

General Enquiries

Office hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm

Sample Reception

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Email: vet.diagnostics@agriculture.vic.gov.au

Address

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Website

agriculture.vic.gov.au deeca.vic.gov.au

Sample Submission Forms

agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/services/diagnostic-services

Email

Email correspondence and electronic submission of request forms to: vet.diagnostics@agriculture.vic.gov.au

Emergency Disease Animal Watch Hotline 1800 675 888 (24 hours a day, every day of the year) Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), Agriculture Victoria Research (AVR) Laboratory based at Bundoora incorporates the State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory for Victoria.

The Laboratory is a major animal health facility centrally located in the north-western suburbs of Melbourne and is well served by road and air connections.

The Laboratory is equipped and staffed to undertake disease investigation, diagnosis, health certification, research and reference activities relating to the control and prevention of diseases of domestic and nondomestic animals, birds and fish.

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Published by Agriculture Victoria Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, AgriBio, 5 Ring Road, Bundoora 3083, Telephone (03) 9032 7000

November 2024

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Designed by DEECA Creative Studio

ISBN 978-1-76136-635-2 (Print) ISBN 978-1-76136-636-9 (pdf/online/MS word)

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1. General Laboratory Information

1.1 Quality Assurance and Standards

Veterinary Diagnostic Services, is accredited by the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) against the International Standard ISO 17025 – Testing accreditation.

Veterinary Diagnostic Services obtained NATA accreditation status in March 2001 and regularly undergoes both internal and external audits which continually assess the Laboratory services, and provides ongoing assurance of our quality systems, improvement processes, quality control and technical competence.

Veterinary Diagnostic Services offers a broad range of certified tests within the disciplines of veterinary microbiology, bacteriology, virology, serology, histopathology and necropsy services and issues NATA endorsed reports for tests performed within the scope of accreditation. Non-certified test results are identified as such on NATA reports or issued on unendorsed reports.

1.2 Approved Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Veterinary Diagnostic services is approved and registered as a Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Victoria by the Chief Veterinary Officer. Such approval is granted subject to maintaining and providing capabilities for the diagnosis of endemic and certain exotic diseases of livestock, fish and birds.



1.3 Professional Staff and Expertise

Experienced and qualified veterinary and Laboratory staff perform the diagnostic and health certification analysis. The Laboratory supports personnel in the disciplines of gross pathology and histopathology, virology, arbovirology, bacteriology, serology, molecular biology, insect identification, basic parasitology, Anthrax, and Johne's Disease investigation. Please contact sample reception for consultation or advice from appropriate staff in these areas.

1.4 Independence

As a State Government Laboratory, submitters are assured of independent advice and services.

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2. Laboratory Testing Information

2.1 Scope of Diagnostic Examinations

Veterinary Diagnostic Services offers a wide range of tests and procedures for the diagnosis of diseases of commercial livestock including mammals, birds and fish. A range of tests are also offered for companion animals required for export or health certification purposes. The Laboratory maintains reference capabilities for diseases and supports Victorian and National disease control programs for Anthrax and Johne's Disease.

2.2 Daily Testing Schedule

Submitters are reminded that not all of the tests offered are conducted each day. Please contact Sample Reception for further information. If specific tests are required urgently, please contact Sample Reception, as rescheduling of tests may be possible to meet specific client requirements. An additional Fee may be levied for out-of-schedule analysis.

2.3 Turnaround Time

Submitters are advised that the turnaround time between receipt of samples and reporting of final results can vary considerably depending on the type of analysis required, the day and time of receipt of specimens, whether confirmation testing is required and whether analysis is completed at this or another Laboratory.

Upon receipt of samples the Laboratory sends a confirmation of receipt report to submitter which includes information on the analyses to be undertaken.

Submitters are encouraged to allow sufficient turnaround time of results, particularly when required for export shipment. Please clearly indicate the export date on submission forms to assist with timely analysis and reporting.

2.4 Large Volume Analysis

To ensure we have adequate reagents and resources for large volume testing, please contact the Laboratory within a minimum of 15 working days before the date of receipt of samples at the Laboratory.

2.5 Delays in Analysis

The Laboratory will inform the submitter if a situation arises that compromises turnaround time.

2.6 Dispatch of samples to the Laboratory

It is the responsibility of the sender to pay courier charges and ensure adherence to packaging standards of material dispatched to the Laboratory.

2.7 Weekend Services

A surcharge will be levied where the submitter requires the Laboratory to conduct testing or report results on weekends and public holidays. Please contact Sample Reception if this service is required.

