

Newbridge Scientific

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Effective Date: 01/08/2023

Title: Procedure for Sample Collection: PCR Sampling

Objective: To detect both viral and bacterial pathogens which may be causing the clinical symptoms seen in birds

Materials required: Grip-seal sample bag, Dry plastic shafted swabs/dry wire shafted swabs, disposable gloves.

Method: Oropharyngeal PCR swab.

1. Put on a pair of disposable gloves. Take one dry plastic shafted swab or dry wire shaft swab.
2. In a live or dead bird, suspected of having disease, open the beak of the bird and rub the end of the swab around the choanae and the choanal cleft, ensuring to be gentle if swabbing live animals.
3. Take one sample per bird and take samples from up to five birds to total five swabs.
4. Ensure the swabs are inserted back into their tubes, identified with farm name, house number and date of sampling.

Method: Cloacal PCR swab.

1. Put on a pair of disposable gloves. Take one dry plastic shafted swab/wire shafted swab
2. In a live or dead bird, suspected of having disease, swab around the vent area of the bird, taking care to be gentle if swabbing live animals.
3. Take one sample per bird and take samples from up to five birds to total five swabs.
4. Ensure the swabs are inserted back into their tubes, identified with farm name, house number and date of sampling.

| Type of Sample | Diseases that can be tested for |
|---|---|
| Oropharyngeal swabs (live or dead birds): | Mycoplasma <i>spp</i> , Infectious Bronchitis, Ornithobacterium Rhinotracheale, Avian rhinotracheitis |
| Cloacal swabs (live or dead birds): | Infectious Bronchitis |

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.