

# Cover your bases: Test for EHD & Bluetongue



Hemorrhagic disease in deer can be caused by either Epizootic Hemorrhagic disease (EHD) viruses or Bluetongue viruses (BT). If hemorrhagic disease is suspected, the Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL) advises to test for both EHD and BT viruses.

Why does TVMDL recommend testing for both diseases?

- Clinical signs and histological lesions are indistinguishable between EHD and BT
- PCR negative EHD may still be BT positive, and vice-versa
- Some animals may be positive for both EHD & BT

Correct diagnosis is the only way to ensure herd health, whether cattle or deer, and stem a potentially catastrophic outbreak. Utilize the following tests to rule out EHD and BT.

## **BT-EHD Panel qPCR**

Submit 1-2mL whole, unclotted blood in an EDTA tube or 1 gram tissues (spleen)

*PRICE:* \$45.00

*TURNAROUND:* Performed in College Station Tuesday-Friday, with results in 1-4 business days.

## **BT qPCR**

Submit 1-2mL whole, unclotted blood in an EDTA tube or 1 gram fresh spleen tissues.

*PRICE:* \$30.00

*TURNAROUND:* Performed in College Station Tuesday-Friday, with results in 1-4 business days.

## **EHD qPCR**

Submit 1-2mL whole, unclotted blood in an EDTA tube or 1 gram fresh spleen tissues.

*PRICE:* \$30.00

*TURNAROUND:* Performed in College Station Tuesday-Friday, with results in 1-4 business days.

## **BT virus isolation**

Submit whole blood, spleen or other fresh tissues as deemed appropriate by submitter and/or professional staff.

*PRICE:* \$50.00

*TURNAROUND:* Performed in College Station on Thursday with results 7-21 business days.

## **EHD virus isolation**

Submit whole blood, spleen or other fresh tissues as deemed appropriate by submitter and/or professional staff.

*PRICE:* \$30.00

*TURNAROUND:* Performed in College Station on Tuesday with results in 14-21 business days.

*\*all submissions incur a \$6.00 accession fee.*

For questions regarding BT or EHD testing, contact the College Station laboratory.