2.8 Tests Referred to Other Laboratories

Close links are maintained between AVR, Veterinary Diagnostic Services and other accredited Australian Laboratories that undertake diagnostic, health certification and toxicological testing for animals and animal diseases. Samples submitted for tests that are not conducted by this Laboratory will be forwarded to an appropriate Laboratory. These requests will incur a Courier Fee for this service. Fees for these tests will be at the rate of the Laboratory conducting the testing.

2.9 Submission Fee

Please note that a Submission Fee of \$34.65 (Inc GST) will be charged for all submissions. A submission is defined as being all the analyses requested on a single request form.

2.10 Cancellation Fee

A Cancellation Fee of \$34.65 (inc GST) will be charged for cancellation of sample testing where the accession has been generated, but testing has not yet been initiated.

A higher Cancellation Fee will be charged for samples cancelled after testing has commenced. The Fee is determined by the amount of testing that has been completed when the cancellation was requested.

2.11 Pathology Services

Pathology services i.e necropsy, histopathology and clinical pathology are available as part of Agriculture Victoria subsidised programs eg. Significant Disease Investigations (SDI), National Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy (TSE) surveillance program. Please contact your District Veterinary Officer for more information.

2.12 Disposal of Carcasses /Animal Tissue

Veterinary Diagnostic Services is required to dispose of carcasses and animal tissues.

The charge is \$3.47 a kilogram. Animals/tissues submitted for analysis cannot be removed for disposal by the submitter.

Please contact the Duty Pathologist for further information.

2.13 List of Notifiable Diseases

The list of notifiable diseases for Victoria can be found at:

agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/animal-diseases/notifiable-diseases#h2-2

2.14 Abbreviations

AGID	Agar Gel Immunodiffusion
CFT	Complement Fixation Test
COI	Cytochrome c Oxidase Subunit I
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
ELISA	Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assay
Н	Haemagglutination Inhibition
ICT	Immunochromatographic Test
IFAT	Indirect Fluorescent Antibody Test
JD	Johnes Disease
MAT	Microscopic Agglutination Test
PBS	Phosphate Buffered Saline
PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
POA	Price on Application
RBC	Red Blood Cell
RBSAT	Rose Bengal Rapid Slide Agglutination Test
RNA	Ribonucleic Acid
RSAT	Rapid Slide Agglutination Test
VNT	Virus Neutralisation Test
VTM	Virus Transport Media



3. Business Terms

3.1 Payment for Services

Submitters are advised that payment for services is required within 30 days of the invoice date. Interest may be charged on overdue accounts.

3.2 Overdue Accounts

Persistent overdue account holders will be asked for full outstanding payments including payment for current received samples before analysis is instigated.

3.3 Price Increases

The Laboratory reserves the right to increase published prices if circumstances beyond our control result in significant cost increases. Any alterations will be confirmed prior to any testing commencing.

Tests and Charges

Misc	Miscellaneous			
Code	Service or Test Name	Sample required	Price (incl. GST)	
777	Special Test Setup – Non-Scheduled Test	NA	\$123.13	
770	Submission Fee	NA	\$34.65	

Cour	Courier Charges			
Code	Service or Test Name	Sample required	Price (incl. GST)	
771	Courier to External Laboratory	NA	\$69.30	
774	Packaging and Courier to ACDP/CSIRO	NA	\$46.20	

Bacte	eriology & Parasitology		
Code	Service or Test Name	Sample required	Price (incl. GST)
746	16S DNA Sequencing	Culture	\$165
698	Actinobacillus Seminis Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$65.78
699	Aerobic Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$65.78
700	Anaerobic Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$65.78
701	Anthrax Culture	Whole Blood, EDTA, Ear Notch, Culture Isolates, Dry Swab, Soil*	\$99.00
697	Antibiotic Sensitivity	Culture	\$36.75
754	Blue Green Algae Wet Prep	Water	\$36.38
703	Brucella Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$92.34
702	Brucella Ovis Culture	Tissue, Semen	\$92.34
704	Campylobacter Culture*	See Note*	\$65.78
726	Clostridium Chauvoei IFAT	Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$47.77
727	Clostridium Novyi IFAT	Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$47.77
728	Clostridium Septicum IFAT	Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$47.77
729	Clostridium Sordellii IFAT	Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$47.77
705	Dermatophilus Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$65.78
725	Epsilon Toxin ICT	Faeces, Intestinal Contents	\$90.09
1013	Fish Bacteria Culture	Swab in Transport Media, Tissues	\$78.82
706	Fungal Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$65.78
756	General Wet Prep Examination	Various	\$36.38
750	Gram Stain	Tissue, Swab	\$32.89
707	Haemophilus Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$65.78
708	Histophilus Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$65.78
925	Johnes Disease HT-J PCR for MAP – qPCR	Faeces	POA
710	Johnes' Disease Culture	Faeces, Tissue	\$94.18
711	Johnes' Disease Culture – Pooled	Faeces, Tissue	\$171.99
736	Leptospira Hardjo MAT	Serum	\$17.74
739	Leptospira Pomona MAT	Serum	\$17.74
712	Listeria Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$92.33
1012	MALDI_TOF Aerobic Bacterial Identification	Culture	\$15.00

