

Sample requirements guidance

We can process a wide selection of samples. Please follow the instructions below to avoid a prolonged processing time or failed results.

Ear punch biopsies

Kits from most commercial providers will be accepted.

We work closely with the TypiFix™ system. It allows an easy and contaminant-free biopsy. TypiFix™ kits can be purchased from Brem GmbH&Co.KG, email: willi.schieder@agrobiogen.de.

Fat tissue biopsies cannot be accepted.

Blood

Approximately **1 ml** of non-coagulated **EDTA-blood** is required.

Tubes should be labelled smudge-proof and unambiguous to avoid mistakes. During summers at high temperatures, chilled shipping is advised and shipments over weekends should be avoided.

For **virus diagnostics** such as BVDV, serum instead of EDTA-blood is required.

Buccal/ nasal swabs

We have good experiences with swabs from Prionics AG (LIVESTOCK Geno Tube, Art. No. 9062010, [online: https://www.thermofisher.com/order/catalog/product/9062010](https://www.thermofisher.com/order/catalog/product/9062010)). Other products may work as well. The swabs should, however, be made for this kind of use: They need to preserve the tissue at some way, otherwise contaminating bacterial and fungi will rapidly degrade the cells, which will lead to a failure of analysis.

Semen

For analysis of semen, two semen straws are preferred. Chilled shipping is not necessary. Please wrap straws carefully to avoid bending and leakage.

Hair roots and feathers

A minimum of 15 freshly plucked hairs with **roots** or at least 3 freshly drawn feathers including the quill, respectively, are required. **Cut** or **lost hair** will not work. It is important to preserve the roots and quills during collection.

Please use our "[Accompanying form for collection of hair root samples](#)" and send it together with the order form.

Hair and wool from **sheep** do not work.

General instructions for sampling and shipping:

- ✓ Use disposable gloves for sample collection, alternatively wash your hands thoroughly beforehand. If samples from several animals are collected, repeat the procedure each time. To avoid contamination, please finish sampling from each animal before you start with the next.
- ✓ Please avoid touching the roots or quills.
- ✓ Wrap each sample (hair or feathers) individually (envelope) and label them clearly.
- ✓ Prevent contact between individual samples in order to avoid contamination and to ensure a reliable analysis.
- ✓ Fill in our order form (www.agrobiogen.de/Downloads) as complete as possible and send it together with the samples to the address above. For ear punch samples use a padded envelope or a sturdy box.
- ✓ Improperly packaged samples can leak during transport, which can harm transport service staff, the recipients of other transported mailings, and our employees. Those samples can also cause false positive results by contaminating other samples that are being processed in parallel.

If samples do not meet the above standards or do not contain sufficient amounts of tissue, we reserve the right to reject them.