocery bags, glass containers will incur additional processing charges.

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NDSU VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY

www.vdl.ndsu.edu

Before Sending to the Lab

- Fecal samples are **REQUIRED** to be submitted in rigid plastic containers and labeled with consecutive numbers, starting at 1 (1, 2, 3, etc.).
- Additional processing fees will apply to improper containers and/or labeling.
- Complete the Herd Submission Form and Sample Identification Form available at https://www.vdl.ndsu.edu/forms/.
- Email a typed Sample Identification Form with sample numbers and the corresponding unique animal ID to ndsu.vetlab@ndsu.edu.
    - The ND Johne's program requires unique animal IDs on the final report.
    - Clients are responsible for ensuring accurate IDs on the submission form.
    - Animal IDs do not need to be written on the fecal containers.
- Submit different species on separate forms.

Packaging and Shipping

- Enclose the completed Submission Form in the shipping box & email a copy of the Sample Identification Form to the VDL.
- Submit one Johne's herd case per box to avoid contamination.
- Do not save multiple herd cases and combine them in one shipment. This creates bottlenecks and delays.
- Do not send a single, large herd collection over multiple dates. Wait to ship until completed, even if collection takes a few days. If arriving in multiple boxes, indicate the number of boxes sent on the submission form.
- Contact the Laboratory with any questions.

Pooling Information

- Pooling of samples occurs by the laboratory.
- Pool 1 includes samples #1–5, Pool 2 includes samples #6–10, etc.
- Samples are pooled and tested in the order listed on the Sample Identification Form.
    - We cannot accommodate custom pooling requests.
- Requests for individual testing on an animal should be listed at the end of the form and clearly identified.
- If an individual is removed from a pool, the remaining pool will contain fewer than 5 samples.

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