Guidelines for bovine *Tritrichomonas foetus* testing
Collection, specimen handling, and transport

- Submit preputial samples from bulls in the InPouch™ TF culture system (Biomed Diagnostics) or in TF-Transit Tubes (Biomed Diagnostics). Both pouches and tubes can be ordered directly from the manufacturer; both pouches and tubes may be purchased through VDS.
- Do not use pouches or tubes past the expiration date.
- Legibly label the pouch or tubes with the bull number and submitting veterinarian.
- Follow the package insert for specimen collection and inoculation of the pouch or tube. If the sample is heavily contaminated with manure or urine, please recollect! This can interfere with the growth of *T. foetus* and subsequent PCR testing.
- After inoculation, express all liquid into the lower chamber of the pouch. Squeeze the pouch closed and roll down the top of the pouch until the label (or neck between chambers) is reached. Fold the wire tabs over to prevent the pouch from reopening. There should not be more than a dime-sized air bubble in the pouch after folding the top portion down.
    - Do not twist the wire tabs together or tape the pouches closed! This significantly increases the specimen processing time and can cause damage to the pouch.
- Ensure that caps are placed tightly on the tubes.
- Hold inoculated pouches and/or tubes at room temperature until shipment to the lab; do not incubate the pouches or tubes.
- Protect the inoculated pouches and/or tubes from heat, cold, and direct sunlight.
  Never refrigerate or freeze inoculated pouches or tubes.
- Ship overnight at room temperature; do not ship with ice packs.
- Please include a completed ***VDS submission form and a NMLB Trichomoniasis Test Record*** with all specimens.
- ***Inoculated pouches or tubes must arrive at the lab within 96 hours (4 days) of collection.***

Failure to follow the above guidelines may result in rejection of the sample at the discretion of the laboratory.

Turnaround time:

We will make every effort to have results within four working days.
If results are needed by a specific sale date, please indicate sale date on the submission form.

For testing questions or results, call the lab at 505-383-9299.

For questions regarding testing regulations, call the New Mexico livestock Board at 505-841-6161.
Testing regulations and NMLB Trichomoniasis forms can also be found online at www.nmlbonline.com

WI:MB-001 - Guidelines for bovine Tritrichomonas foetus testing - Version: 1.1. Index: WI:MB-001. Printed: 14-Nov-2014 11:52