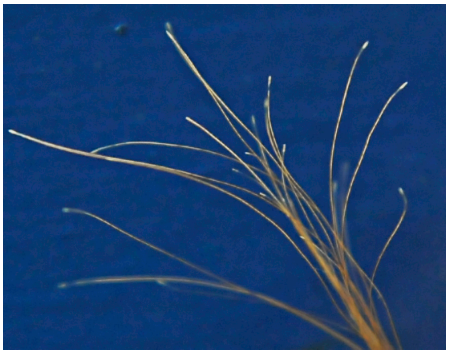
How to take your sample

Hair follicle samples are excellent sources of DNA for routine genotyping and parentage verification. Collecting a quality hair sample is vital to the performance and reliability of the genomic results.

Here are some guidelines to help you take the best possible sample.



Collect your sample of at least 50 hairs from the switch end of the tail.

Grasp at least 50 hairs (about the thickness of a pencil) using your hands or a pair of pliers. The older an animal gets, the harder the hairs are to remove, so pliers often aid removal.

Pull the hair samples with a strong, sudden upward movement to get a clean tuft with follicles. Please do NOT collect shed or coat hair samples, as the follicles will carry degraded DNA.

Please ensure the hairs taken are as clean and dry as possible. Please DO NOT cut the hair.

When sampling from more than one animal, please take care to prevent cross contamination. If using pliers, please clean between use. Only place hair from one animal in each sample bag.

Only take samples from live animals - samples taken from dead animals will degrade before they reach the lab.

Samples must be stored in a cool dry place, avoid prolonged exposure to sunlight.

Example of a good sample

Example of a bad sample

Getting the right test for your animal - minimum requirements

Animal Type	SNP	Sire Verified	Dam Verified	Myostatin	Colour	Polled	Protoporphyria
Test Cost (£) excl VAT	22	+3	+3	+1	+2	+2	+10
ET Calves	✓	✓	✓				
First Calving Heifers	✓	✓					
Imports	✓	✓	✓				
Calves with Multiple Sires	✓	✓					
Sale Bulls	✓	✓		✓			
Service Sires	✓	✓		✓			
Short Gestation/Interval	✓	✓	✓				
Overage Registration	✓	✓	✓				

Why do we need two samples for each animal returned?

Please find enclosed two sample bags for each of the animals within this DNA order. Please can you fill and return both bags according to the overleaf instructions.

We now request two samples for each animal so that if we have any issues with the samples reaching the lab, or the lab requests a second sample, we will be able to send them without delay.

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