

Necropsy: Ruminant Abortion Sampling Guidelines

The ideal samples are those that are collected within 8-12 hours of fetal expulsion although samples collected 1-2 days after abortion may still yield useful information. Submit either the entire fetus and placenta or **both** fresh and formalin fixed tissues as outlined below:

Organ	Formalin*	Fresh	Suggested Size Fresh Samples
Brain	Yes	Yes	4 x 4 x 2 cm
Heart	Yes	Yes	4 x 4 x 2 cm
Lung ⁺	Yes	Yes	4 x 4 x 2 cm
Abomasal Contents**	No	Yes	Collect in a capped 3 mL syringe
Liver +	Yes	Yes	4 x 4 x 2 cm
Kidney	Yes	Yes	4 x 4 x 2 cm
Placenta ¹ (include cotyledons)	Yes	Yes	4 x 4 x 2 cm

^{*} If possible, collect approx. 2 x 2 x 1 cm piece of tissue from each of the organs listed and place in formalin. The ratio should be 9 parts formalin to 1 part tissue for proper fixation. The WVDL recommends using a 16 ounce wide mouthed jar that contains 8 ounces of 10% buffered formalin (Fischer catalog # 23-426-797). Since the formalin jars tend to leak; **please place the formalin jar inside a Ziploc® bag**.

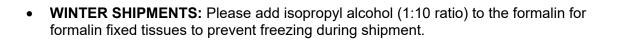
Shipping Requirements

- Veterinarians should completely fill out the Necropsy Submission Form which includes the
 age of the animal. An electronic copy is available at www.wvdl.wisc.edu. Click on the
 Submission and Order Forms link to download the submission form.
- The laboratory should receive the samples within 24-36 hours so samples collected on Friday should be refrigerated and shipped on Monday.
- Package the samples with a sufficient number of ice packs to ensure they remain cold during shipment.
- Check out our special shipping rates here.

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^{**} Please collect abomasal contents aseptically to prevent contaminated samples. Syringes capped with a needle are NOT acceptable means for a capped syringe. Please send abomasal contents in a well sealed syringe or transfer these contents aspetically to a red top test tube. Please make sure the test tube is appropriately labeled with specimen type.

⁺Denotes essential tissue for submission.



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