

Instructions for Collecting and Shipping Fecal Samples to Lab for Parasite Evaluation

Undetected parasitism in livestock can cause substantial economic loss to producers. Our goal is to provide a free parasite evaluation of samples for producers. These results will help determine each operation's parasite status, evaluate existing treatment programs and determine product needs for developing a complete strategic parasite control program that best fits the geographic location and management practices of each operation that participates in the program.

Instructions for Fecal Sample Collection

1. Collect fresh manure (golf-ball size) from individual animals using an inverted re-sealable bag like a glove and then seal and clearly identify each sample using a permanent marker. Samples should be cooled to refrigeration temperatures as soon after collection as possible. **Do not composite samples.**
2. Collect sufficient samples to profile each operation, usually 5% - 10% of the production age class within each herd is adequate. Label each sample with animal name or number if samples are taken randomly; label age group where samples are taken with pasture name or other significant identifier.
3. To check the efficacy of your de-worming, collect samples, de-worm and collect again in 7-21 days.
4. Samples can be stored for several weeks if refrigerated. **DO NOT FREEZE.**

Shipping Instructions

Send samples in sealed plastic bags or small container enclosed in an insulated box or Styrofoam container with a freezer pack or frozen water bottle for second day delivery. Please ship early in the week if possible. Do not ship on Fridays, over weekends or holidays. **Do not use ice cubes or crushed ice.**

DO NOT FORGET TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS (including county). Fax number and e-mail also desired but not required.

Shipping Address

Dr. Don Bliss
MidAmerica Ag Research
3705 Sequoia Trail
Verona, WI 53593
Phone: 608-798-4901
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Results

The lab uses the "Modified Wisconsin Sugar Flotation Technique" for conducting fecal worm egg counts. The results are reported as the incidence of eggs from a specific genera, coccidia or tapeworm: 0-10 eggs = +, 11-50 eggs = ++, over 50 eggs = +++. The total number of eggs of all genera (except tapeworms and coccidia) is given in Total Count column.

Number of eggs reported X 150 = Eggs per Pound of Manure (the standard measure of passive contamination level)

Please Note

Samples cannot be processed if instructions are not completely followed. Intervet Inc. will cover the cost of fecal analysis as long as veterinarian, producer or sponsor is willing to share treatment information upon receipt of the lab results.