

Newbridge Scientific

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Effective Date: 01/08/2023

Title: Procedure for Sample Collection: Pigeon testing

Objective: Taking a crop swab for Trichomonas (canker) testing.

Materials required: As provided in the PHS Pigeon testing kit, a Blue tipped swab (with white growth media)

Method:

1. Obtain the required sampling materials from Poultry Health Services.
2. Wash hands.
3. Put on a pair of sterile gloves.
4. Open the swab packaging.
5. Open the beak of the pigeon and hold head extended forwards. This is easier if you have another person to hold the pigeon.
6. Pass the end of the swab down the back of the pigeon's throat, down the neck, and into the crop. Do not force the swab if you come up against resistance. If this occurs retract the swab and try again.
7. Gently move the swab when it is in the crop to gather a sample of the crop's contents on the swab.
8. Gently remove the swab from the pigeon.
9. Place the swab in the appropriate swab tube it arrived with.
10. Complete the submission form, ensuring to include the business, farm name, age of birds, house number and date of sampling.

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.