Bacte	eriology & Parasitology		
Code	Service or Test Name	Sample required	Price (incl. GST)
748	Methylene Blue Stain	Whole blood, EDTA Blood, Ear Notch, Culture	\$42.76
753	Modified ZN Stain	Faeces, Tissues	\$32.89
1010	Multilocus Sequence Typing (MLST) - Chlamydia	Culture Isolate / Frozen Tissues	POA
1011	Multilocus sequence Typing (MLST) – for Other Bacteria	Culture Isolate / Frozen Tissues	POA
1009	Multilocus Sequence Typing (MLST) – Listeria	Culture Isolate / Frozen Tissues	POA
713	Mycobacterial Culture	Tissue	\$153.56
742	Mycobacterium Avium Subspecies Paratuberculosis PCR	Culture	\$104.50
741	Mycobacterium Paratuberculosis Strain Typing	Culture	\$165.00
714	Mycoplasma Culture - EP Method*	Biological Products (e.g. BSA)	POA
715	Mycoplasma Culture*	Biological Products (e.g. BSA)	POA
716	Salmonella Culture	Faeces, Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$72.45
717	Streptococcus Equi spp. Equi Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$65.78
718	Taylorella Equigenitalis (CEM) Culture*	Swab in Charcoal Media	\$94.18
719	Total Plate Count	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$54.60
720	Trichomonas Culture*	Contact Laboratory	\$50.50
721	Vibrio Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$78.82
755	Wet Preparation for Fungi	Tissue	\$36.38
1006	Whole Genome Sequencing Illumina	Culture Isolate	POA
1007	Whole Genome Sequencing Nanopore	Culture Isolate	POA
764	Worm Egg & Coccidian Oocyst Count	Faeces	\$22.80
722	Yersinia Culture	Fluid, Swab in Transport Media, Tissue	\$62.79
751	ZN Stain	Faeces, Tissues	\$32.89
752	ZN Stain for Cryptosporidium	Faeces	\$32.89

Note:

Refrigerate samples and deliver to Laboratory as soon as possible.

Samples for CEM (Taylorella) must reach the Laboratory within 48 hours of the samples being collected. Samples of intestinal tissue are unsuitable for testing.

Chlamydia culture samples must be submitted in Chlamydia transport medium, available on request. VTM is not to be used.

- * Contact Laboratory for transport media. 1–2 weeks notification required for media.
- * Soil *Volume-based pricing available upon request. Tests performed within NATA accredited Laboratory (methods not within scope of accreditation).
- * HT-J PCR, Faeces: Submit approximately 5–10gm in securely closed sterile container. Outer surfaces of the container must be clean and dry. Do not submit faeces in plastic bags or gloves.

