

BVDV PI Testing Sampling Options

We have available different methods available for sampling animals for BVDV Persistent Infection. Each method is easy to follow, the samples are robust and easy to handle, and the results are reproducible regardless of sampling option you chose to use.

Traditional method: Ear notch pliers and 5ml containers

The most common method chosen by vets and producers for ear notch sampling. Basically using an ear notch pliers (or marking pliers), take a small section of flesh from the top of the ear and placing it in a labeled container. The sampler then records the animal ID and the sample container code on a submission form.



Small numbers: Ear notch pliers and 3ml containers

This method is used for sampling of smaller numbers of cattle, typically between 1 and 20 animals. Same sampling procedure as the traditional method, but containers are slightly smaller in size so the samples can be posted using Express Post. Samples must be also recorded on a submission form.



Zee tag method: Zee tag applicator and containers

In order to remain at the forefront of BVDV Ear Notch Testing in Australia, we have begun offering an additional optional methodology for the collection of samples. Whilst costing slightly extra, the GeneMark punch kit provides a clean, simple method of collection of tissue for testing for the diagnosis of PI animals. The GeneMark punch kit provides the perfect alternative for tissue sampling when producers wish to **avoid disfiguring the ear of sampled animals**.

The GeneMark punch kit was developed by the Livestock Improvement Corporation in New Zealand and is used extensively there for PI testing.

Please feel free to contact the BVDV team at Swans Veterinary Services with any questions regarding freighting, sample containers, or any other aspect of BVDV sampling.

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