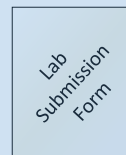


How to collect fecal samples from goats

To ensure the most appropriate animals and number of samples are collected and to maximize the resulting information, we strongly recommend that you contact the project coordinator **PRIOR** to collection!

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Disposable gloves (ideally, use a fresh pair for each fecal sample)
- Sandwich-sized Ziploc (or similar) bags
- 1 large Ziploc bag (to put smaller Ziploc bags in)
- Permanent marker
- Livestock marker/spray
- Official lab submission form
- Questionnaire
- Record sheets to record animal ID



PLAN to collect samples on a **Sunday, Monday or Tuesday**. Ship samples within **24 hours** of collection. Shipping from Monday to Wednesday ensures that samples arrive on a business day for processing. Ideally, ship by courier (Purolator or FedEx). To find the nearest Purolator or FedEx location for shipping visit: www.purolator.com/location or <https://www.fedex.com/en-ca/resources-tools/pickup-dropoff.html>

Please [click here](#) for an instructional video on how to collect samples.

RANDOMLY SELECT goats (for pooled sampling, focus on one production group, i.e. adult does or kids). **Do not** select animals dewormed in the last 8 weeks. Gather all goats to be sampled in a pen or alleyway (with clean ground). Wait until a goat defecates and collect the fresh sample **or** restrain the goat and collect from the rectum, using some lubricant on your finger. Use a new glove for each sample. **Collect all samples into individual bags and LABEL EACH SAMPLE WITH ANIMAL ID – do not repeat sampling from the same goat.** Moving the animals around the area or offering feed may encourage them to defecate. **IMPORTANT – if you are re-sampling 2 weeks after deworming: Make sure you can identify and pull the same goats in 2 weeks' time; otherwise, we will not be able to tell you whether your deworming treatment was effective. Record animal's ID tag and mark it after sampling.**

COLLECT a handful of manure pellets (at least 8-10) from the top of a fresh, warm, manure pile. Pellets on the bottom of the manure pile should not be collected because they contain contaminants from the ground. **IMPORTANT: Mush the pellets to the bottom of the bag and roll the bag to squeeze out as much air as possible to obtain an anaerobic environment before sealing securely.** An anaerobic (no air) environment prevents the parasite eggs from hatching during shipping. **Double bag the samples by placing the smaller bags into the large Ziploc bag.** Again, squeeze the air from the second bag and ensure the seal is secure. Write the date collected on the large bag.

If you are deworming at this time, **DEWORM** the does/kids sampled immediately after the fecal sample collection.

SHIP the submission form, the completed questionnaire and samples within **24 hours** of collection using a courier service. **Do not freeze the samples.** Chilling will inhibit the eggs from hatching in the lab.

If you are **REPEATING** the sampling 2 weeks after deworming, follow the same protocol (skip the deworming!) by sampling the **SAME ANIMALS 2 weeks** from the first collection.

Questions? Please contact Dr. Fritz Schumann, project coordinator:
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