Code	Service or Test Name	Sample required	Price (incl. GST
814	Abalone Viral Ganglioneuritis qPCR (Includes ORF 49 and ORF 66)	Fresh Tissue	\$172.20
1003	Ae Vigilax qPCR	Mosquito	\$86.90
908	African Swine Fever Virus qPCR	EDTA Blood	\$86.90
414	Anthrax From Soil qPCR	Soil	POA
414	Anthrax qPCR	EDTA blood, Whole Blood, Fresh Tissue	\$86.90
416	Avian Paramxyovirus-1 (NDV) qPCR (Includes F, L & M Gene)	Swab in VTM	\$170.50
419	Avibacterium Paragallinarum qPCR	Swab in Saline	\$86.90
889	Barmah Forest Virus and Ross River Virus Multiplex qPCR	EDTA Blood, Fresh Tissue, Mosquito	\$86.90
421	Bluetongue Virus qPCR	EDTA blood, Tissue	\$86.90
802	Bovine Coronavirus qPCR	Swab in VTM	\$86.90
803	Bovine Parainfluenza 3 Virus qPCR	Swab in VTM, Tissue	\$86.90
804	Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus qPCR	Swab in VTM, Tissue	\$86.90
1004	Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD) (Type 1 & 2) qPCR	EDTA Blood, Fresh Tissue, Swab in VTM, Serum	\$86.90
423	Chlamydia spp PCR (Conventional PCR)*	Swab in saline, Fresh Tissue EDTA Blood	\$86.90
909	Classical Swine Fever qPCR	EDTA Blood	\$86.90
424	Equine Herpes Virus-1 qPCR	Fresh Tissue	\$131.77
427	Equine Influenza Type A qPCR	Swab in VTM	\$86.90
429	Footrot qPCR (Dichelobacter Nodosus)	Swab in EDTA-PBS Media	\$86.90
430	Hendra Virus qPCR (Includes Genotype 1 & 2)	Swab in VTM, EDTA Blood	\$170.50
848	High Throughput Sequencing COI Barcode	Swab in VTM / Insect	\$206.00
1005	High Throughput Sequencing Metagenomic	Swab in VTM, Fresh Tissue, EDTA Blood	\$960.00
420	Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (Bovine Herpesvirus-1) qPCR	Swab in VTM, Tissue	\$86.90
433	Infectious Laryngotracheitis Virus qPCR	Swab in VTM, Tissue	\$86.90
426	Influenza Type A qPCR	Swab in VTM	\$86.90
917	Japanese Encephalitis Virus qPCR	EDTA Blood, Semen, Fresh Tissue	\$86.90
890	Kunjin Virus and Murray Valley Encephalitis Multiplex qPCR	EDTA Blood, Fresh Tissue, Mosquito	\$86.90
435	Leptospira qPCR	Tissue, Urine	\$86.90
1002	Lumpy Skin Disease Virus qPCR	Pox Lesions from Skin, Lung, Lymph Node and Gastrointestinal or Respiratory Tract	\$86.90
1001	Mycobacterium Ulcerans qPCR	Swab in VTM, Fresh tissue	\$86.90

Molecular Diagnostics RDU				
Code	Service or Test Name	Sample required	Price (incl. GST)	
877	Mycoplasma spp. (Conventional PCR)*	Fresh Tissue, Bacto Culture	\$86.90	
929	Neospora Caninum qPCR	Fresh Tissue	\$86.90	
431	Pan-Herpes Virus (Conventional PCR)*	Swab in VTM, Fresh Tissue	\$120.00	
438	Pan-Pestivirus qPCR (Border Disease & BVD)	EDTA Blood, Fresh Tissue, Swab in VTM	\$86.90	
437	Parapoxvirus qPCR	Swab in VTM, Tissue	\$86.90	
439	Pigeon Paramyxovirus – 1 qPCR	Swab in VTM	\$86.90	
775	Rotavirus (Pigeon) qPCR	Swab in VTM	\$86.90	

Molecular diagnostic assays detect nucleic acid (DNA or RNA) of infectious disease agents within test specimens.

Preferred specimens for each test are listed below. Submit all samples as quickly as possible and keep them chilled during transport to the lab for best results.

Swabs for virology PCR testing: Viral swabs should be submitted in Viral Transport Medium (VTM). If VTM is not available, swabs should be placed in 2 ml sterile saline. Do not send dry swabs.

Swabs for bacterial PCR testing: Swabs should be submitted in 2 ml sterile saline. Swabs submitted in bacterial transport media are not suitable for PCR testing.

DO NOT USE: Cotton-tipped or calcium alginate swabs, swabs with wood or paper handles or swabs in Bacterial transport media and agar are not suitable. Residual bleach and other chemicals in cotton swabs and wooden handles and agar in the bacterial transport media can be inhibitory to PCR.

Fresh tissues: Whenever possible, submit fresh tissues in a sterile container. Portions should be about 1cm cubes. Submit chilled.

Whole blood: Use tubes containing anti-coagulants such as EDTA (purple stopper).

* Conventional PCR: Positive conventional PCR results require further speciation. Please note, upon a positive result sequencing confirmation Fee of \$36.30 will be charged

