

### Scrapie Tissue Collection Protocols (April 2008)

		Formalin						Fresh Tissue: Chilled or Frozen					
	Animal ID <sup>1</sup>	Entire Brainstem (including obex)	RLN	Cerebellum	Rt Half Brain	Tonsil	Obex Only	Entire Brainstem (including obex)	RLN	Cerebellum	Lft Half Brain	Tonsil	Brainstem (obex removed)
Field/On-Farm (Including SFCP testing)													
Non-exposed animals without clinical signs	X	X	X	X									
Exposed animals or animals with less specific signs <sup>2</sup>	X		X			X	X		X	X		X	X
Suspect and test positive animals <sup>3</sup>	X		X	X Rt	X	X	X		X	X Lft	X	X	X
RSSS sites													
Non Clinical	X	(X)	(X)					(X)	(X)				
Less specific signs <sup>2</sup>	X	(X)	(X)	(X)				(X)	(X)	(X)			
Suspect and test positive animals <sup>3</sup>	X		X	X Rt	X	X	X		X	X Lft	X	X	X
Known exposed <sup>4</sup>	X		X			X	X		X	X		X	X
SFCP <sup>5</sup>	X	(X)	(X)	(X)				(X)	(X)	(X)			
Directed by Regional Epi <sup>6</sup>	X	(X)	(X)	(X)				(X)	(X)	(X)			

**See reverse side for explanation of superscripts (definitions, preservation methods, and submission information).**

**Explanation of superscripts (definitions, preservation methods, and submission information).**

**RLN = Retropharyngeal lymph node; Rt = Right Half; Lft = Left Half**

**(X) = Tissue preservation method for these RSSS samples is EITHER Formalin OR Fresh Chilled Tissue as determined by the diagnostic test used in the assigned NAHLN contract laboratory.**

**Before euthanizing animals contact your Regional Epidemiologist to determine if they are needed for a research or developmental projects.**

**All samples must be submitted with a completed VS Form 10-4 or an electronic equivalent (VSLs or OTLS). All blocks on the submission form must be completed. See instruction sheet on reference CD.**

**When both fresh/frozen and formalin tissues are required (known exposed or positive animals and clinical suspects), in most cases the tissues MUST be sent to NVSL. Exceptions to this protocol are only with prior approval by the Regional Epidemiologist. In these exceptions, tissues from EXPOSED ANIMALS ONLY can be tested at an IHC contract laboratory, if the laboratory has the capacity to store the fresh or frozen tissues. Individually bag and identify each fresh tissue. Place the re-sealable bags with tonsil, retropharyngeal lymph node (RLN), brainstem and when required brain into a larger labeled re-sealable bag, i.e. keep cerebellum separate from other fresh tissue.**

**1 Official eartag(s) and all other forms of identification are to be collected and included in submission. Use a separate container if needed for large tags, trimmed tattoos, and brands. If using barcodes, apply a barcode label to this container to match those of the specimen container. For all submissions, include a penny-sized (any shape) piece of ear tissue around the eartag (preferably an official eartag if one exists, otherwise collect around an unofficial tag). No ear tissue needs to be collected if the animal is untagged, e.g. an unidentified black-faced animal collected for RSSS.**

**2 Animals with "less specific signs" include those that are: Nonambulatory, Die before slaughter, Unthrifty (if also < 5 years of age for RSSS), or Exhibit wool/hair loss suggestive of rubbing, biting at the legs or side, lip smacking, or intense rubbing without bare areas (if also < 5 years of age for RSSS).**

**3 Suspect animals are highly suspicious for scrapie because they are exhibiting CNS signs and/or rubbing or abrasions with bare areas. Complete brain removal is required for all clinical suspects. Suspect and test positive animals should be submitted on a separate VS Form 10-4 and shipped separately to allow NVSL to prioritize testing these cases. NOTE: If rabies testing is required, submit entire brain to the rabies laboratory unless arrangements have been made in advance with the rabies lab to collect and place the obex in formalin. After rabies testing is completed, proceed with scrapie sampling on rabies negative brains.**

**4 If collection is limited by the operations at a specific RSSS collection site, discuss tissue collection alternatives with your regional epidemiologist.**

**5 If more than one designation applies to an SFCP animal that presents at an RSSS site, collect tissues for the first designation to appear in the following list: Suspect > Known Exposed > Less specific clinical signs > Directed by Reg Epi > SFCP > Non-Clinical.**

**6 Additional tissues may also be requested at the discretion of the regional epidemiologist**

**Apr-08**