

Newbridge Scientific

**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**

Effective Date: 01/08/2023

**Title:** Procedure for Sample Collection: Mycoplasma testing

**Objective:** To retain samples representative of the pullets on delivery to allow subsequent PCR test for Mycoplasma if they go Positive on blood testing.

**Materials required:** Dry, cotton-tipped, plastic stemmed swabs, Grip-seal sample bag, disposable gloves.

**Method:**

1. Obtain the required sampling materials from Poultry Health Services.
2. Wash hands.
3. Put on a pair of disposable gloves.
4. Complete the submission form, ensuring to include the business, farm name, age of birds, house number and date of sampling.
5. Swab 6 birds in each house by introducing the swab into the cleft (photo 1) in the upper part of the mouth (photo 2)



6. Split the 6 swabs into 2 bags (3 swabs per bag). Put the 2 bags into the bigger bag, with the house number.
7. Repeat the above for each house.
8. Put all the bags in the envelope addressed to Liverpool – do not forget to include the submission form.
9. Take the samples to the post office and post them on the day of sampling. If this is not possible, keep the samples in the fridge until the following day.

**For all samples:**

Plan for samples to arrive on a weekday.

Use appropriate sample numbers and containers – consult the Laboratory or supervising vet if in any doubt.

Package in a secure leakproof manner and submit on the day of sampling. If not possible, please keep samples refrigerated (not frozen)

Complete the submission form and place separately to the samples.