

How to collect blood from the tail

- Write the tube number and animal ID on the blood tube in pen or permanent marker
- Pull the tail straight up
- Find the midline groove (about 3 – 5 inches from the end of the tail)
- Push needle in about half an inch, 90 degrees to the tail
- Draw back on the syringe until you have at least 2ml of blood out and put into blood tube (do not open the cap of the blood tube - push the needle in the top)
- Store collected samples out of sunlight

USE NEW SUPPLIES FOR EACH ANIMAL – DO NOT CROSS CONTAMINATE

→ COLLECTION TIPS

- The higher you pull the tail up, the easier it will be to find the groove.
- Once the needle is inserted, pull gently back on the syringe. If you don't see blood, pull in and out slowly, or pull completely out and try a different area.
- You may feel the needle hit the tail bone occasionally. This means you are a little too deep. Just pull back slightly.
- There are lots of YouTube videos that can show you how to collect tail blood!
- Call us if you need more help or have any questions



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Post joining collection time frames

COWS:

- 73 days post calving (this is to ensure there is no residual hormone circulating in the blood from the previous pregnancy)
- 28 days post joining or AI

HEIFERS (HAVE NEVER CALVED)

- 25 days post joining or AI

Returning Samples

- Place blood samples in the supplied ziplock bag
- Complete the lab submission form and place in the front of the ziplock bag
- Keep samples in the fridge until posting
- Return samples to the address below
- Samples do not have to be kept cold in post (they are fine in the post for up to two weeks)
- We recommend parcel tracking and sending samples in a box to avoid breakages
- Do not place samples in a bubble wrap envelope.
- It is recommended that you email us to let us know that you have posted samples

Receiving Results

- The test requires three hours for processing, with results typically ready the day after the samples arrive at the lab
- If samples are mailed, please allow extra time for post processing and delivery
- Results will be emailed or phoned (if fewer than 10 samples)
- Results can also be rushed through for same day processing (\$40 fee applies)



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