

## Sample information

Please make sure that all the necessary sample information is supplied, as well as any information specific to your job.

For SireTRACE\*\* parentage verification to sires/dams tested by another laboratory, please include the parent DNA profiles with your samples to ensure the fastest possible turn around time.

## International shipments

Please contact Zoetis for international shipments. An import permit and commercial invoice are required and certain conditions apply.

## What to send in special situations

### Young animals

Hair is still our preferred sample type for young animals (up to eight months old), but as their follicles are not yet fully developed you will need to provide us with more hair follicles than we need from an adult animal. 40-50 follicles should be sufficient.

### Deceased animals – semen or tissue samples

For deceased animals, send semen if available from storage. Otherwise send lean tissue samples from the interior of the animal that do not show evidence of decay or mould. Tissue samples should be 1.5cm x 1.5cm in area and should be placed into the standard hair sample collectors. Use either dry ice or ice packs when shipping.

\*SireTRACE\* is a brand of Zoetis.

## Send samples and all associated paperwork to:

Zoetis Australia  
5/10 Depot Street  
Banyo QLD 4014

Customer Service 1300 768 400  
Email [genetics.au@zoetis.com](mailto:genetics.au@zoetis.com)  
[www.zoetis.com.au/genetics](http://www.zoetis.com.au/genetics)

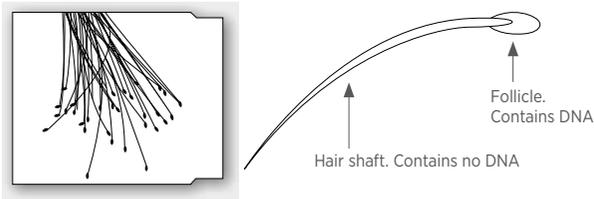
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# SAMPLE COLLECTING GUIDE



## Sample collection guide

Tail hair samples (with follicles or 'roots') are our preferred sample type as they are easy to collect and test, and contain a significant amount of DNA. Please follow these instructions for hair sample collection, and for other sample types please refer to the relevant section in this brochure. Please note that samples that do not meet our quality standards may lead to poor or delayed results.



## Semen samples

Frozen or thawed semen samples may be sent. We require a full semen straw for testing. Please make sure that samples are shipped soon after thawing if being posted, as mouldy semen straws cannot be tested.

They should ideally not be in transit for more than 2-3 days. When submitting semen straws, please take care with packaging the straws so that they are not damaged in transit.

- Place the straw in a sample collector.
- Place the straw either in a goblet or between two sheets of cardboard so it is not damaged in the post.
- Please tape both ends of the straw with sticky tape to prevent the straw from leaking.

## How to collect hair samples

Gathering hair root samples is easy, but collecting good ones is crucial. To improve the accuracy of test results, please follow these simple steps. Neglecting these steps may affect the accuracy of results.

The six steps are:



1. Verify the animal's tag number and write this number on the hair sample collector in the space provided. This ID will be used for reporting results so it's important to double-check for accuracy.
2. Always wash your hands or use clean gloves. Then, while holding the end of the tail switch with one hand, pull a pencil-thickness tuft of hair (at least 20-25 hairs from adult animals and 40-50 hairs from young animals) from the switch, making sure hair roots are attached. The diagram on the left shows what a follicle should look like on the end of each hair.

The hair follicles are under the skin and easily come out of the tail when pulled correctly. Pull the hair "up and away" to get as many follicles as possible. Always collect samples from dry hairs and make sure the follicles are not contaminated with faeces. If you are pulling hair with pliers, wipe pliers clean between animals.



3. Open the hair sample collector completely, as you would to bend back the spine of a book. Place the hair on the back of the printed flap of the collector as shown, with follicles close to the joined end. Peel off the backing paper, starting from the joined end, to expose the sticky backing of the other flap. Include the follicles with the hairs.
4. Press the sticky plastic side down on top of the hair to seal the sample. Make sure the edges of the plastic are sealed around the collector.
5. Trim the excess hair to the edges of the sample collector.
6. Complete the Test Request Form and Sample Information Sheet (an electronic spreadsheet is preferred).