

# BEST PRACTICES FOR SAMPLE COLLECTION

Collecting good samples is crucial for receiving test results. Proper collection will reduce the number of samples that fail in the lab due to insufficient quantity and/or quality of DNA. Below are some tips and examples of good and bad samples to help ensure proper collection.

## TISSUE – TAKING AN EAR NOTCH SAMPLE

Successful testing starts with proper sample collection, storage, recording of animal identification, ordering and shipment. Here are some tips for taking a good sample:

- Prepare the Allflex® tissue sampling applicator by loading a single-use Tissue Sampling Unit (TSU) and place over the ear. YouTube videos are available that quickly explain loading, sample collection and unloading TSUs.
- Extract your sample about a cm from the edge of the ear, avoiding veins, ridges and the ID tag
- Complete the extraction quickly in one fluid motion to avoid damage to the sample
- Release the handles and carefully remove the TSU tube from the applicator
- Make sure a tissue sample is clearly visible inside the tube and the green plug is visible at the bottom
- Record animal identification and place samples into the provided box or resealable plastic bag
- Store samples at room temperature. Keep out of direct sunlight, as UV rays will cause damage
- Mail along with a completed order form, via regular or express mail

## REASONS TISSUE SAMPLES FAIL:

- The sample is dry with no buffer
- There's no tissue within the chamber
- Foreign material (ink from tattoos, cartilage, etc.) is present



### GOOD SAMPLES



### BAD SAMPLES



### BAD SAMPLE



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## ZOETIS GENETICS

333 Portage Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49007-4931

Phone: 877.233.3362

Email: genetics.us@zoetis.com