



MASSEY UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF SCIENCES
TE WĀHANGA PŪTAIAO

EQUINE PARENTAGE & ANIMAL GENETIC SERVICES CENTRE

Horse Hair Sampling for DNA-based Testing

Hair is a good DNA sample, as it is stable at room temperature, which is convenient when collecting from out in the field. The most important point is that hair must be PULLED from the skin, not cut. This is because the DNA is stored in the hair follicles: the root bulb tissue at the end of the shaft. Try not to touch or handle or the root bulbs where the DNA is stored. Do not mix up samples from different horses and make sure they are identified clearly, otherwise the testing will be useless. Hair can be tested at any age, and can store well for many years, when kept in clean, dark and dry conditions.

Hair Pull Instructions:

1. Ensure the hair and skin area is **clean and dry**. Comb/brush off any visible debris.
2. Select a bunch of about 20 or so hairs from the mane.
3. Wrap the hairs around your finger or pen and pluck with a rapid, sharp motion.
4. The hook or bulbous hair roots from under the skin should be clearly visible in at least some of the pulled hair. If they are not visible try again.
5. We require a sample of at least 40-50 hairs so you may need to pluck/pull twice.
6. Attach hair to Collection Card using the ID label and trim excess hair shaft, OR place into sample collection envelope. Try not to touch the root bulbs.
7. OR place hair sample into a clean paper envelope or plastic ziplock bag, and label with the horse's details.
8. Order your testing online: <https://epagsc.myshopify.com/>
9. Payment: Select invoice option. An invoice will be sent to you once your samples have been received by us.
10. Package and send labelled samples **with copy of your online Order #** to our laboratory.



Address your samples to us:

Courier: Equine Parentage & Animal Genetic Services,
Massey University, Drysdale Drive, Palmerston North 4410,
New Zealand

Post: Equine Parentage & Animal Genetic Services (PN811)
Massey University, Private Bag 11-222, Palmerston North
4442, New Zealand

Any queries please contact us:

Phone: (06) 951 8525

Email: admin.epags@massey.ac.nz

Online Order: <https://epagsc.myshopify.com>