Serol	OOV		
Code	Service or Test Name	Sample required	Price
Code	Service of Test Nume	Sumple required	(incl. GST)
510	Aino VNT	Serum	\$47.90
455	Akabane Virus AGID	Serum	\$18.49
511	Akabane Virus VNT	Serum	\$47.90
494	Avian Influenza HIT	Serum	\$15.44
456	Bluetongue Virus AGID	Serum	\$18.49
467	Bluetongue Virus CFT	Serum	\$32.33
474	Bluetongue Virus Competitive ELISA	Serum	\$20.79
TEST PACK	Bovine Respitory Ab ELISA – Adenovirus 3, BoHV-1, BRSV, BVD 1, BPI3	Serum	\$69.30
518	Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Virus VNT	Serum	\$40.80
463	Brucella Abortus (Melitensis & Suis) CFT	Serum	\$16.17
477	Brucella Abortus ELISA	Serum	\$20.79
465	Brucella Ovis CFT	Serum	\$16.17
491	BVD Virus Antigen Capture ELISA	Whole Blood, Blood Clot, Serum, Ear Notch, Tissue, Leucocytes	\$19.84
480	C. Perfringens Toxins ELISA Matrix (Theta, Beta, Epsilon)	Faeces, Intestinal Contents	\$145.53
TEST PACK	Calf Diarrhea (Calf Scours) ELISA – Coronavirus, E. Coli (k99), Rotavirus	Serum	\$31.19
479	Caprine Arthritis Encephalitis ELISA	Serum	\$20.79
460	Caprine Johne's Disease AGID	Serum	\$16.17
457	Enzootic Bovine Leucosis AGID	Serum	\$18.49
482	Enzootic Bovine Leucosis ELISA	Serum	\$20.79
483	Enzootic Bovine Leucosis ELISA (Pooled Samples)	Serum	\$24.25
512	Ephemeral Fever Virus VNT	Serum	\$40.80
458	Epizootic Haemorrhagic Disease AGID	Serum	\$18.49
514	Equine Arteritis Virus VNT	Serum	\$48.51
513	Equine Herpesvirus (Type 1 & 4) VNT	Serum	\$48.51
459	Equine Infectious Anaemia AGID	Serum	\$20.79
805	Fasciola hepatica – Liver Fluke Antigen ELISA (Coproantigen ELISA Herd Test)	Faeces, Intestinal Contents	\$220 PER 10 SAMPLES
485	Flavivirus ELISA	Serum	\$38.59
927	Foot and Mouth Disease Virus Antibody ELISA	Serum	\$55.55
487	IBR Virus ELISA	Serum	\$19.84
515	IBR Virus VNT	Serum	\$40.80

Serology			
Code	Service or Test Name	Sample required	Price (incl. GST)
495	Influenza A H5 HIT	Serum	\$15.44
496	Influenza A H7 HIT	Serum	\$15.44
472	Influenza A Virus Competitive ELISA	serum	\$20.79
469	Johne's Disease CFT	Serum	\$16.17
488	Johne's Disease ELISA	Serum	\$15.44
489	Kunjin Virus ELISA	Serum	\$38.59
490	Murray Valley Encephalitis ELISA	Serum	\$38.59
497	Newcastle Disease Virus HIT	Serum	\$15.44
461	Ovine Johne's Disease AGID	Serum	\$16.17
462	Pestivirus AGID	Serum	\$18.49
498	PI3 HIT	Serum	\$300.00 1-10 samples Subsequent
			samples \$30.00
499	Porcine Parvovirus HIT	Serum	\$300.00 1-10 samples Subsequent samples \$30.00
470	Q Fever CFT	Serum	\$24.26
504	Rose Bengal RSAT	Serum	\$15.44
519	Ross River Virus VNT	Serum	\$48.51
806	Schmallenberg Virus (Simbu Group) Antibody ELISA	Serum	\$20.79

Virology			
Code	Service or Test Name	Sample required	Price (incl. GST)
881	Insect Identification	Mosquito	\$138.60
596	Virus Isolation: Bovine Parainfluenza 3 (3 Passages)*	See Note	\$209.47
595	Virus Isolation: Bovine Parainfluenza 3*	See Note	\$152.14
593	Virus Isolation: BVD (3 Passages)*	See Note	\$209.47
594	Virus Isolation: BVD*	See Note	\$152.14
587	Virus Isolation: General*	See Note	POA
589	Virus Isolation: Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (3 Passages)	Swab in VTM, Tissue in VTM, Serum, Semen	\$209.47
588	Virus Isolation: Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis*	See Note	\$152.14

With the exception of fluids, all samples for virus isolation must be submitted in Viral Transport Medium (VTM) and transported chilled as soon as possible to the Laboratory. Samples for virus isolation must NOT be sent in a dry state. If VTM is not available, a small quantity of sterile normal saline can be added to keep the samples moist.

Unless specified, two passages will be conducted on submissions for virus isolation in cell cultures.

If additional confirmatory testing is required, further charges may apply.

A minimum of 1ml of semen (e.g. 5 straws) is required per collection. If more than one collection is required to be tested, 1ml per collection is required from each collection.

* Note:

Please contact $\underline{\text{Vet.Diagnostics@agriculture.vic.gov.au}}$ if you require a special quote for large volume testing.

 $^{^{\}ast}$ Consult Laboratory for the sample type appropriate for the specific virus



