

Hair Sample Collection Preparation

The collection of hair samples should be undertaken by a competent individual within a secure, contamination-free facility. Ideally, the collector should wear gloves when handling hair.

Collection Supplies

Collection supplies should include:

- TVMDL submission form or chain of custody form
- Disposable gloves
- Collection envelope or plastic bag
- Security seal

Please include the following on the TVMDL submission form:

- Name of horse
- Date of collection
- Name of collector
- Color of sample
- Approximate length of sample
- Site of collection (mane preferred)

Collecting the Sample

Before collection, make sure all scissors intended for collection are clean. It is recommended the collector use an alcohol wipe to clean scissors before each cut.

1. Cut sample as close to the skin as possible. Inclusion of the root is not necessary. Sample should be approximately 1 centimeter in diameter, or as wide as a pencil.
2. Place sample in plastic bag or envelope and ensure it stays contamination-free. If collecting multiple samples, wash scissors, and use new disposable gloves each time. Wash hands between each collection if gloves are not worn.
3. After collection, place sample in foil, rubber band, or paper strip secured with a paper clip. Clearly label the root end. Do not use tape of any kind on sample.
4. Place foil and sample in a plastic bag or envelope. Tape seal of bag or envelope to maintain chain of custody.

After Collection

Do not store sample in:

- Refrigerator or freezer
- Direct sunlight

Hair samples that are wet on submission **MUST** be dried before storage and analysis.

For more information on submitting equine hair samples, visit tvmdl.tamu.edu.



Step 1



Step 2



Step 3